

Science for Drought Response



U.S. Geological Survey Climate Adaptation Science Centers

Droughts impact water availability and quality, agriculture, energy production, ecosystem health, cultural resources, and wildfire risk. In an average year, nearly 15% of the US experiences significant drought, and in some recent years, drought conditions have impacted more than a third of the nation ([U.S. Drought Monitor](#)).

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Climate Adaptation Science Centers (CASCs) deliver actionable science to help land and resource managers prepare for, reduce the risk of, and recover from drought.

CASC Drought-Response Science:

- Preparedness & Response
- Fish & Wildlife
- Land & Water Management
- Fire & Fuels



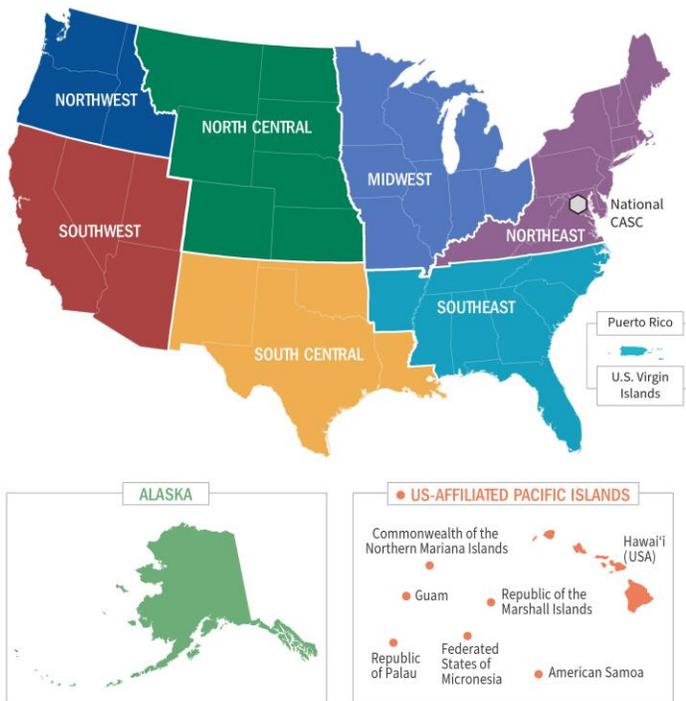
Project Spotlight:

Evaluating Corridor Conservation as a Drought Resiliency Strategy for Mule Deer Across a Gradient in Human Development

USGS researchers are working with state wildlife agencies across the West to explore how different approaches to managing migration corridors could best support mule deer's access to food and water during drought.



How CASC science is supporting regional drought readiness



NORTHEAST

Developing new tools to improve drought planning in New England and improve water resources management.

NORTHWEST

Assessing the effects of drought on forests and fish to support fisheries.

PACIFIC ISLANDS

Working with managers and communities to improve drought preparedness and response.

SOUTH CENTRAL

Improving drought prediction and monitoring so farmers, ranchers, and managers can respond effectively.

SOUTHEAST

Investigating drought impacts on wildlife to support conservation planning.

SOUTHWEST

Understanding links between drought and wildfire to improve preparedness and reduce risk.

NATIONAL

Investigating the potential for drought to transform landscapes and prepare for drought recovery.

ALASKA

Identifying knowledge and data gaps to improve snow-drought prediction.

MIDWEST

Tracking the effects of drought and flooding on river and lake health to maintain water quality and recreation.

NORTH CENTRAL

Characterizing drought impacts in forests, rangelands, and prairies to support land management planning.

About the CASCs

The CASCs deliver science to help fish, wildlife, water, land, and people adapt to a changing climate. Comprised of nine regional centers and one national center, the CASCs address on-the-ground resource management challenges across the country through a public-private partnership model. Learn more: usgs.gov/casc

