



Announcement

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DWR Offers Virtual Course on Climate, Drought, and Remote Sensing

SACRAMENTO – The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is offering a webcast of a climate training course for water agencies at:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/climatechange/training-061709.cfm>.

DWR hosted the June 2009 training on Climate, Drought, and Remote Sensing provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Geological Survey.

NOAA's National Integrated Drought Information System program and the National Weather Service (NWS) Climate Services Division sponsored the event as part of pilot efforts to tailor existing NWS climate training services to user needs, in anticipation of potential development of a national climate service.

The course focused on the following areas:

- (1) The difference between climate and weather
- (2) Remote sensing and modeling of drought-relevant variables such as snow pack, soil moisture, evapotranspiration, and vegetation
- (3) An overview of current and planned satellite missions, their products, and how to access them
- (4) Dynamics, physical mechanisms, and impacts of climate variability phenomena including Madden Julian Oscillation, El Niño / La Niña, tropical forcing, and teleconnections
- (5) Performance of climate forecasting products, limitations, and resources supplementing the forecasts
- (6) Climate change modeling and downscaling tools, including known limitations.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and floodcontrol and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.