

NEVADA DIVISION OF
WATER RESOURCES



Nevada Department of
**CONSERVATION &
NATURAL RESOURCES**

Statewide Drought Response

Nevada Association of Counties

May 21, 2021

Presented by:

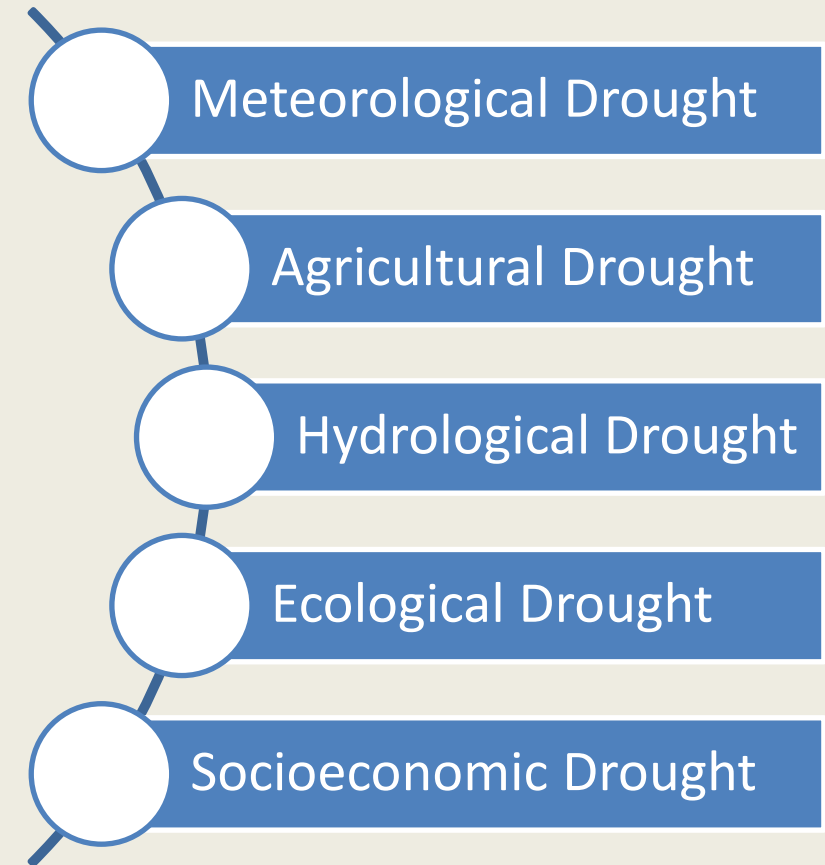
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DROUGHT

A CHALLENGE FROM MANY PERSPECTIVES

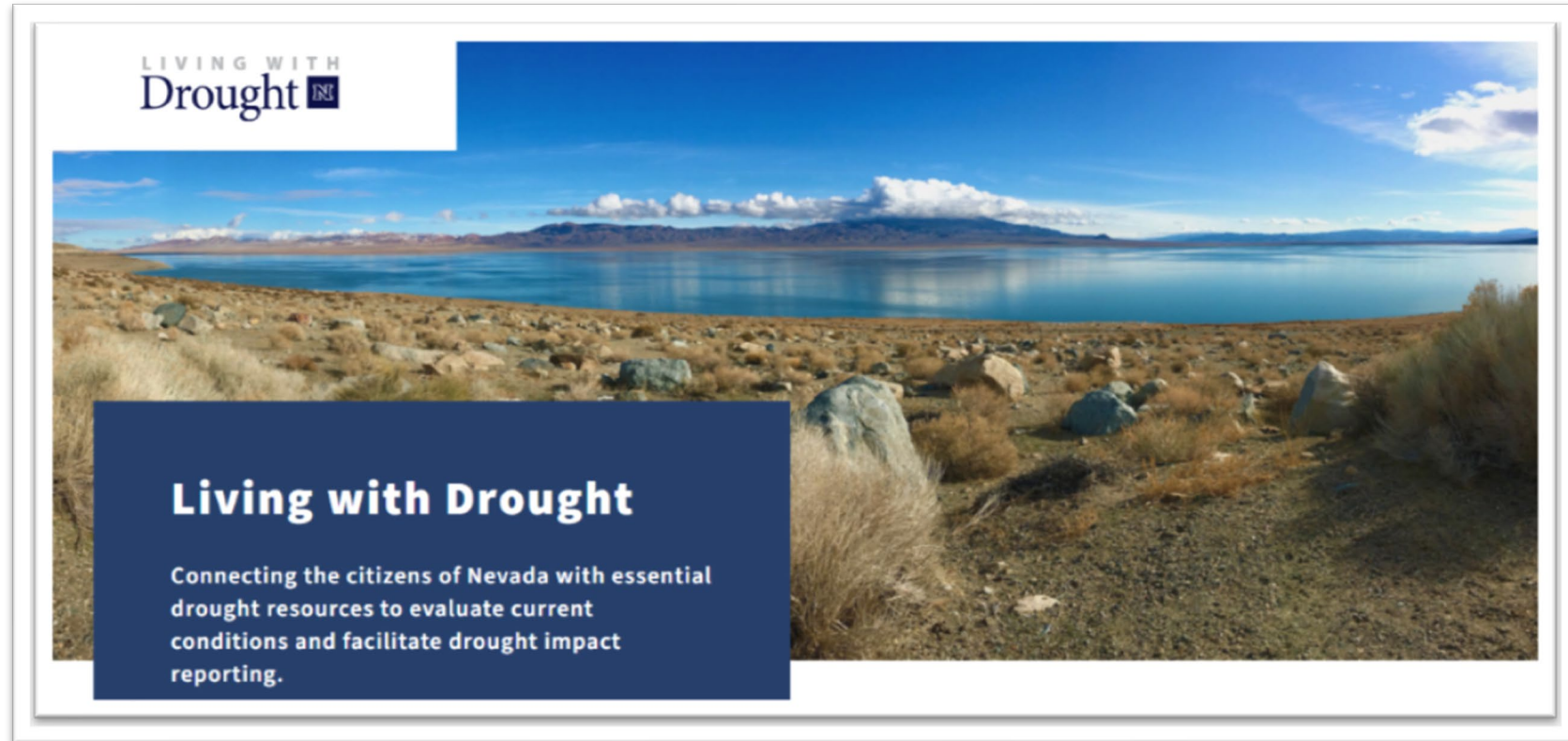
Nevada is the driest state in the nation; multi-year droughts are common

- Drought is hard to predict
- Often a slow-moving hazard
- Many definitions of drought
 - All relate to insufficient water to meet needs
 - A deficiency of precipitation over an extended period of time, resulting in a water shortage (Drought.gov)
 - A deficiency of moisture that results in adverse impacts on people, animals, or vegetation over a sizeable area (NOAA NWS)



DROUGHT RESPONSE & PLANNING

- Ongoing drought monitoring
- Collaboration with state, local, academic, and federal partners:
 - Drought Response Plan update
 - Monitoring and research
 - Resource and technical assistance
 - Information sharing and outreach



UNCE: LivingWithDrought.com

MONITORING DROUGHT

- **Multiple variables can be considered**






Precipitation, streamflow, reservoir levels, temperature and evaporative demand, soil moisture, vegetation health, drought impact reports

- **US Drought Monitor**

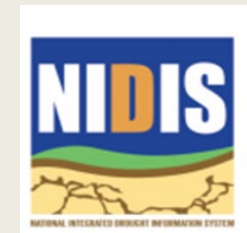
- Composite drought indicator tool
- Updated weekly
- 5 intensity categories

- **Understanding Impacts: Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMOR)**

- Report sector-specific impacts via survey
- https://go.unl.edu/cmor_drought

U.S. Drought Monitor Category	
	D0 - Abnormally Dry
	D1 - Moderate Drought
	D2 - Severe Drought
	D3 - Extreme Drought
	D4 - Exceptional Drought

<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

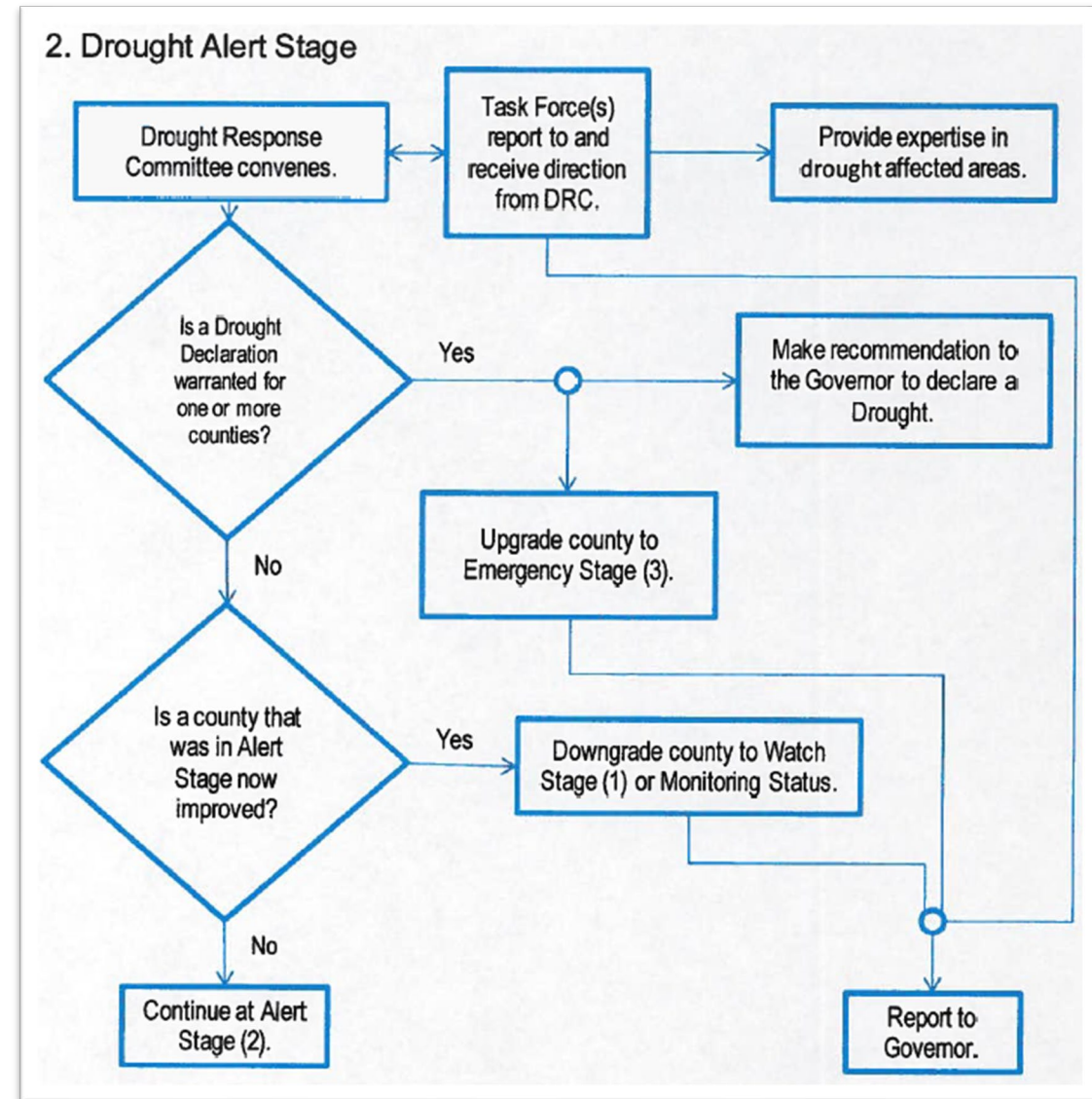


Drought Response Plan

EXISTING GUIDANCE

Nevada Drought Response Plan (2012)

- Establishes an administrative coordinating and reporting system between agencies
- Framework of actions based on 3 drought response stages
- Relies on Drought Response Committee
 - State Climate Office, NDWR, and NDEM
 - Generate reports to the Governor
 - May create task forces that provide expertise in affected areas

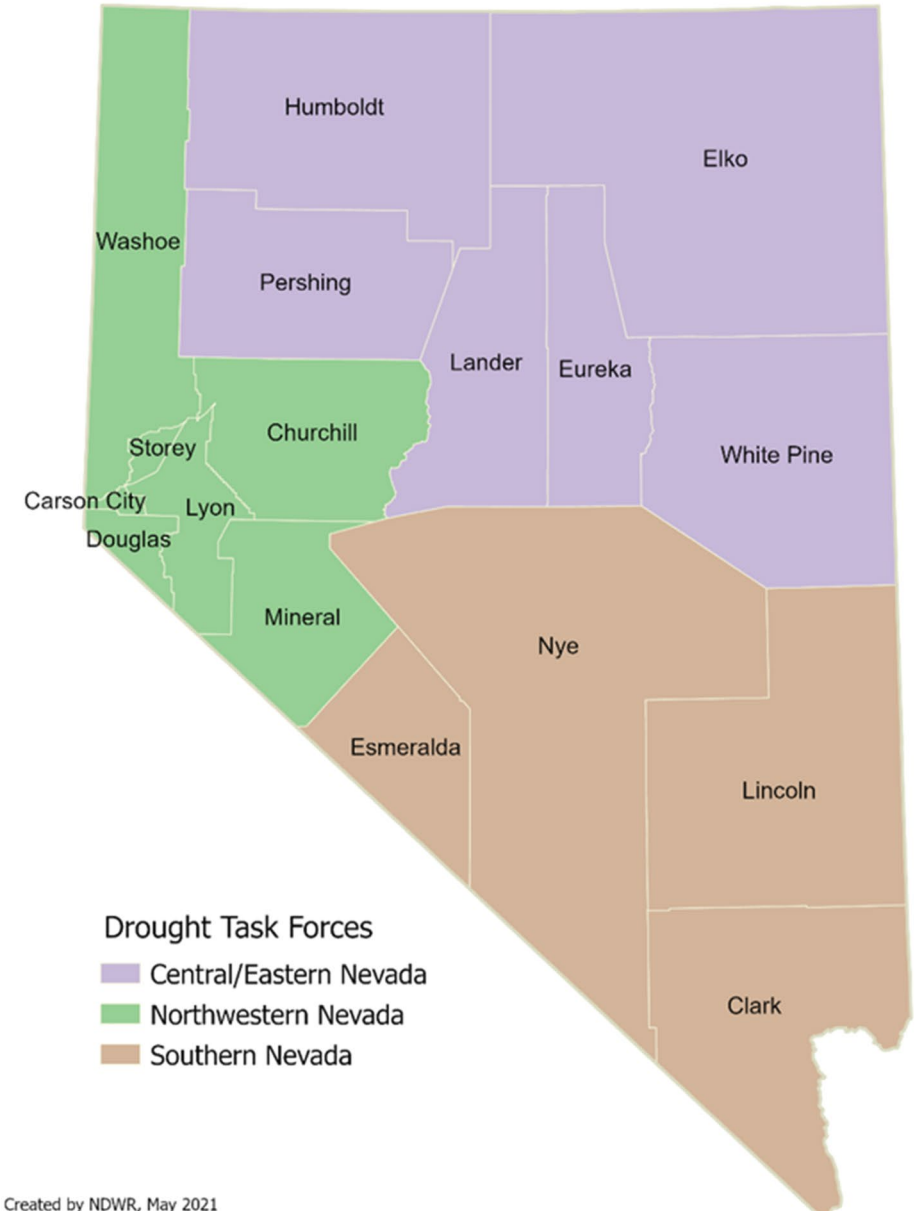


REGIONAL DROUGHT IMPACT TASK FORCES

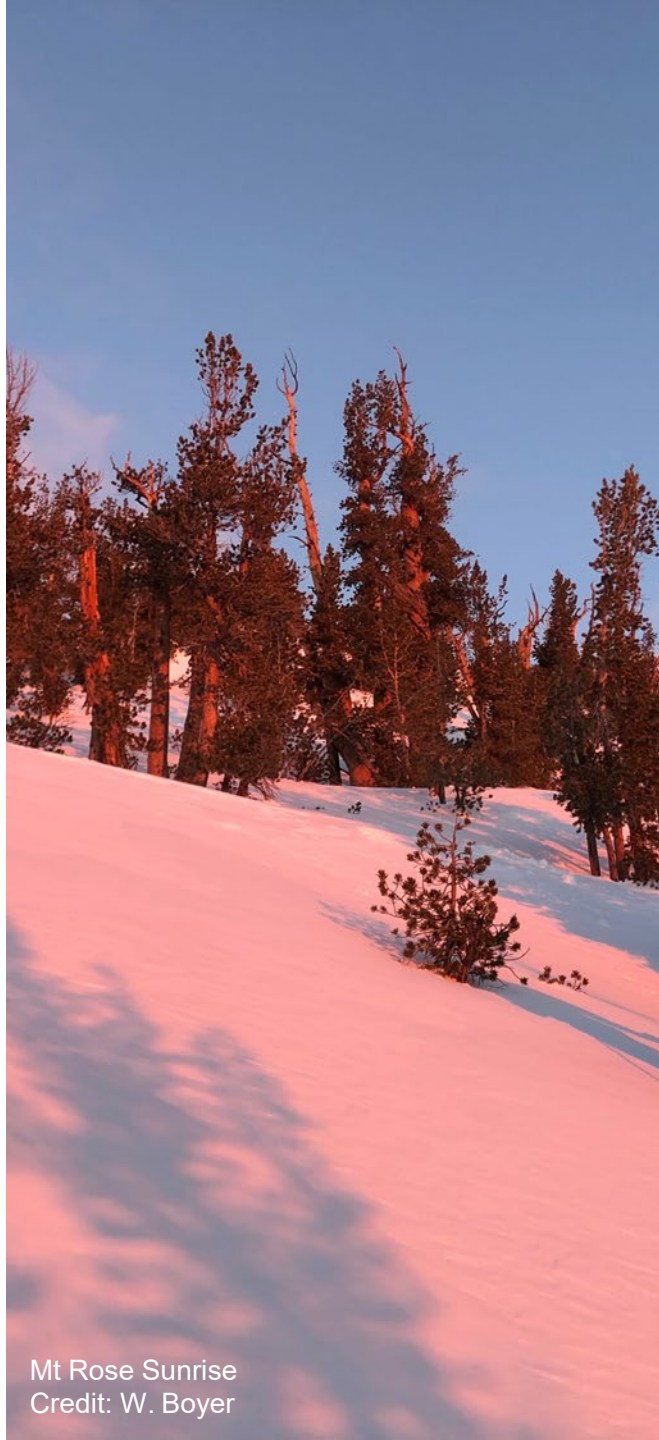
Questions for the Regional Task Forces:

- What are the drought impacts on local industries and natural resources?
- What are the local needs and vulnerabilities within the region?
- What local plans are already activated?
- What resources (federal, state, and local) are already being utilized?
- What additional resources may be available in the region?
- What resources may be required if the drought conditions worsen or are prolonged?

Nevada Drought Task Forces Coverage Areas



Questions?



Mt Rose Sunrise
Credit: W. Boyer

Contact

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