

Summary of 14 Nov 2007 Drought Working Group Telecon

Agenda:

1) Drought Monitoring

Kingtse gave a nice overview of the work she is leading on drought monitoring (ppt will be put on our drought wg web page). She highlighted the differences in the uncertainties in the NLDAS runs between the western and eastern US.

2) Update on model runs:

Considerable progress has been made. Our current schedule is to try to finish all the runs and have a good initial assessment of the results completed by the end of February 2008. The next firm deadline is to present the results at the workshop in October (currently planned to be in conjunction with the CDPW – see below).

Current status of runs:

a) Ben Kirtman has run the coupled model for 80 years with the Pacific pattern and also has a 150-year control

b) The GFDL group has completed + Linear Trend, ± Pacific, ± N_Atl, + Tropical Pacific, + Tropical N_Atl, ± Pacific ± N_Atl, + uniform warming, + lopass Pacific, + residual Pacific. They are now working on the + Linear Trend + Pacific - N_Atl, and + Linear Trend - Pacific + N_Atl, as well as the soil moisture override: monthly climatology from control run used with +Pacific SSTs. They are working on converting the data to IPCC/CMOR format.

c) Lamont/Columbia group: All but the soil moisture experiments have been completed. All results are available on-line:

<http://kage.ideo.columbia.edu/descriptions/CLIVAR/plot.html>

d) NCEP group: has finished 35-year runs with the Pac and Atl SST anomalies and will make the monthly mean quantities available from CPC ftp site.

e) NCAR group: a decision has been made on the model version, and they hope to start the runs next week.

f) NASA/GMAO group has completed all but the uniform heating (now running) and soil moisture experiments. Will make monthly means available via ftp, and the rest available via a GDS.

3) Update on analysis and data sharing:

See above update on model runs for current data sharing information. In the near term we will make do with each group making their results available via their local servers. We are still exploring possibilities for having a central server – this will become more important in the future when we advertise these runs to the general community.

We encourage everyone to think more about how we can best work together on analyzing various aspects of these runs. The following is a list of the suggested projects (slightly modified from last time) and the current volunteers to lead/coordinate these efforts:

- 1) Overview of project and basic comparison (Schubert/Pegion)
 - limit to Pac and Atl cases
 - monthly mean precip, t2m, 200mb z
- 2) Comparison and Validation of dynamical mechanisms (A. Kumar)
 - (perhaps limit to Pac and Atl cases)
 - a) Seasonality of response, nature of atmospheric response, variability
 - b) tropics only runs, land surface impacts, impact of global change/trend
- 3) Response to ENSO versus Low frequency patterns
- 4) Characterizing Drought
 - drought index work (perhaps include a comparison with the PDSI, characterizing drought behavior, changes in the pdf of precipitation and soil moisture, off-line versus on-line C20C and fully coupled with ocean, also compare with idealized SST runs
- 5) Understanding the ocean response

4) Workshop planning:

There was general agreement to coordinate the workshop with the CDPW to be held in Nebraska in October 2008 at the National Drought Mitigation Center.

The CDPW will be 4 1/2 days – need to finish early because of a home football game that weekend. Two days will be devoted to drought including NIDIS activities.

It was generally agreed that we will need to have parallel sessions (perhaps the first two days), and then combine later in the week (e.g., plenary sessions during part of the 2 days of the CDPW devoted to drought).

Issues to consider:

- 1) Is there space available to accommodate the parallel proceedings (expect about 40 people – perhaps some overlap in attendees)? Doug Lecomte will check with Michael Hayes on logistics.
- 2) How open should our workshop be?
Expect some international participation (David is working on that). It was suggested to keep ours fairly limited to presentations by the WG (including everyone on our calls) and DRICOMP and selected International participation, and allow more general participation through the CDPW call – though of course the attendance will be open to all.
- 3) Dave Gutzler will work on refining the objectives of the workshop – based on the very nice initial draft put together by David Legler.
- 4) Other – perhaps need to be creative in using poster sessions to help coordinate