

NOAA Regional Integrated Science and Assessments program

Alaska Center for
Climate Assessment
and Policy (ACCAP)

- Problem defined
- Use-inspired
- Solution driven

Pacific RISA:
Climate Adaptation
Partnership for the Pacific (CAPP)

Hawaii

Marshall Islands

Federated States of Micronesia

Northern Mariana Islands

Guam

Republic of Palau

American Samoa

Climate Decision
Support Consortium
(CDSC)

Western Water
Assessment (WWA)

Great Lakes Regional Integrated
Sciences and Assessments Center (GLISA)

Carolinas Integrated Sciences
and Assessments (CISA)

- Managing risk

- Boundary spanning
- Research-to-Action
- Translational
- Co-Production

➤ Salience, Credibility
& Legitimacy

➤ Trust
➤ Building Community
➤ Co-reliance

California-Nevada
Applications Program
(CNAP)

Climate Assessment for
the Southwest (CLIMAS)

- Best Practices

Southern Climate Impacts
Planning Program (SCIPP)

- Evaluations & metrics

Southeast Climate
Impacts Center (SECI)

Consortium of Climate Risk
in the Urban NE (CCRUN)



CLIMAS

Climate Assessment for the Southwest

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About CLIMAS

Our Mission

The mission of the Climate Assessment for the Southwest (CLIMAS) program is to improve the region's ability to respond sufficiently and appropriately to climatic events and climate changes. The program promotes participatory, iterative research involving scientists, decision makers, resource users, educators, and others who need more and better information about climate and its impacts. CLIMAS investigators conduct research on the nature, causes, and consequences of climate change and variability in the southwestern United States. The program also supports efforts to improve climate forecasting in the region.

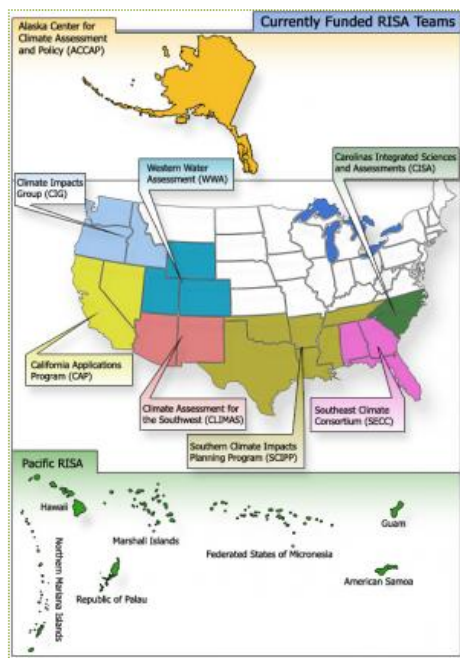
Our Background

The intersection of climate variability and change with social phenomena such as population growth, cultural diversity, and climate vulnerability creates a complex environment for stakeholders in the semi-arid and arid southwestern United States. Resource and land managers concerned with maintaining the health of ecosystems and resources face serious climate-related challenges, including severe sustained drought, dramatic seasonal and interannual variations in precipitation, and steadily rising temperatures. Similarly, local, state, and Native Nation governments strive to maintain vital economic growth and quality of life within the context of drought, population growth, vector-born disease, and fragile water supplies. These uncertainties at the climate-society nexus are prompting decision-makers to seek out improved integrated knowledge in the natural and social sciences and decision-support tools. Stakeholders in the region need new and improved tools to help reduce risk and enhance resilience in the face of climate variability and change.

CLIMAS, housed at the **University of Arizona's Institute of the Environment**, was established in 1998 as part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) **Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA)** program to help address these concerns. The CLIMAS program brings together **researchers** who study the processes and effects of climate on the Southwest with individuals and organizations that need climate information to make informed decisions. The program promotes the exchange of ideas and information among members of the public, private, nonprofit, and academic communities.

Throughout its history, CLIMAS has worked to assess climate variability and longer-term climate change in terms of impacts on human and natural systems in the Southwest. In doing so, it has also developed a substantial network of stakeholders, research collaborators, and

partners. In August 2007 the program entered its third phase, which focuses on understanding risk, resilience, variability and change in climate and water systems, providing decision support, and facilitating knowledge exchange and partnerships.



Currently funded RISA teams.

About Us

► People

[CLIMAS Annual Reports](#)

[CLIMAS Graphics](#)

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[CLIMAS team blog](#)



Join Our Mailing List

Sign up to receive updates on what's happening with CLIMAS.

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April 25, 2012

Southwest Climate Outlook

April Climate Summary

Vol. 11 Issue 4



- ✓ **Cinnamon Snow: Flecks of Dust Alter Western Water Supplies**
 - ...Dust events
 - ...Impacts on Water Resources
 - ...In a changing climate
- ✓ **Temperature**
- ✓ **Precipitation**
- ✓ **U.S. Drought Monitor**
- ✓ **Arizona Drought Status**
- ✓ **New Mexico Drought Status**
- ✓ **Arizona Reservoir Levels**



April 25, 2012

Southwest Climate Outlook

Vol. 11 Issue 4



- ✓ **New Mexico Reservoir Levels (through 3/31/12)**
- ✓ **Southwest Snowpack (updated 4/19/12)**
- ✓ **Temperature Outlook (May-October 2012)**
- ✓ **Precipitation Outlook (May-October 2012)**
- ✓ **Seasonal Drought Outlook (through July)**
- ✓ **Streamflow Forecast (for spring and summer)**
- ✓ **Wildland Fire Outlook (May-July 2012)**
- ✓ **El Niño Status and Forecast**

Bridge?

or



Onramp?

*In theory there is no difference
between theory and practice.*

In practice there is.

- Yogi Berra -