Oregon Climate Assessment Report 2016: sneak preview (&NIDIS)

Philip Mote
Oregon Climate Change Research Institute
occri.net  @pwmote
Oregon Climate Change Research Institute

- Place-based research institute created by Oregon state legislature
- 14 staff and students, ~80 collaborators
- Home of Oregon Climate Service
- Home of NOAA Climate Impacts Research Consortium
- Home of Dept of Interior Northwest Climate Science Center
- Required by law to produce an assessment report periodically
Scope

• Shorter, update to previous OCARs
  – <100 pages
  – Literature from Summer 2013 - Summer 2016
drawing largely from CIRCulator and other sources

• Regional focus ➔ 1-pg summaries (e.g.,
  coasts, Blue Mountains)
Structure & Content

- Executive summary (2 pages)
- Main Body: Intro, Climate, Water, Coasts, Forests, Agriculture, Health (<100 pages)
- Sub-regional summaries (1 page each)
- Tribal issues, economics covered within main body chapters
Timeline

• Now: Rolling review period
  – a few chapters already out to selected reviewers, other chapters will be out soon
• December 2016: Final to state legislature & governor
Administration's and was followed by an unusually warm and dry half. An example half of the year (October to March) and one of the driest winter in Oregon. Precipitation and temperature above or below the 20th century average indicates, drought years. The dry/warm half of the year (April to September) in the left axis, for all the years are labeled. The plot on the x-axis, the percent above or below the baseline period is 1896-1920. 2014-2015 shows the cool/wet half of the year (October to March) and one of the driest winter in Oregon. Precipitation and temperature above or below the 20th century average indicates, drought years. The dry/warm half of the year (April to September) in the left axis, for all the years are labeled. The plot on the x-axis, the percent above or below the baseline period is 1896-1920.
Administration’s and was followed by an unusually warm and dry half. An example of the dry/warm half of the year (October to March) and of the driest winter in Oregon. These plots show past climate in Oregon, with each year represented by a dot whose position indicates the temperature above or below the 20th century average. The baseline period is 1896-1930.
from Hoodoo web cam
February 23, 2015
Pacific Northwest Drought Early Warning System

launched February 2016, co-led by Dello and Marrs

• Key takeaways:
  • 2015 the new drought of record
  • More monitoring needed
    • Groundwater
    • Soil moisture
    • Snowpack
    • Water temperature
    • Stream flows
  • Better information is needed to identify specific triggers to inform operational decisions
  • Increased communication and outreach
  • Leverage and enhance existing information