



**The Drought Research Initiative:
*Workshop IV***

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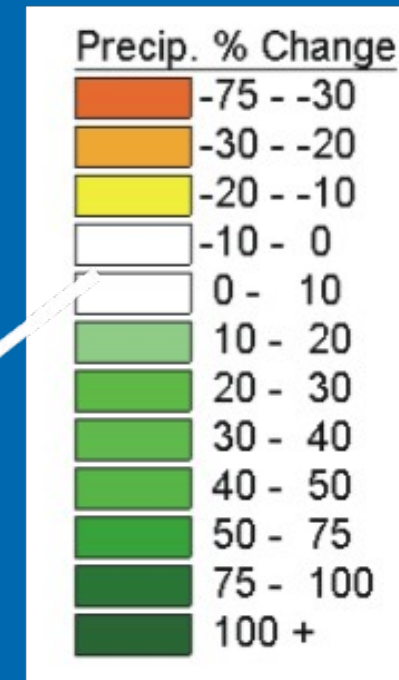
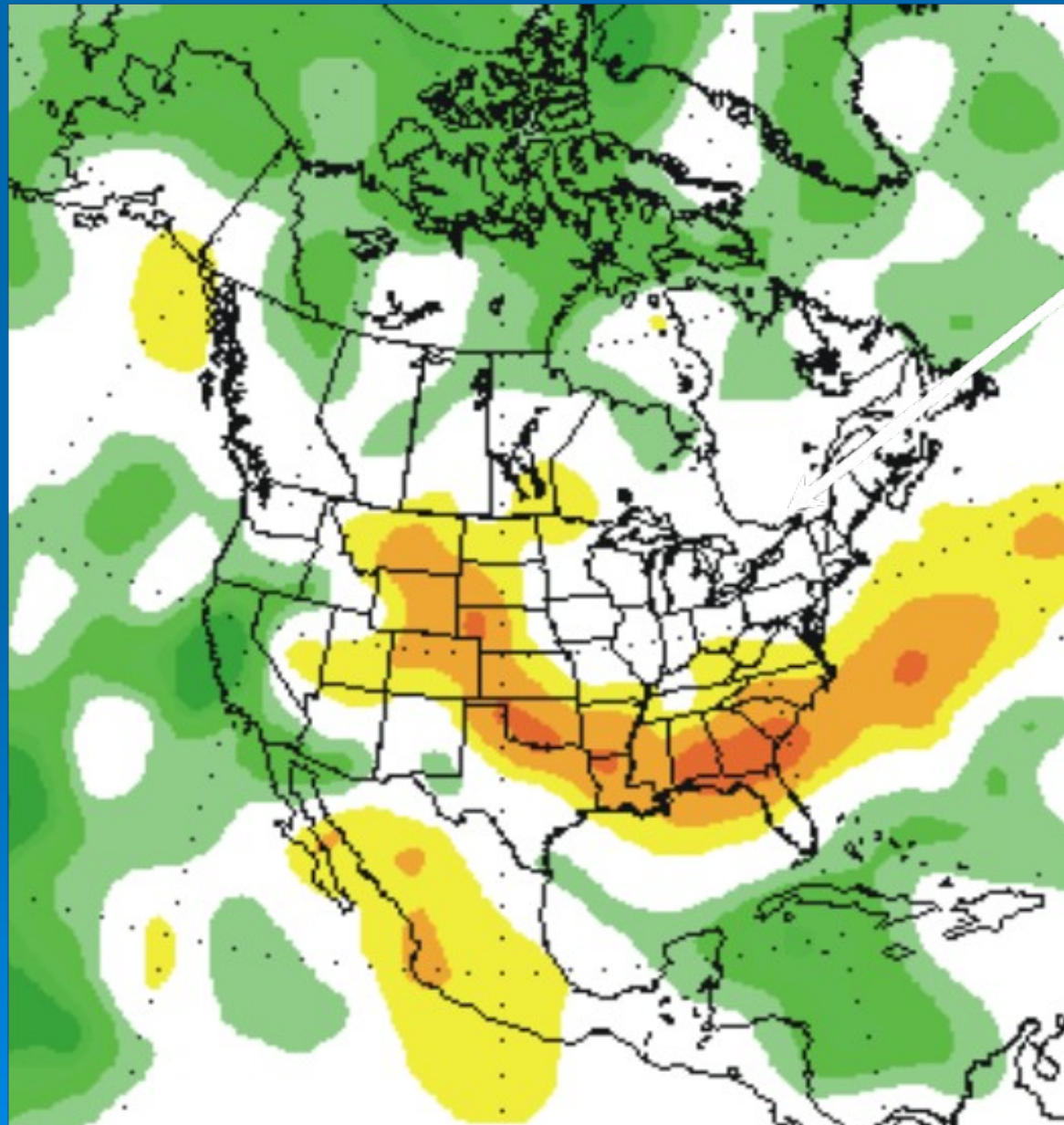
SOME OF THE ISSUES

- **Will we see more droughts in the future?**
- **How will next season look?**
- **Will there be any break from the drought over the next few days?**

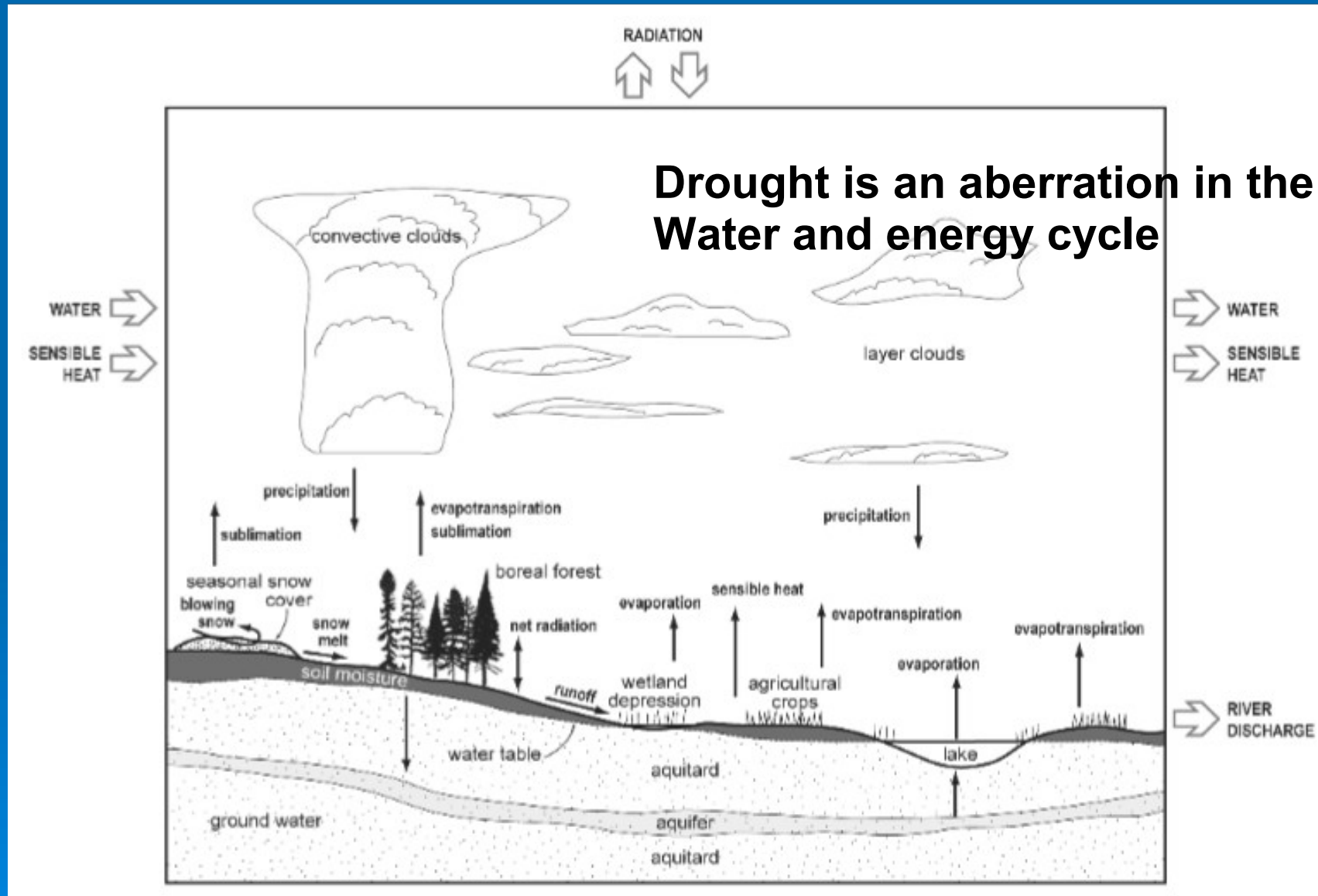
And:

- **How can we better cope with drought?**

FUTURE PRECIPITATION?



WATER AND ENERGY CYCLING



OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

The objectives of DRI are:

- *To better understand the physical characteristics of and processes influencing Canadian Prairie droughts, and*
- *To contribute to their better prediction and to improved societal preparation*

Strategy:

- *Focus on the recent severe drought that began in 1999 and largely ended in 2005*

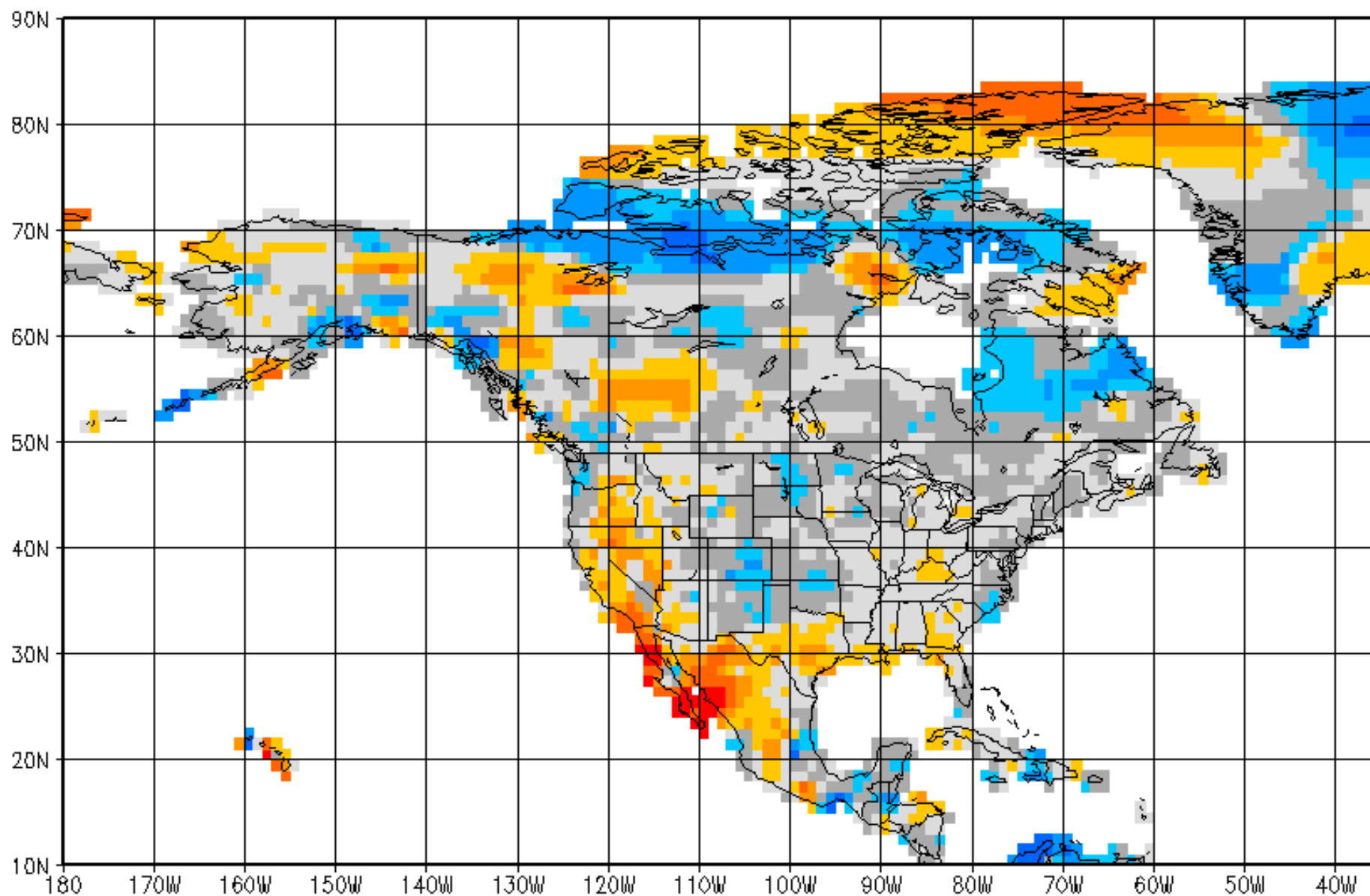
TIMELINE OF DRI

2002:	Dec	Call for new Network LOIs by CFCAS
2003:	Feb	Initial LOI submitted to CFCAS
	Nov	Acceptance of LOI (3 y Network)
2004:	March 18-19	Drought workshop (5 y Network possible)
	Dec 19	Proposal submission
2005:	June 14	Proposal review
	August	Proposal formally accepted
2006:	Jan 11-12	First workshop
2007:	Jan 11-13	Second workshop
		Evaporation workshop
2008:	Jan 17-19	Third workshop
	April	Prediction workshop
	Sept	Characterization workshop
2009:	Jan 26-28	Fourth workshop
2010:	Jan	Fifth workshop
	Dec	Completion of all network activities



The Canadian
Prairies

GPCC Full Data Product Version3 Gauge-Based Analysis 1.0 degree
precipitation percentage of normals 61/90 for year (Jan - Dec) 1999
(grid based)



(c) GPCC 2006/11/29



DRI THEMES

1. Quantify the physical features,

- flows of water and energy into and out of the region, and
- storage and redistribution within the region

2. Improve the understanding of processes and feedbacks governing the

- formation,
- evolution,
- cessation and
- structure of the drought

1. Assess and contribute to reducing uncertainties in the prediction of drought

1. Compare the similarities and differences of current drought to previous droughts and those in other regions

2. Apply our progress to address critical issues of importance to society

FINAL STATEMENTS

At the end of DRI:

- “We have **greatly increased our understanding** of drought through a focus on the recent 1999-2004/05 one over the Prairies and we have applied this to **improved prediction.**”
- “We have left a **legacy** of comprehensive datasets, improved observational and modelling techniques, a new generation of drought scientists, and a public better educated about drought.”
- “We have, in partnership with others in Canada and internationally, developed a plan to **improve drought and water cycle prediction at multiple scales.**”

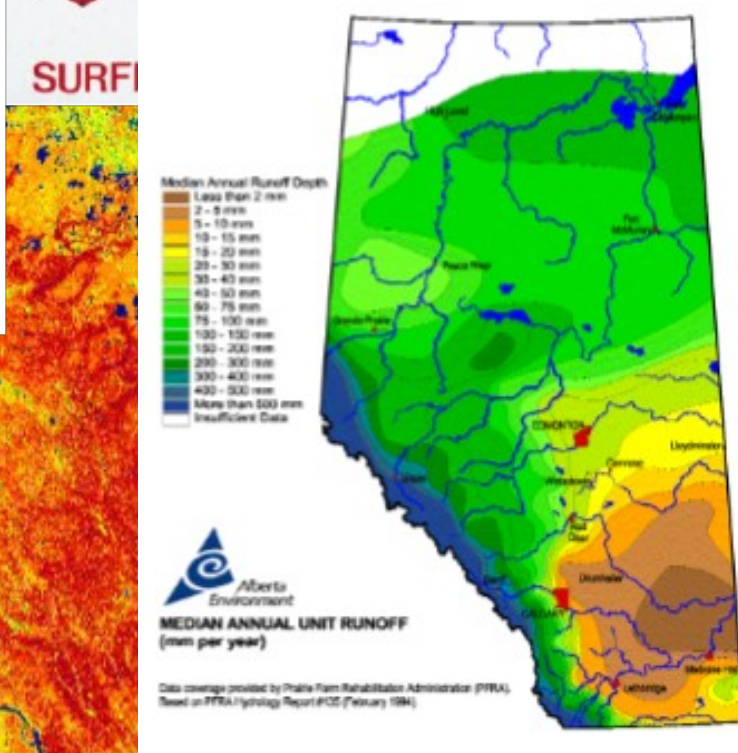
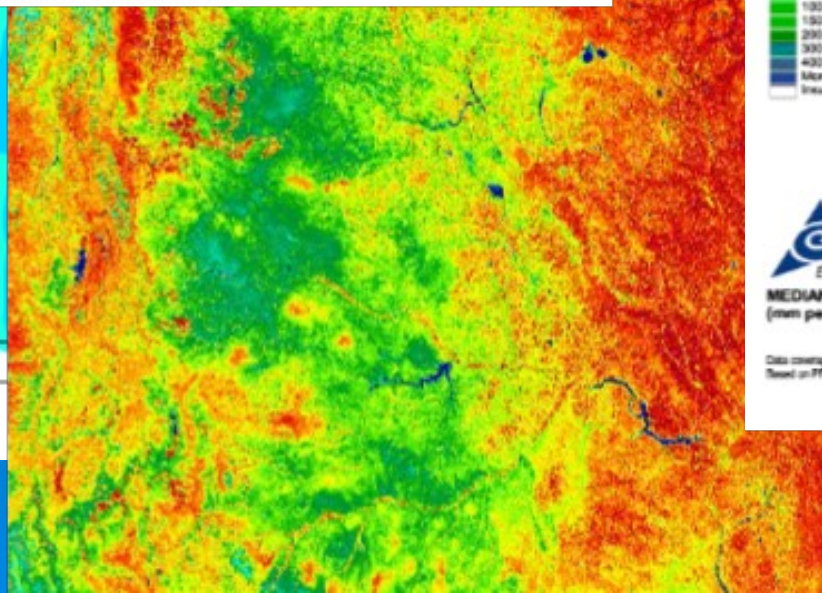
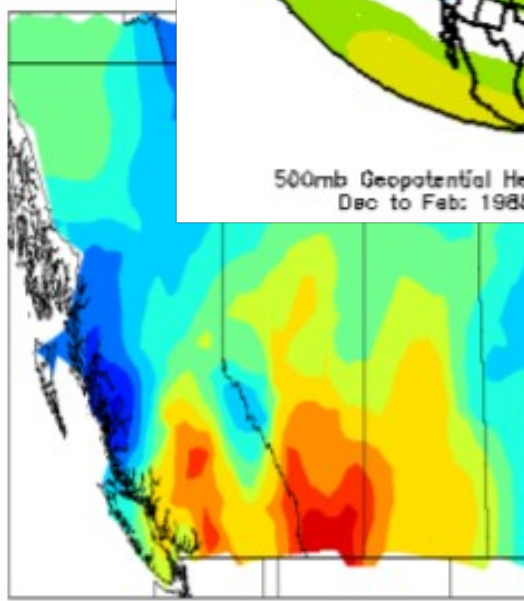
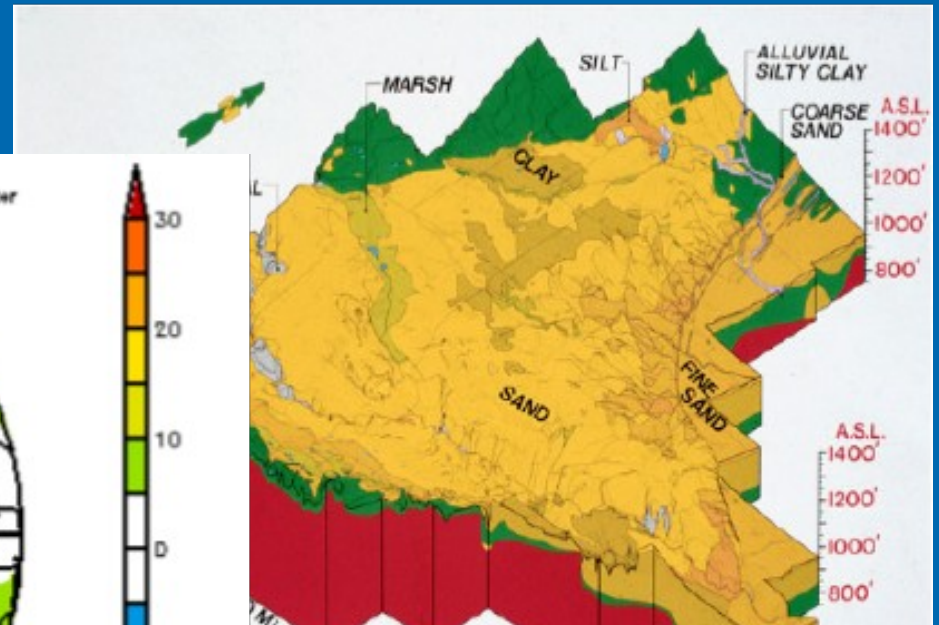
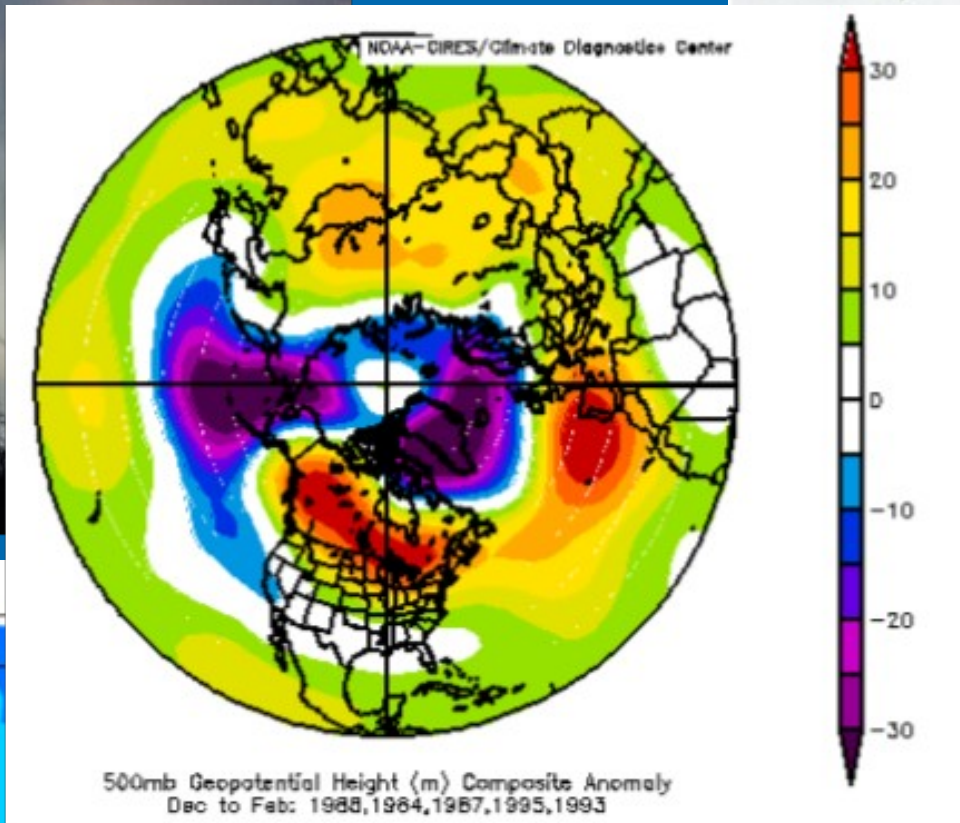
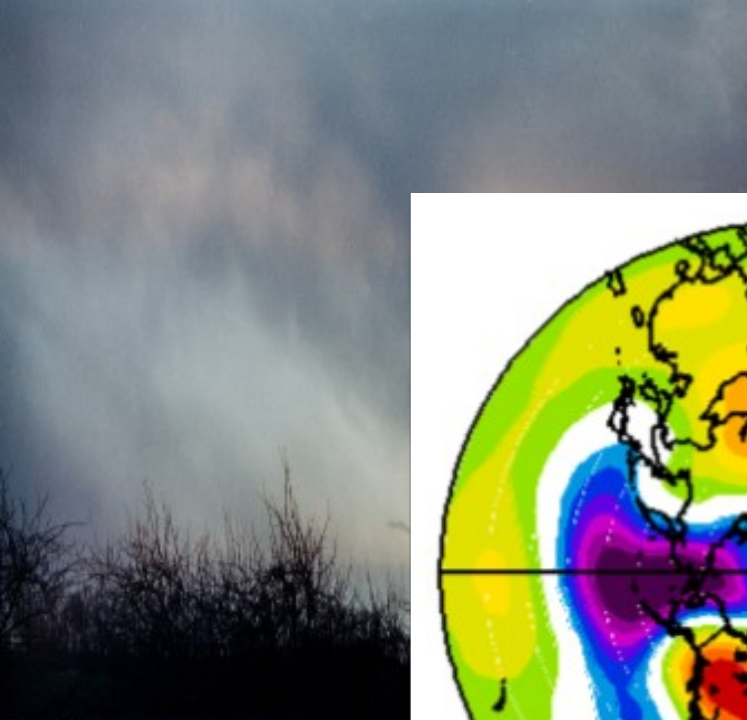
DRI STATEMENT

January 2008

We have continued to **add datasets** to characterize drought and to investigate the **many factors** leading to, sustaining and ending drought. We have developed **interactions with other groups examining drought** and other extremes in the United States and elsewhere. Our partners have organized an **advisory group** to ensure that there are strong two-way interactions with researchers. We are organizing our **synthesis article** on drought characterization and we have developed a strategy to assess and to contribute to **improved predictive capabilities.**

LAST YEAR'S PROGRESS

- Research advances
- Collective efforts
- Supplemental funding
- Test-bed for drought information
- Information management
- International linkages
- ...



COMING ...

- Synthesis ... Each theme and overall
- Special journal issue
- Legacy
- Stepping stone
- ...

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

In general, the objective of this workshop is to:

move the Network towards its completion

Specific sub-objectives include:

- Update our progress
- Identify challenges and opportunities
- Enhance collaborations and cohesion
- Move towards synthesis and legacy
- Maximize benefits for partners
- Consider future activities

Enjoy the workshop!

