Break-out discussion items

- *Precipitation discussions
- *** Drought Indices discussions**

Issues for discussions

- *** Drought indices issues:**
- Do the currently-available drought indices datasets meet the requirements for your work? (accuracy, spatial and temporal coverage and resolutions)
- Do you have any problems in finding and accessing appropriate drought indices datasets for your drought research?
- What are the pros and cons of using traditional indices and LDAS/model products in various drought research and monitoring applications. Any specific issues for drought research in Canadian regions?
- What are the prospects and related issues in the development of cross-border drought indices and LDAS (e.g. NLDAS) datasets?
- * Have there been any systematic studies that examined the impacts of using different precipitation datasets (e.g. guage vs gridded vs blended) as inputs in calculating the different drought indices?
- What are the issues in assessing drought conditions in model results (e.g., constructing drought indices from typical model archive variables from IPCC runs) for climate change and projection studies?
- Do we have adequate drought indices datasets (from both models and observations) for regional climate change and projection studies? What are the specific issues? Would RCMs help?
- How could DRI and partners work together to address these issues?

Issues for discussions

- * Precipitation datasets issues:
- Do the currently-available precipitation datasets meet the requirements for your work? (accuracy, spatial and temporal coverage and resolutions)
- Are the inherent limitations of currently available precipitation datasets well-documented?
- Do you have any problems in finding and accessing the precipitation dataset that are needed for your work?
- * Are there any specific precipitation data issues for drought research in Canada? (winter precip, sparse network, orographic precip, etc.)
- Will regular cross-validations between the different precipitation datasets over Canadian regions be useful? Who should do it?
- What are the main issues in the development of cross-border datasets? How could we help?
- Do we have adequate (both modeled and observed) precipitation data for regional climate change and projection studies? What are the specific issues? Would RCMs help?
- * How could DRI and partners collaborate better to address these issues?
- * How could DRI and partners work together to address these issues?