### Drought Research Initiative (DRI) Theme 1



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# Outline

- Review of Theme 1 objectives
- Progress in each objective
- Data Management
- Where to from here in the next year



### Research Questions of Theme 1

- Q1: What variables are required to quantify the characteristics of the recent drought?
- Q2: What data sources and model outputs are available for quantifying these parameters?
- Q3: How do we characterize and "close the budgets" of water and energy over the Prairies?



### Q1: Variables Needed / Gathered

- 3-D assessment of the atmosphere
  - Temperature, humidity, wind, clouds, geopotential height, precipitation amount
- Surface exchange with atmosphere
  - Latent and sensible heat fluxes
- State of the surface
  - Vegetative state of crop & boreal zones in terms of moisture stress
  - Soil moisture at various levels
  - Snow cover (SWE)
  - Stream network, river flows, lake levels, wetlands, and depressions storage
  - Sea surface temperatures
- Ground water
  - Individual aquifers
  - Water table and well logs of other areas



# Q2: Data Sources

- Surface meteorological observations
- Upper air
- Model analyses
- Model forecasts
- Satellite datasets
- Lightning data
- Radar data
- Drought indices
- Forest conditions
- Crop conditions
- Flux & special tower observations



## **Characterization to Date**

#### • Atmosphere:

- Surface Precipitation (PFRA / stations / CanGrid) (several people)
- Hemispheric/synoptic links to drought via dynamics (Gyakum) and teleconnections (Bonsal/Shabbar)
- T and RH trends and spatial variations (Strong)
- Vertical estimates of condensate, moisture across various regions / features / events (Stewart)
- Spatial / temporal variations of ET in ag zone (Hanesiak, Bullock)
- Occurrence of convection in relation to wet/dry areas (Hanesiak)
- Source regions of local vs transported moisture (Gyakum)



## **Characterization to Date**

#### • Surface:

- Quantifying spatial / temporal soil moisture, ET, compiling PFRA data (in ag zone only!) (Hanesiak)
- Spatial / temporal soil moisture and drought indices (CRCM and observations) (Lin)
- Mapping of ag drought intensity and crop conditions with meteorological data (Bullock)
- Examination of several drought indices, temporal/spatial extent of drought (Wheaton)
- Snow cover analysis (model and observations) (Hanesiak)
- Wetland & lake monitoring & water storage (Van der Kamp)
- SRB hydrology and ET (Pomeroy, Pietroniro)

#### • Sub-surface:

- Alberta ground water temporal measurements in association with surface met data (Hayashi)
- ADA ground water and surface flow observation / modeling (Woodbury, Snelgrove)

#### 2000 RzSm animation



#### July 2000 Soil Moisture and Lightning



### Q3: Water and Energy Budgets





# Progress to Date

- GPS S. Alberta network (2003-05) diurnal trends (Strong)
- SRB water and energy budgets (Szeto, Stewart, Pomeroy, Pietroniro)
- Source regions of water vapor (Gyakum, Stewart)
- Vertical flows of energy and water in Alberta using obs and modeling (Hayashi)



#### Variability among Budgets Estimates ....cont....AMJJ Soil Moisture anomalies (mm)



# Theme 1 Deliverables

- Collective datasets archived on CDs characterizing the drought
- Outreach to user community and stakeholders through workshops and conferences
- Synthesis article on drought characterization and flow of water and energy



# Future Theme 1 Work

- Transition to cross-cutting themes
- Characterization of Drought
  - compilation of drought spatial and temporal aspects (atmospheric, surface hydrology and ground water)
  - Google Earth applications on integration
- Water & Energy Budgets
  - summary of water budget for region
- Data Management
  - Matt / Patrice
- Gaps in Theme 1?

