



The NHWC Transmission

November 2014

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2015 NHWC Conference – Call for Presentations About to Open

Chris Crompton, County of Orange Watersheds
NHWC Treasurer

The National Hydrologic Warning Council (NHWC) will present its 11th biennial Training Conference and Exposition in Indianapolis, Indiana from June 15 to 18, 2015. Reflecting the racing heritage of the location, the theme of next year's Conference is *Advances in Hydrologic Warning – The Race to Save Lives*.

The theme reinforces NHWC's commitment to protecting lives, as well as property and the environment, with advanced hydrologic warning systems. Join us in Indianapolis for a multi-disciplinary hydrologic warning training experience with tracks tailored for field personnel, engineers, hydrologists, forecasters, water resource managers, emergency management officials, and others. Better still, become part of the Conference by sharing the advances you have been working on. The Call for Presentations will be released in just a few days and all you have to do is submit a short abstract to be considered for the program at this prestigious event. As a further incentive, speakers at the Conference are eligible for the lowest registration fees.

The Conference is the largest of its kind in the United States, devoted specifically to real-time hydrologic warning systems and how these systems and associated technologies assist local officials with hydrologic hazard preparedness, emergency response, recovery, and mitigation. 🌩️



Pacific Northwest Advanced Flood Warning System Workshop

Opportunities and Challenges for Improved Preparedness

David Curtis, WEST Consultants, Inc.
President, NHWC

A 2-day NHWC flood warning system workshop was held October 21-22, 2014 to explore opportunities and challenges for improved flood warning systems in the Pacific Northwest. Approximately 60 attendees heard and discussed best practices for developing and operating successful flood warning systems.

Forward-looking presentations and discussions explored new advances in weather and precipitation forecasting, instrumentation, hydrologic modeling, and warning communication; with emphasis on enhancing the existing flood warning infrastructure.

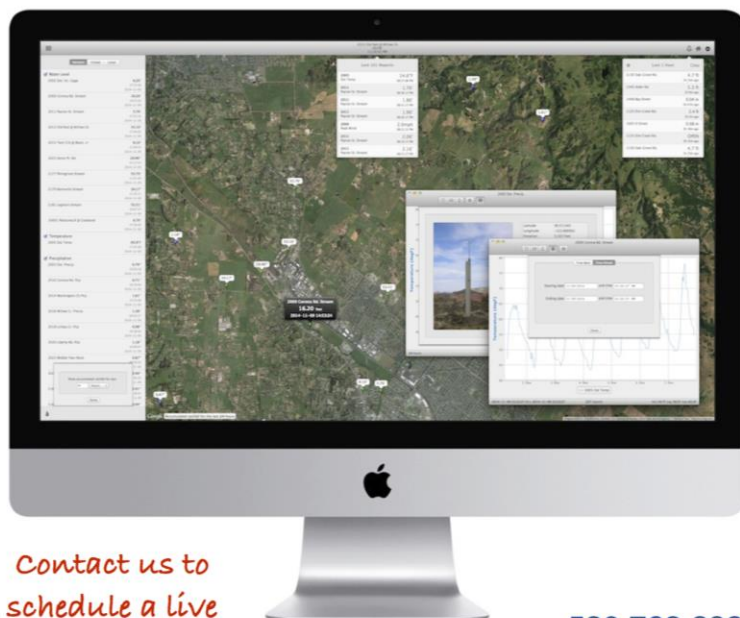
Day one featured flood warning system experts at local, state, and national levels. Day two featured interactive panel discussions and table top exercises. Presentations topics included:

- Overview of successful flood warning systems across the US,



The Great Wolf Lodge

- Designing and implementing flood warning systems,
- Creating robust natural hazard monitoring and prediction systems,
- Managing social media during flood emergencies,
- Coalition-building among flood warning system owners/operators,
- Sharing ways to strengthen support for flood warning systems,
- Emerging flood warning system technologies, and
- Using flood warning systems to strengthen your CRS rating.



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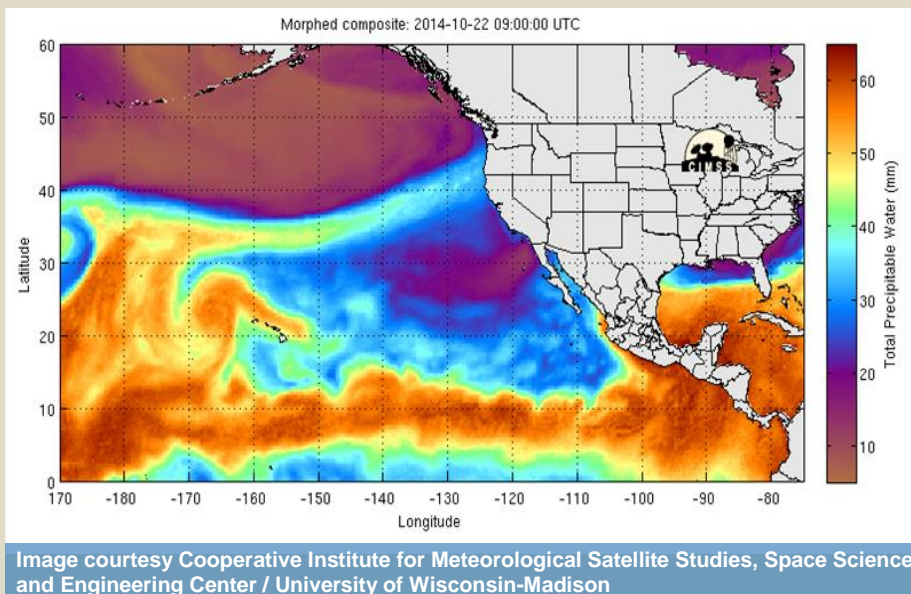
- GIS-based interface that rapidly provides:
 - Visualization of system conditions
 - Access to plots and tabular data
 - Access to alarm conditions
 - Access to sensor meta-data
- Browser-based dashboard displays for weather stations
- Browser-based interfaces for:
 - Database management
 - Complex statistical analysis
 - Custom formatted report generation
 - Multi-sensor plotting displays
- Data acquisition modules for:
 - ALERT
 - ALERT2
 - NTCIP
 - GOES via DCP Data Services, LRIT, and DRGS

Flood warning system operators from across the country joined with local operators from the Pacific Northwest to compare experiences. Attendees heard flood warning system representatives from Charlotte, NC, Nashville, TN and Denver, CO. Local systems from King County, WA, the Chehalis River Basin, WA, and Salem, OR, were represented.

The rapidly expanding use of social media for emergency communications and, in some cases, data collection was a dominant theme. One of the most talked about presentations was from Jim Moffitt of Twitter who discussed the power and potential of the Twitter platform to support a range of data collection and warning activities. Local emergency communications experts discussed their experiences with social media during recent disasters, including the devastating Oso landslide in Washington earlier this year.

Appropriately enough, the workshop was greeted by a significant atmospheric river event (right) The heavy rain was part of a month long siege of wet weather that dumped more than three feet of rain in 30 days at some locations in Washington. Fortunately, the dry early season watershed conditions soaked up most of the rain with only a minor impact on rivers and streams.

Many thanks go to Workshop Gold Sponsors Ott HydroMet and SonTek, our contributing partners USGS, NWS, BuRec, and NOAA as well our exhibitors HydroLynx, High Sierra Electronics, Aquatic Informatics, FTS Environmental and WEST Consultants. Presentation PDFs are now available at the [NHWC website](http://www.nhwcc.org).



ALERT2

Flood Warning Systems

ALERT2 has arrived. Campbell Scientific offers standard ALERT stations, fully customized flood warning systems, and now ALERT2 flood warning systems. Our equipment is ideal for new installations or drop-in replacements with no service interruptions. Trust us when your measurements matter.

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ALERT2 Training

A three day ALERT2 training symposium is being offered December 9th - 11th, 2014.

The training is critical for the transition of ALERT2 in Southern California and will be beneficial to all Southern California agencies operating ALERT systems even if not transitioning to ALERT2 at this time. The training will cover the transition to ALERT2, information on equipment options, how to upgrade and much more. Some of the speakers will include OneRain, HydroLynx, High Sierra Electronics and Campbell Scientific.

A block of 15 rooms has been reserved under "Ventura County Flood Control" and Continental Breakfasts and lunches will be included as part of this free training. Make your room reservations by November 14th to receive a discount:

Ventura Beach Marriott
2055 East Harbor
Boulevard Ventura, CA
93001

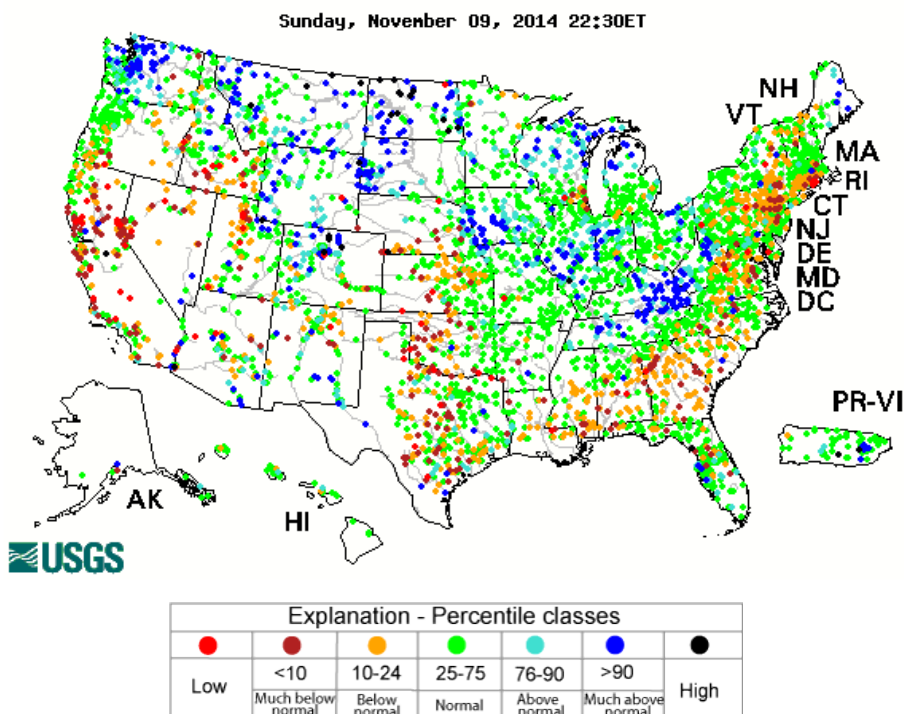
(800) 228-9290 or
(805) 643-6000

Please also RSVP to
ron.marotto@ventura.org
by November 14th.

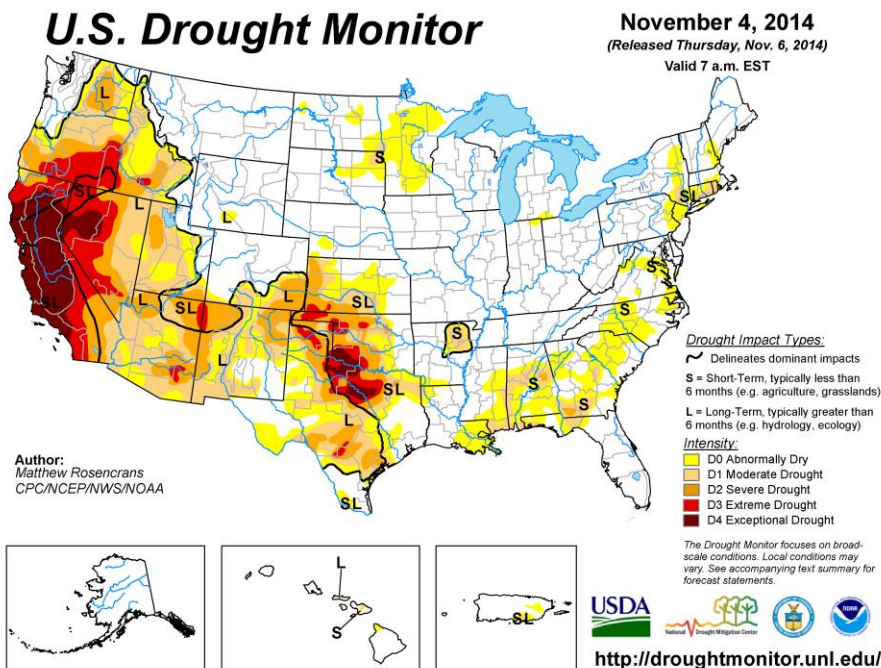
Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your Annual NHWC Membership. New members are welcome. Click [here](#) to join/renew your membership.

Hydrologic Conditions in the United States Through October, 2014



Latest stream flow conditions in the United States. (courtesy USGS)



Latest drought conditions in the United States.
(courtesy National Drought Mitigation Center)

December Newsletter Articles Focus: Hazard Communication & Public Awareness

NHWC is requesting articles that focus on getting the word out.

Please prepare an article that explains how your organization gets the right information to the right people for the right response.

Submit your article to:

editor@hydrologicwarning.org

December 5th is the deadline for inclusion in the December issue.

Future Newsletter Articles Focus

To give you more time to prepare articles, below is the article focus schedule for the next four months:

**Dec - Hazard
Communication &
Public Awareness**
Jan - Modeling/Analysis
Feb - Data Collection
Mar - Hydrology

NHWC Calendar

June 15-18, 2015 - [NHWC 2015 Training Conference & Exposition](#), Indianapolis, Indiana

General Interest Calendar

December 9-11, 2014 – Southern California ALERT2 Training Symposium, Ventura, California (See page 4 for details)

January 4-8, 2015 - [95th American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting](#), Phoenix, Arizona

February 4-5, 2015 – [ASDSO Emergency Action Planning for Dam Safety](#), Phoenix, Arizona

(see the [event calendar](#) on the NHWC website for more information)

Parting Shot

[Point Iroquois Lighthouse](#) and NOAA Weather Station, July 16, 2014
Data from this station can be viewed [here](#).

46° 29' 04" N, 84° 37' 51" W



Point Iroquois, Michigan

Photo by Chris Crompton, County of Orange Watersheds
NHWC Treasurer

National Hydrologic Warning Council

*Providing Timely, Quality Hydrologic Information to Protect Lives,
Property, and the Environment*

<http://www.hydrologicwarning.org>