

# GEOG 360: Watershed Science and Policy

Spring 2015; 10:00 - 11:50 Tues-Thurs

Prof. Patricia McDowell



- How polluted are U.S. rivers?
- Where does our drinking water come from? How safe is it?
- Where are water shortages likely to occur under future climatic change?
- How are aquatic ecosystems structured?
- How are laws and policies on water quality, supply, and aquatic ecosystems designed? How effective are our current policies? Who are the winners and losers?
- What new management strategies are being used to combat these problems? What agencies and NGOs are working on water problems?

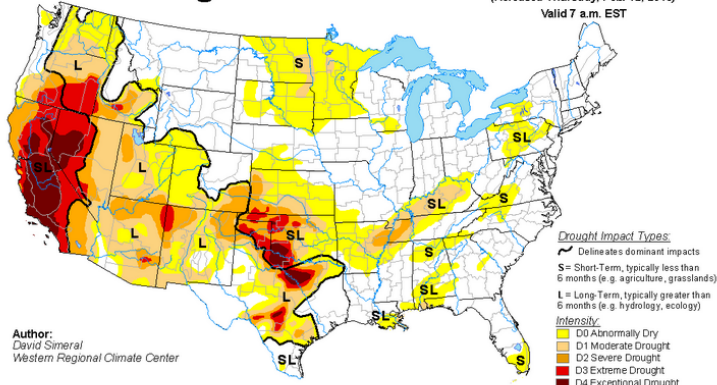
## Format:

- Meets twice a week, with lecture, discussion and work on assignments interwoven
- View recorded video lectures before class, spend class time on discussions, short lectures, and work on assignments
- Some classes run for 110 minutes, to include assignment work, films, etc.



## U.S. Drought Monitor

February 10, 2015  
(Released Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

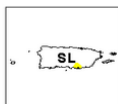
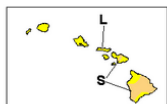


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**Drought Impact Types:**  
~ Delineates dominant impacts  
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)  
L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

**Intensity:**  
D0 Abnormally Dry  
D1 Moderate Drought  
D2 Severe Drought  
D3 Extreme Drought  
D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

## Course Requirements:

- Two tests (40%); assignments (24% total), a term project report (26%), and quizzes (10%)
- Team term project (3 students), written report on a U.S. watershed of your choice, or another topic.
- The six assignments are integrated into the term project; they will be done on your selected watershed and will provide material for the report.

For more information, contact Pat McDowell at [pmcd@uoregon.edu](mailto:pmcd@uoregon.edu)