

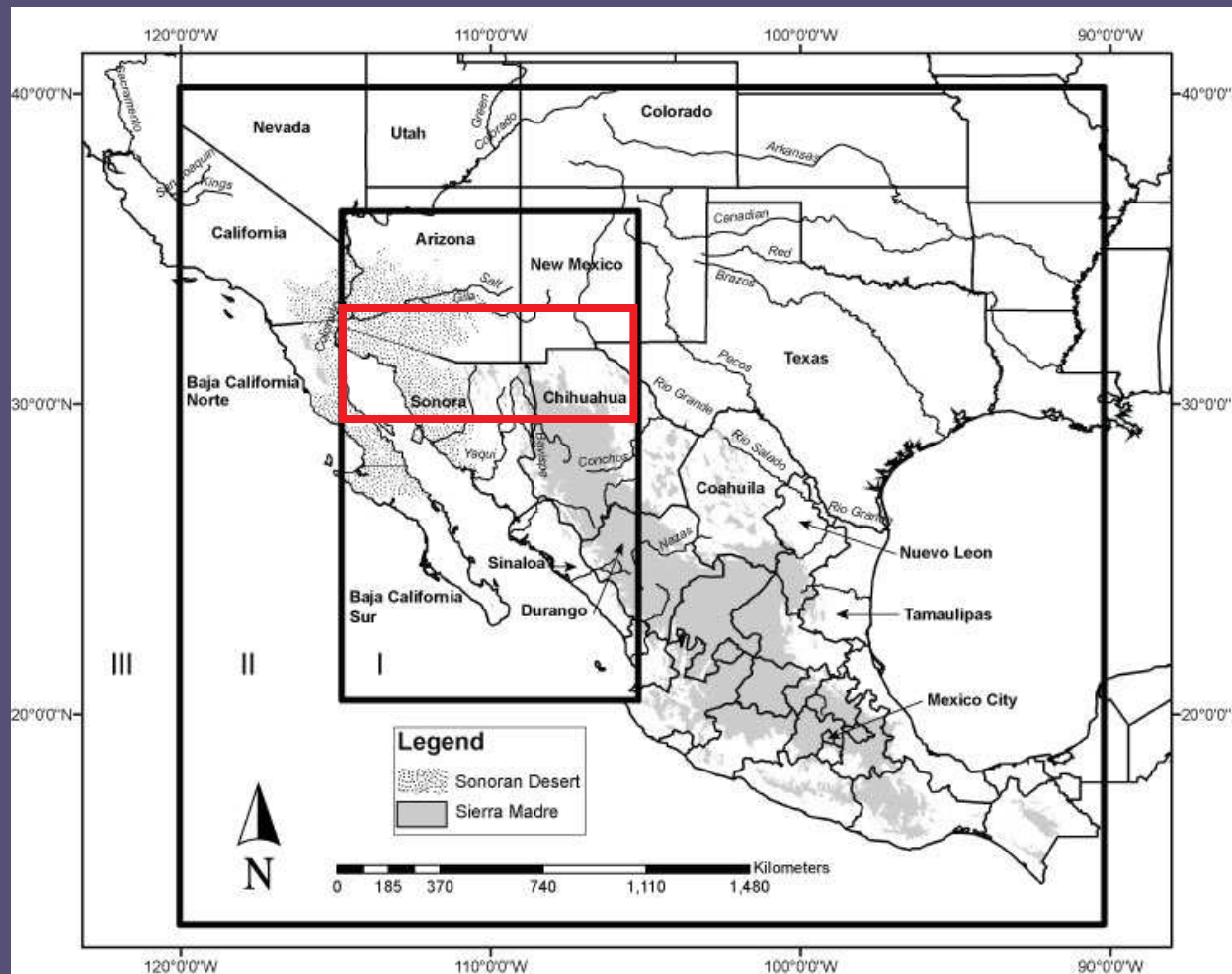
A photograph of a sunset over a desert landscape. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm orange and red glow across the sky. Several saguaro cacti are silhouetted against the bright sky, with one particularly large one on the right side. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Border Climate Summary

Ben Crawford
Climate Assessment for the Southwest
(CLIMAS)
The University of Arizona

Purpose of BCS

- Provide useful climate information to stakeholders and decision-makers along the U.S.-Mexico border



Rationale of BCS

- Improve decision-making, reduce impacts
- Stakeholders in the region are faced with similar climate-related issues regarding:
 - Water supplies
 - Range management
 - Riparian protection
 - Agricultural production
 - Forest health and wildfire

Rationale of BCS

- Improve cross-border communication & cooperation
- Improved monitoring


Southwest Climate Outlook

- BCS based on CLIMAS Southwest Climate Outlook
- ~2,000 people in Arizona and New Mexico
- Region-specific climate information and interpretation
- Inform the press
- Lessons

Issued: March 20, 2007

Southwest Climate Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



Source: Gregg Garfin, Institute for the Study of Planet Earth

Photo Description: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Yuma Desalting Plant sediment settling ponds. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is currently experimenting with bringing the desalting plant back online, in order to help meet water quality standards for deliveries of Colorado River water to Mexico.

Would you like to have your favorite photograph featured on the cover of the *Southwest Climate Outlook*? For consideration send a photo representing Southwest climate and a detailed caption to: knelson7@email.arizona.edu


In this issue...

Precipitation → page 7
Precipitation since the water year began October 1, 2006, has been characterized by east-west differences between New Mexico and Arizona. Most of Arizona has received below average precipitation while portions of New Mexico have received over 200 percent of normal...

El Niño → page 18
Current sea-surface temperatures (SSTs) are near the climatological average in the tropical Pacific, indicating neutral ENSO conditions. There is the possibility of a La Niña event developing in early spring, though neutral conditions are more likely...

Verification → page 19
Due to the El Niño conditions this winter, the temperature forecast for the Southeast had a higher probability towards near-average temperatures. There was substantial agreement between the forecast and the observed temperatures over the northern tier of the U.S...

The information in this packet is available on the web: <http://www.ispe.arizona.edu/climas/forecasts/swoutlook.html>



BCS Climate Highlights

- Current issue
 - Recent temperature conditions
 - Recent precipitation conditions
 - Temperature forecast
 - Precipitation forecast
 - ENSO conditions and outlook



Border Climate Summary
Resumen del Clima de la Frontera

Issue 10, October 16, 2006

U.S. Department of Agriculture

CLIMATE

SMR

Introduction
The region defined on the political border between the United States and Mexico is embedded within the large climatic region of the North American Monsoon. Decisionmakers within that region are faced with similar issues regarding the effects of typical climatic variations on water supplies, range management, riparian protection, agricultural production, forest health and wildfire.

In order to make climatic information useful and more easily accessible to border region stakeholders, and to help regional decisionmakers to make more informed decisions, a functional partnership of researchers and operational services formed to create an experimental U.S.-Mexico Borderlands Climate Outlook product. The goal of the product areas:

- Create a one-stop publishing product for U.S.-Mexico border region hydroclimatic information
- Build capacity for land managers, state providers, agricultural producers, and other decisionmakers to use climate information in their operations
- Improve the flow of climate information and collaboration between institutions in the U.S. and Mexico
- To collect feedback on how we can improve the product

This is an experimental product and we hope to hear from you with feedback. Please email your comments or suggestions to Ben Crawford
bcrcrawf@mail.arizona.edu

The information in this packet is available on the web: <http://www.tps.arizona.edu/climate/forecast/>

Process

- NOAA & IRI images
- Input from Mexico's SMN, UNAM
- Combine and translate: U.S. comments + Mexico comments

CLIDDSS

- Climate Information Delivery and Decision Support System
 - Automatically generate .pdf reports
 - Automatically includes legends, data sourcing, contact information, caveats, explanations
 - Sections for user-customized (value-added) comments

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Page 5

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Future of BCS

- Fully automate CLIDDSS
- Expand climate highlights:
 - Drought conditions
 - Reservoir levels
 - Streamflow
 - Vegetation
- Include more products, forecasts from Mexico
- Streamline U.S.-Mexico information flow
- Expand to include entire border region

Acknowledgements

- Kristen Nelson, ISPE
- Damian Hammond, CLIDDSS
- Gregg Garfin, ISPE, CLIMAS
- Miguel Cortez, UNAM

