The National Drought Mitigation Center is partnering with Fort Peck Reservation Drought Advisory Committee and the National Weather Service in Glasgow to sponsor a workshop on drought management tools. The goal of the workshop is to confer with agricultural producers, extension agents, and agency and organizational representatives on tools we are currently developing in partnership with the USDA Risk Management Agency. The tools we are developing:

- Can help with management decisions such as buying or selling cattle, irrigation or whether to plant more drought-resistant crops
- Have some predictive capability, though it is still highly experimental
- Help communicate ground-level perceptions and experiences to far-away decision-makers, claims adjusters and others

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Location: Fort Peck Community College in Wolf Point, 301 Benton St.

Rolls and coffee will be served in the morning, lunch is provided, and refreshments will be available during breaks. Producers that attend will receive a small honorarium and reimbursement for mileage to and from Fort Peck Community College.

Please contact Tanja Fransen at 406-228-2850 or tanja.fransen@noaa.gov or Donna Woudenberg at (402) 472-8287 or dwoudenberg2@unl.edu to RSVP or for questions.

Tentative schedule:

9:30 a.m. – **Registration**

9:45 a.m. - **Opening Remarks**

10:00-10:45 a.m. **VegDRI (the Vegetation Drought Response Index)**
The VegDRI (Vegetation Drought Response Index) tool allows producers to monitor vegetation stress at a regional, state, county or sub-county level by using satellite information.
http://drought.unl.edu/vegdri/VegDRI_Main.htm

10:45-11:00 a.m. **Break**

11:00-11:30 p.m. **VegDRI -** Audience feedback and discussion

11:30-12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

12:30-1:00 p.m. - VegOUT (the Vegetation Outlook)
VegOUT (the Vegetation Outlook), is a highly experimental forecasting method that incorporates oceanic information into satellite data to provide predictions of the expected level of vegetation stress at 2, 4, and 6-week intervals. http://drought.unl.edu/vegdri/experimental.htm

1:00-1:15 p.m. **Break**

1:15-1:45 p.m. **VegOUT** – Audience feedback and discussion

1:45-2:00 p.m. **Final Comments & Adjourn**