

I - CLIMATIC DATA

INTRODUCTION

This subsection contains local climatic data needed for planning conservation management systems and installing conservation practices, such as record low and high temperatures; averages for such items as rainfall, length of growing season, temperatures and snowfall; water supply data; probability of receiving selected amounts of precipitation by months; and frost-free periods. References will indicate where to find climatic data in other documents in the office.

A summary of California Climate is found on the Western Region Climate Center's webpage in the following location:

<http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/narratives/CALIFORNIA.htm>

County Climatic Data

TAPS, FROST, GROWTH and WETS Tables

NRCS has obtained and quality controlled climate data from the NOAA cooperative network of climate stations. Several statistical analyses are available from this database which is stored at the National Water and Climate Center in Portland, Oregon.

TAPS provides a basic analysis of precipitation and temperature, which gives a complete picture of the climatic conditions at a particular station within the field office area. The analysis includes the average monthly temperature and precipitation, the extremes of temperature and precipitation, basic probably information for temperature and precipitation, growing degree-day analysis and a basic analysis of precipitation threshold.

FROST is important in Soils Classification and conservation planning. The analysis provides a list of probable dates of occurrence for temperature set by the analysis at 24, 28 and 32 degrees. Probability is calculated by a standard normal probability analysis.

Results from **GROWTH** are also important in Soils Classification and conservation planning. This analysis provides a table of probable growing season lengths for temperatures set by the analysis at 24, 28 and 32 degrees. Probability is calculated by a standard normal probability analysis.

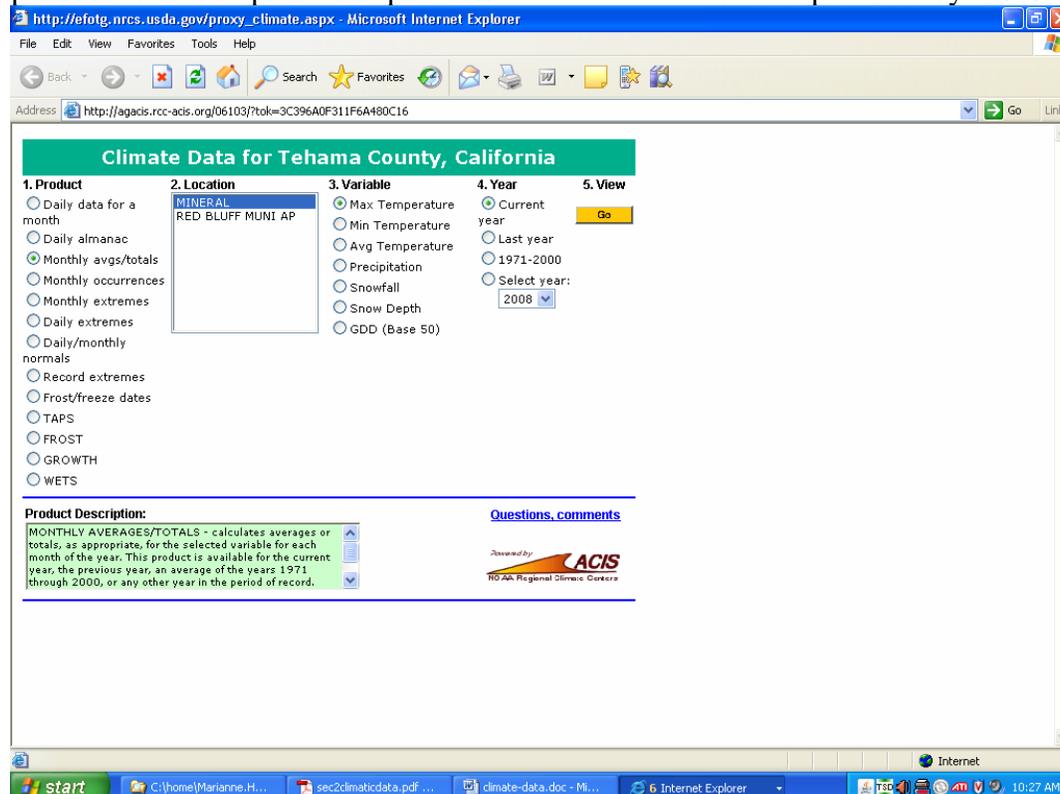
TAPS, FROST AND GROWTH tables are incorporated into each published Soil Survey Report along with a climatic narrative. Soil Survey Report climate narratives and tables can be requested from the CDL. A lead-time of three to six months is required.

WETS defines the normal range for monthly precipitation and the normal range for the growing season required to assess the climatic characteristics for a geographical area over a representative time period.

TAPS, FROST, GROWTH and **WETS** tables (for all stations within each county) are available on the USDA-NRCS National Water and Climate Center Homepage at:
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/climate/climate-map.html>

TAPS, FROST, GROWTH, and **WETS** tables (individual stations for the county selected by the County Selector in the EFOTG County) are available from the Agricultural Climate Information System website as provided in the Climatic Data Folder in Section II of the eFOTG.

The **Applied Climate Information System (ACIS)**, developed and maintained by the NOAA Regional Climate Centers (RCCs), is designed to manage the complex flow of information from climate data collectors to the end users of climate information. Its purpose is to both alleviate the burden of climate information management for people that require climate information to make management decisions and the manipulate data for basic and applied research. ACIS brings historical climate information and near real-time data together under one umbrella system where they are fused into quality products to assess historical climate trends, enhance daily operational decisions, or assist with any number of climate dependent activities. A link to ACIS is provided in the Climatic Data Folder in Section II of the eFOTG. A screen print of the ACIS data is provided below to provide a quick visual of the wealth of data provided by ACIS.



The **California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS)** is a program of the Office of Water Use Efficiency (OWUE), California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that manages a network of over 120 automated weather stations in the state of California. CIMIS

was developed in 1982 by DWR and the University of California, Davis to assist irrigators in managing their water resources efficiently. Efficient use of water resources benefits Californians by saving water, energy, and money. CIMIS data can be accessed and retrieved free of charge at the following webpage:

<http://www.cimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/welcome.jsp>

CIMIS weather information is available for the previous seven days or monthly for the previous 12 months directly from the webpage. Access to the entire CIMIS data set (including historical data) requires registration which is available through the CIMIS website.

WIND data

Adjusted Daily Wind data is located on the following NRCS National Water and Climate Center webpage:

<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/climate/clim-data.html>

The Readme First file for this wind data is located on the following webpage:

ftp://ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/support/climate/wind_daily/readme_first.txt

Wind Rose data for various places in California can be found on the following webpage:

<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/climate/windrose.html>

PRISM is an analytical model, which distributes point measurements of monthly and annual precipitation to a geographic grid. PRISM uses a digital elevation model and precipitation measurements to determine variations in precipitation as functions of elevation. Orographic precipitation and rain shadows are modeled within the PRISM system. PRISM data for use with the customer Service Toolkit (Shape files with a .shp extension) can be obtained from the following webpage:

<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/climate/prism.html>

Gridded PRISM climate data to be used for data analyses can be located on the following webpage:

<http://www.prism.oregonstate.edu/products/matrix.phtml?vartype=ppt&view=data>

Additional snow and precipitation data can be located on the California Snow Survey page:

<http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/>

The State of California collects and archives climatic data on the California Data Exchange Center. The information is located on the following webpage:

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/>

Climate data is also available from the Western Regional Climate Center:

<http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/>