Supporting Information

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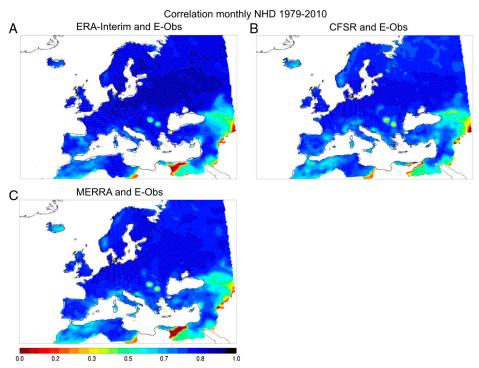


Fig. S1. Correlation of monthly NHD from ERA-Interim (A), CFSR (B) and MERRA (C) reanalyses and E-Obs temperature dataset over 1979–2010.

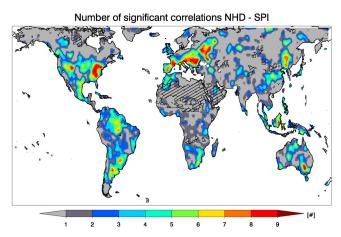


Fig. S2. Number of dataset combinations with significant correlations between NHD at the hottest month of each year and preceding 3-month SPI. All possible dataset combinations have been considered (9 in total). Areas with a low availability of data (less than 7 dataset combinations) are hatched. This map has been smoothed with a boxcar filter of width 3.

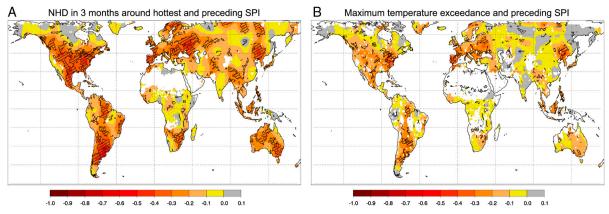


Fig. S3. Correlation of NHD in three months around hottest month and 3-month SPI at the first of the three months (A), and correlation of exceedance temperature (temperature minus 90th percentile temperature) at the hottest month with preceding 3-month SPI (B). The employed datasets are ERA-Interim for NHD and exceedance temperature, and CRU for SPI.

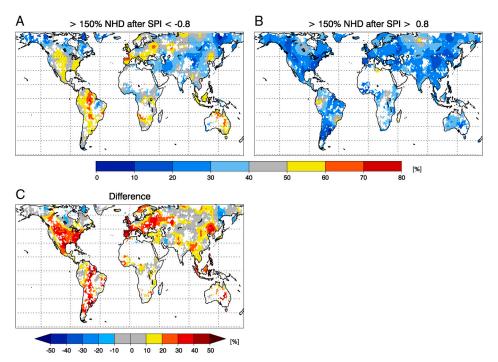


Fig. S4. Hot day occurrence probability after dry versus wet conditions. Occurrence probability for a number of hot days of more than 150% of average in the respective hottest month of each year following low 3-month SPI values (dry conditions, A) and high 3-month SPI values (wet conditions, B), and difference between the two (C). Values are given in percentage of years with above average NHD from total number of low and high SPI years, respectively. Values that are based on a composite of less than 4 years are not shown (white areas). The employed datasets are ERA-Interim for NHD and CRU for SPI.

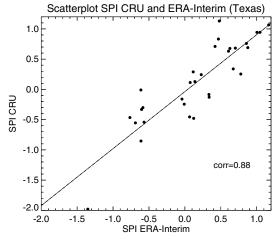


Fig. S5. Scatter plot of SPI from CRU against ERA-Interim, averaged over Texas region (see Fig. 1*B*) for 1979–2009 hottest month values. The reference period for the CRU SPI is 1950–2009 and for the ERA-Interim SPI 1979–2011.