**FIGURE CAPTIONS**

Fig. 1. Limits and orography of the Conchos River basin. The thick blue line shows the limits of the Conchos basin. The black line the limit of federative entities. Thin gray lines are level lines for the region indicating the higher parts when they are closer together.

Fig. 2. Steps for generating SPI series. The rectangles represent processes or sets of actions, whereas the rhomboids represent inputs or outputs to these processes.

Fig. 3. Mapping of an average precipitation to its SPI.

Fig. 4. Average annual precipitation (mm) in the Conchos River basin.

Fig. 5. Average annual precipitation cycle (mm/day) in the Conchos River basin.

Fig. 6. (a) Precipitation anomaly (mm/day), (b) SPI-6 and (c) SPI-12 months for the Conchos River basin. The dotted line marks the division of the old and recent periods of this study (January 1985).

Fig. 7. Percentage change of SPI-6 for the Conchos River basin at different SPI levels: (a) extremely wet; (b) severely wet; (c) moderately wet; (d) approximately normal; (e) moderately dry; (f) severely dry; (g) extremely dry. The bluish tones indicate the regions where the frequencies of the recent period dominate (1985-2008), and the red tones indicate the dominion of the old period (1961-1984).

Fig. 8. Same as in Fig. 7 but for SPI-12.

Fig. 9. SPI-6 (left) and SPI-12 (right) change fraction for the whole basin, comparing the old (1961-1984) and recent (1985-2008) periods.