



State of Rhode Island Water Resources Board

RI Division of Statewide Planning 235

Promenade Street, Suite 230

Providence, RI 02908

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RI DROUGHT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

RIDEM – Conference Room 300

235 Promenade St, Providence, RI

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of April 8, 2025, Minutes – for action**
3. **Review of Drought Plan and Procedures – for information**
4. **Assessment of Drought Indices and Current Conditions – for information and discussion**
 - a. **Presentations:**
 - *RI Precipitation Trends and Forecasts, Standard Precipitation Index, and Palmer Drought Index* - Robert Megnia, Senior Service Hydrologist, NOAA National Weather Service (Weather Forecast Office, Boston/Norton, MA)
 - *Streamflow and Groundwater Trends and Current Conditions* - Christopher Bruet, Supervisory Hydrographer, USGS New England Water Science Center (MA/RI Office)
 - *Update on the Drought Monitor and Local Conditions* – Joseph Poccia, State Climate Office, RI Department of Environmental Management
 - b. **Additional Input from Members on Impacts and Conditions**
 - c. **Discussion of Indices and Drought Level Triggers** – Recovery criteria, major indices (precipitation, PDSI, streamflow, groundwater), and additional indices and factors (reservoir levels, crop moisture, SPI, forecasts, timing, other)
5. **Committee Recommendation for Assignment of Drought Level – for action**
6. **Drought Indices and Future Initiatives – for discussion**
7. **Public Input on Agenda Items**
8. **Adjournment**

May 8, 2025

Date

Kathleen Crowley, Acting General Manager

This meeting is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Any individual requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact Thomas Mannock, Ph. D at (401) 222-6377 (voice) or #711 (R.I. Relay) as soon as possible prior to the meeting. Any individual requiring the services of an interpreter to participate in this meeting should contact (401) 222-1755 (voice) at soon as possible prior to the meeting. El lugar de la reunión cuenta con acceso para personas con discapacidades. Cualquier persona interesada en recibir servicios de intérprete para esta reunión debe ponerse con (401) 222-1755 tan pronto como sea posible.

Overseeing Body: RI Water Resources Board

Public Body: RI Water Resources Board, Public Contact Information: Kathleen.Crawley@doa.ri.gov