



State of Rhode Island
Water Resources Board
RI Division of Statewide Planning
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RI DROUGHT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 10:45 AM
RIDEM – Conference Room 300
235 Promenade Street, 3rd Fl., Providence, RI

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions**
- 2. Approval of the June 18, 2025, Minutes – *for action***
- 3. Review of Drought Plan and Procedures – *for information***
- 4. Assessment Of Drought Indices and Current Conditions**
 - a. Presentations:**

RI Precipitation Trends and Forecasts, Standard Precipitation Index, and Palmer Drought Index- Robert Megnia, Senior Service Hydrologist, NOAA National Weather Service (WFO Boston/Norton, MA)

Streamflow and Groundwater Trends and Current Conditions- Christopher Bruet, Supervisory Hydrographer, USGS New England Water Science Center (MA/RI Office)
 - b. Additional Input from Members on Impacts and Conditions –** State Meteorologist, Environment, Agriculture, Health, Water Supply, other.
 - c. Discussion of Indices and Drought Level Triggers–** Major Indices (Precipitation, PDI, Streamflow, Groundwater) and additional indices and factors (reservoir levels, crop moisture, SPI, forecast, timing, other).
- 5. Committee Recommendation for Assignment of Drought Level – *for action***
- 6. Public Input on Agenda Items**
- 7. Adjournment**

Posted: 03/12/2026

Hector Barreras

Hector Barreras, Acting Staff Director

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Overseeing Body: RI Water Resources Board

Public Body: RI Water Resources Board, Public Contact Information: Hector.Barreras@doa.ri.gov