



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

**RI Commerce Corporation
315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101, Providence, RI**

Tuesday, July 14, 2026, 10:30 AM

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order and Introductions**
2. **Approval of June 16, 2026 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- Andrew Loconto, Lead Meteorologist, NOAA National Weather Service (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 Climatologist, 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: July 9, 2026

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Overseeing Body: RI Water Resources Board

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