DRAFT Meeting Notes for the State Water Plan Implementation Workgroup
August 9th, 2022; 1:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

**Members**: Virginia de Lima (Co-Chair), Ally Ayotte (PURA), Chris Bellucci (DEEP), Janice Ehlemeyer (River Council of Governments), Mike Dietz (UConn), Dan Aubin (DPH), Tom Tyler (MDC), Anne Hullick (Clean Water Action), Bruce Wittchen (OPM)

**Note Taker(s):** Ali Hibbard (DEEP)

**Public:** Iris Herz Kaminski

**Meeting Started: 1:03 p.m.**

**Topics of Discussion**

**Changes to Agenda**

* No changes to agenda

**Approval/Modification of Notes from previous meeting**

* Meeting notes approved with no changes

**Outreach & Education topical sub-workgroup**

* The workgroup is planning to do two workshops on September 21st and September 28th for World Water Monitoring Day. Lists of potential speakers are currently being compiled. The workshops will be 60-75 minutes long.
* The StoryMap is continuing to be worked on, and will hopefully be ready for the fall.
* During the July 28th Special Meeting of the WPC, the sub-workgroup was asked to develop drought education resources to provide support during the current drought. The sub-workgroup discussed what this would entail and highlighted questions and concerns:
	+ There are time limitations with having resources put together by the Outreach and Education sub-workgroup. Any resource must be first approved by the Implementation workgroup, and then the Water Planning Council. How could there be a faster turnaround time on time-sensitive work?
	+ Should the Outreach and Education sub-workgroup develop generalized drought resources (without metrics on the current drought) that can be used repeatedly for multiple years?
	+ Where would these resources be made available for the public to access?
	+ Is the audience for drought resources homeowners or water intensive businesses/public water suppliers?
	+ Section 4.1 of the *Connecticut Drought Preparedness and Response Plan* has a section on Public Outreach and Education, and puts the task to educate on public water suppliers. Is this a responsibility that should fall on the Interagency Drought Workgroup or state agencies?
* Denise contact Sue Quincy, who works in Education Outreach at DEEP. Sue provided drought resources that are currently available to Environmental Educators in Connecticut.
* There could be additional education on how to manage private wells during drought, or the connection between drought and water quality.
* The sub-workgroup developed a one-page summary on State Water Plan website recommendations. Comments from the IWG should be sent to Denise and Virginia by August 30th.
* Next meeting is the week of September 6th – details to come.

**USGS Data Collection topical sub-workgroup**

* At the July 28th Special meeting of the WPC, Martin Heft requested a clear estimated time frame, estimated staff support needed, and how the proposal will be distributed to gain membership
* The sub-workgroup proposal will be on the agenda for the September 6th WPC meeting for the WPC to discuss and hopefully vote on
* The IWG supported the changes made to the workgroup proposal. Virginia will accept the track changes and forward the proposal to the WPC.
* After the proposal is accepted by the WPC, the details of distribution will be figured out. The call for members should follow a similar distribution listed used by the Alliance for Water Efficiency for their 2021 Rates Workshop.

**WPCAG**

* No update provided

**Public Comment**

* Denise commented on a One Water Delegation about Soil and Water Conservation. She will be presenting on working in natural lands, forests, and open spaces, and the relationship of those lands to water quantity and quality. The One Water Summit is taking place in September 2022.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 1:47 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** **Tuesday September 13, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**