

# **Interagency Drought Workgroup (IDW)**

## **Meeting Minutes**

June 5, 2025

Meeting agenda:

<https://egov.ct.gov/PMC/Agenda/Download/27549>

Drought Conditions Handout:

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/water/drought/2025/250605-idw-handout---may-conditions-report.pdf>

Meeting Video:

[https://ctvideo.ct.gov/opm/250605\\_Interagency\\_Drought\\_Workgroup\\_Meeting\\_Recording.mp4](https://ctvideo.ct.gov/opm/250605_Interagency_Drought_Workgroup_Meeting_Recording.mp4)

**Members and Agency Staff** | \* - denotes Voting Member | ^ - denotes Drought Coordinator

DEEP: Pete Aarrestad, Melissa Fahnestock, Doug Hoskins\*, Shalyn Zappulla  
DEMHS: Josh Cingranelli, Doug Glowacki\*  
DoAg: Simon Levesque\*  
DPH: Eric Lindquist\*, Ryan Tetreault  
OPM: Martin Heft\*, Rebecca Dahl^, Bruce Wittchen  
PURA: Maria Szul\*

### **Other State Agency Representatives:**

none

### **Federal Agency representatives:**

NWS/NOAA: Deanna Marks  
Rob Megnia

USGS: Dee-Ann Crozier

## **1. Call to order & Seating of voting members**

Martin Heft called the meeting to order at 9:01 am and confirmed the quorum of agency representatives: DoAg – Simon Levesque; DEEP – Doug Hoskins; DEMHS – Doug Glowacki; DPH – Eric Lindquist; OPM – Martin Heft; and PURA – Maria Szul.

## **2. Minutes – May 8, 2025**

**A motion was made by Eric Lindquist and seconded by Maria Szul to approve the 5/8/2025 meeting minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.**

### 3. State Drought Coordinator Report

Becca Dahl provided a brief overview of conditions, as described in the May 2025 Conditions Report provided.

She reminded the group that the state is currently in a Stage 1 Drought, since the last meeting in May.

Precipitation values have been at or above normal across the entire state.

She noted significant improvements in groundwater recharge, with most wells currently at or above normal. Similarly, streamflow conditions were improved, with only one streamgage below normal for this month.

She noted the improvements within the US Drought Monitor (USDM), beginning with reductions in the first week of May, moving the central portion of the state out of drought status. Later in the month, most of the state moved out of drought status, showing just a portion of the southeast and a portion of the southwest in Do. She also shared the most recent USDM map date June 3<sup>rd</sup> with just a portion of the southwest (<2% of the state) in Do.

Becca shared the Stage 2 Trigger Summary table – noting that this use is to provide a comparison to previous months despite not being currently in Stage 2 Drought. She reviewed the summary tables included within the May Conditions Report. **Becca made the recommendation to remove all drought stages across the state.**

Martin Heft asked for any clarifications or additions from agency partners.

Doug Glowacki added that the long-range forecast is ‘pretty wet’ with some tropical storm activity possible.

Dee-Ann Crozier added that groundwater did see a significant improvement, with over half of the wells showing above normal, and only one well below normal at this point.

Shalyn Zappula asked for clarification on the VegDri drought status. Becca clarified that there was a mistake on the Stage 2 trigger table, and that this section should have been highlighted as being ‘met’.

**A motion was made by Doug Glowacki and seconded by Eric Lindquist, to move out of all drought stages per the State Drought Coordinator’s recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.**

### 4. Public comment

There were no public comments.

### 5. Next Meeting – July 3, 2025

Martin Heft noted that the next meeting is scheduled to be July 3, 2025 and that staff will continue to monitor conditions, and the group is permitted to call a meeting if needed.

## **6. Adjourn**

**The meeting adjourned at 9:15 am, moved by Doug Hoskins and seconded by Maria Szul.**

DRAFT