STAND BY...
The State Drought Task Force meeting will start soon

July 21, 2021
• Welcome
• Purpose of meeting
• Drought situation review and update
• Agency actions / introductions
• Drought issues discussion
• Next steps / adjourn
Drought Status Update
Drought Task Force, July 21, 2021

Luigi Romolo PhD
Minnesota State Climatologist
• Quick Review of how the drought has evolved
• Current Drought Indicators
• Current Drought Status
• Drought Impacts
• Looking forward
• Questions
...it’s been dry since last summer

Source: Minnesota DNR State Climate Office
Precipitation Anomalies

Water Year - To - Date

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
10/1/2020 – 7/19/2021

Past 90 Days

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
4/21/2021 – 7/19/2021
Drought Severity Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending Jul 17, 2021
Long Term Palmer

Palmer Drought Index

DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX (PALMER): REFLECTS PROLONGED (MONTHS, YEARS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS. RESPONSES SLOWLY CHANGES LITTLE FROM WEEK TO WEEK AND REFLECTS LONG-TERM MOISTURE STATUS. DROUGHT IS INDICATED BY DECLINING EVAPOTRANSPIRATION AS WELL AS DEFICIT WATER REQUIREMENTS.

USES: APPLICABLE IN MEASURING DISRUPTIVE EFFECTS OF PROLONGED DRYNESS OR WETNESS ON WATER SENSITIVE ECONOMIES, DESIGNING DISASTER AREAS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS, AND REFLECTING THE GENERAL LONG-TERM STATUS OF WATER SUPPLIES IN AQUIFERS, RESERVOIRS AND STREAMS.

LIMITATIONS: IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF SHORT-TERM (Few WEEKS) STATUS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS SUCH AS FREQUENTLY AFFECTS CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS (THIS IS INDICATED BY THE CROP MOISTURE INDEX).

-4.0 or less (Extreme Drought)  +2.0 to +2.9 (Unusual Moist Spell)
-3.0 to -3.9 (Severe Drought)  +3.0 to +3.9 (Very Moist Spell)
-2.0 to -2.9 (Moderate Drought)  +4.0 and above (Extremely Moist)
-1.9 to +1.9 (Near Normal)  Missing/Incomplete

Based on preliminary data
Drought Indicator: Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)

90 Day SPI
4/20/2021 – 7/18/2021
Drought Impacts

Agriculture

• Corn: 42% good to excellent (76% on June 1; Last Year: 83%)

• Soybeans 43% good to excellent (76% on June 1; Last Year: 80%)

Water Resources

• Reduced Streamflow

• Reduced Lake Levels

Tourism
Precipitation for the next 7 days

Source: NOAA's Weather Prediction Center
• Drought has taken hold in Minnesota

• Could be the first full growing season drought in a long time

• All current indications are that drought is expected to persist in the foreseeable future

• Though conditions may improve down the road, we must remain diligent in our efforts to mitigate impacts.
Questions?

Thank You!
• Introduce yourself (name and position)
• Who do you represent?
• What actions has your agency / organization / government taken to respond to the drought?
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Next Steps

• Clarify action items resulting from today's meeting
• How should we manage the meeting notes?
• How do we manage both media and public information?
• How frequently does the Task Force meet?