



DRAFT



Mid- Atlantic Drought Assessment and Building Early Warning Capacity Virtual Meetings

March 25, 2025 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. ET

March 27, 2025 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ET

April 2, 2025 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. ET

Meeting Goals

- Look back at the 2024-2025 drought’s evolution, and what’s ahead for drought in the region.
- Assess the impacts, hurdles, successes, and needs experienced across sectors during the Mid-Atlantic drought of 2024-2025.
- Identify potential next steps toward improved drought early warning capacity in the region.

AGENDA

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. ET

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker Facilitator
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Run of Show Veva Deheza NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System, Art DeGaetano Northeast Regional Climate Center, Ellen Mecray NOAA Eastern Region Climate Services Director, Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS	
9:05 a.m.	Overview of 2024 - 2025 Drought Evolution, Current Conditions and Outlook	Samantha Borisoff Northeast Regional Climate Center
Interactive Drought Assessment Exercise (link forthcoming) QR code		
9:15 a.m.	Drought Assessment: How were you impacted by the 2024-2025 drought? What was the biggest information gap you experienced during the drought? Miro board exercise with all participants	Sylvia Reeves and Eleanor Hasenbeck Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
NIDIS and Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)		
9:35 a.m.	Overview of NIDIS and Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)	Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS

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9:45 a.m.	Current Drought Early Warning System (DEWS)S Partners Dialogue	Rebecca Dahl (Tuesday, March 25) Connecticut Interagency Drought Working Group/ Northeast Drought Early Warning System Additional Speakers TBA
9:55 a.m.	Q and A about NIDIS and DEWS	All Participants
Interactive Drought Early Warning Capacity Exercise (link forthcoming) QR code		
10:05 a.m.	Building Drought Early Warning Capacity: What do you need to proactively manage for the next drought? Miro board exercise with all meeting participants	Sylvia Reeves and Eleanor Hasenbeck Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
10:50 a.m.	BREAK (5 Minutes)	
10:55 a.m.	Instructions for Breakout Session Discussions	Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
11:00 a.m.	Breakout Sessions	
	Discuss the Assessment and Capacity Building Exercise Results	Session Facilitators and All Participants
	<p>What were the first and most difficult decisions you had to make?</p> <p>Were plans and supportive networks in place to help with infrastructure and agricultural issues?</p> <p>What were your primary sources of drought information from?</p> <p>What other information sources were important to you?</p> <p>What's the best way to get drought information to you?</p> <p>How often do you need updates on current drought conditions?</p> <p>How much time do you need to make your decisions?</p> <p>What did you need to have been better prepared and warned of drought earlier?</p>	
11:40 a.m.	Reconvene for Highlights and Reminders	Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)
12:00 p.m.	Webinar Concludes	
Thursday's Meeting will cover the same topics and offer the same opportunities for inputs. Join us on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 for the Synthesis and Prioritization Meeting 10 to 11:30 a.m. ET.		

AGENDA

2025 Mid- Atlantic Drought Assessment and Building Drought Early Warning Meetings

Thursday, March 27, 2025 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ET

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker Facilitator
12:30 p.m.	Welcome and Run of Show Veva Deheza NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System, Art DeGaetano Northeast Regional Climate Center, Ellen Mecray NOAA Eastern Region Climate Services Director, Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS	
12:35 p.m.	Overview of 2024 - 2025 Drought Evolution, Current Conditions and Outlook	Samantha Borisoff Northeast Regional Climate Center
Interactive Drought Assessment Exercise (link forthcoming) QR code		
12:45 p.m.	Drought Assessment: How were you impacted by the 2024-2025 drought? What was the biggest information gap you experienced during the drought? Miro board exercise with meeting participants	Sylvia Reeves and Eleanor Hasenbeck Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
NIDIS and Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)		
1:05 p.m.	Overview of NIDIS and Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)	Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
1:15 p.m.	Current DEWS Partners Dialogue	Eric Lindquist (Thursday, March 27) Connecticut Interagency Drought Working Group Northeast Drought Early Warning System Additional Speakers TBD
1:25 p.m.	Q and A on NIDIS and DEWS	All Participants
Interactive Drought Early Warning Capacity Exercise (link forthcoming) QR code		
1:35 p.m.	Building Drought Early Warning Capacity: What do you need to proactively manage for the next drought? 2nd Miro board exercise with meeting participants	Sylvia Reeves and Eleanor Hasenbeck Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)

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2:20 p.m. BREAK (5 Minutes)		
Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker Facilitator
2:25 p.m.	Instructions for Breakout Session Discussions	Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
2:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions	
	Discuss the Assessment and Capacity Building Exercise Results	Session Facilitators and All Participants
	<p>What were the first and most difficult decisions you had to make? Were plans and supportive networks in place to help with infrastructure and agricultural issues? What were your primary sources of drought information from? What other information sources were important to you? What's the best way to get drought information to you? How often do you need updates on current drought conditions? How much time do you need to make your decisions? What did you need to have been better prepared and warned of drought earlier?</p>	
3:10 p.m.	Reconvene for Highlights and Reminders	Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
3:30 p.m.	Webinar Concludes	
Don't forget to join us on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 for the Synthesis and Prioritization Meeting 10 to 11:30 a.m. ET.		

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Synthesis and Prioritization Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. ET

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
10:00 a.m.	Welcome	Veva Deheza NOAA/NIDIS
10:05 a.m.	Review of the collaboration boards and breakout sessions	TBA
Interactive Exercise to Identify Possible Actions (link forthcoming) QR code		
10:20 a.m.	Interactive exercise to identify potential next steps	Sylvia Reeves Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES) /NOAA NIDIS
10:50 a.m.	Summary of the Exercise Results	TBA
11:00 a.m.	Breakout Group Discussions: Discuss the Capacity Building Exercise Results	Session Facilitators and All Participants
	What do the top results look like for you and your agency? Who isn't here at these meetings that could be part of the solution to building drought early warning capacity?	
11:40 a.m.	Report Out on Breakouts, Synthesis, Discussion	
12:00 p.m.	Conclusion	
A Short Form Report Summarizing The Results Of These Meetings Will Be Available Soon		

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Contacts

NOAA NIDIS	Elizabeth Ossowski , NOAA/NIDIS Sylvia Reeves , Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), NOAA/NIDIS Drought.gov
Northeast Regional Climate Center	Art DeGaetano , Northeast Regional Climate Center Director Northeast Regional Climate Center
NOAA ERCS	Ellen Mecray , NOAA Eastern Region Climate Services Director
Planning Team	John Balay , Susquehanna River Basin Commission Samantha Borisoff , Northeast Regional Climate Center Kevin Brinson , Delaware State Climatologist / Center for Environmental Monitoring and Analysis Art DeGaetano , Northeast Regional Climate Center Ben Pratt , Susquehanna River Basin Commission Lainey Reed , Maryland Department of the Environment Chris Stachelski , NOAA National Weather Service Eastern Region Observations Program Amy Shallcross , Delaware River Basin Commission Jessica Spaccio , Northeast Regional Climate Center Nathalie Umphlett , Northeast Regional Climate Center