

Memorandum

Prepared for: Wake County Water Partnership

Subject: Coordination Report – Bimonthly Status of Regional Organizations

Date: April 8, 2022

This report provides Wake County Water Partnership members with updates on recent and upcoming activities of key organizations engaged with water resources issues relevant to Wake County.

Upcoming Regional Meetings

Organization	Date / Time	Meeting Name	Location	Comments
Upper Neuse River Basin Association	May 18, 930am	Board of Directors Bimonthly Meeting	Virtual	Contact Forrest Westall for login. Agenda at https://www.unrba.org/
Triangle Water Supply Partnership	June 3, 9:30am	Bi-Monthly Partnership Meeting	Virtual	Contact Emily Barrett for login, ebarrett@tjcog.org .

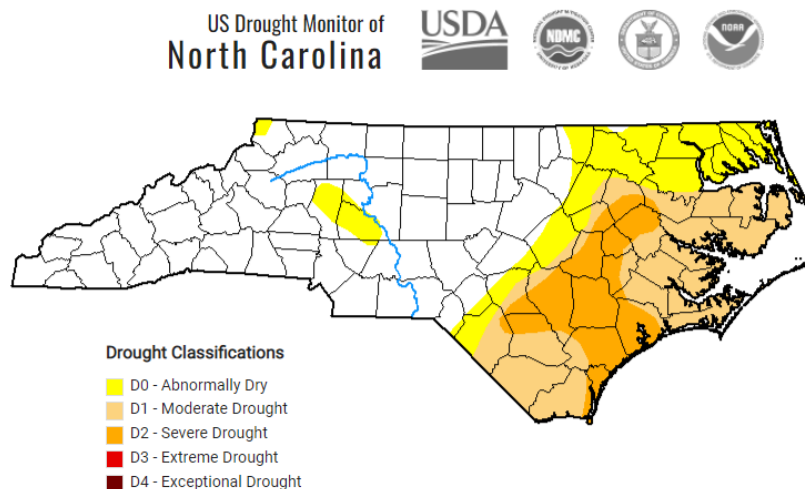
Regional Organizations Updates

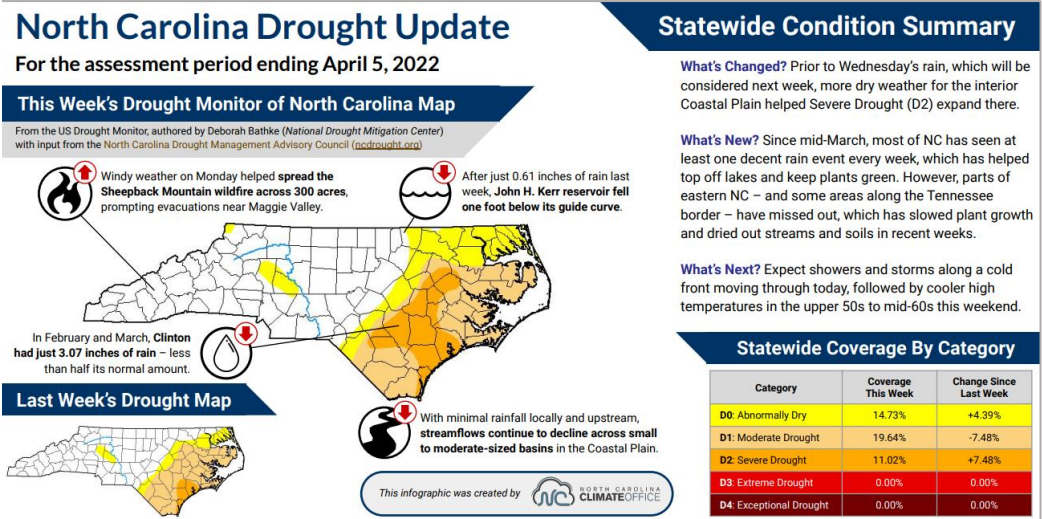
The organizations included in this report are being revised and updated beginning with this edition. The report will now provide updates on from the NC Water Resources Association (NCWRA), NC Water Resources Research Institute (WRII) Stormwater Consortium, One Water Alliance and updates on stormwater topics.

1-Drought Management Advisory Council

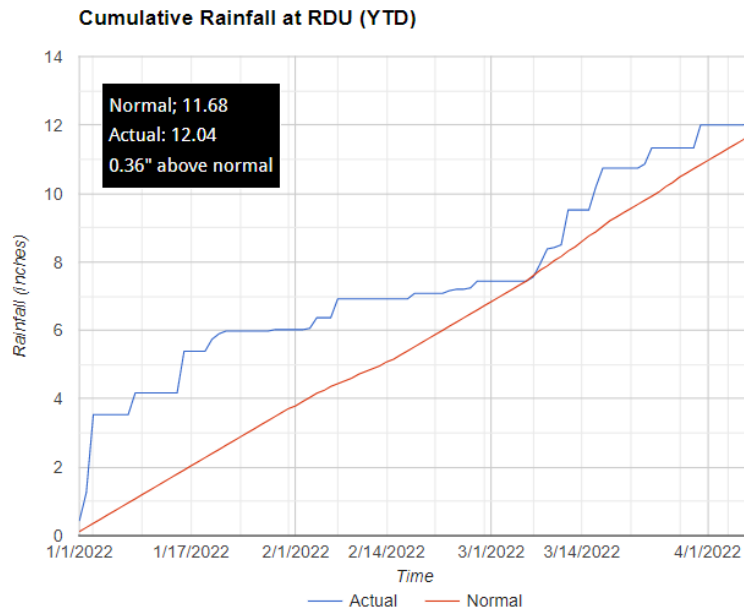
Recent Activities

- Council reviews drought designations on a weekly basis (issued at www.ncdrought.org each Thursday morning). The latest North Carolina drought index map as of April 7th is below. All of Wake County is currently experiencing normal conditions. Twenty-six counties in eastern NC are now in moderate or severe drought classifications, including neighboring Johnston County. Access NC DMAC's weekly [Drought Explainer infographic](#) here.

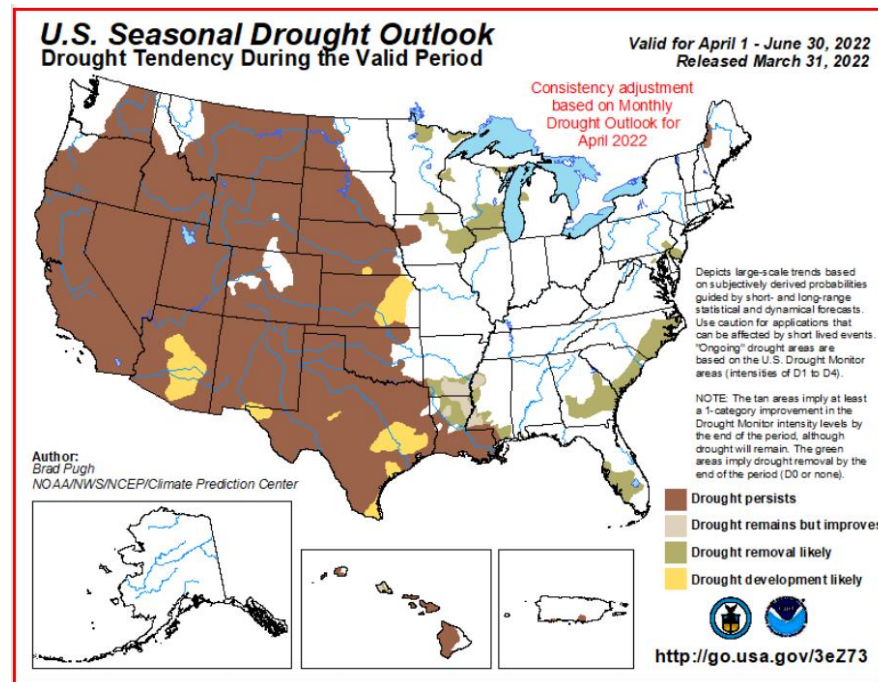




- Wake County experienced seasonally-normal winter precipitation overall, though only 1.5 inches of rain in the six weeks between January 22nd and March 7th. Rainfall is about normal year-to-date, yet still 8 inches below normal over the past 12 months. Falls Lake and Jordan Lake are both near their normal guide elevations.



- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s seasonal weather outlook projects removal of drought conditions in eastern NC by June, along with above-normal temperatures and normal precipitation for the state overall through summer 2022.



2-Jordan Lake One Water (JLOW)

Recent Activities

- Information about JLOW's activities can be accessed at [TJCOG's JLOW web page](#).
 - JLOW's Advisory Committee has hired a lawyer to work on Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws to form JLOW as a NC-nonprofit. This nonprofit organization would be a transitional structure to allow ongoing work. With TJCOG's assistance, JLOW is also in the final stages of developing a membership structure and associated dues. They welcome any interested individual or organization to be JLOW members.
 - The [JLOW One Water Vision for the Jordan Lake Watershed](#) outlines the group's basis for input into the 2022 NC Division of Water Resources (NCDWR) Jordan Lake rules re-adoption effort.
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3-North Carolina League of Municipalities

Recent Activities

- The NCLM website includes an [NCLM American Rescue Plan overview and guidance](#) page which will be updated as more is known about North Carolina's funding application process. Towns and cities in North Carolina will receive about \$1.3 billion in funding from the program.
 - The deadline for applications to NC Division of Water Infrastructure for its spring funding program is May 2nd. The 2022 funding includes ARPA and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. More information on NCDWI programs at [Funding Programs and Application Information | NC DEQ](#).
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4- North Carolina Policy Collaboratory

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Falls Lake Nutrient Management Study is underway and is anticipated to be completed by 2023. The study is being closely coordinated with the Upper Neuse Basin Association. The Collaboratory and UNRBA co-hosted a Falls Lake Nutrient Management Study Research Symposium on April 7th. The Research Symposium webpage has the agenda with list of papers presented; the presentations will also be uploaded to this page for public access. An Interim Update on the study was submitted to the Legislature in December 2021.▪ The Collaboratory's university researchers are working to understand the possible exposure avenues and potential health effects of PFAS compounds. Learn more about the North Carolina PFAS Testing Network at ncpfastnetwork.com.▪ Jordan Lake Nutrient Management Study submitted to the General Assembly in December 2019 can be accessed here: Jordan Lake Study Final Report. |
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5-North Carolina Water Resources Association (NCWRA)

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ NCWRA held a February luncheon meeting and participated in the at the NC WRII annual conference March 23 and 24.<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Tentatively, the May Forum will address stormwater asset management; date to be announced.▪ NCWRA is preparing to host the summer 2023 national conference in Raleigh.▪ NCWRA will hold a Spring Social on April 21st at Lynnwood Brewing Concern.▪ Partnership member Daniel Wiebke is a member of NCWRA. |
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6- Stormwater Consortium (WRII)

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Stormwater Consortium is a subgroup of the Urban Water Consortium, and is funded by dues from nine municipal UWC members that also have municipal stormwater programs. The Stormwater Consortium sponsors research and technology transfer on urban stormwater and management issues.▪ Consortium research priorities include<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Low impact development– Impervious cover impacts/mitigation– Pollutant removal processes▪ Descriptions of recent Consortium funded stormwater management research can be accessed on the Stormwater Consortium webpage.▪ GSI Subcommittee member and City of Raleigh Stormwater Program Manager Wayne Miles is a member of the Stormwater Consortium. |
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7- Stormwater Management Topics

Updates of Interest

- The Storm Water Association of North Carolina (SWANC), an organization of NC's stormwater professionals, meets regularly at locations around the state. The next SWANC meeting is May 23 in Wilmington.
 - SWANC's website, swanc.org, includes educational resources on stormwater management technology, stormwater program financial issues, and links to USEPA and NCDEQ regulatory information.
 - At SWANC's February meeting, Jeannette Powell of NC DEQ's Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources, Stormwater Program, briefed members on a recently-completed audit of 86 North Carolina municipal separate stormwater systems (MS4's). The audits were concluded in late 2021; 24 of the audited systems received notices of compliance, including Water Partnership members Garner and Apex.
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8-Triangle Area Water Supply Monitoring Project

Recent Activities

- USGS has published the [TAWSMF FY2018/2019 Biennial Report](#) on water quality in the Neuse River upstream of Falls Lake and the Haw/Jordan Lake watershed.
 - Links to real-time USGS streamflow data for the Triangle region can also be accessed from the homepage.
 - Currently in Project Phase 8 (July 2017-June 2022), with bi-monthly sampling at 10 reservoir sites and 4 stream sites, stream gage measurements at 10 gaging stations & annual storm-event sampling at other stream sites. Phase 8 includes analysis for 1,4-dioxane, bromide and chromium as a special project.
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9-Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG)

Recent Activities

- TJCOG hosts a quarterly joint meeting of its Smart Growth and Water Resources Collaboratives at TJCOG. These meetings often include agenda topics of interest to Partnership members, such as green stormwater infrastructure. Date for the next Collaborative meeting is TBD.
 - John Hodges-Copple, the Metropolitan Planning Director for TJCOG and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), retires in April after 30 years with the organization. John recently led the CAMPO/TJCOG [2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan](#). John's initiatives included implementation of regionally consistent planning focused on the inter-relationships between land use, transportation and natural resources, including water management.
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10-Triangle Water Supply Partnership

**Recent
Activities**

- Raleigh, Cary, Apex and Morrisville are represented in the Partnership, along with communities in Chatham, Durham, Harnett, Johnston and Orange counties.
 - The most recent bi-monthly Partnership meetings occurred April 1st. The next meeting will be held (virtually) on June 3rd. Meetings are announced at trianglewaterpartnership.org; signup for email meeting notices is available. Meetings are open to the public.
 - Current Partnership initiatives are an updated regional water system interconnect model. The Partnership plans to begin a regional water supply plan in 2023.
 - A subgroup of Partnership members – Chatham County, Durham and Pittsboro, with collaboration from Orange Water and Sewer Authority – are planning a new jointly-owned water supply intake and water treatment plant on the western shore of Jordan Lake to serve their long-term needs. Their goal is to construct and operate the new facilities by 2031. Currently the only Jordan Lake intake is operated by Cary and Apex. Partnership member Jeff Adkins is program manager for this effort.
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11-Upper Neuse River Basin Association

**Recent
Activities**

- The UNRBA Board of Directors last met on March 16th, and the Path Forward Committee on February 1st. Both meetings were held virtually. Meeting materials are available at UNRBA's [Board of Directors March 16th meeting page](#). The Board is chaired by Wake Co. Commissioner Sig Hutchinson. Topics discussed at the Board meeting included:
 - Submittal of objection letters from UNRBA members regarding the proposed Chlorophyll-a site specific standards for High Rock Lake
 - Falls Lake watershed and lake model development status
 - 2022 NCDWR 303(d) list and [NCDEQ Integrated Report](#)
 - Collaboration with NC Policy Collaboratory researchers on the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Research Symposium held April 7th.
 - UNRBA is planning a technical stakeholders' workshop for Fall 2022 after calibration of the Falls Lake models and evaluation of preliminary scenarios.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled (virtually) for May 18th; the next Path Forward Committee meeting is not yet scheduled.
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12-Triangle Watershed Protection Board (formerly Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative, including watershed protection for Raleigh and Durham)

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ FY 22 funding totals more than \$2.4 million (\$2.2 million from Raleigh and more than \$200,000 from Durham). The Board will not have a Spring 2022 meeting.▪ The group is now being administered by TJCOG. Emily Barrett is contact. Website link is: Triangle Watershed Protection Board▪ Partnership member Nancy Daly is a board member. |
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