

Memorandum

Prepared for: Wake County Water Partnership

Subject: Coordination Report – Bimonthly Status of Regional Organizations

Date: August 12, 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.

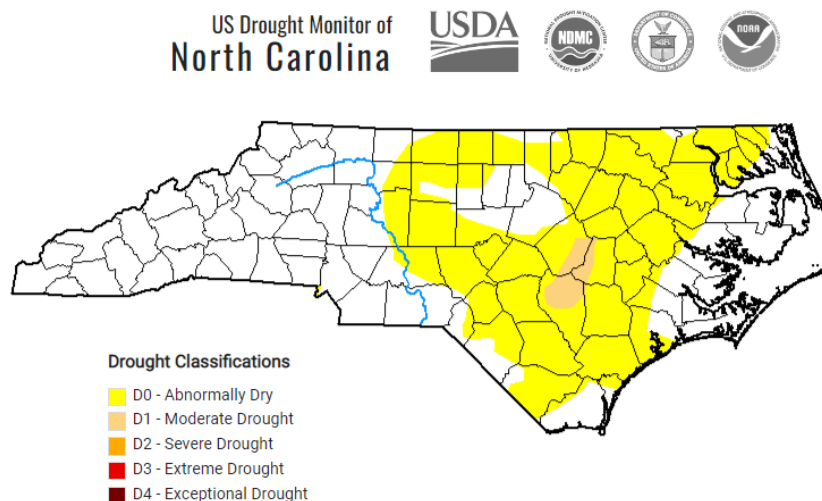
Upcoming Regional Meetings

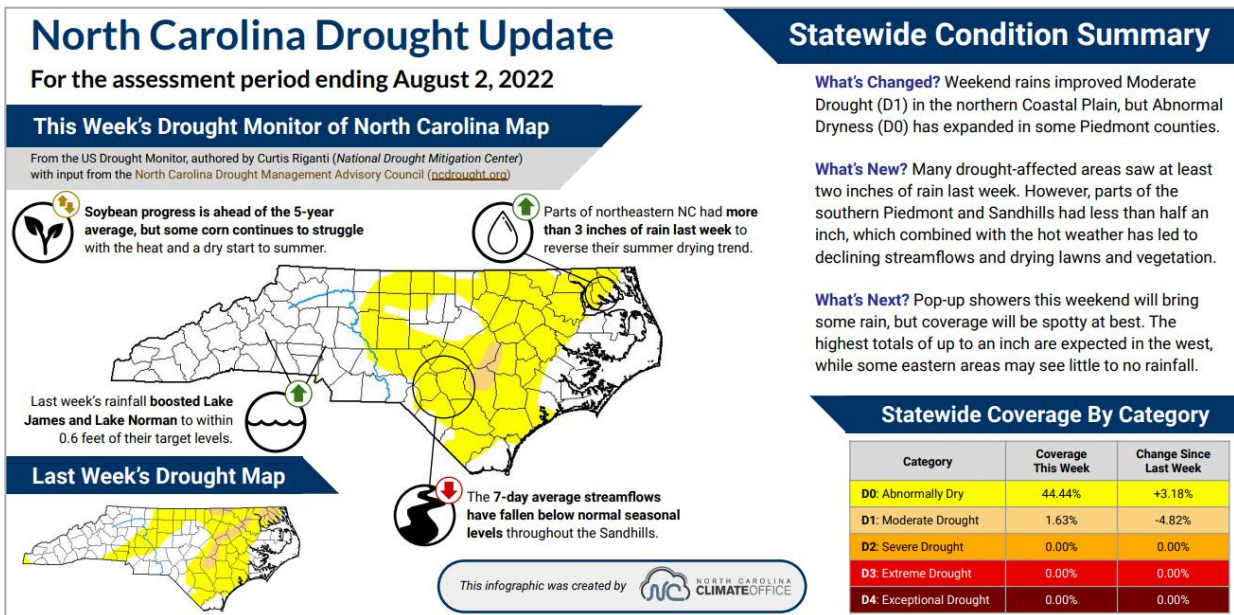
Organization	Date / Time	Meeting Name	Location	Comments
Upper Neuse River Basin Association	June 15, 9:30am	Board of Directors Bimonthly Meeting	Virtual	Contact Forrest Westall for login. Agenda at https://www.unrba.org/
Triangle Water Supply Partnership	October 7, 9:30am	Bi-Monthly Partnership Meeting	Location TBD	Contact Emily Barrett for login, ebarrett@tcog.org .
Storm Water Assoc. of North Carolina	November 7, 10am	Membership Meeting	H. Young Community Center, Cary	Sign up at https://swang.org

Regional Organizations Updates

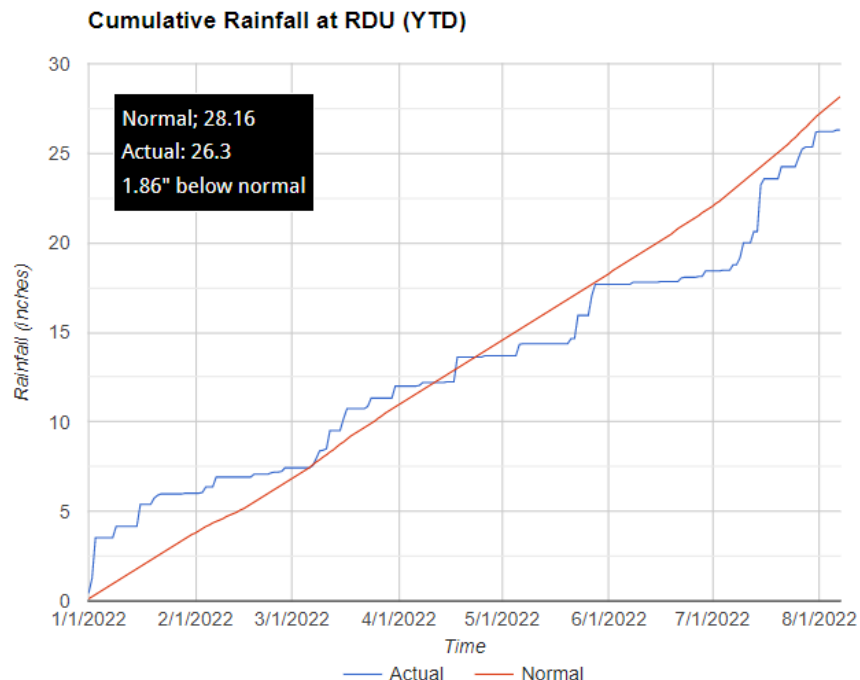
1-Drought Management Advisory Council

- 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 August 4 is below. Drought conditions have generally lessened throughout eastern North Carolina. Most of Wake County is currently experiencing normal conditions, although abnormally dry conditions are present in small pockets in the southeast and northeast. Three counties in eastern NC are now in moderate drought. Access NC DMAC's [Weekly Drought Explainer Infographic](#) here.

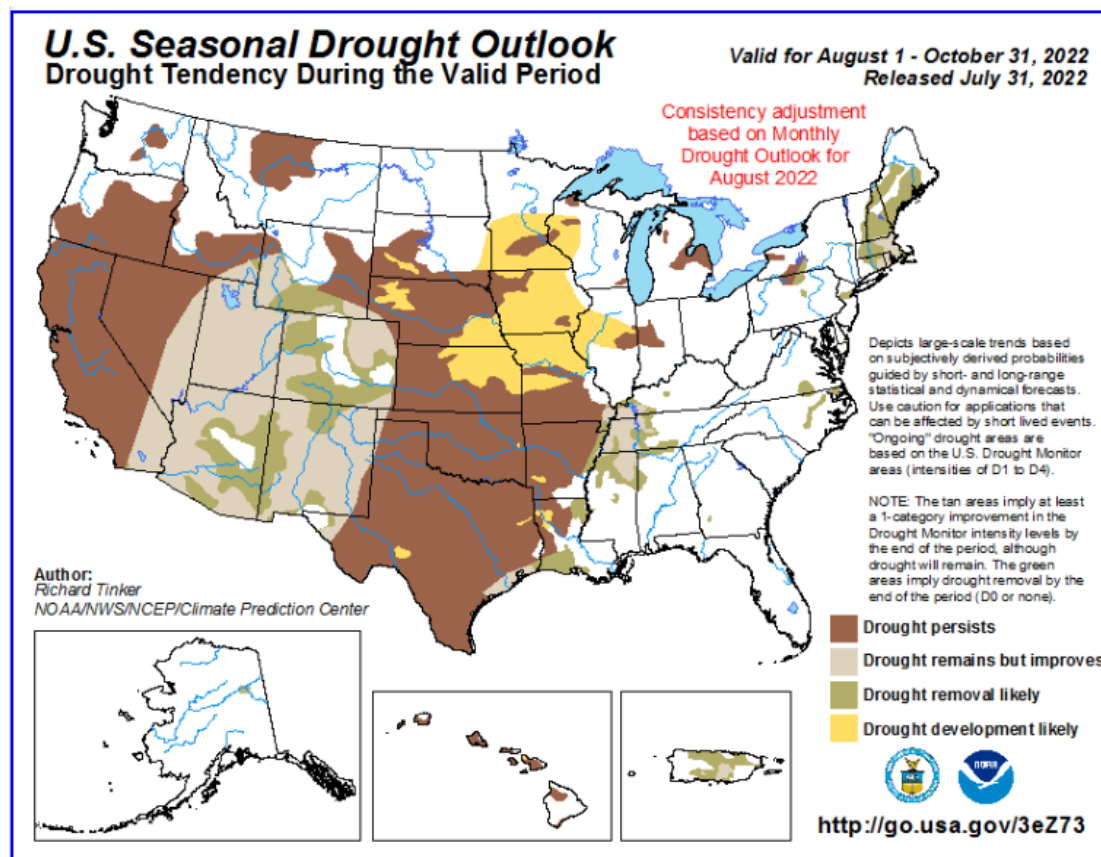




- Although Wake County experienced more rain than normal in the past month (7.5 inches between July 9 and August 8), rainfall is slightly less than normal year-to-date and 7.8 inches below normal over the past 12 months. Falls Lake is 0.4 ft below its guide elevation, while Jordan Lake is at normal guide elevation.



- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s seasonal weather outlook projects drought conditions will not develop in eastern-central NC through October, along with above-normal temperatures and normal precipitation for the eastern half of the state overall through fall 2022.



2-Jordan Lake One Water (JLOW)

Recent Activities

- Access information about JLOW's activities at www.jordanlakeonewater.org.
- JLOW has been designated a North Carolina non-profit, and is welcoming individuals and organizations to join. Contact Emily Barrett at ebarrett@ticog.org for more information about membership.
- The [JLOW One Water Vision for the Jordan Lake Watershed](#) outlines the group's basis for input into the 2022-2023 NC Division of Water Resources (NCDWR) Jordan Lake rules re-adoption effort. The latest schedule for this effort is below:
 - Spring to fall 2023: NCDWR complete lake model, external review, finalization
 - 2024: Rules text development, Stakeholder engagement, WQC approval to proceed
 - 2025: Fiscal analysis, Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) approval, EMC approval to proceed, 60-day comment period, public hearings
 - 2026: EMC adoption, Rules Review Committee approval

3-North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM)

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The NCLM website is not currently publishing its League Bulletin with weekly recaps of NC government activity and analysis of proposed legislation. Until these bulletins return, future coordination reports will not include NCLM. |
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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. An Interim Update on the study was submitted to the Legislature in December 2021. The Collaboratory and UNRBA co-hosted a Falls Lake Nutrient Management Study Research Symposium on April 7th. The papers presented are available for download at the Research Symposium webpage.▪ The Collaboratory recently published a 4-part podcast series called “Collaboratory Conversations”, available for download at Collaboratory Conversations Archives. Conversation topics include PFAS, the Jordan and Falls Lake Nutrient Management Studies, and flood risks for North Carolina’s electric power grid.▪ 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.▪ In June, the USEPA announced drinking water health advisories for PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) chemicals. Read the USEPA’s press release here. The American Chemistry Council filed a lawsuit on July 29th challenging the USEPA’s proposed PFAS health advisory levels. |
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5-North Carolina Water Resources Association (NCWRA)

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ NCWRA’s programs and events are publicized at ncwra.org. The next NCWRA meeting date has not been announced.▪ NCWRA is preparing to host the summer 2023 national conference in Raleigh.▪ Partnership member Daniel Wiebke is a member of NCWRA. |
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6- Stormwater Consortium (WRRRI)

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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

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| Updates of Interest | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Storm Water Association of North Carolina (SWANC), an organization of NC's stormwater professionals, meets regularly at locations around the state. The next membership meeting will be held in Wake County, at Cary's Herbert Young Community Center on November 7th.▪ SWANC's website, swanc.org, includes educational resources on stormwater management technology, stormwater program financial issues, and links to USEPA and NCDEQ regulatory information. |
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8-Triangle Area Water Supply Monitoring Project (TAWSMP)

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Links to real-time USGS streamflow data for the Triangle region can be accessed from the homepage, tawsmp.org.▪ USGS published its Summary of monitoring activities, quality assurance, and data, October 2017–September 2019 for TAWSMP monitoring sites in the upper Cape Fear and Neuse river basins in April 2021. A summary report of October 2019–September 2021 water quality data is expected to be released in late 2022 or early 2023.▪ The project began Phase 9 in July, which extends to June 2027. USGS will conduct bi-monthly sampling at 10 reservoir sites and 4 stream sites, stream gage measurements at 8 gaging stations & annual storm-event sampling at other stream sites. Phase 9 will include PFAS testing for 1 year between October 2023 and September 2024, along with 1,4-dioxane and bromide at the sites where they were detected above reporting levels during Phase 8. |
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9-Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG)

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ No general updates available; individual project updates from TJCOG located under “Triangle Area Water Supply Monitoring Project” and “Triangle Water Supply Partnership”. |
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10-Triangle Water Supply Partnership

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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 August 5th. The next meeting will be held (virtually) on October 7th. 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

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The UNRBA Board of Directors last met on June 15th, and the Path Forward Committee on June 7th. Both were hybrid meetings, held at Butner Town Hall as well as virtually. Meeting materials are available at UNRBA’s Board of Directors June 15th meeting page and Path Forward Committee June 7 meeting page. The Board is chaired by Wake Co. Commissioner Sig Hutchinson. Topics discussed at the Board meeting included:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– 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– Falls Lake Statistical model development and regulatory options for the Chlorophyll-a water quality standard– Ideas for the revision to Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy (Rules)– 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 (hybrid) for September 21st; the next Path Forward Committee meeting is not yet scheduled. |
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12-Triangle Watershed Protection Board

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| Recent Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The group is now being administered by TJCOG. Emily Barrett is contact. Website link is: Triangle Watershed Protection Board▪ The Board is piloting a single grant cycle (as opposed to two) in 2022.▪ The Board met June 2, 2022 and approved funding for 12 projects totaling more than \$2.9 million in Falls Lake Watershed. Final approval was contingent upon finalization of each jurisdiction's FY2023 budget as well as approval of the projects.▪ Partnership member Nancy Daly is a board member. |
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