

April 3, 2025

To: Governor Ned Lamont  
 OPM Secretary Jeffrey R. Beckham  
 OPM Deputy Secretary Paul Potamianos  
 Matthew Brokman, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor  
 Rob Blanchard, Director of Communications, Office of the Governor  
 Chris Collibee, OPM Communications Director

From: Undersecretary Martin L. Heft

RE: **CT Water Planning Council Interagency Drought Work Group  
 STATEWIDE DECLARATION CHANGE RECOMMENDATION**

The Connecticut Water Planning Council's Interagency Drought Work (IDW) Group met today, April 3, 2025, to review the existing conditions under the Connecticut Drought Preparedness and Response Plan. We appreciate the opportunity to advise you of current conditions and our recommendation.

**The IDW voted to recommend that all counties be lowered from Stage 2 to Stage 1 Drought.**

Stage 1 is a preliminary preparedness stage that serves to alert the parties who should be prepared to respond to potentially worsening drought conditions. The primary target audience includes state, regional, and local officials and public water suppliers. Typically, this stage is activated upon the first signals of impacts from abnormally dry conditions. There is no expectation for a broad public notice of a Stage 1 declaration.

Specific criteria thresholds are not defined for Stage 1 as the decision to begin focusing on a possible developing drought is based on the IDW's professional judgment.

