

Drought Task Force Meeting

July 11, 2022

MassDEP-Water Management Program Update

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WMA Permits

- Most WMA Permits require reductions in nonessential water uses when one or more of the following are triggered from 5/1 - 9/30:
 - Specific streamflow triggers generally include
 - June ABF is the May-June trigger
 - August ABF is the July –September trigger
 - Groundwater elevations on Cape, Islands and parts of Southeastern MA
 - Triggers are the period of record monthly 25th percentile depth to water level values, as determined and published by the USGS.
 - Drought Declaration or 7-Day Low Flow

USGS Streamflow Gages and Monitoring Wells

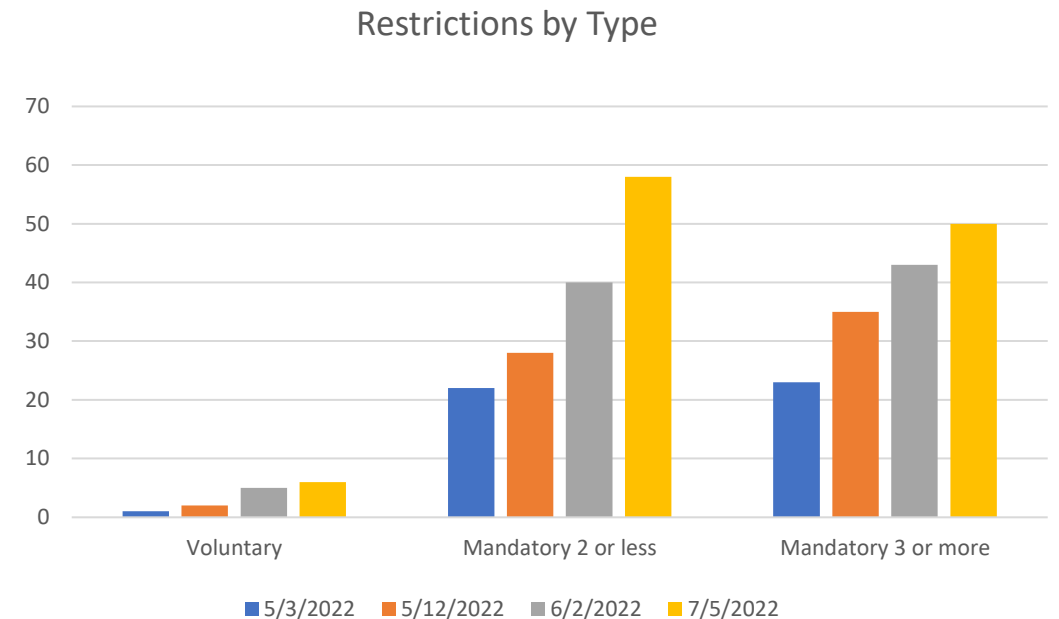
- 54 USGS Gages are tracked
 - On May 3rd – 4 gages had been below the trigger for 3 consecutive days
 - On June 6th – 49 gages had been below the trigger for 3 consecutive days
 - On July 5th – 53 gages had been below the trigger for 3 consecutive days
- 6 USGS Monitoring Wells
 - On May 3rd - 1 gage had met or been below the trigger values for 60 consecutive days
 - On June 6th – 1 gage had met or been below the trigger values for 60 consecutive days
 - On July 5th – 1 gage had met or been below the trigger values for 60 consecutive days

Drought Declarations and 7-Day Low Flow

- On May 3rd
 - 0 gages had hit the 7-day low flow
- On May 16th
 - Level 1 - Mild Drought in the Southeast and Islands Drought Regions
- On June 6th
 - 0 gages had hit the 7-day low flow
- On June 15th
 - Level 1 - Mild Drought in the Connecticut, Central and Islands Drought Regions, and
 - Level 2 – Significant Drought in the Southeast and Northeast Drought Regions
- On July 5th
 - 2 gages had hit the 7-day low flow

Restriction Numbers

- 5/3 we had:
 - 1 Voluntary restriction
 - 23 Mandatory restrictions of 3 days or more
 - 22 Mandatory restrictions of 2 days or less
- 5/12 we had:
 - 2 Voluntary restrictions
 - 35 Mandatory restrictions of 3 days or more
 - 28 Mandatory restrictions of 2 days or less
- 6/2 we had:
 - 5 Voluntary restrictions
 - 43 Mandatory restrictions of 3 days or more
 - 40 Mandatory restrictions of 2 days or less
- 7/5 we had:
 - 6 Voluntary restrictions
 - 50 Mandatory restrictions of 3 days or more
 - 58 Mandatory restrictions of 2 days or less



The Maps

