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# 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.	<b>Welcome and Run of Show</b> Veva Deheza   NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) 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.	<b>Overview of 2024–2025 Drought Evolution, Current Conditions, and Outlook</b>	Samantha Borisoff   Northeast Regional Climate Center
<b>Interactive Drought Assessment Exercise (<a href="#">link forthcoming</a>) QR code</b>		
9:15 a.m.	<b>Drought Assessment: How were you impacted by the 2024–2025 drought? What was the biggest information gap you experienced during the drought?</b> Miro board exercise with all participants	Sylvia Reeves and Eleanor Hasenbeck   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
<b>NIDIS and Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)</b>		
9:35 a.m.	<b>Overview of NIDIS and Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)</b>	Sylvia Reeves   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS

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

9:45 a.m.	<b>Current Drought Early Warning System (DEWS) Partners Dialogue</b>	Rebecca Dahl   Connecticut Interagency Drought Working Group/Northeast Drought Early Warning System  Additional Speakers TBA
9:55 a.m.	<b>Q&amp;A about NIDIS and DEWS</b>	All Participants
<b>Interactive Drought Early Warning Capacity Exercise (<a href="#">link forthcoming</a>) QR code</b>		
10:05 a.m.	<b>Building Drought Early Warning Capacity: What do you need to proactively manage for the next drought?</b> 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.	<b>BREAK</b> (5 Minutes)	
10:55 a.m.	<b>Instructions for Breakout Session Discussions</b>	Sylvia Reeves   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
11:00 a.m.	<b>Breakout Sessions</b>	
	<b>Discuss the Assessment and Capacity Building Exercise Results</b>	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.	<b>Reconvene for Highlights and Reminders</b>	Sylvia Reeves   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
12:00 p.m.	<b>Webinar Concludes</b>	
<b>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 from 10–11:30 a.m. ET.</b>		

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

## AGENDA

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

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker/Facilitator
12:30 p.m.	<b>Welcome and Run of Show</b> Veva Deheza   NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) 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.	<b>Overview of 2024–2025 Drought Evolution, Current Conditions and Outlook</b>	Samantha Borisoff   Northeast Regional Climate Center
<b>Interactive Drought Assessment Exercise (<a href="#">link forthcoming</a>) QR code</b>		
12:45 p.m.	<b>Drought Assessment: How were you impacted by the 2024–2025 drought? What was the biggest information gap you experienced during the drought?</b> Miro board exercise with meeting participants	Sylvia Reeves and Eleanor Hasenbeck   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
<b>NIDIS and Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)</b>		
1:05 p.m.	<b>Overview of NIDIS and Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)</b>	Sylvia Reeves   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
1:15 p.m.	<b>Current DEWS Partners Dialogue</b>	Eric Lindquist   Connecticut Interagency Drought Working Group/Northeast Drought Early Warning System  Additional Speakers TBD
1:25 p.m.	<b>Q&amp;A on NIDIS and DEWS</b>	All Participants

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

Interactive Drought Early Warning Capacity Exercise ( <a href="#">link forthcoming</a> ) <i>QR code</i>		
1:35 p.m.	<b>Building Drought Early Warning Capacity: What do you need to proactively manage for the next drought?</b> 2nd Miro board exercise with meeting participants	Sylvia Reeves and Eleanor Hasenbeck   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
2:20 p.m. <b>BREAK</b> (5 Minutes)		
Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker   Facilitator
2:25 p.m.	<b>Instructions for Breakout Session Discussions</b>	Sylvia Reeves   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
2:30 p.m.	<b>Breakout Sessions</b>	
	<b>Discuss the Assessment and Capacity Building Exercise Results</b>	<b>Session Facilitators and All Participants</b>
	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?	
3:10 p.m.	<b>Reconvene for Highlights and Reminders</b>	Sylvia Reeves   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
3:30 p.m.	Webinar Concludes	
<b>Don’t forget to join us on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 for the Synthesis and Prioritization Meeting from 10–11:30 a.m. ET.</b>		

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

## Synthesis and Prioritization Meeting Agenda

**Wednesday, April 2, 2025: 10 a.m.–11:30 a.m. ET**

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
10:00 a.m.	<b>Welcome</b>	Veva Deheza   NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)
10:05 a.m.	<b>Review of the Collaboration Boards and Breakout Sessions</b>	TBA
<b>Interactive Exercise to Identify Possible Actions (<a href="#">link forthcoming</a>) QR code</b>		
10:15 a.m.	<b>Interactive Exercise to Identify Potential Next Steps</b>	Sylvia Reeves   Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/NOAA NIDIS
10:35 a.m.	<b>Summary of the Exercise Results</b>	TBA
10:45 a.m.	<b>Breakout Group Discussions: Discuss the Capacity Building Exercise Results</b>	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?	
11:15 a.m.	<b>Report Out on Breakouts, Synthesis, Discussion</b>	
11:30 a.m.	<b>Conclusion</b>	
<b>A Short Form Report Summarizing the Results of These Meetings Will Be Available Soon</b>		

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

### Contacts

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