



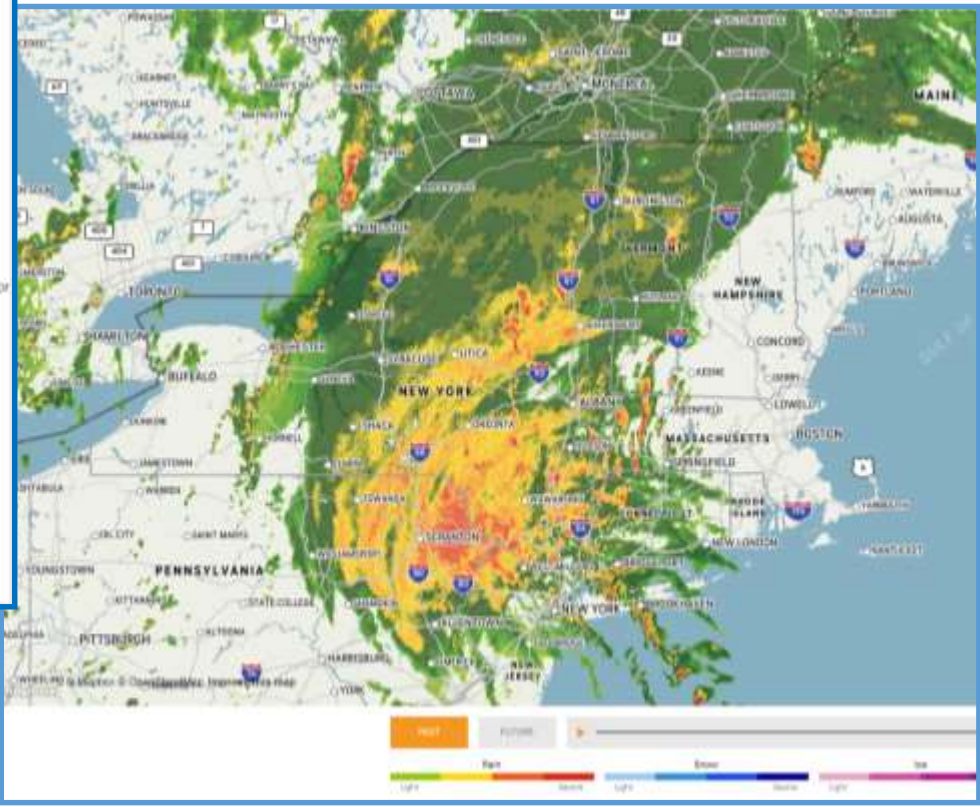
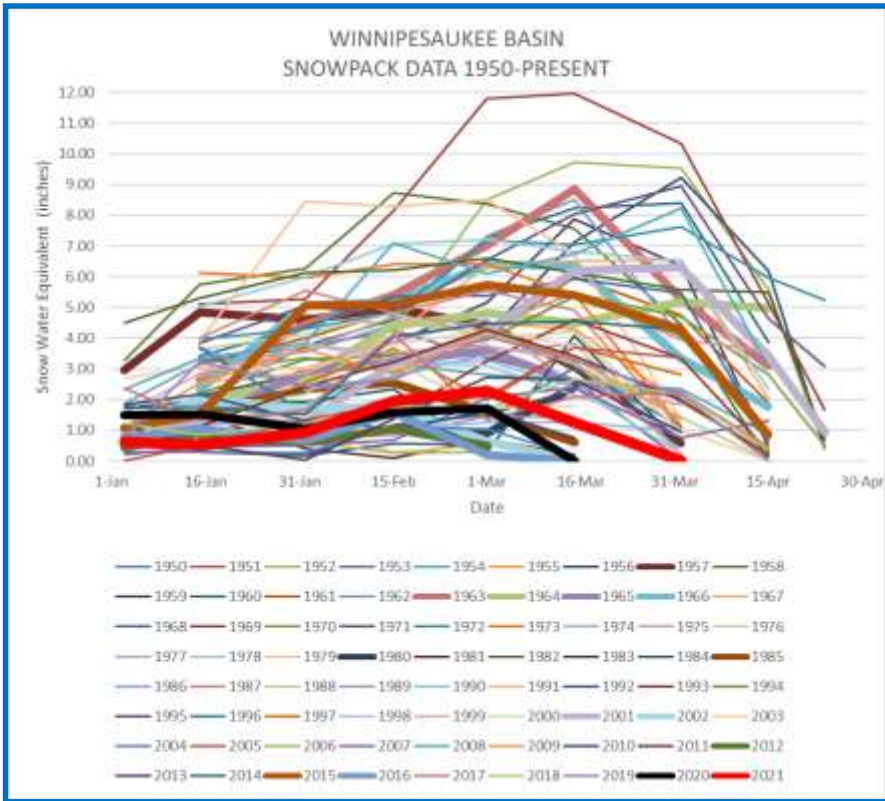
Water Division Update to the Climate Summit

27 May 2021

Director's Top *Five* Concerns; Covid, Drought, Infrastructure & Dams, Top Five Contaminants (Arsenic, PFAS, Salt, Nutrients, Temperature), People & Fiscal / budget

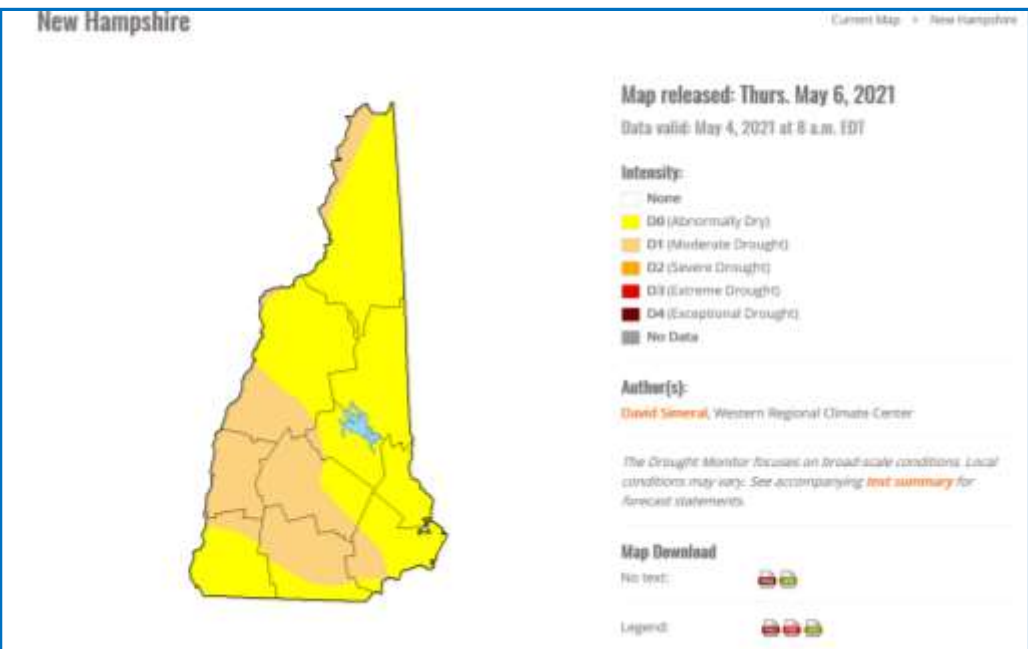
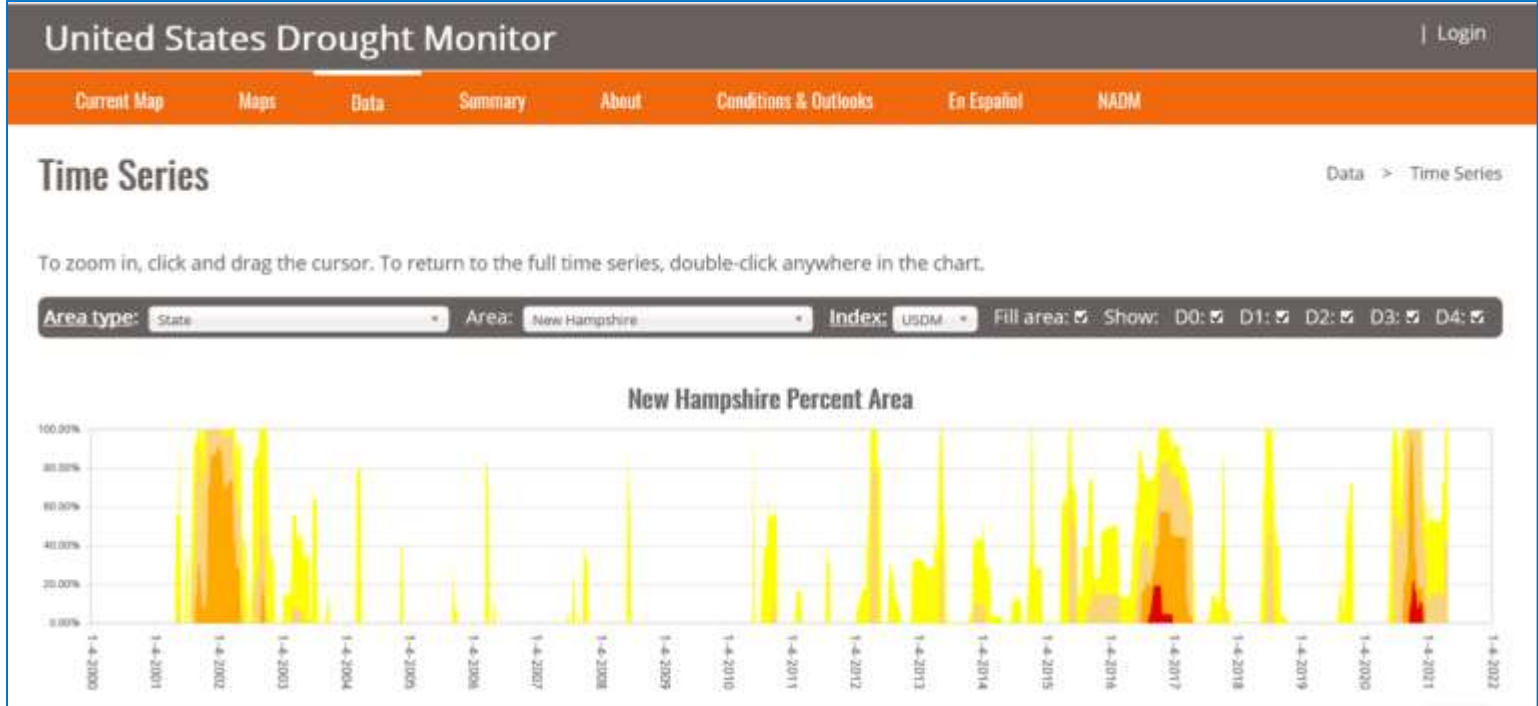
Drought

How did we get to D3, Extreme Drought, in '20?
What does '21 look like?



Low snowpack, very low precipitation. And Tropical Storm Isaias...missed...just like TS Fay missed...

Drought



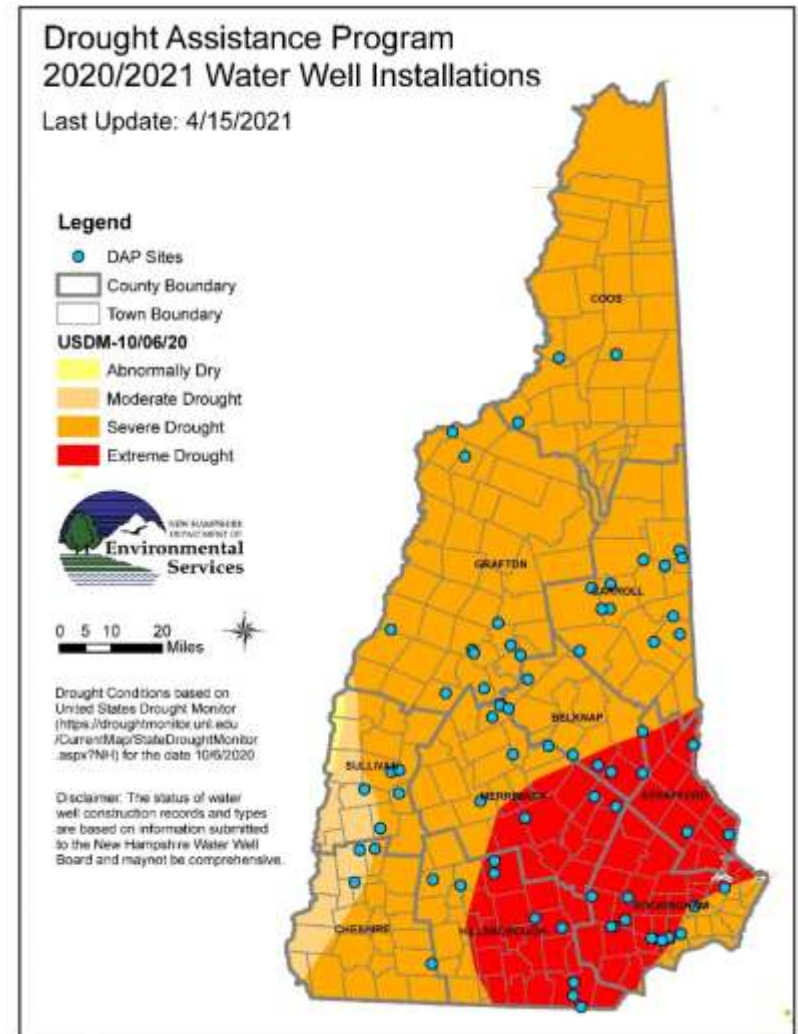
**Actions;
Monitoring
Forecasting
Informing
Helping**

Emergency Drought Assistance (EDA)

Low Income Residential Drought Assistance Program Update – May 18, 2021

- Receive approximately 2 applications per week
- Qualifying homeowners are eligible for temporary provision of bottled water until their project is complete.
- Applications Received to Date: 94
- Approved or under review: 90 approved (difference represents projects that have been determined to be ineligible)
- **Financial Assistance committed**: approximately \$941,000
 - Tier 1 Approvals (tier 1 is the full cost of the project minus a \$250 deductible due by the homeowner to the contractor): 55 applicants
 - Tier 2 Approvals (tier 2 is a 50/50 cost share with the homeowner): 35
- Total Estimated Project Cost: approximately \$1.25 M *This is the total estimated amount of the actual drilling costs for the approved projects.


*The average project cost is approximately \$15,300 and the majority of the projects are for replacement of dug wells with a bedrock well.



Suggestions for Municipalities


- Learn from other communities, participate in the conferences.
- Plan ahead, seek funding, implement. Talk to your neighbors.
- Use your Associations; NH Municipal Association, NH Water Works, NH Water Pollution Control, Granite State Rural Water.
- Know and use the laws that are in place.

III. Overview of Drought Management in New Hampshire—G. Eames, MADES



Legal Mechanisms to Address Drought

- Large groundwater withdrawal permits – reduce withdrawals based on phase of drought
- Emergency authority to approve new large groundwater withdrawals
- Municipal authority to restrict or ban residential lawn watering during drought (applies to public and residential wells)
- Authority to require dam owners to release water
- Authority to require a public water system to extend service to address a nearby emergency



RSA 41:11-d Municipal Lawn Watering Restrictions

- Municipalities can restrict/ban lawn watering if the State or Federal government declare a stage of drought.
- Governing body can adopt rules and enforce them within a few days
- Applies to lawn watering using water from residential wells or public water systems
- Every two years legislative efforts to expand or reduce the authority for implementing water use restrictions have been pursued in the Legislature.
- One of the only states to extend restrictions to residential wells.

TITLE III
TOWNS, CITIES, VILLAGE DISTRICTS, AND UNINCORPORATED PLACES

CHAPTER 41
CHOICE AND DUTIES OF TOWN OFFICERS

Selectmen

Section 41:11-d

41:11-d Restricting the Watering of Lawns. –

I. The local governing body may establish regulations restricting the use of water from private wells or public water systems for outdoor lawn watering when administrative agencies of the state or federal government have designated the region as being under a declared state or condition of drought. The grass playing turf of a recreational field, the grass playing surfaces of a golf course, and grass athletic fields, including fields used for the production of food, may be excluded from any restrictions pursuant to this paragraph. Nothing in this paragraph shall limit any public water system's authority to require a reduction in demand or implementation of conservation measures in accordance with rules of the department of environmental services.

II. The local governing body shall give notice prior to the implementation of the regulations in paragraph I. Notice shall be given at least 3 calendar days before the regulations are implemented. The notice required under this section shall not include the day notice is posted. Notice of the regulations shall be published in a paper of general circulation in the municipality and shall be posted in at least 2 public places.

III. The full text of the proposed regulations need not be included in the notice if an adequate statement describing the proposal and designating the place where the proposal is on file for public inspection is stated in the notice.

Source: 2007, 218:1, eff. Aug. 24, 2007; 2018, 213:1, eff. Sept. 10, 2018.

We need an Assistant Commissioner (AC) and a Water Division Director



The mission of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services is to help sustain a high quality of life for all citizens by protecting and restoring the environment and public health in New Hampshire.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: WATER DIVISION DIRECTOR

NHDES is searching for candidates for Director of the Water Division. This largest division of NHDES supports public policy and regulatory objectives that reflect stewardship of water resources, the needs of the citizens and economic interests of the State, and the achievement and maintenance of water quality standards based upon sound science. The Water Division includes: oversight of public drinking water supplies and systems; wastewater control, including the operation of the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program; groundwater, surface water, and wetland protection; oversight of the safety and operation of public and privately owned dams; and many other programs involving water as a public resource. The Water Division Director oversees the development and execution of policies, regulations, rules and technical programs, implements effective integration and collaboration, ensures effective planning, budgeting, and delivery of services, and shares responsibility with the other NHDES Directors for the achievement of the Department's overall mission, goals, and long-term strategic objectives. This position consults with the New Hampshire Water Council and the New Hampshire Wetlands Council, serves as an Executive Commissioner on the New Hampshire Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission, and supports many other Boards and organizations such as the Rivers and Lakes Management Councils and the New Hampshire Water Well Board, and represents the NHDES at the state and federal levels.

Well qualified candidates will have a baccalaureate or master's degree from an accredited college or university and a minimum of five or more years of experience at the department level as a senior administrator or environmental professional, responsible for the administration of sanitary or environmental engineering programs in the public or private sector, personnel development and management, goal attainment and stakeholder satisfaction. Highly qualified candidates will demonstrate experience and success in policy, technical and managerial areas of responsibility at a significant level.

This unclassified/appointed position is assigned to Group HH of the state unclassified salary schedule (currently \$84,507 to \$117,805). Once confirmed, the selected candidate would serve the remainder of a four-year term which ends on May 23, 2022, and then be eligible for re-appointment consideration and confirmation to a subsequent four-year term. Resumes and confidential inquiries should be directed to Pamela Sopczyk, Administrator, at [603 271-3441](tel:6032713441) or at Pamela.Sopczyk@des.nh.gov.

The State of New Hampshire compensation package features outstanding benefits, including: HMO or POS Medical and Prescription Drug Benefits; Dental Insurance; a Defined Benefit Retirement Plan; a Deferred Compensation 457(b) Plan; and \$50,000 paid life insurance. See the state website for details on [State-paid benefits](#).