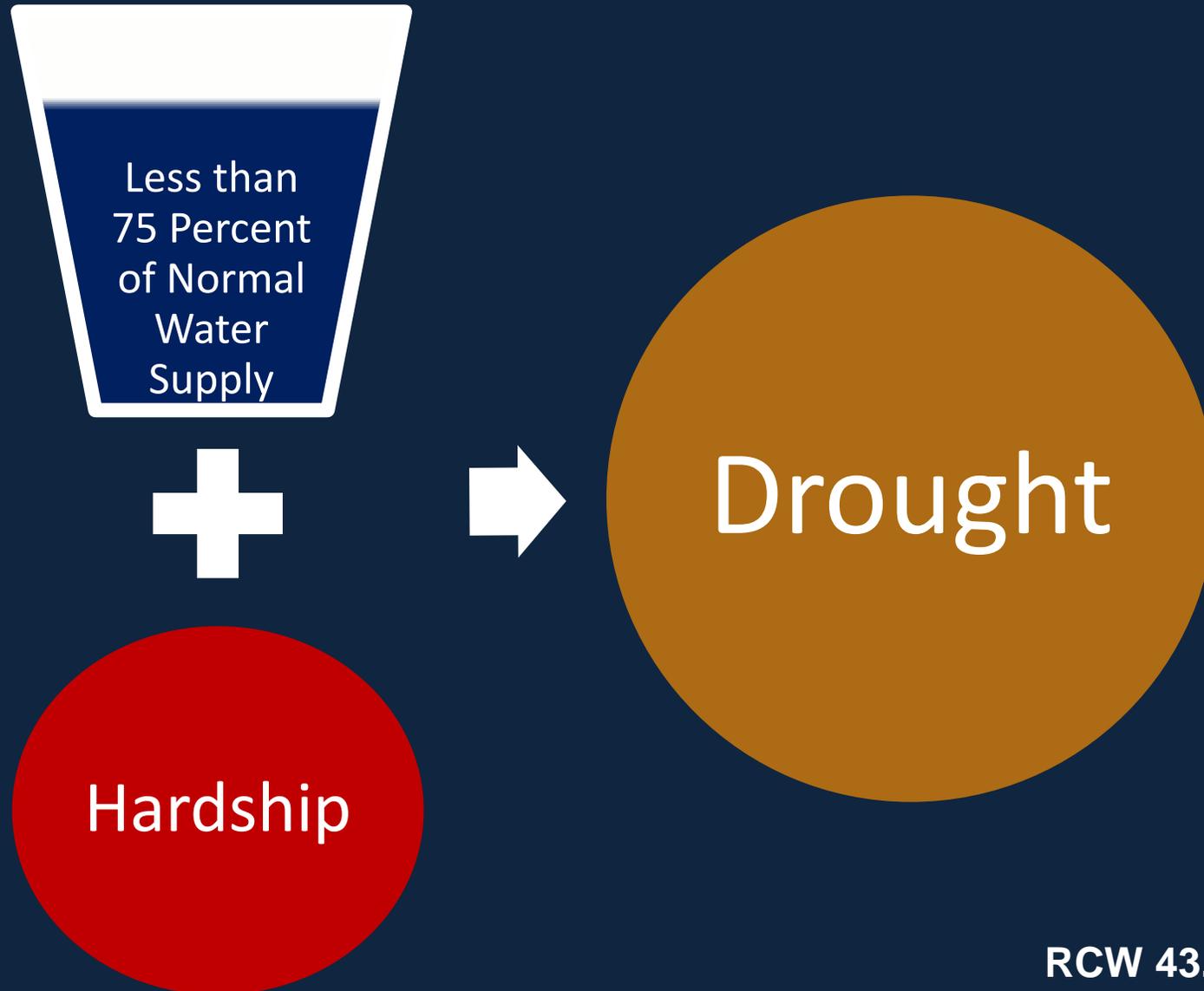


Water Supply Availability Meeting

June 28, 2018

Time	Subject	Responsible	Representing
10:00 – 10:15	Welcome/Information for Media Framework for Drought Declarations in Washington State *Definition of Drought *Definition of Normal Water Supply *Drought Phase Overview (Advisory/Emergency)	Jeff Marti Brook Beeler	Ecology
10:15 – 10:30	Regional Climate Perspective 1. Recent precipitation and temperature 2. Seasonal forecasts/ENSO	Karin Bumbaco and Nick Bond	Office of Washington State Climatologist
10:30 –10:40	River Forecasts, flooding recap	Andy Bryant/Marilyn Lohmann	NWS
10:40 -- 10:55	Current Streamflow and Groundwater Conditions	Richard Dinicola	USGS
10:55 –11:00	Status and Forecast for Yakima Basin Water Supply	Chris Lynch	Bureau of Reclamation
11:00 –11:30	Input from Other Water Managers and State Agencies	All	
Next Meeting: Suggest Thursday August 9th or Friday August 10th.			

Washington State's Drought Trigger



RCW 43.83B.400

Summary of Drought Stages and Triggers

Stage 1 – Advisory

Conditions: Long-term forecast indicates drought of any level of severity may occur, or short-term forecast indicates minor drought conditions may occur in at least some area of the state.

Triggers:

- *Water supply trigger:* Consideration of the following factors suggest a strong likelihood of reduced water supply, that careful management of water supply and demand is advisable, and that concerns should be conveyed to natural resource managers, water users, and the public:
 - Below normal snowpack;
 - Below normal river forecasts;
 - Below average reservoir refill or carry-over from the previous year;
 - Depleted soil moisture or groundwater;
 - Extended precipitation deficit (e.g., the Standardized Precipitation Index is -1 or below); and/or
 - Forecasts of high temperature or low precipitation for an extended period.
- *Hardship trigger:* There is a potential for hardships to water users and uses in the affected area due to drought conditions.

Response: Heightened awareness, increased preparation. Communicate existing monitored conditions and forecasted short term climate outlooks (1-3 months). Coordinate communication with local water managers and affected governments (state, local, tribal). Water users who anticipate hardships would be informed they can petition Ecology for assistance with drought preparedness/response actions. State agencies may begin mobilizing resources, communicating with the Legislature and Office of Financial Management (OFM) on potential funding needs, and preparing for drought response actions.

Stage 2 – Emergency (issue Declaration)

Conditions: Short-term forecast indicates high probability that drought conditions meeting the statutory definition will occur at least in some areas of the state; or drought conditions have actually materialized in at least some area of the state (at any level of severity – minor to severe).

Triggers:

- *Water supply trigger:* Forecasted seasonal runoff is likely to be less than 75 percent of normal; and/or other water supply indicators, as summarized above, have deteriorated to more extreme levels.
- *Hardship trigger:* There is high confidence of existing or imminent hardships to water users in the affected area due to the drought conditions.

Response: Issue Drought Declaration for affected areas. Communicate existing monitored conditions and forecasted short term climate outlooks (1-3 months). Coordinate communication with local water managers and affected governments (state, local, tribal). Activate state systems for response actions defined in the state’s Drought Contingency Plan. (Note: Water users would need to provide evidence of imminent or demonstrated hardship when requesting permits or funding for specific actions under the emergency drought provisions of state law.) Seek emergency funding as needed from the Legislature and coordinate with OFM.

