

# Drought Task Force Meeting

## June 8, 2023

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MassDEP-Water Management Program Update

Duane LeVangie, Program Chief

# 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 25<sup>th</sup> percentile depth to water level values, as determined and published by the USGS; and
  - Drought Declaration or 7-Day Low Flow

# WMA Registrations

- WMA PWS and Golf Registrations now require reductions in nonessential water uses when the Secretary declares drought for the region, county, or watershed.
  - **Level 1 (Mild Drought):** nonessential outdoor water uses restricted to 1 day per week, from 5 pm to 9 am, exceptions for ornamentals and gardens with drip irrigation, hand-held hose or watering cans may be permitted.
  - **Level 2 (Significant Drought):** nonessential outdoor water uses are banned, exceptions for ornamentals and gardens with drip irrigation, hand-held hose or watering cans may be permitted.
  - **Level 3 (Critical Drought) or Level 4 (Drought Emergency):** All nonessential outdoor water uses are banned.

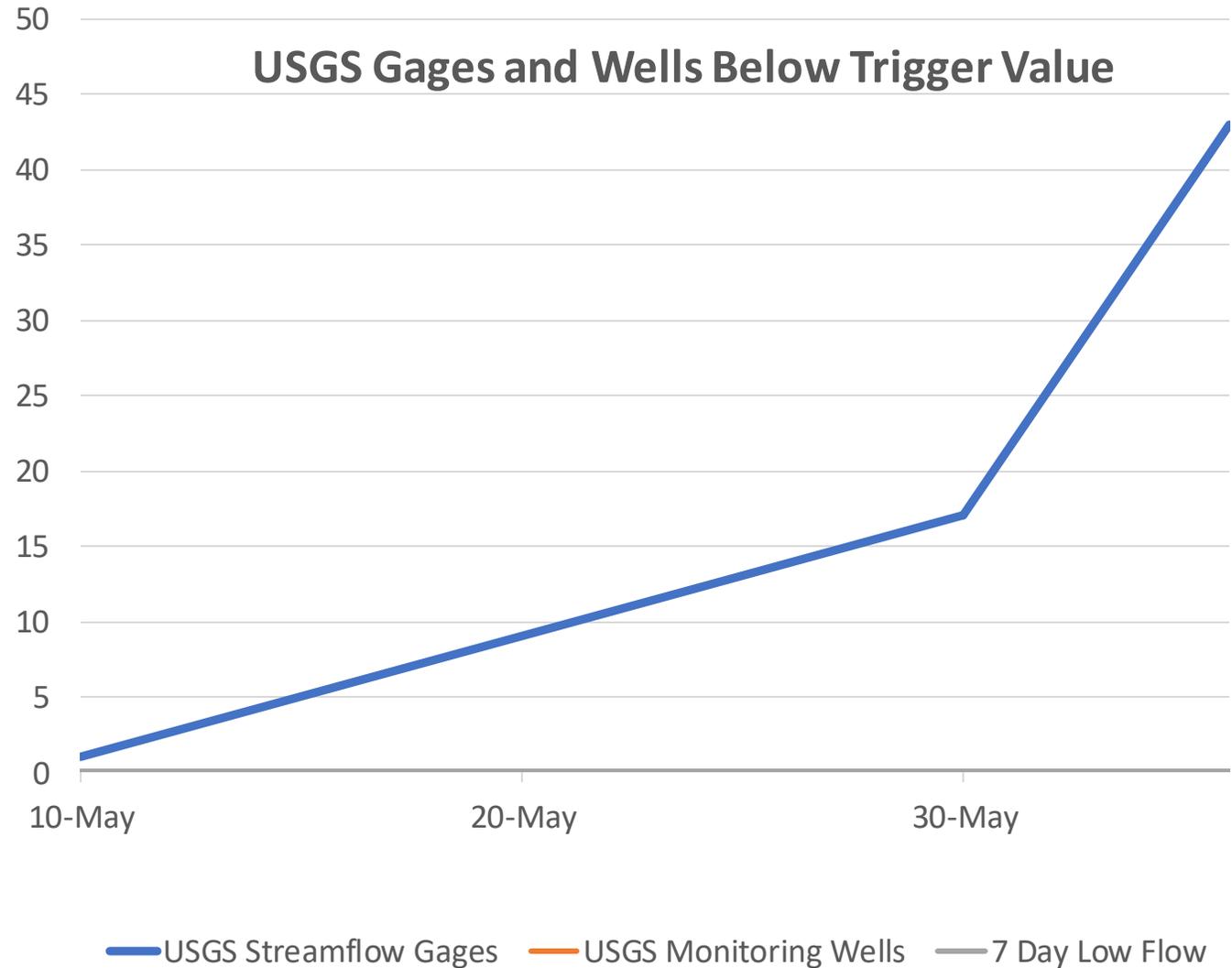
# WMA Registrations

- Implementation of restrictions on nonessential outdoor water use shall begin as soon as possible, but no later than 24 months after issuance of the Registration Statement.
- PWSs that are supplied entirely by reservoirs with multi-year storage have the option of developing a system-specific Drought Management Plan.
- Lawsuit filed February 17, 2023 by 23 entities claiming an infringement on their Registered withdrawals.

# Tracking Table Example

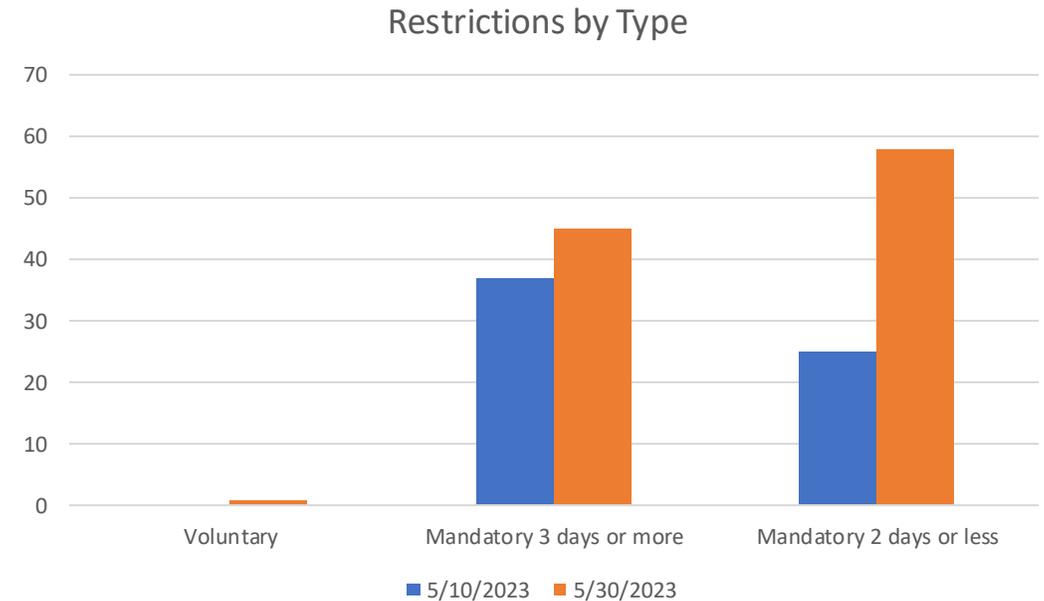
A	B	C	D	E	AJ	AK	AL	AM	AN	AO	AP	AQ	AR	
		May-June Trigger	July-Sep Trigger	IHA 7-Day Low-Flow	5/31/2023	6/1/2023	6/2/2023	6/3/2023	6/4/2023	6/5/2023	6/6/2023	6/7/2023		
01112500	Blackstone R., Woonsocket, RI	398	157	124	under	under	under	under	under	under	under	under	Hopedale	Blackstone
01103500	Charles at Dover	170	62	30									Aquarion (Dover)	Holliston
01103280	Charles at Medway	59	20	8.1	under	under							Bellingham	Franklin
01104500	Charles at Waltham	279	98	35	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Lincoln	
01099500	Concord R below R Meadow Bk, at Lowell	427	156	71	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Sudbury	Wayland
01172010	Connecticut R at RT I-391, Holyoke, MA	7748	3582.76		under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Ashland	Leverett
01170000	Deerfield R near West Deerfield, MA	618	231	228.3	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Buckland	Harwich
01168500	Deerfield River at Charlemont, MA	411	144	168	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Monroe	Florida
01770100	Green River near Colrain	46	17	8.4	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Bernardston - no	East North
01333000	Green River at Williamstown	120	47	8.7	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Williamstown 49	and 19
01331500	Hoosic River at Adams	43	17	18	under	under	under		under	under	under		Adams	Cheshire
01197000	Housatonic at Coltsville	56	23	19	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Hinsdale	
01197500	Houstonic River at Great Barrington	257	124	68	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Lee	
01105730	Indian Head River, Hanover, MA	31	13	5	under	under	under	under	under		under		Cohasset	Scituate
01102000	Ipswich R. at Ipswich	125	42	4.9	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Hamilton	Salem-Be
01101500	Ipswich R. S. Middleton	44	14	1	under	under	under						Lynnfield center	Middleton
01105870	Jones river at kingston	25	16	7.3	under	under	under	under	under			under	kingston	Aquarion (
01100000	Merrimack River at Lowell	4311			under	under		under		under	under		Merrimac - reg onl	Haverhill
01171500	Mill River at Northampton, MA	62	26	10	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Northampton	Amherst
01165500	Millers River at Erving	379	147	73	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Orange	Athol
01162000	Millers River near Winchendon	79	26	13	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Ashburnham	Winchendon
01097300	Nashoba Bk, near Acton, MA	10	3	0.57	under	under	under	under	under	under	under		Acton	

USGS  
Streamflow  
Gages and  
Monitoring  
Wells Below  
Trigger Value  
on 6/10



# Restriction Numbers

- 05/10:
  - 0 Voluntary restrictions
  - 37 Mandatory restrictions of 3 days or more
  - 25 Mandatory restrictions of 2 days or less
- 05/30:
  - 1 Voluntary restrictions
  - 45 Mandatory restrictions of 3 days or more
  - 30 Mandatory restrictions of 2 days or less



# The Maps

