

# Stage 2 Drought Declaration

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**Erie Town Council**

May 12, 2026

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# Agenda

1. Drought Response To Date
2. Drought and Water Supply Shortage Plan
3. Drought Stage 2 Response Measures
4. Questions

# Drought Response

- Water Shortage Emergency declared 3/20/2026
- Ongoing snow-drought and record high temperatures
- Recommended 2-day-a-week watering schedule in early April

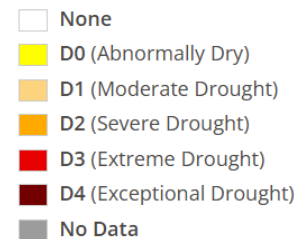
## Colorado

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Map released: Thurs. May 7, 2026

Data valid: May 5, 2026 at 8 a.m. EDT

### Intensity



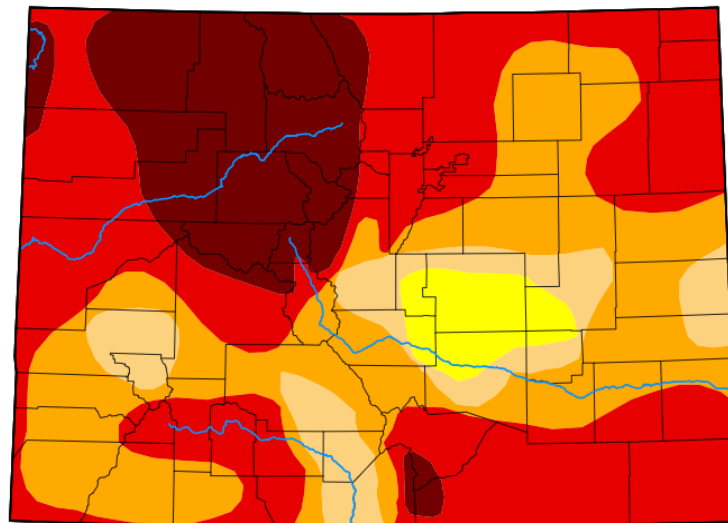
### Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

[Adam Allgood](#), NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

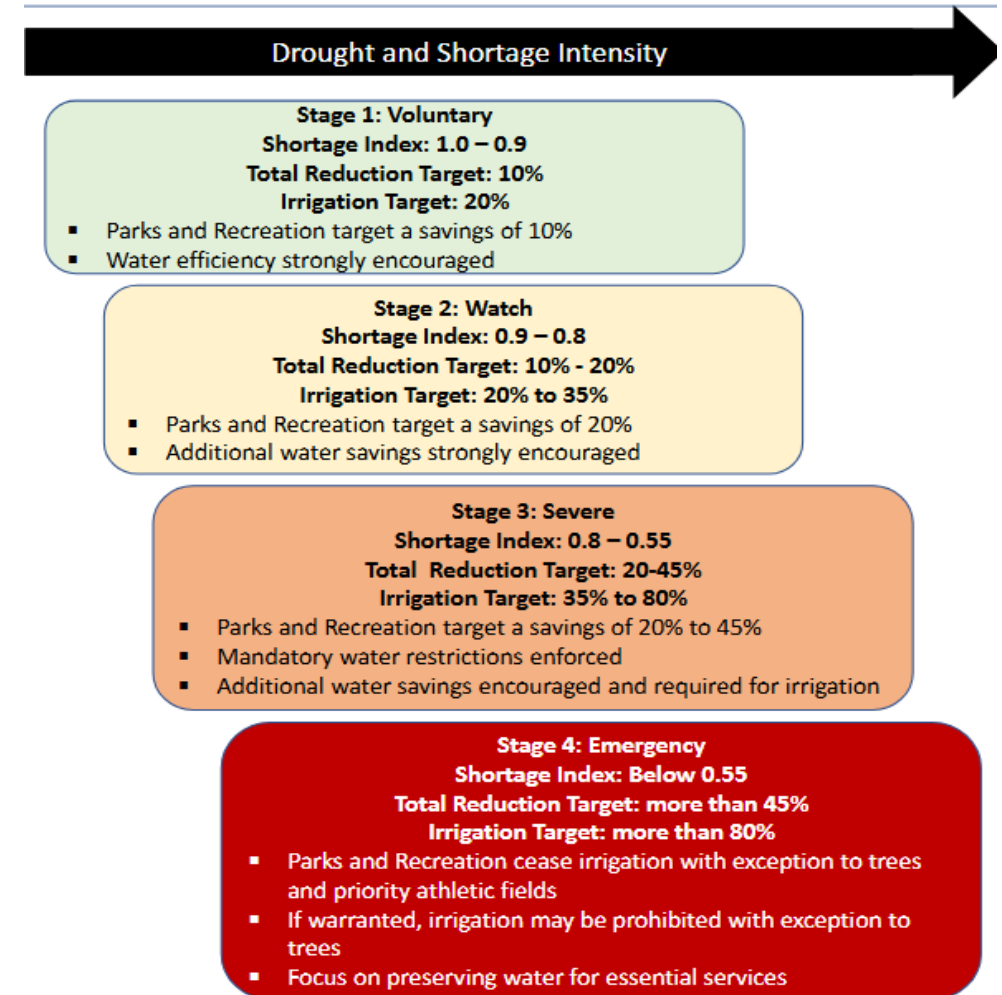
Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Lindsay Johnson](#), National Drought Mitigation Center



# Drought and Water Supply Shortage Plan

- Dynamic plan protecting water reliability through response measures.
- Stage 2 calls for increased conservation measures & outdoor irrigation reductions.
- Formation of staff-led drought response task force for ongoing monitoring.



## Stage 2 Actions

- Active Turf Recreation: Park zones that are heavily used - programmed athletic events and spaces rented by the community.
  - **Target 20% savings relative to historical irrigation.**
- High Residential Water Users: Provide outreach to high water users (billing at Tier 3 and 4) on how to reduce water use. Encourage free water audits.
- Large public irrigators: Colorado National Golf Club, school districts, landscapers, and HOAs – Coordinate with large public water users to optimize water efficiency and promote voluntary restrictions.
- Turf grass (residents, businesses, HOAs, and schools) – Voluntary. Eliminate waste with additional water savings encouraged. **Watering should not exceed two times per week and only occur from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. per Water Waste code.**



## Stage 2 Actions Cont.

### Commercial:

- Car washes without recycled water – Voluntary. Promote and apply best management practices to save water.
- Car washes with recycled water – Voluntary. Promote best management practices to save water.
- Construction water – Encourage efficient use of construction water.



## Two Day Watering Schedule

- Even Addresses: Monday & Thursday
- Odd Addresses: Tuesday & Friday
- Optional third day if needed
  - Even: Saturday
  - Odd: Sunday
- Third day necessity to be determined by town staff reviewing previous and future temperature and precipitation forecasts.
- 2-day-a-week watering schedules are common practice across the front range



## Regional Context

- Many front range communities use this watering schedule. Some enforce it during times of drought.
- Erie staff participate in regional drought conversations through organizations like Northern Water, Colorado Water Conservation Board, Colorado WaterWise and others.
- These groups are developing and encouraging regional collaboration through outreach campaigns and aligned messaging.



# Questions & Discussion