

Catawba-Wateree Low Inflow Protocol Trigger Status Summary for 07/01/2026 and Changes Compared to 06/01/2026

	Reservoir Storage as % of Target	% of 6-Month Long-Term Avg Streamflow	3-Month Avg of US Drought Monitor
Normal	$\geq 100\%$	$> 85\%$	< 0
LIP Stage 0	$> 90\%$	$\leq 85\%$	≥ 0
LIP Stage 1	 $> 75\%$	$\leq 78\%$	≥ 1
LIP Stage 2	$> 57\%$	$\leq 65\%$	 ≥ 2
LIP Stage 3	$> 42\%$	$\leq 55\%$	≥ 3
LIP Stage 4	$\leq 42\%$	 $\leq 40\%$	4

Previous trigger levels at last update (June 1, 2026)

- Reservoir Storage as % of Target – 85.9%
- 6-Month Average Streamflow – 40.9%
- 3-Month Average US Drought Monitor – 2.33

North Carolina Drought Update

Created By:

North Carolina
Drought Management Advisory Council
www.ncdrought.org

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For the assessment period ending **June 30, 2026**
From the US Drought Monitor, with input from the NC DMAC

The Main Takeaway

After heavy rains over the past two weeks, eastern NC has seen widespread improvements, including parts of the coastline shifting back to Moderate Drought (D1).

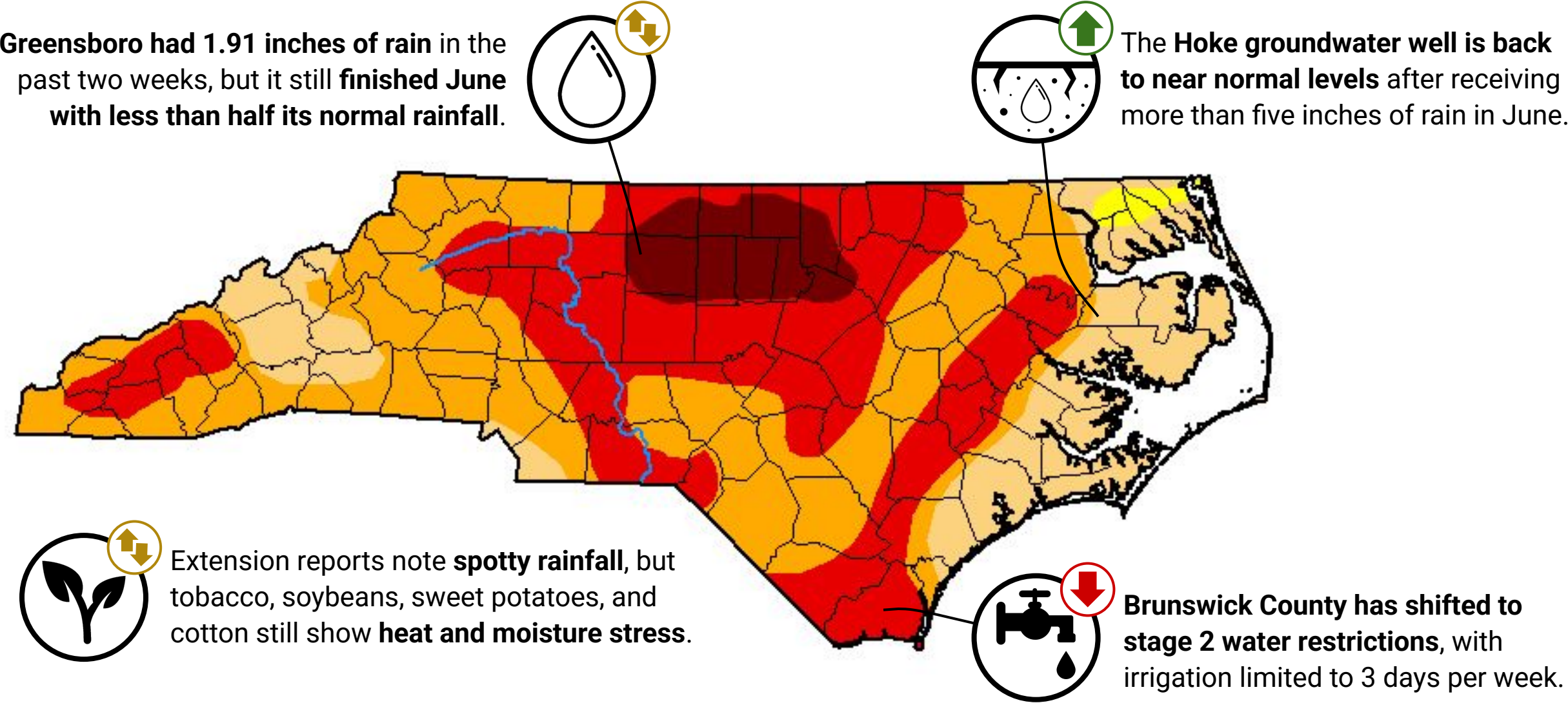
This Week's Summary

While most of the state has seen showers in recent weeks, eastern North Carolina is offering a template for sustained drought recovery, with multiple rounds of rain totaling 3 to 6 inches over the final two weeks of June. That persistent precipitation has replenished the soil moisture all the way down to the groundwater stores.

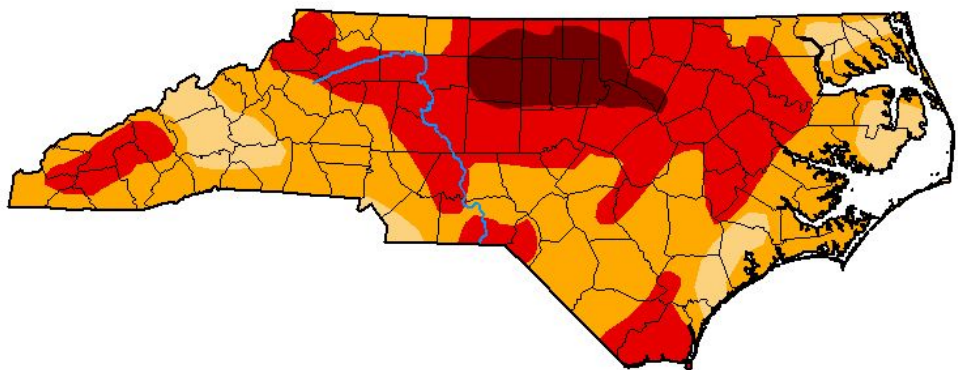
Exceptional Drought Update

Despite some rain over the past two weeks, most of the northern Piedmont remains in D4. In these areas, high evaporation rates in the heat have quickly sapped new moisture, and lake levels haven't bounced back just yet.

For your local drought status, visit www.ncdrought.org



Last Week's Drought Status



Statewide Coverage by Category

Category	Current Coverage	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	0.89%	0.89%
D1: Moderate Drought	18.20%	+8.64%
D2: Severe Drought	38.88%	-6.38%
D3: Extreme Drought	35.40%	-2.77%
D4: Exceptional Drought	6.62%	-0.40%