



## MEMORANDUM

CWS File #18-150

To: Ben Wade, CWCB

From: Michelle Hatcher *mdh*, Sira Sartori *ss*

cc: Julie Pasillas, Town of Firestone

Date: June 15, 2020

Subject: 75% Progress Report for the Town of Firestone's Drought Management Plan

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Clear Water Solutions (CWS) is assisting the Town of Firestone with developing a Drought Management Plan (DMP) in accordance with State regulations following the Guidance Document produced by the Colorado Water Conservation Board. The Guidance Document outlines eight tasks in the drought management planning process and the Town has completed Task 1 through Task 7. This progress report focuses on preliminary findings<sup>1</sup> from Tasks 5 through 7. As discussed in the Scope of Work, this 75% Progress Report includes the following required elements:

- The success of meeting previously identified goals and objectives
- Obstacles encountered
- Preliminary findings or accomplishments
- Potential need for revisions to the scope of work and timelines

The Drought Planning Committee discussed the drought public information campaign, steps for drought declaration, and the mitigation action plan at its third meeting on August 19, 2019. The public drought campaign will be coordinated by the Communications and Marketing Department, which will also work with the Community Resources Department to distribute water conservation information. Both the drought management plan and water efficiency plan will promote the importance of saving water during drought and non-drought years. The public drought campaign objectives are:

- Distribute clear, concise information to water customers and media.
- Adjust the intensity of public outreach depending on the severity of the drought within each drought stage.
- Coordinate campaign efforts with other entities when feasible.

**Table 1** is a summary of the drought mitigation action plan. **Table 2** is a summary of the steps for drought declaration.

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<sup>1</sup> Preliminary findings may be edited in the final DMP Update Report.

*Firestone's Drought Management Plan  
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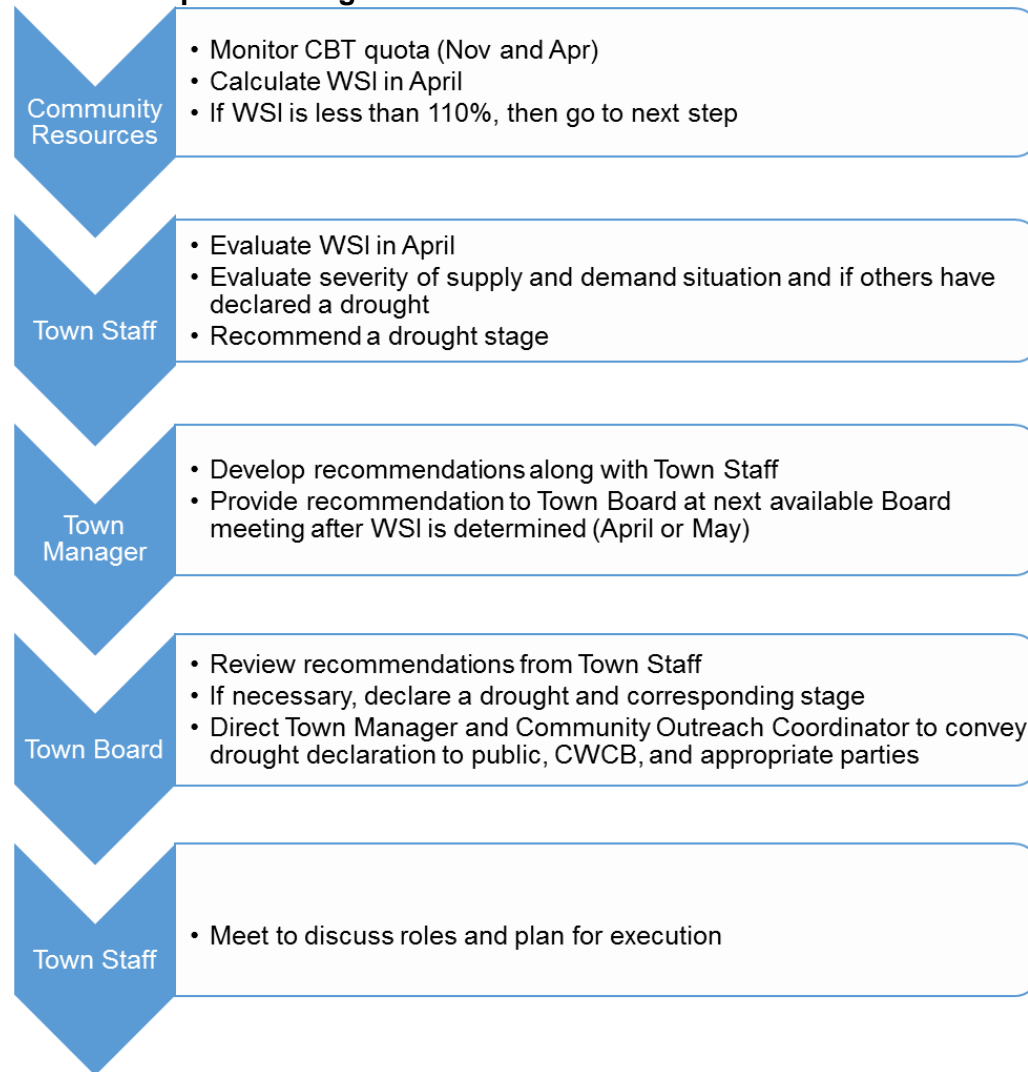
**Table 1. Drought Mitigation Action Plan.**

Mitigation	Implementation Activity	Steps for Implementation	Milestone Deadline	Administration
Drought Management Planning	Complete Stakeholder process	Complete activity by milestone deadline	Oct 2019	Town Staff
	Complete Public-Review Process		Dec 2019	
	Plan approved by Town Board		Dec 2019	
	Town Board approved drought-related ordinances		Apr 2020	
Management Supply Strategies and Water Supply options	Continue participation in the CBT carryover program	Town budgets funds to do this annually	On-going	Community Resources
	Communicate with lessees about future lease back options in times of severe drought	Contact lessees prior to April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Prior to start of each irrigation season	Community Resources
	Develop plan for future interconnects	Left Hand Water District has existing interconnections with Central Weld's system	Existing	Engineering Dept.
Audits of water distribution system	Conducted annually	See Water Conservation Plan for more detail	On-going	Public Works Dept.
Repair of leaks	As-needed			
Monitoring and replacement of inaccurate meters	Conducted annually			
Conservation Programs	Implemented via Water Conservation Plan	See Water Conservation Plan for more detail	On-going	Community Resources
Irrigation Audits on Town Parks	Inspection of sprinkler heads	Parks Dept. staff will inspect and replace broken sprinkler heads daily during the irrigation season	On-going	Parks Dept.
	Convert areas to xeriscape	Parks staff will evaluate on an annual basis the areas that may be converted to Xeriscape		
Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP)	Obtain funding	Town has changed dedication policy to require new development to dedicate 75% water and 25% cash (to be used toward NISP)	On-going	Community Resources

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Mitigation	Implementation Activity	Steps for Implementation	Milestone Deadline	Administration
Planning and Land-Use Policies and Regulations	Evaluate planning and land-use policies and regulations and implement water saving policies and regulations (currently updating landscape codes)	Planning and Development Department Staff will evaluate, on an annual basis, water saving policies and regulations	On-going	Planning and Development
Regional Water Treatment Plant	Joint water treatment plant is in the design phase	A consultant has been hired to design water treatment plant located in the Saint Vrain Basin	On-going	Community Resources

**Table 2. Steps for Drought Declaration**



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There are some major revisions to the existing project schedule which is provided in **Table 3**. The major obstacle encountered in the planning process has been the Covid-19 pandemic which has delayed this project. Firestone had to shift its staff resources to more pressing concerns in the Town in 2020. The staff is currently reviewing a draft of the Plan and will provide comments to CWS. After staff comments are incorporated into the Plan, the Town Board will review the Plan and provide comments. After the Town Board's comments are incorporated into the plan, the 60-day public review process will begin.

**Table 3. DMP Update timeline.**

Task	Date
CWCB approves grant and PO issued	11/27/2019
Kick-Off Meeting with staff	2/11/2019
Drought Planning Committee Meeting #1	6/5/2019
Submit 25% progress report to CWCB	8/6/2019
Drought Planning Committee Meeting #2	7/17/2019
Submit 50% progress report to CWCB	8/6/2019
Drought Planning Committee Meeting #3	8/19/2019
Submit draft plan to staff for review and comment	12/3/2019
Submit 75% progress report to CWCB	6/15/2020
Present draft report at Town Board Meeting	8/12/2020
Notify public of draft plan in paper and website	8/14/2020
Public review period (60 days) end date	10/14/2020
Town Board formally adopts final report	11/11/2020
CWS submits final report to CWCB	11/16/2020
CWCB approves final report	up to 90 days

*Note: proposed dates are in blue.*