

Gene Tautges, President/Chairman
Alex Boehmer, Vice President/Treasurer
Bill Hudson, Secretary



Glenn Walsh, Director
Bruce Jones, Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Josh Pike, Bill Hudson
FROM: Justin O. Ramsey, PE
CC: Andrew Connor, Cyndi Foster, Justin Stone, Renee Lewis, Kyle Tjelmeland
DATE: May 4, 2026
RE: Drought Update

Below is the PAWSD Drought Stage Trigger worksheet.

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District
Drought Stage Trigger Points
Data Entry Sheet

Today's Date	:	5/4/2026
Date of SWE at 0"	:	4/22/2026
Four Mile Call:	:	4/23/2026
Early Drought Stage	=	Stage 1

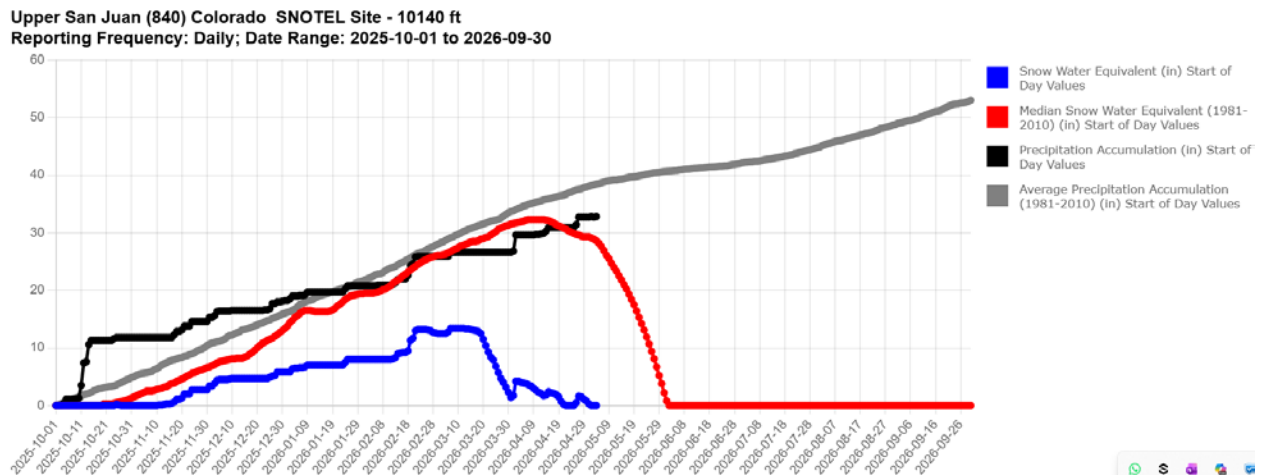
Hatcher Reservoir Level	:	7,739.32	Feet
San Juan River Flow	:	380.0	CFS
CO Drought Monitor	:	D2	

The Snow Water Equivalency (SWE) dropped back to zero.

Hatcher reservoir and the flow in the San Juan River are holding constant. The National Integrated Drought Information System has placed our area into a Severe Drought (reducing it from Extreme Drought). The District will remain in Drought Stage 1. Stage 1 limits irrigation between the hours

of 6:00 PM and 9:00 AM and a tier rate multiplier will be applied to flows above 5,000 gallons of water per billing cycle for residential users.

In our area, it's most effective to irrigate between evening and early morning because the cooler, calmer conditions allow water to soak into the soil instead of being lost to the sun and wind. During the day, high temperatures, low humidity, and frequent afternoon winds drive up Evapotranspiration, meaning much of the sprayed water evaporates or drifts away before it can benefit plants. By irrigating from about 6 PM to 9 AM, more water reaches the root zone, coverage is more uniform, and plants are better able to absorb moisture, making the process both more efficient and healthier for vegetation.



The District greatly appreciates everyone's continued diligence in conserving water. If you have any questions regarding the current Drought Management Plan, it can be found on the website at <https://www.pawsd.org/water-service/water-conservation/>