

Governor Scott Walker issued a state of emergency in 42 central and southern counties which had either had abnormally dry or moderate drought conditions as of last week. Donna Gilson with the state's department of ag, trade and consumer protection.

It has not rained very much in this territory this summer, if at all. And Walker's order allows farmers to get faster approval of permits to divert water from streams and lakes. It includes La Crosse, Monroe, Jackson, Vernon and Trempealeau counties.