

## Jennifer Craddock Joins WRRI as Program Coordinator



*Jennifer Craddock, WRRI Program Coordinator*

Jennifer Craddock has joined WRRI as program coordinator as of June 13, 2005. This position was previously held by Angela Morgan who is now pursuing education opportunities at Meredith College.

Jennifer brings to WRRI four years of administrative experience. She earned a B.A. from UNC Asheville. While attending college, she served as office manager and special assistant to the president for the Student Government Association. She also participated in an internship in the Office of Student Life where she planned and funded student events as well as helped students form organizations. At NC State University, Jennifer worked as both a faculty secretary and contracts and grants manager/research facilitator for the Computer Science Department in the College of Engineering. She interacted on a daily basis with professors and administered pre- and post-award contracts and grants.

In her new role as the WRRI program coordinator, Jennifer maintains the institute schedule for the annual call for proposals, the peer review process, the technical review process, and the report publishing process. The experience of processing proposals as a previous employee at NC State serves Jennifer well as she administers the official contract and grant files for WRRI.

Jennifer provides administrative support to the WRRI director and other staff members. She helps the WRRI staff stay informed of schedules, task priorities, and upcoming event information. Since Jennifer oversees registration and other logistics of WRRI workshops, conferences and seminars, she is one of the first people you will see if you attend one of these events.

If you would like to welcome her or have questions for her, Jennifer may be reached at [jennifer\\_craddock@ncsu.edu](mailto:jennifer_craddock@ncsu.edu) or (919)515-2815.

## Overview of NC Drought Management Advisory Council Annual Meeting

*by Woody Yonts, water resource engineer, NC DENR Division of Water Resources*

Twenty-nine participants were represented from various agencies at the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council's Annual Meeting on April 27, 2005, at the Archdale Building in Raleigh, NC. The purposes of the council (NC General Statute 143 355.1) are:

- To improve coordination among local, state, and federal agencies; public water systems, as defined in G.S. 130A 313(10); and water users to improve the management and mitigation of the harmful effects of drought.
- To provide consistent and accurate information to the public about drought conditions.

Items on the meeting agenda included assessment and forecast reports about the climate and outlook for summer 2005; stream-flow and ground water levels; lake and reservoir levels; agriculture; forestry; public water systems; and the latest from the Drought Advisory Study Team.

Water resources in the state were near at normal levels for this time of the year. Climate outlook has little guidance for summer because forecast models do not give much guidance during summer months. There are no signs as to whether there will be an active tropical storm season. Many water systems were reported as having completed or near completion of water supply improvements that will help alleviate drought.

The Council made the following recommendations:

- The Drought Advisory Study Team will continue to develop and refine the methodology to depict water supply drought conditions in North Carolina. This system will allow the council to make decisions based on the best information available and issue drought warnings to individual water suppliers or to a region.
- The North Carolina Crop Weather weekly reports, <http://www.ncagr.com/stats/cropweat/>, by the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services should be a resource for depicting agriculture drought.
- The current Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI), [http://www.dfr.state.nc.us/fire\\_control/kbdi.htm](http://www.dfr.state.nc.us/fire_control/kbdi.htm), that is reported weekly by the NC Division of Forest Resources was considered the drought index for forest resources.
- The US Drought Monitor, <http://drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>, will be the reference for broad scale conditions.

More information: <http://www.ncwater.org/drought/>