State of Maine
Drought Task Force
Report on Current Drought Conditions
November 6, 2025

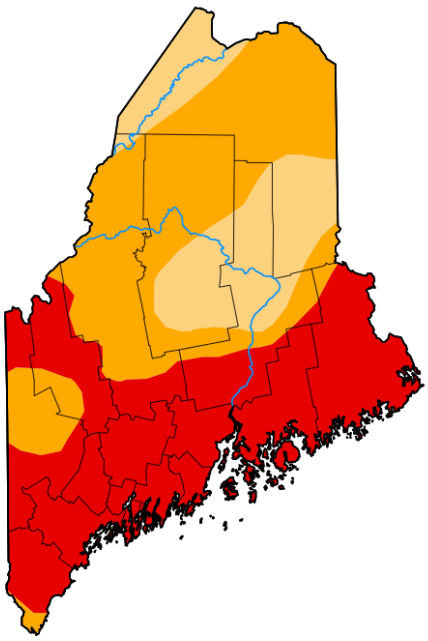
Drought conditions have worsened across all of Maine from June to November 2025. This report serves to inform Drought Task Force members and the public of current drought conditions, reservoir levels, precipitation, temperature forecasts, drinking water impacts, wildfire risk, environmental and agricultural impacts, and the online resources used to monitor these conditions.

Overview

- The **U.S. Drought Monitor** reports 0% of the state is Abnormally Dry (D0), 18.96% is in Moderate Drought (D1), 38.31% is in Severe Drought (D2), and 42.72% is in Extreme Drought (D3) by area.
- All of Maine's population resides in at least moderate drought conditions.
- There are indications of recovery with improved surface water conditions, yet groundwater levels lag far behind.
- It is likely that precipitation will fall short of eliminating drought conditions prior to the winter freeze. The region is likely to maintain some state of drought through winter.
- Roughly one-third of streamgages report normal flow conditions with the remaining gages reporting below to much below normal flows, and one gage at its lowest recorded level for the time of year. One-quarter of all measured groundwater levels are normal for the time of year, with the rest ranging from below normal to the lowest recorded level for the time of year.
- Loss of foliage through natural loss or result of drought-stressed trees, and the potential for early frosts may lead to an active fall wildfire season.

***Access Drought Task Force reports here*: www.maine.gov/mema/hazards/drought-task-force**. This report summarizes information presented by Task Force members on current hydrologic and drought conditions as of this date. Task Force partners will report any drought-related impacts for which they are notified.

U.S. Drought Monitor Brief



Map released: Thurs. November 6, 2025
Data valid: November 4, 2025 at 7 a.m. EST

Intensity
- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

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The US Drought Monitor is a tool sustained by the National Weather Service with the data/modeling support services of the Environmental Prediction Center and the Climate Prediction Center (all housed under NOAA). The US Drought Monitor is a tool that offers an overview of broad scale conditions across every state and territory in the US, with categories of drought and their corresponding historically impacts laid out from D0 (abnormally dry) to D4 (exceptional drought). This map is updated weekly, every Thursday morning with the latest conditions exemplified on the screen. This map and the associated statistics are what USGS and the state of Maine reference in determining if thresholds for the activation of the Drought Task Force have been met.

Maine experienced a rapid onset of drought through July and into August with many drought impacts apparent by early August. MEMA and USGS determined that the increased drought impact reports and rapid increase in Drought Monitor D1 and D2 areas met the “Warning” trigger level of the State’s Incident Annex, requiring activation of the Drought Task Force. The Drought Task Force has been activated for 2025 drought conditions since September 4, 2025. The Drought Task Force ensures unified situational awareness and messaging across all members.

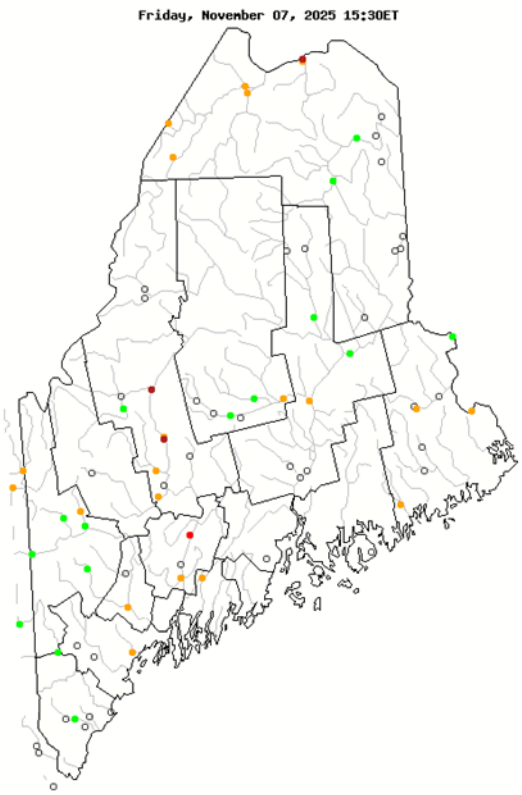
Current Hydrologic Conditions

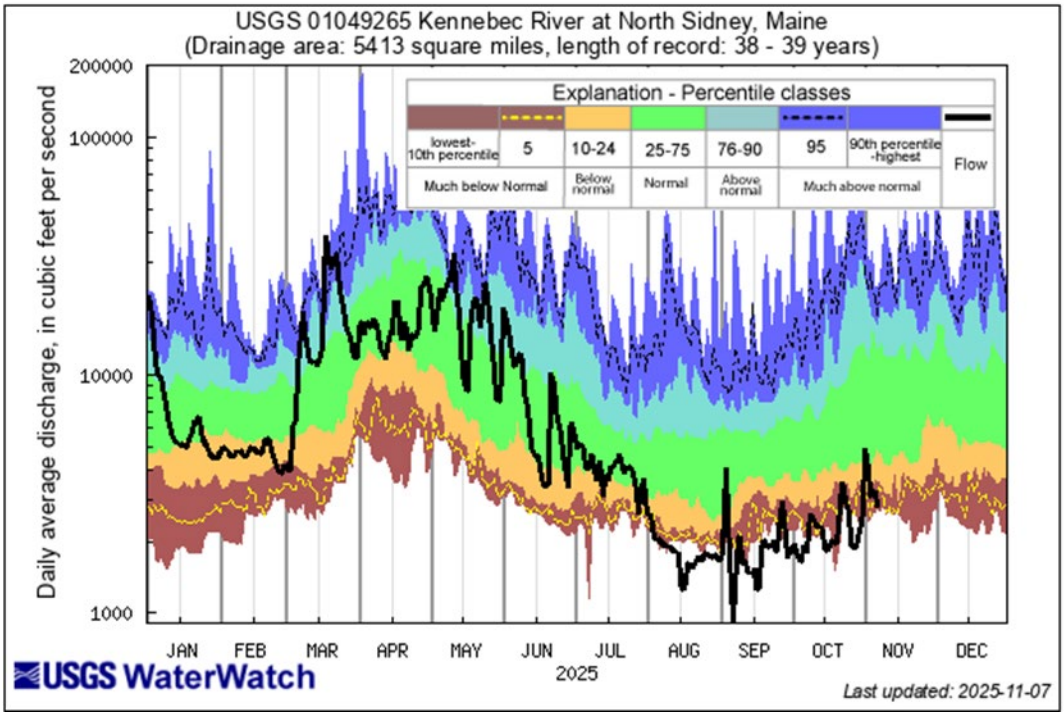
Stream Flows

---Interpretation of USGS streamgages is limited during the 2025 Federal Government Shutdown---

One streamgage site is at the lowest ever recorded discharge for the time of year, with an additional five much below (lowest 5th percentile) average flows for the time of year. Fourteen streamgages are reporting normal flows across the state, representing an overall improvement in hydrologic drought conditions.

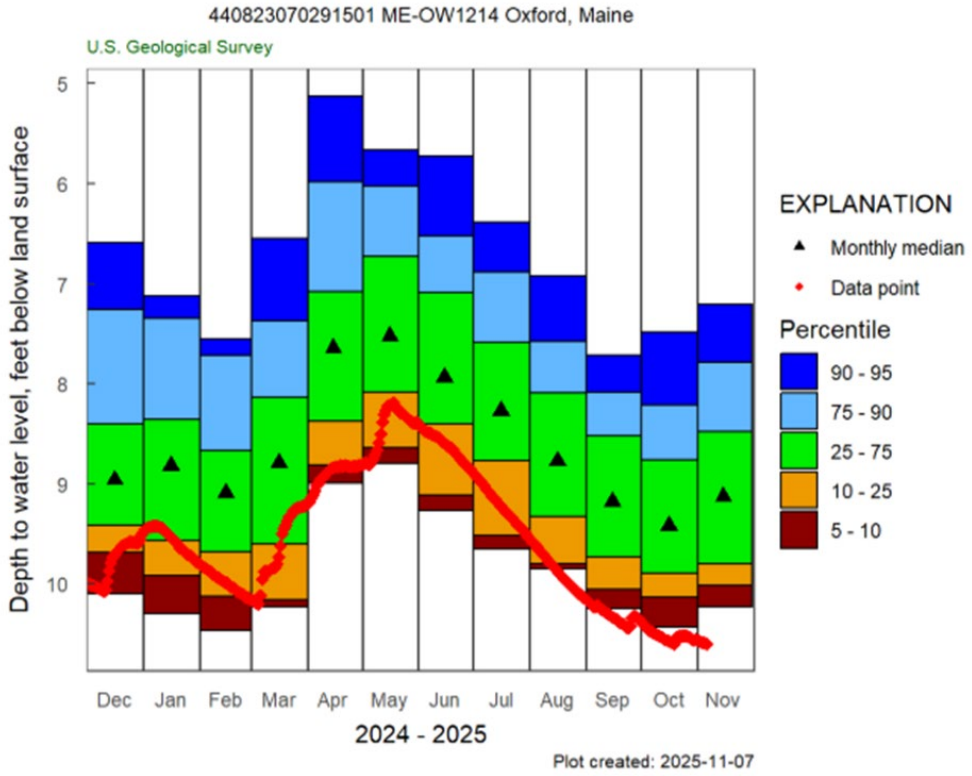
Kennebec River at North Sidney, Maine – 01049265 is the only streamgage that remains at the lowest flow for the time of year, located in an Extreme Drought (D3) district. Conditions at the North Sidney gage have persisted at low to much below normal discharge since the start of August this year.



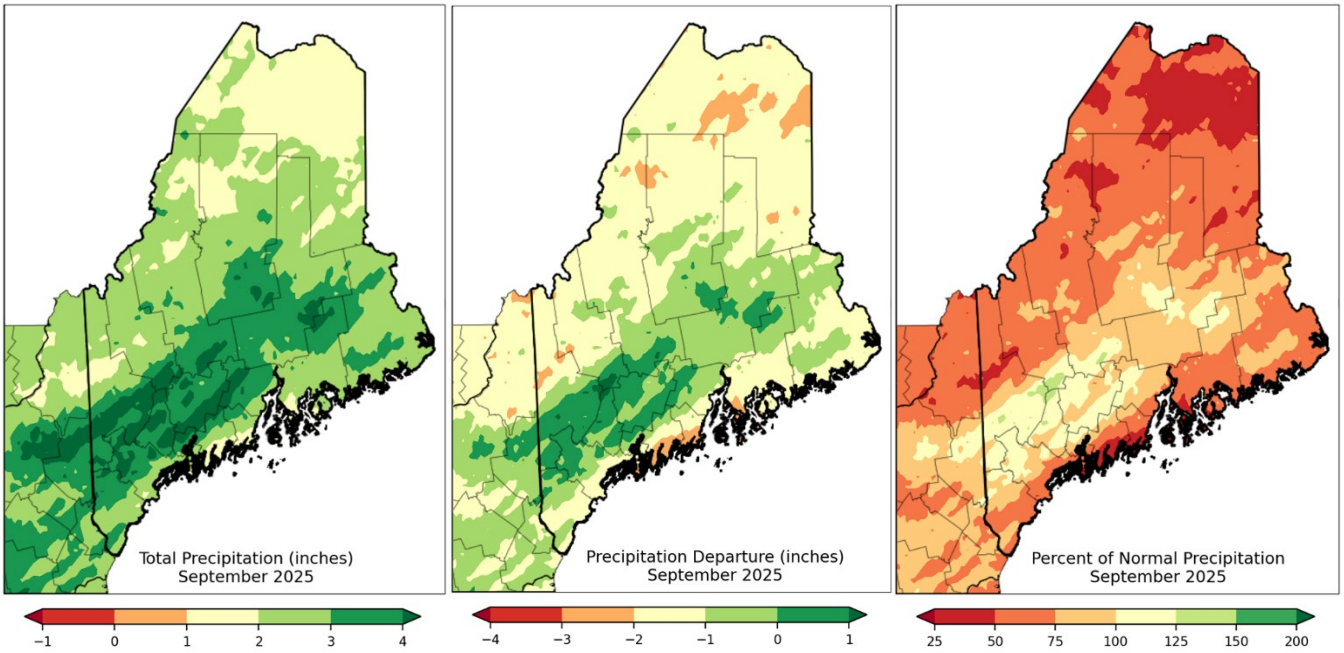


Ground Water

Four groundwater well stations have below 5th percentile water level ever for the time of year, and a further eight stations are experiencing below (below 25th percentile) to much below (below 10th percentile) normal levels for the time of year. Four stations report normal water levels for the time of year, three of which are clustered in the Lewiston-Augusta/Brunswick area and one located in Fort Kent. Station ME-OW1214 Oxford, Maine – 440823070291501 has exhibited low groundwater levels since mid-August 2025 with a steady decline other than a few small post-rainfall recharge events. Overall, there has been insufficient precipitation to relieve drought effects to groundwater in this area.

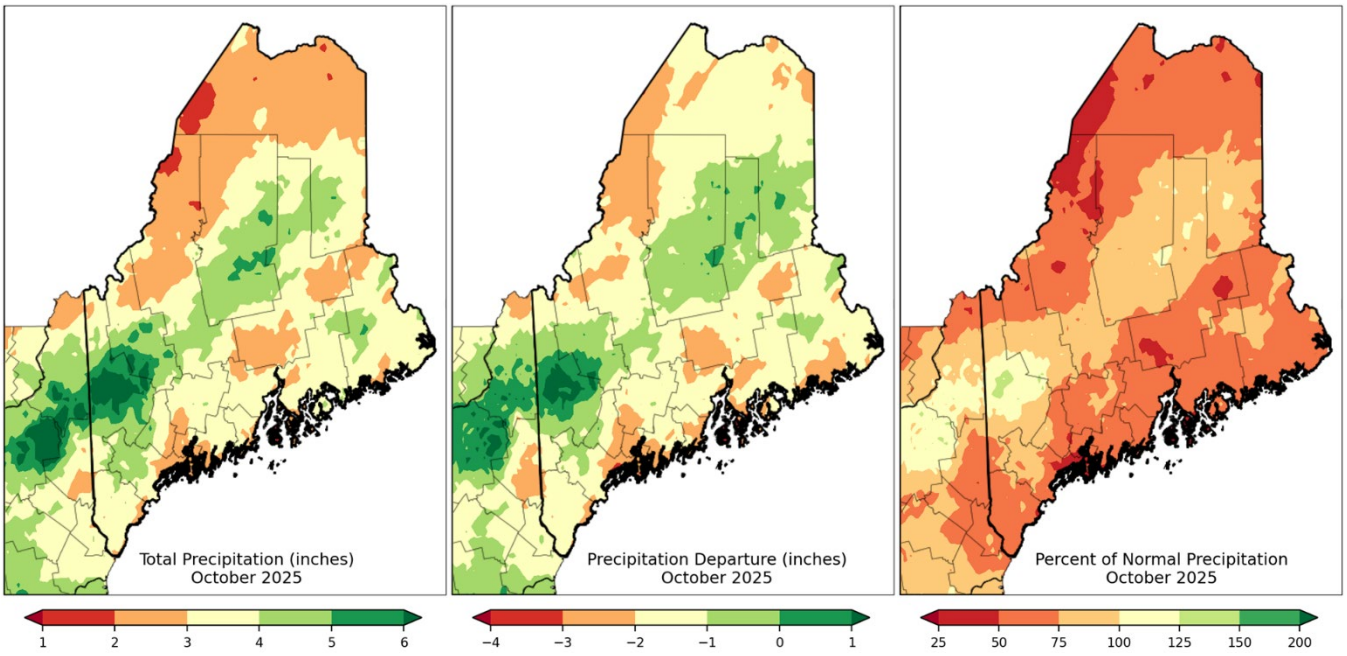


Weather Review and Outlook



September Summary

Beneficial rainfall bookended the beginning and again at the end of September, but both events were insufficient to slow expanding drought conditions due to an extended dry and warm spell in between. Warm, windy, and low humidity conditions were more dominant than the few rain events, leading to a net effect of expanding drought conditions. The rain that had fallen was rapidly depleted either by vegetation, runoff, or evaporation. The monthly total precipitation was highest in the Oxford Hills region where drought conditions were harshest, while northern Maine saw the least amount of precipitation with most areas reporting a little more than an inch. This allowed expanding drought conditions into the north woods and The County. Precipitation anomalies were near normal for central Maine, but otherwise fell below normal for the rest of the region for September. This was also the first time northern Maine saw the lowest precipitation amounts since the beginning of the drought.



October Summary

In October 2025, Maine's drought persisted, shifting into a groundwater and surface water drought despite some rainfall providing limited relief. The overall atmospheric pattern was not conducive to drought-busting conditions, and existing deficits were compounded. Drought intensified the first week of October driven by record warmth and an extended dry spell. Maine did receive some beneficial rainfall in the mountains on the 8th, between 0.5-1.5”, but otherwise the first few weeks were dominated by high pressure and low humidity through the 19th. Heavy rain moved in across the Western Maine Mountains around the 20-21st, bringing 1-3” to some areas, while the rest of the state was generally a half inch or less. An active pattern continued through the end of the month, ending with some heavy rainfall on the 30-31st. The rain over the last week of October resulted in improved streamflow and soil moisture conditions, though the *lagging groundwater recharge* allowed for some expanding drought conditions across northern and southern Maine.

Temperatures and Evaporation

Excessive evaporation between summer into fall was a main driver of the 2025 drought, as impactful as precipitation deficits. For September and October, temperatures were above normal at all climate sites, with average temperatures generally 1-4 degrees above climatological normal. Above normal temperatures in September combined with a stretch of 14-17 days of no rainfall in the middle of the month led to above normal evaporation across the region. Monthly maximum temperatures were significantly above average for October, generally 3-5 degrees above climatological normal. Evaporation rates were likewise well above normal for the first three weeks of October due to low humidity and windy conditions, and record high temperatures observed on the 5-7th. A change in the weather pattern in late October favored cooler temperatures and higher humidity, greatly reducing evaporation. Another significant factor in the drop in evaporation rates was the reduction in solar radiation due to the changing of the seasons.

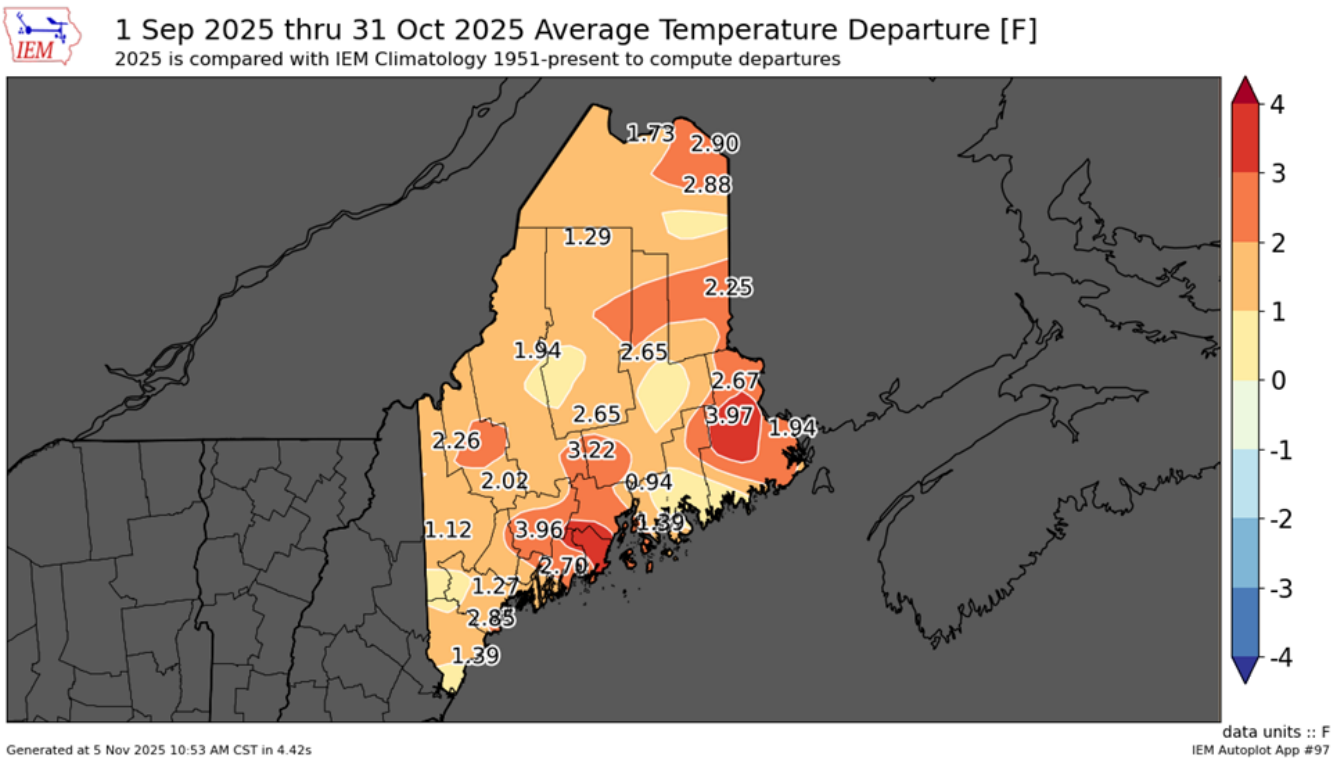
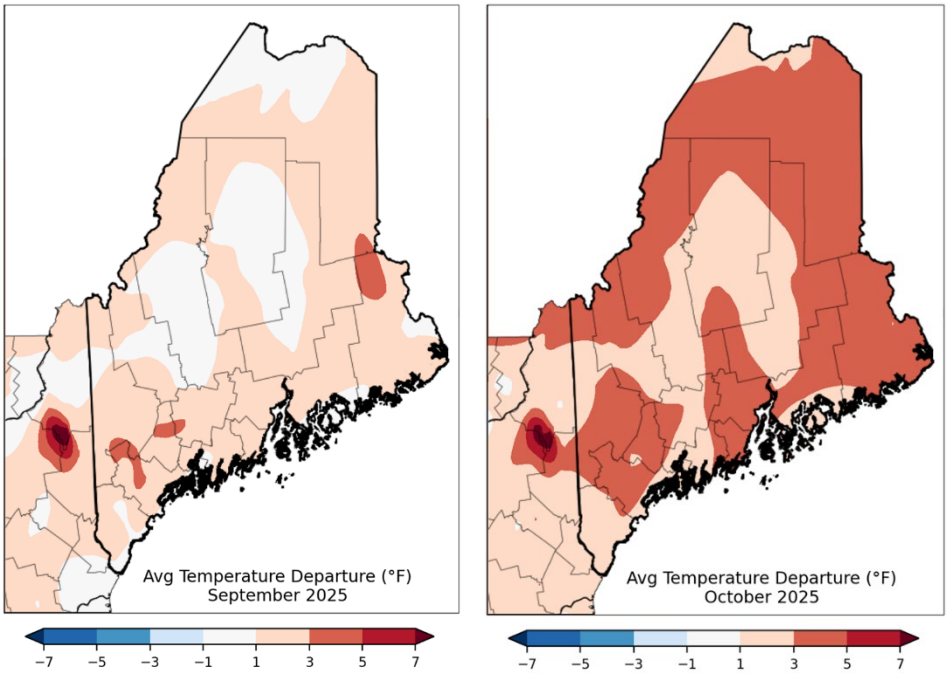
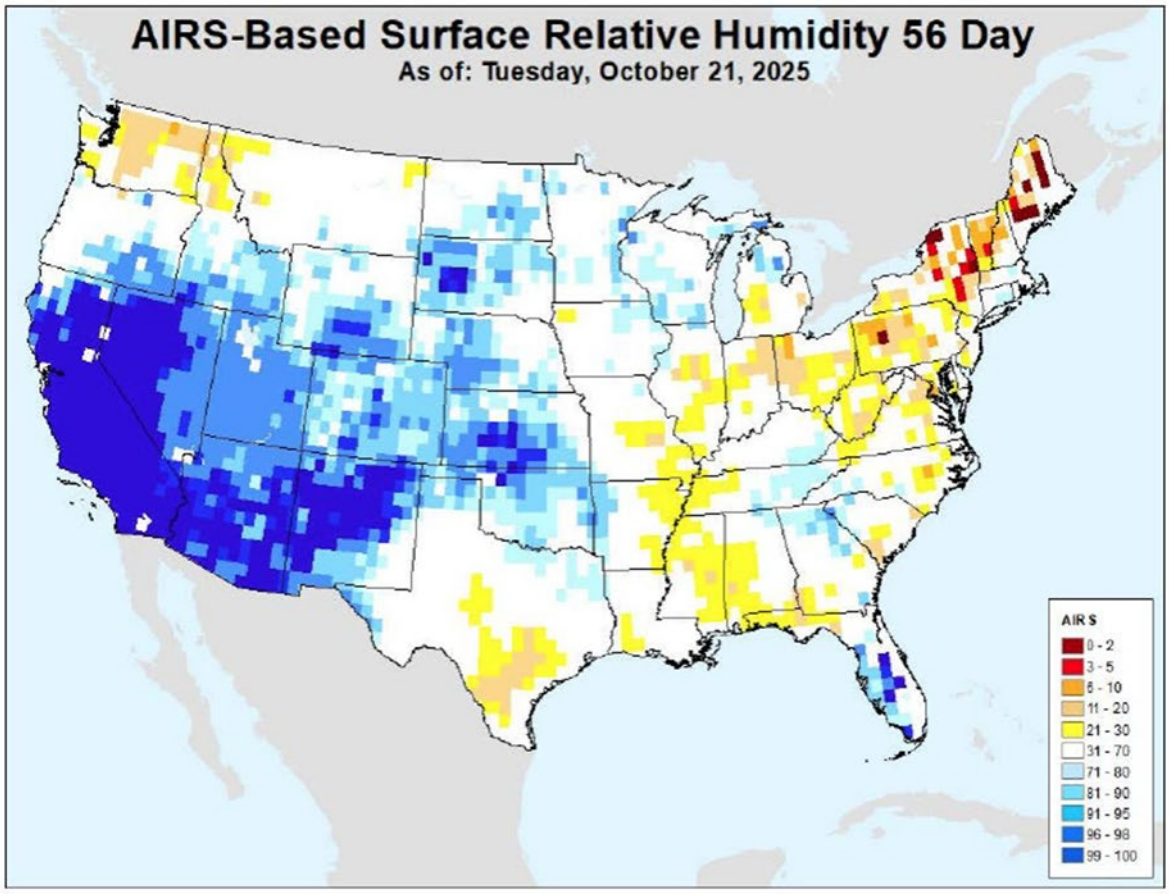


Image: Average temperature departures for September and October 2025 showing a 1 to 4 degrees above normal statewide.



Evaporative Demand Drought Index (EDDI): EDDI is a drought monitoring tool that shows the anomaly in daily evaporative demand over a given period of time. Unusually high evaporative demand can lead to moisture stress on the land surface, and ultimately to drought—even when precipitation has been near-normal. Source National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Earth System Research Laboratories (ESRL) Physical Sciences Laboratory (PSL).



Anomaly plot of 56-day-averaged CONUS Surface Relative Humidity for 56 days ending Oct 21, 2025 source Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS) onboard NASA's Aqua satellite

Satellite data from AIRS used to estimate CONUS relative humidity anomalies over the last 56 days
The final integrated AIRS data often, but not always, follows these drought regimes:
D0: Abnormally dry (yellow)
D1: Moderate drought (tan)
D2: Severe drought (orange)
D3: Extreme drought (red)
D4: Exceptional drought (brown)

Soil Moisture

NASA's Short-term Prediction and Transition Center – Land Information System (SPoRT-LIS) provides high-resolution (about 3-km) gridded soil moisture products in real-time to support regional and local modeling and improve situational awareness.

Soil moisture deficits grew over the course of the summer and fall, reaching minimum values across Maine around October 20th based on SPoRT Satellite Data estimates between the surface and 6.5 ft (0-200 cm) as seen below. The time series of these same soil moisture percentiles taken at the beginning of each month from August through November show the worsening conditions from summer into fall, with improvements at the onset of November. The improvements were due to late October rains and reduced water withdrawals from vegetation at the end of the growing season. Improvements in soil moisture are a prime indicator of improving drought conditions, as it allows more water to recharge aquifers.

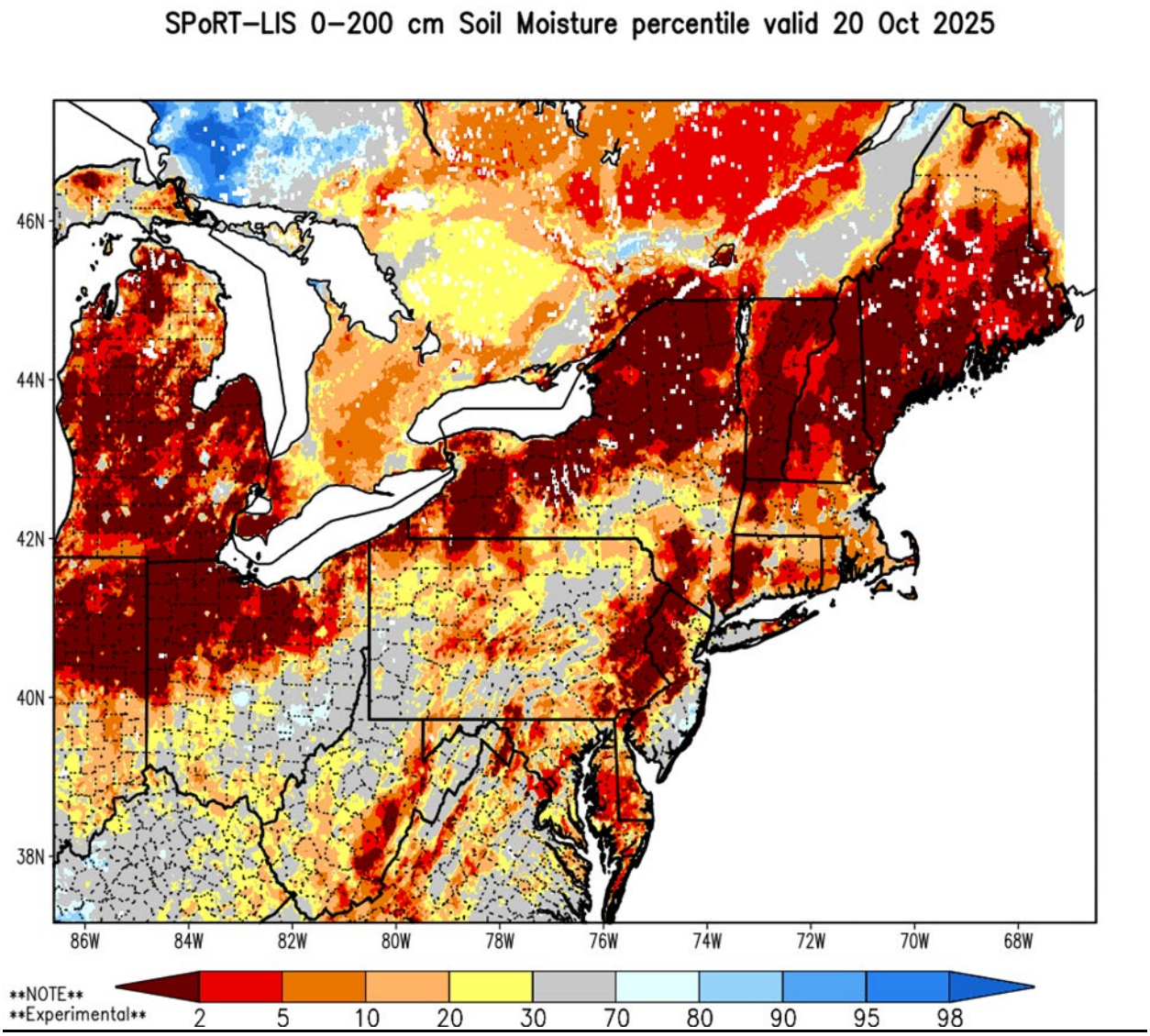


Image: Soil moisture depletion at its peak around Oct 20 2025 across Maine based on analysis of NASA SPoRT-LIS 0-200 cm percentiles

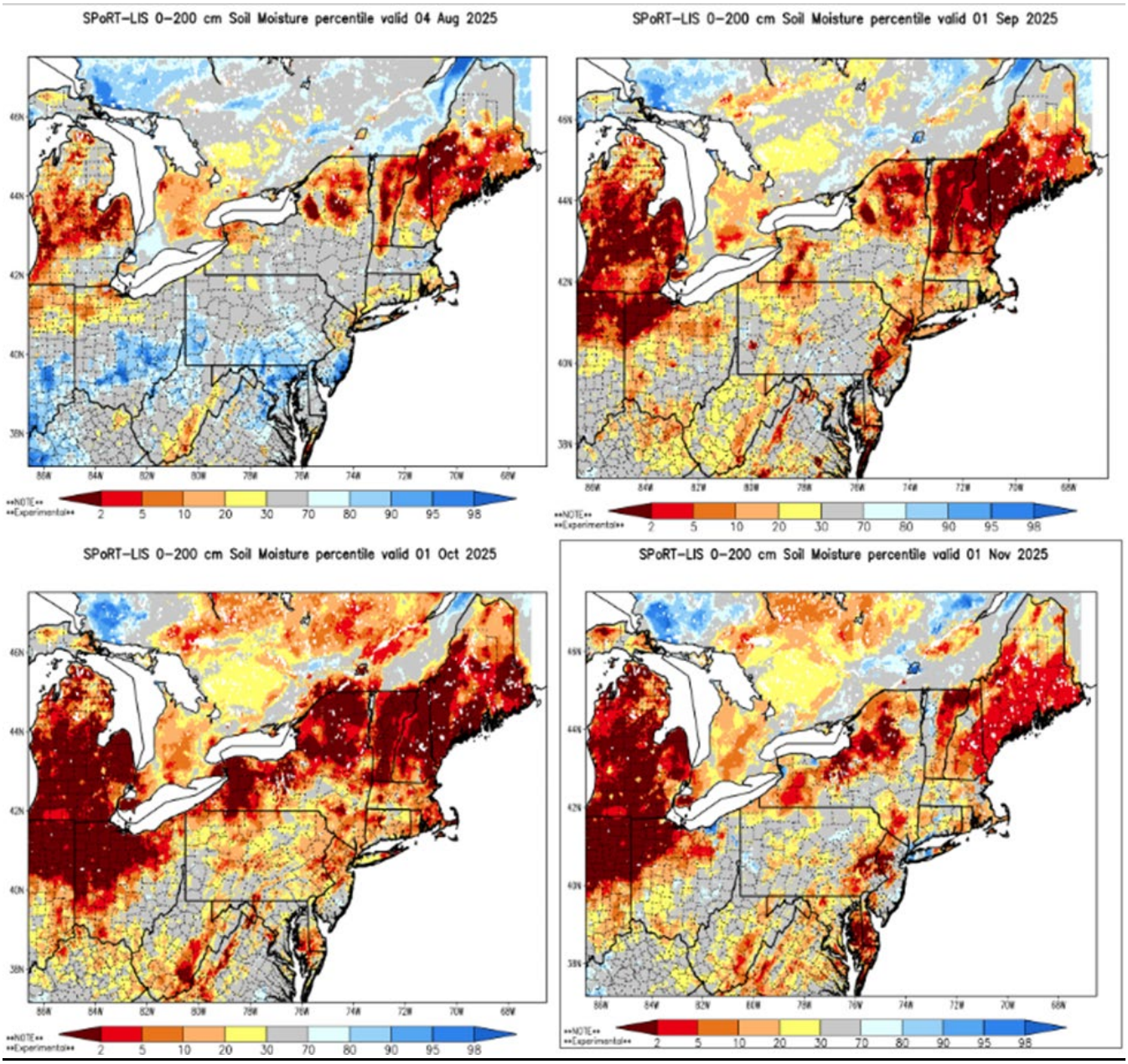
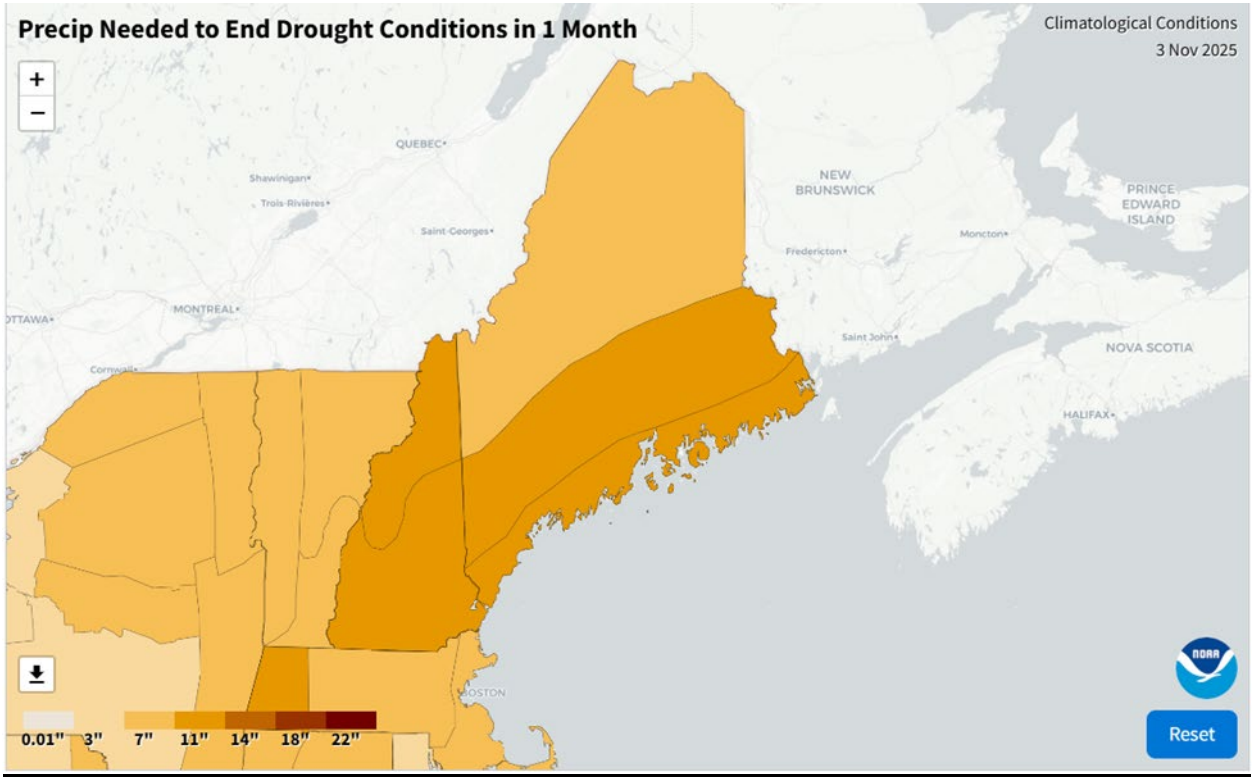


Image: NASA SPoRT-LIS 0-200 cm soil moisture percentiles at the beginning of August, September, October, and November of 2025

Rainfall Needed to "end the drought"

The precipitation needed to improve drought conditions will need to account for the precipitation deficits and evaporative losses occurred over the summer and fall, equating between 9 and 13 inches locally. Once frozen, precipitation that would normally replenish groundwater won't soak in, leaving wells and aquifers with little recovery until the spring thaw. Steady, light-rain events with high absorption rates are ideal. November and December average around 5" of precipitation each month, meaning the area needs around 150% of rainfall to see full recovery. Ground frost can start as early as mid-November in the North and higher elevations, and mid to late December in southern areas on average, with a long cold snap often necessary to make depths over 4". It is possible that the recharge window could stay open into early January if temperatures remain above normal.



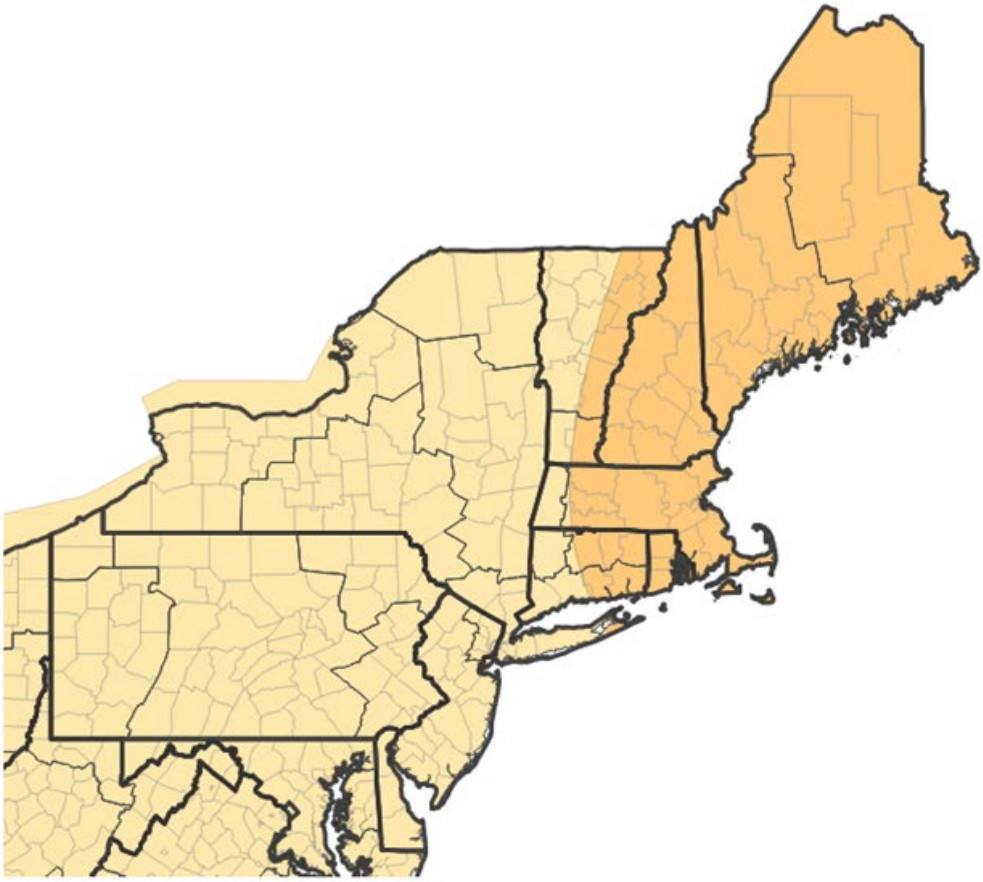
Looking Ahead

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) outlooks through mid November favor below normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. The seasonal outlooks for November through January favor above normal temperatures, which could help keep the groundwater recharge window open longer than average. The outlooks also suggest no strong signals for above, below, or normal precipitation through January. CPC's seasonal outlooks favor drought persistence through January.

The winter outlooks issued are weighed heavily by the emerging La Nina conditions in the equatorial Pacific. The local influence of La Nina on winter patterns is a split storm track over New England. Past La Nina years have resulted in both above and below normal precipitation and snowpacks, and often accompanied by wild temperature swings. Other global indicators suggest some similarities between this year and the winter of 2017-2018. That winter was an active year for nor'easters and known for large temperature swings.

It is likely that precipitation will fall short of eliminating drought conditions prior to the winter freeze. The region is likely to maintain some state of drought through winter.

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for November 1, 2025–January 31, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures

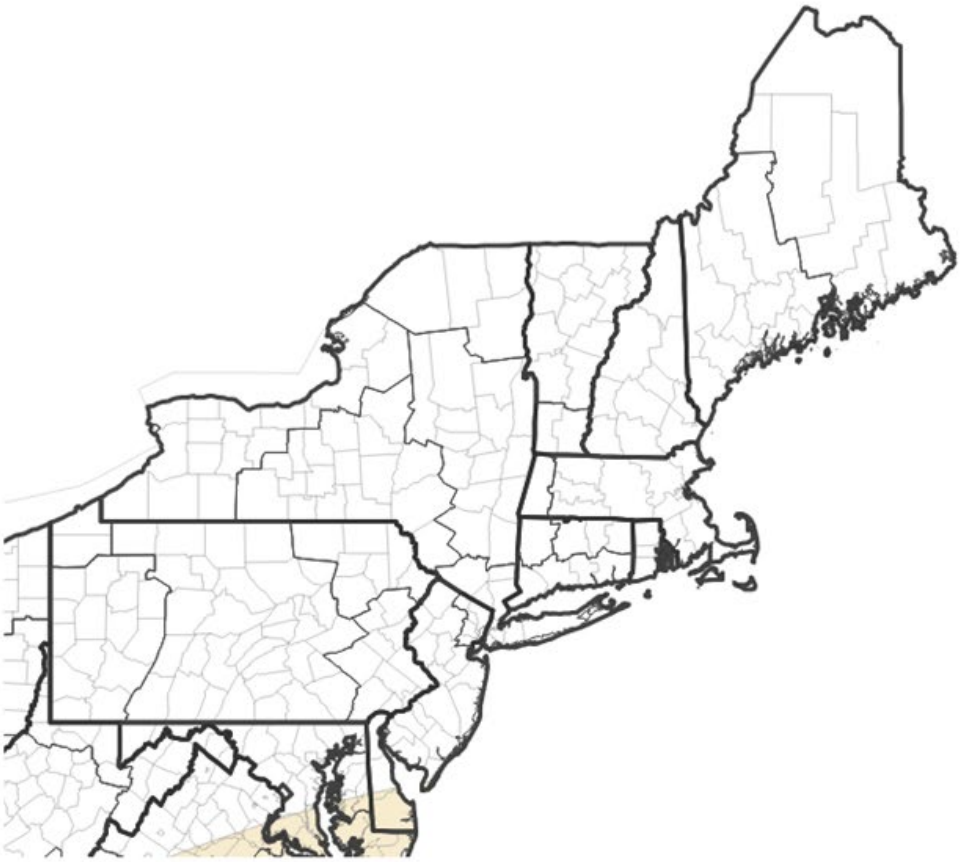
33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures

33% 40% 50%

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/16/25

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for November 1, 2025–January 31, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation

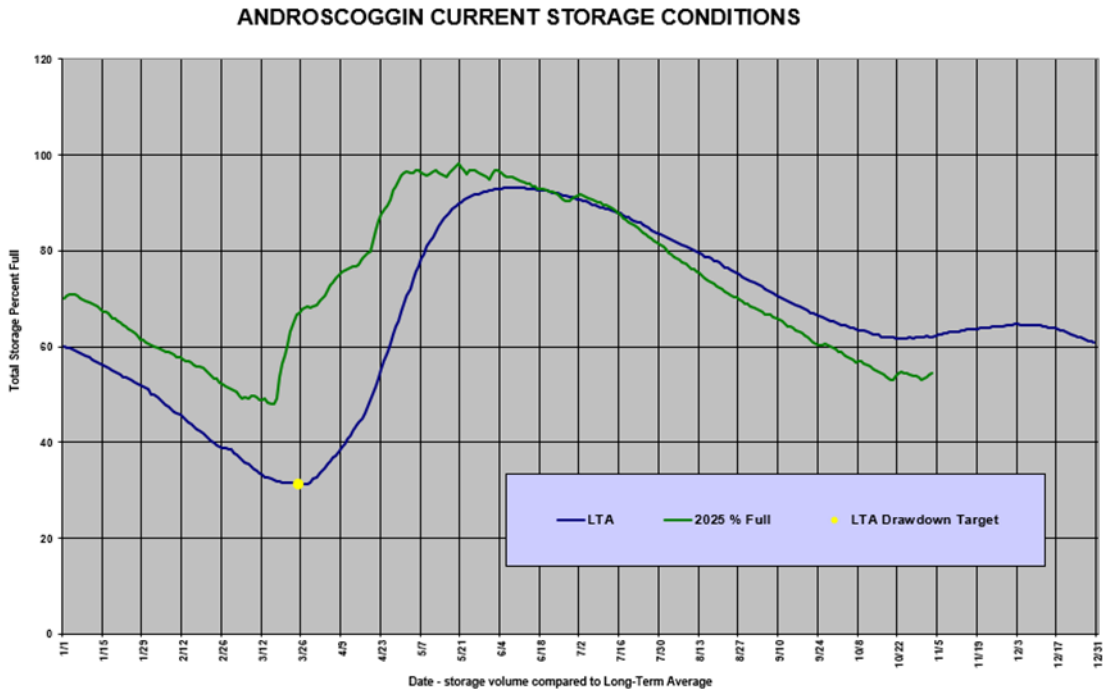
33% 40% 50%

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/16/25

Headwater Storage Levels

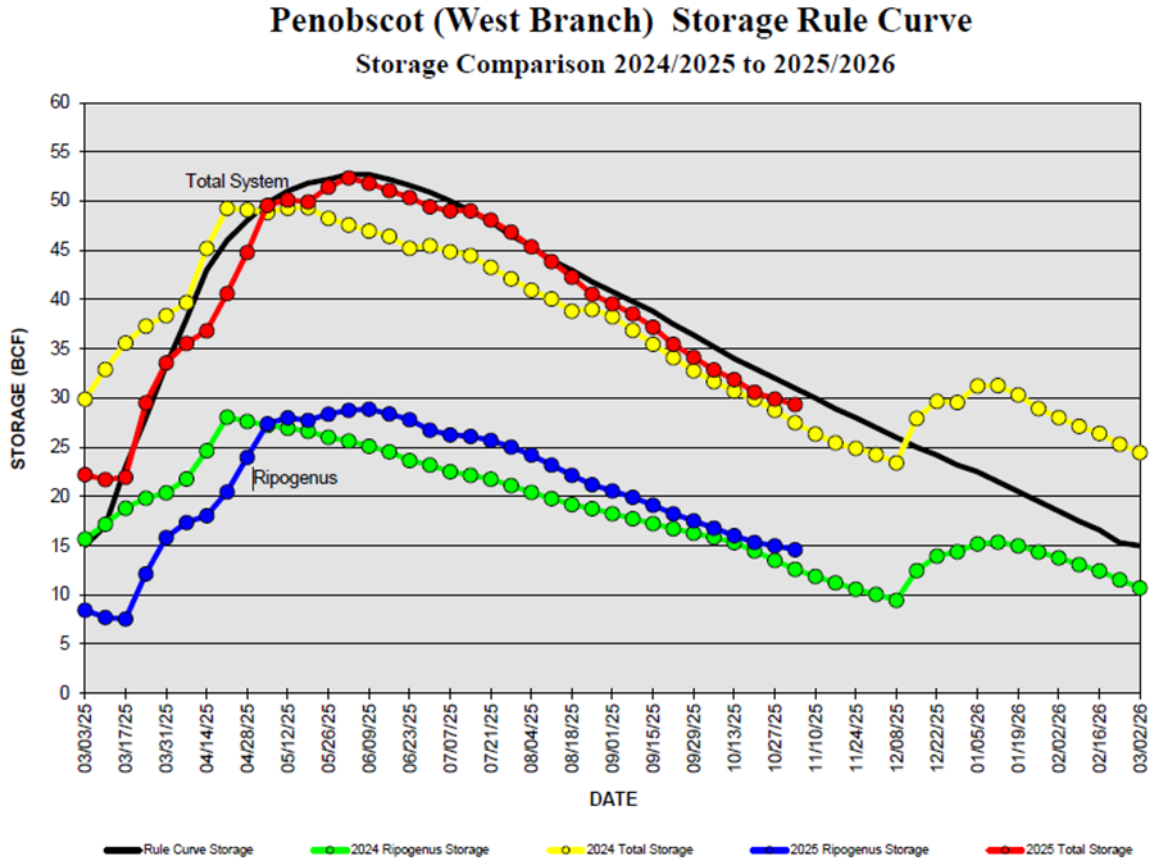
- **Presumpscot River:** Sebago Lake's Water Quality Certification requires a target water level range of 262.0-266.65 feet, and the lake currently reads at 263.19 feet. Total outflow from Sebago Lake is 270+ cfs with 125+ cfs allocated to the bypass reach.

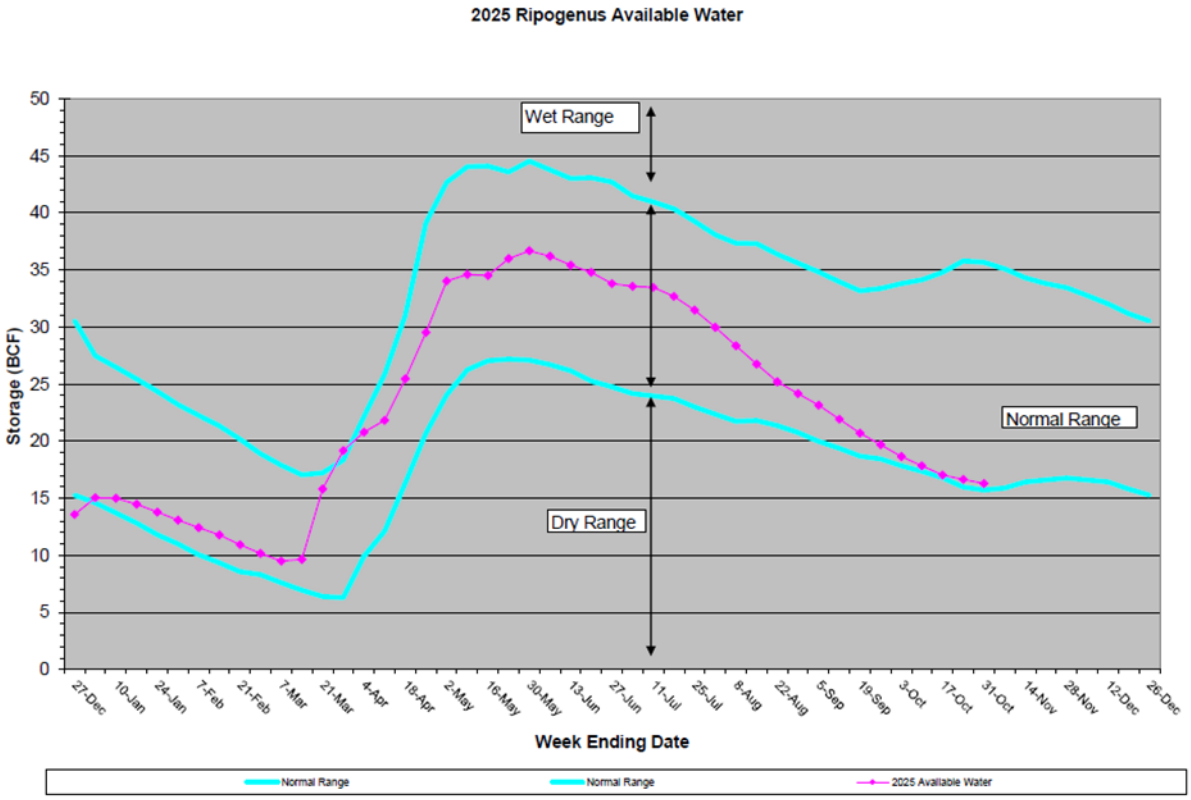
- **Androscoggin River:** Storage is 54.4% full, 7.6% below the long-term average.
  - Rangeley Lake is down 1.3 feet with an outflow of 20 cfs
  - Mooselookmeguntic is down 7.5 feet with an outflow of 500 cfs
  - Richardson is down 5.1 feet with an outflow of 500 cfs
  - Azizcohos is down 16.6 feet with an outflow of 325 cfs
  - Errol is down 2.4 feet with an outflow of 1000 cfs.
  - River flows remain stable while discharging 1,450 cfs at Gorham and 5,850 cfs at Auburn. River flows at Rumford is reading 2,700 cfs and falling.



- **Kennebec River:** Kennebec River Storage is 61.4% full, 0.6% above the long-term average.
  - River flow at Solon is set at 1,500 cfs
  - River flow at Madison is at 1,800 cfs
  - River flow at Weston is at 2,000 cfs.
  - Brassua Lake is down 7.6 feet and has an outflow of 450 cfs
  - Moosehead Lake is down 3.2 feet and has an outflow of 1,200 cfs
  - Flagstaff Lake is down 5 feet and has an outflow of 300 cfs

- **Penobscot River:** The Penobscot River is 52.3% full, 3% below the long-term average. The drought status is D2-Severe Drought.


Penobscot (West Branch) Storage Rule Curve
Storage Comparison 2024/2025 to 2025/2026
STORAGE (BCF)
DATE
Total System
Ripogenus
Rule Curve Storage
2024 Ripogenus Storage
2024 Total Storage
2025 Ripogenus Storage
2025 Total Storage


2025 Ripogenus Available Water
Storage (BCF)
Wet Range
Normal Range
Dry Range
Week Ending Date
Normal Range
Normal Range
2025 Available Water

- **Union River** – The Union River is 19.9% full, 23.6% below the long-term average. The drought status is D3-Extreme Drought.

- **St. Croix River**: Extreme drought conditions persist; the Grand Falls, Big Lake, Long Lake, Lewie Lake, and West Grand are at or below their fall drawdown target. Operators are doing their best to manage impacts to stream flows and lake levels.

  Overview- Many lakes achieved fall drawdown levels well before normal and continue to struggle with lowering water levels despite recent rain events.

Drought Impact Sectors

Public Water Suppliers

The Maine CDC Drinking Water Program (DWP) has been notified of drought-related water quantity challenges affecting operations in Cumberland, Franklin, Oxford, Penobscot, Somerset, Washington, and York Counties. Although this represents much of the State, the number of customers affected by drought is relatively few given that most of the state is experiencing moderate drought conditions or worse. Many PWSs have made capital improvements over time to improve drought resilience, which contributes to their ability to withstand drought conditions.

Private Well Owners

The DWP Private Well Coordinator offers technical assistance to private well owners. In October 2025, the DWP received 21 calls related to drought impacts on private wells. The DWP has received reports of people obtaining drinking water from springs during the drought. The DWP discourages consumption of water from a spring because springs are more susceptible to microbial contamination than water from a properly installed and maintained drilled well. Even if the water looks clean, bacteria, chemicals, parasites, and/or other contaminants may be present.

Per 38 MRS §570-M, there are very few circumstances in which adding water to a private well in Maine is legally allowed, and the DWP almost never recommends doing so. That's because delivered water is unlikely to solve the problem of a dry well and could damage the well and/or well pump. Particularly during a drought, water delivered into a dry well is likely dissipate into the aquifer and may also introduce new bacteria or other pathogens into the aquifer. As an example, once iron bacteria is introduced into a well it, is difficult (if not impossible) to remove, clogs the well screen and/or the pump, and turns the water reddish-brown.

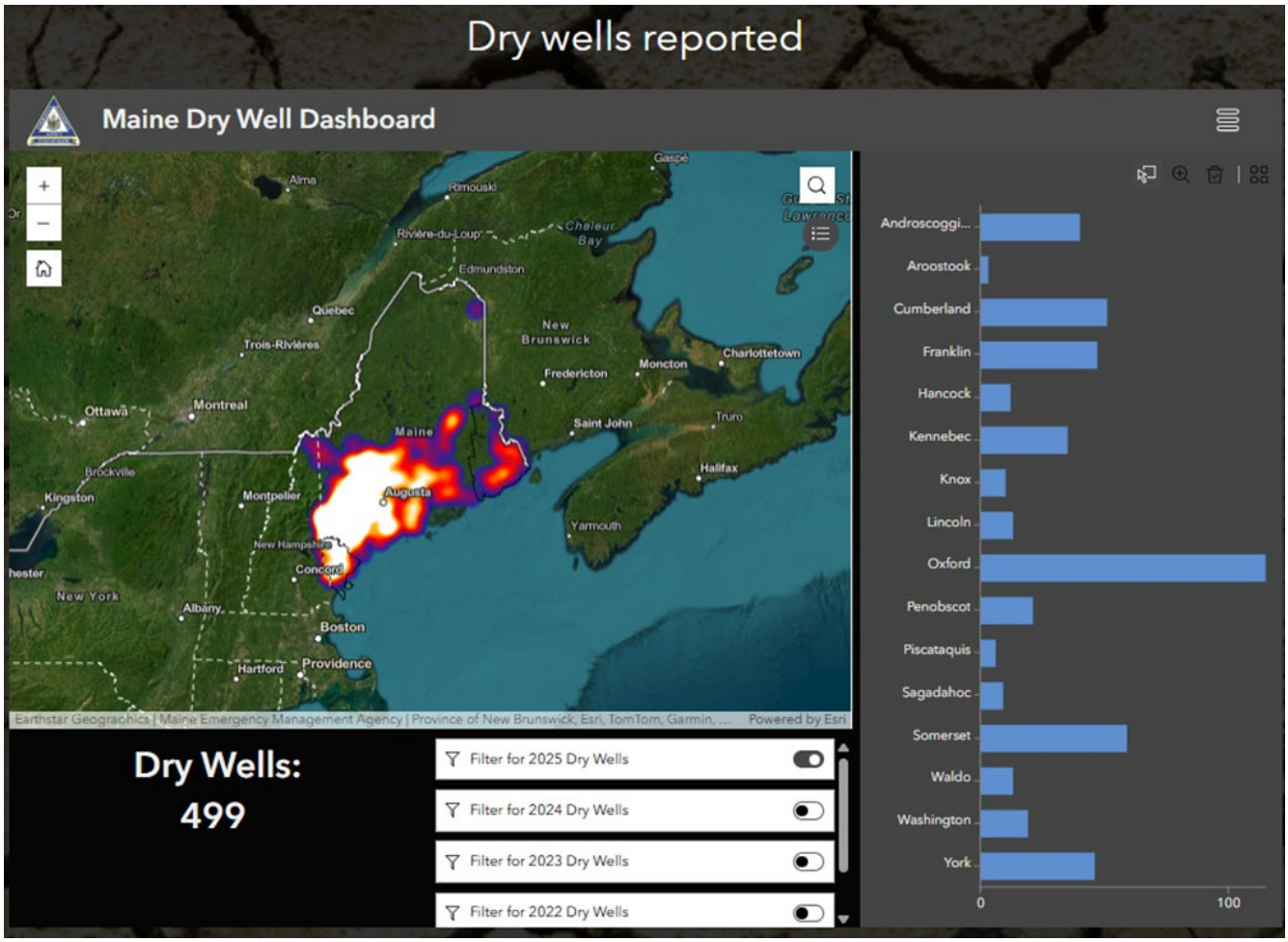
Where to Find Safe Drinking Water

Bottled drinking water is usually available for purchase at your local grocery or big box store. For help locating local community water resources for emergency situations, contact your Town or City municipal office.

The DWP encourages private well owners to report dry wells to the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Dry Well Survey: https://maine-dry-well-survey-maine.hub.arcgis.com/. The Dry Well Survey is completely voluntary and therefore not a complete representation of every dry well across the state. This survey offers decision makers an opportunity to better understand the magnitude and scope of the dry well situation, but any increase in dry well numbers is less a reflection of rapidly changing conditions and more so a reflection of more people becoming aware of the survey and using it to report their own conditions. The survey does not provide information on when dry well issues may be mitigated or no longer remain.

MEMA has activated 211 Maine to assist with capturing dry well information. Mainers can dial 211 or 1-877-463-6207, or they can text a Maine zip code to 898-211 for assistance with filling out this survey.

Survey information is shared with the Governor's Office and county partners, who in turn may share it with their municipalities, but anyone who has called or emailed has been directed to their municipal office for emergency assistance. There are towns across the state who have stood up sites for distribution of bottled water or water pickup, but MEMA does not have full visibility of what each town is or is not doing, so those in need are encouraged to reach out to their town office.



MEMA reports as of 11/6/2025, there are 499 dry wells reported in all 16 Maine Counties. Of these, 330 are reported as dug wells, 125 as drilled wells, six are spring wells and the remainder are reported as unknown. For use type, 457 reports are specifically tied to residential wells and the remaining 42 are tied to a mix of residential, livestock, or irrigation use. Oxford County reported the greatest amount at 115 dry well reports (up from 85 in last report), followed by Somerset with 59 dry well reports (30 in last report), and Cumberland with 51 dry well reports (30 in last report). MEMA has noted that Poland Springs has increased public outreach messaging to help curb disinformation about business operations correlating with residential wells running dry.

All available resources (financial, technical assistance, and monitoring tools) to individuals and farmers are regularly updated on the Drought Task Force webpage as information becomes available: **https://www.maine.gov/mema/hazards/drought-task-force**.

Agricultural Conditions

Maine's economy sees approximately $900M in market value of agricultural products sold on a yearly basis. Around 445K acres are dedicated to cropland but only 33K are irrigated, indicating a large amount of vulnerability during drought conditions.

Timing of rainfall is everything for agriculture – consistent rainfall is essential, and this has not been the case for 2025. Conditions have been variable early in spring, summer, and fall with late starts for some seedings and early crop impacts to berries. Current yields have dropped based on persistent drought, at least for operations lacking irrigation. Crops typically require about 1" of water per week and this has not happened during June through September. Second hay crops show poor quality or are nonexistent in some locations which will impact the need to purchase hay and feed, potentially driving prices and availability of local agricultural products over winter. Growers for other shoulder season crops such as sweet corn cannot keep up with water needs. Berry and fruit tree growers also note the importance of consistent rainfall in summer and fall for productivity. Northern Maine potato crops look reasonably healthy and have not seen as many drought impacts. Potatoes require late-summer water to bulk up and improve quality and profitability.

Maine Legislature passed the Farmers Drought Relief Fund, a program providing financial and technical assistance to farmers for water management planning, ag well drilling, and farm pond installation. DACF has awarded $75K devoted to ten farms for water needs planning, $194K for well drilling at ten farms, and $163K invested for water storage ponds at four farms. The water storage farms are located in Aroostook, Penobscot, and Washington counties. All of these projects are using the full $300,000 FY26 appropriation, and approximately $60-75k of a $1 million non-lapsing fund approved by the Legislature. The Farmers Drought Relief Fund is intended for use by Maine farms of all sizes, but primarily those with over $10,000 in annual sales. The DACF commissioner may approve exceptions in some cases.

The goal for 2026 is to commit approximately $900,000 from the Farmers Drought Relief Fund to support ag water source development on 40 or more farms. The Maine Legislature may consider an agricultural development bond in the next legislative session. In the early 2000's voters approved 4 water bonds which resulted in over $5 million for irrigation projects. Approximately 85% of the farms that benefitted from that funding are still operating 15-20 years later.

DACF has also updated and redistributed the Maine Irrigation Guide in collaboration with the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District. The original Guide was completed in collaboration with Central Aroostook Soil and Water Conservation District. An on-line copy of the Maine Irrigation Guide is available at https://www.maine.gov/dacf/ard/resources/water-management/docs/maine-irrigation-guide-2024.pdf

Farmers should also contact their local USDA Farm Service Center to review possible federal sources of technical and financial assistance. USDA is keeping track of counties impacted by drought conditions as certain assistance programs may be issued through Secretarial Disaster Designation after an 8-week period of D2 conditions or any instance of D3 conditions. Emergency Assistance Programs include assistance for drought-related damages to livestock (LFP, LIP), croplands (NAP, TAP), and well service (ECP).

- USDA - Disaster Assistance Programs: https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery
- USDA offices: https://www.farmers.gov/working-with-us/USDA-service-centers
- FSA Service Center Locator: USDA FSA Service Center Locator
- Stay Connected to USDA FSA: Signup for Email and Text Alerts

Environmental Conditions

DMR: No updates.

MDIFW: No updates.

DEP: No updates.

Wildfire Conditions

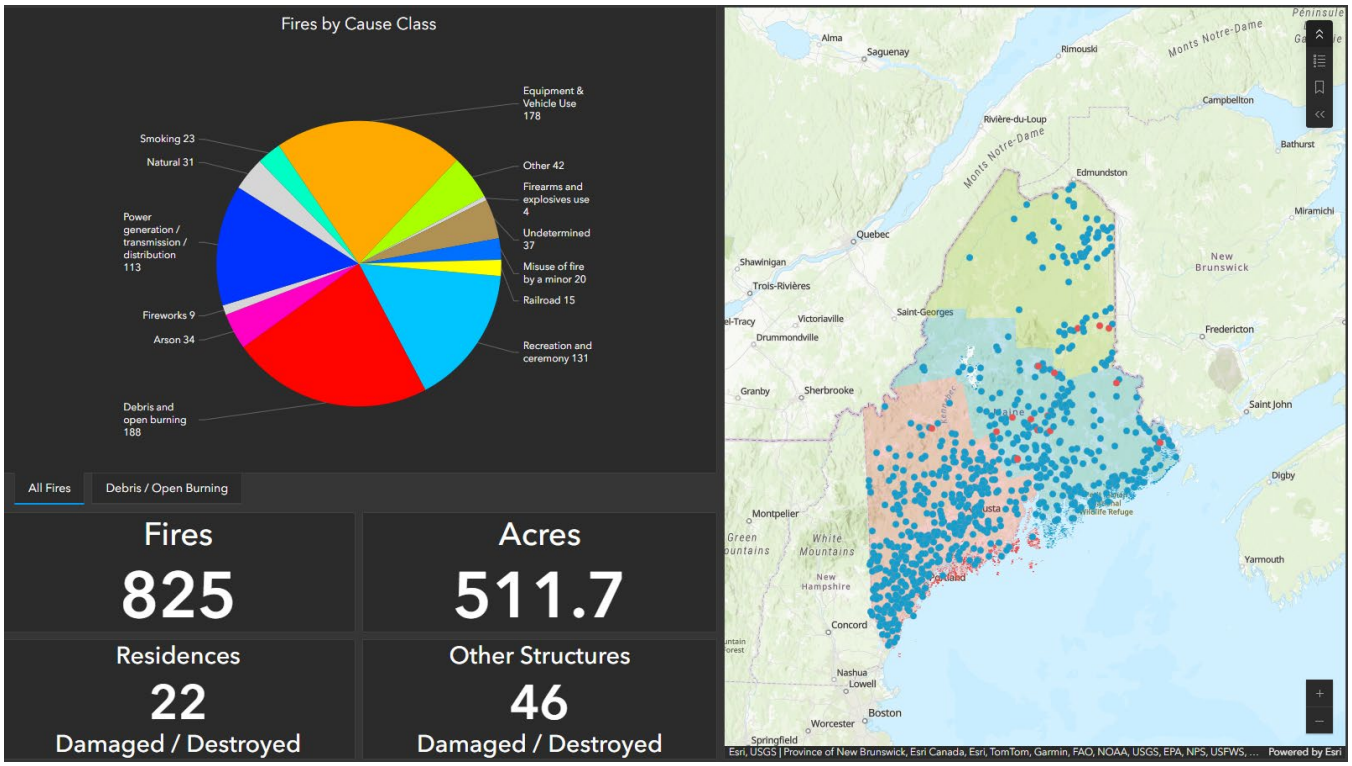
Wildfire permitting has been open after substantial rainfall and overall reduction in fire danger in late September/October. This fire season has seen a high proportion of wildfires caused by debris and open burning, recreation, and equipment and vehicle use. MFS had increased ranger staffing through August and September but has recently been able to grant time off as conditions temporarily improved with recent rainfall. MFS continues to maintain a staffing posture of readiness for wildfire response. Task forces, including ranger, fire engine, and water tanker equipment are unmanned but are stationed across Maine and can be assembled and staffed. The MFS helicopters are positioned and staged for quick response. The MFS continues to post its Wildfire Danger Report based on the predicted weather from weather stations from the National Weather Service and Maine Forest Service.

Technology such as NASA heat signature and lightning detection maps are still being used to improve responsiveness. MFS continues to reach out to landowners to determine their availability to assist with response with the availability of relevant equipment. The Northeast Compact partners communicate on a weekly basis to assess the need and availability of additional resources.

Loss of foliage through natural loss or result of drought-stressed trees, and the potential for early frosts may lead to an active fall wildfire season. Greater sunlight and wind exposure following leaf-off can increase soil dryness and increase the risk and persistence of wildfire. These conditions themselves do not cause wildfires. If a wildfire occurs due to an ignition source, the dry conditions will increase difficulty of suppression efforts. With the recent rainfall, fine fuels (i.e., kindling) have become less available to burn, thus lowering probabilities of ignition. However, with the continued effects of seasonal drought on heavier ground fuels, wildfires that do get established may burn persistently and require greater efforts to control and suppress. Under these conditions, higher intensity ignition sources such as debris burns, unextinguished campfires and hot ashes deposited in leaf litter, may increase the chances of wildfire occurrence.

Comparison to previous years:

- 2025: 821wildfires as of 10/22/2025 burning a total of 511.7 acres. 227 wildfires burned in August alone, and September saw a reduction with 87 wildfires.
- 2024: 652 wildfires fires burning 296 acres for the year
- 2023: 496 wildfires for the year.
- 2022: 624 wildfires for the year.
- 2021: 650 wildfires for the year.
- 2020: 1,154 wildfires for the year. Record high wildfire occurrence. Maine experienced drought conditions during this year. More people were at home due to COVID utilizing wildland fire to work around the home.



Please visit the Maine Forest Service Wildfire Danger Report https://mainefireweather.org/ Posted everyday during the fire season after 0900 hours. The Maine Forest Service works with the National Weather Service in posting Elevated Wildfire Danger and Red Flag Day Watch/Warnings

Please visit the Maine Forest Service Maine Burn Permit System for burning permit https://apps1.web.maine.gov/burnpermit/public/index.html or contact your Town Warden/Fire Chief for current burning conditions.

Please contact your local ranger for wildfire conditions. https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_protection/offices.html.

Hazard Mitigation Grants

Hazard Mitigation grant questions can be directed to the Acting State Hazard Mitigation Officer at HMAgrant@maine.gov.

Drought News

- OCT 2 - Hundreds of wells run dry as Maine deals with extreme drought -WGME
- OCT 2 - Maine Drought Task Force meets, warns of possible long-term conditions - NewsCenter
- OCT 2 - Maine Drought Task Force holds meeting to discuss current situation - WABI
- OCT 2 - Maine risks drought extending into winter - MainePublic
- OCT 3 - Drought expands across Maine: Portland experienced one of the driest summers on record - WGME
- OCT 5 - Persistent drought takes toll on Maine farmers - SunJournal
- OCT 6 - Unseasonably warm October temperatures to start week, rain showers expected by midweek - WGME
- OCT 9 - Extreme drought threatens survival of Maine's brook trout and salmon - NewsCenter

- OCT 9 - U.S. Drought Monitor: Most of Maine in 'severe' to 'extreme' drought - NewsCenter
- OCT 9 - As drought worsens, government shutdown could stall relief for farmers -MainePublic
- OCT 9 - 'We all need to work together': Ongoing drought pushes fire crews to call for community support - NewsCenter
- OCT 10 - Here's Why Maine Just Had Its Worst Fire Season in Years - SierraClub
- OCT 10 - Is the drought draining your well? What Mainers can do. - Central Maine
- OCT 13 - Drought conditions blamed for Dover-Foxcroft restaurant's temporary closure - WABI
- OCT 14 - Is Poland Spring reducing water pumping during Maine's drought? -WGME
- OCT 15 - Poland Spring cutting back water withdrawals at a few springs in Maine due to drought - MainePublic
- OCT 16 - Even with some rain in Maine, extreme drought expands - WMTW
- OCT 16 - Maine's maple experts worry about the impacts drought will have on future sugaring seasons - MainePublic
- OCT 17 - U.S. Drought Monitor: 'Extreme' drought spreading in Maine, battle with historic dry spell continues - NewsCenter
- OCT 19 - Caribou, ME Weather Alert: Record-Low River Flows Amid Worsening Drought - CountryHerald
- OCT 20 - Maine rivers hit record lows and wells run dry as drought tightens grip on state - BDN
- OCT 20 - Christmas trees resilient through Maine's drought and ready for harvest -NewsCenter
- OCT 20 - What will it take to end Maine's drought before winter? - PressHerald
- OCT 21 - Monday's rain had minimal impact on Maine's ongoing drought - PressHerald
- OCT 21 - How the drought this year compares to past dry spells - Spectrum
- OCT 23 - Severe drought rapidly expands into Northern Maine -WMTW
- OCT 23 - U.S. Drought Monitor: 'Extreme' drought hits seven counties - NewsCenter
- OCT 23 - Nearly all of Maine is in a severe drought - BDN
- OCT 23 - Latest drought monitor still shows an extreme drought in parts of Maine - WGME
- OCT 23 - Despite recent rain, drought continues to spread statewide - MainePublic
- OCT 24 - Maine is still in a significant drought, but lots of rain at once could be bad - NewsCenter
- OCT 27 - Drought persists throughout Maine, with some relief on the horizon - Spectrum
- OCT 30 - 'Extreme' drought conditions expand in Maine despite recent rainfall -NewsCenter
- OCT 30 - Southern Maine, including Portland, now in extreme drought - WMTW
- NOV 6 - Drought conditions in Maine hold mostly steady despite recent rainfall -NewsCenter
- NOV 6 - Maine blueberry growers hope for emergency aid to offset nearly $30M loss - BDN
- NOV 6 - Drought wilts Maine's apple and blueberry yields - PressHerald

About this Report

Current information represents a "snapshot" of conditions throughout the state for the date of reporting. This report provides information on the preliminary effects of the drought and more monitoring must be done to assess potential impacts if the situation worsens. These conditions will be monitored, and the Drought Task Force will monitor the situation until warning indicators subside.

Information Resources

Please refer to these sources for more information on current water conditions:

- Maine Drought Task Force website, with links to other reports and drought monitoring resources: https://www.maine.gov/mema/hazards/drought-task-force
- Drought.gov site for the State of Maine: https://www.drought.gov/states/maine
- Northeast DEWS: http://nedews.nrcc.cornell.edu/
- National Integrated Drought Information System: https://www.drought.gov/current-conditions
- U.S. Drought Monitor: https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?ME
- Well monitor data: https://newengland.water.usgs.gov/web_app/GWW/GWW.html
- Streamflow data: https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/?m=real&r=me
- Streamflow data aggregated by watershed: https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php?m=dryw&r=me
- Maine Cooperative Snow Survey: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mgs/hazards/snow_survey/
- NWS Gray short- and long-term forecasts: https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issuedby=GYX&product=AFD&format=CI&version=1&glossary=1&highlight=off
- NWS Caribou short- and long-term forecasts: https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issuedby=CAR&product=AFD&format=CI&version=1&glossary=1&highlight=off
- USDA farm assistance and loan programs: https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/drought
- CoCoRaHS local volunteer weather condition monitoring: https://www.cocorahs.org/maps/conditionmonitoring/index.html

For additional information on specific aspects of this report, please contact:

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Tom Gordon, Public Service Coordinator, Maine Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry	Agricultural conditions	Tom.Gordon@maine.gov
Tommy Higgins, USDA Farm Service Agency, Maine State Office	USDA Secretarial Disaster Designation updates	sherry.hamel@usda.gov
George Harris, Regional Forest Ranger, Maine Forest Service	Wildfire conditions	George.harris@maine.gov
Nathan Robbins, Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection	Environmental conditions	Nathan.p.robbins@maine.gov
Ryan Gordon, State Geologist, Maine Geological Survey	Hydrologic conditions, Maine Cooperative Snow Survey	Ryan.gordon@maine.gov
Crystal Stiles, National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)	Regional/National drought conditions	crystal.stiles@noaa.gov