

**State of Maine
Drought Task Force
Report on Current Drought Conditions
December 19, 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.

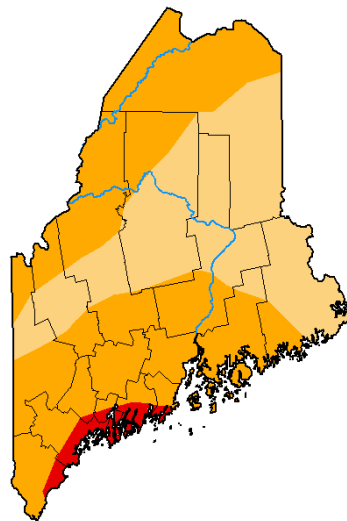
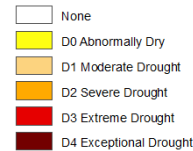
Overview

- The [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) reports 0% of the state is Abnormally Dry (D0), 39.62% is in Moderate Drought (D1), 57.3% is in Severe Drought (D2), and 3.07% is in Extreme Drought (D3) by area.
- All of Maine's population resides in at least moderate drought conditions.
- While surface water conditions have shown some improvement, groundwater levels remain well below normal across most of the state, with some wells at period-of-record lows. Without improvement this spring, groundwater could be a major concern next summer.
- Co-chairs called on Task Force members to highlight gaps in the state's drought response and suggest additional assistance measures. The shortage of available well drillers was raised as a key barrier to drought recovery for residents with dry wells.
- Drought is expected to continue through winter. Even above normal snowfall and an active spring flood season may be insufficient to fully recharge aquifers under current conditions.
- Maine Forest Service reported 848 wildfires burning approximately 500 acres in 2025, with August the busiest month in at least 26 years. MFS is predicting an above average spring fire season given lingering drought conditions.
- MEMA's Dry Well Survey has received 541 reports spanning all 16 counties, an increase of 42 since the last Task Force meeting.

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**U.S. Drought Monitor
Maine**

December 16, 2025
 (Released Thursday, Dec. 18, 2025)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST

**Intensity:**

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

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 National Drought Mitigation Center



The US Drought Monitor is a tool produced jointly by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Meteorologists and climatologists from the NDMC, NOAA and USDA take turns as the lead author of the map, usually two weeks a time. 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 historical impacts laid out from D0 (abnormally dry) to D4 (exceptional drought). 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.

2025 Drought Recap

The state experienced a “Flash Drought” that rapidly intensified in August after a very dry and hot summer.

- **Summer Severity:** It was the 6th driest summer on record for Maine, characterized by record-high temperatures and significantly below-normal precipitation.
- **Autumn Expansion:** Drought conditions expanded into northern Maine during September and October as few rain events with periods of record heat continued to drive high evaporation rates.
- **Precipitation Deficits:** Since June 1, 2025, some areas in southern Maine have seen precipitation departures of a foot or more. Above normal evaporation contributed to water losses.

- **Winter Onset:** While November brought cooler temperatures and a growing snowpack that insulated the ground, total precipitation remained mostly below normal. Signs of drought improvement were driven more by the end of the growing season and subsequent reduction in water demand at the surface.

Hydrological Concerns

Despite some surface improvements, Maine is facing a significant groundwater deficit.

- **Soil Moisture:** Deep soil moisture was not recovered before the ground freeze.
- **Recharge Barrier:** As the ground freezes (currently 3–6 inches in northern Maine), it creates a cap that prevents precipitation from soaking in to replenish wells and aquifers.
- **Winter Drought:** This "winter drought" means recovery for many groundwater sources may be delayed until the spring thaw.

Outlook for 2026

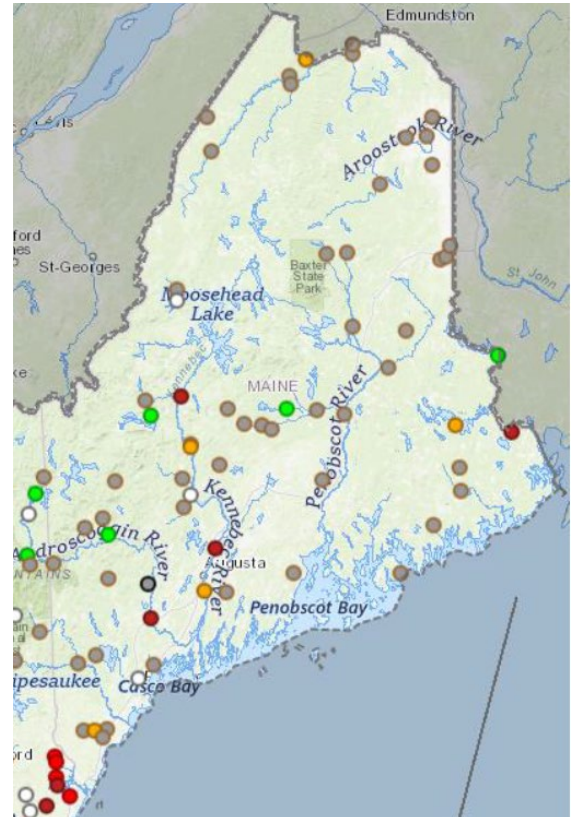
NWS forecast outlooks suggest the drought is likely to continue through the winter.

- **Winter Conditions:** Forecasters anticipate a La Niña pattern, which often brings wild temperature swings and equal chances for above or below-normal precipitation.
- **Historical Analogs:** The years 2001 and 2018 are cited as similar patterns. Both years featured active winters with Nor'easters and high spring runoff, yet drought still re-emerged during the following warm seasons.
- **Spring/Summer 2026:** Long-range outlooks favor above-normal temperatures for the spring and summer of 2026.
- **Recovery Challenges:** Officials warn that even an above-normal snowpack may be insufficient to fully recharge aquifers after such a severe deficit.

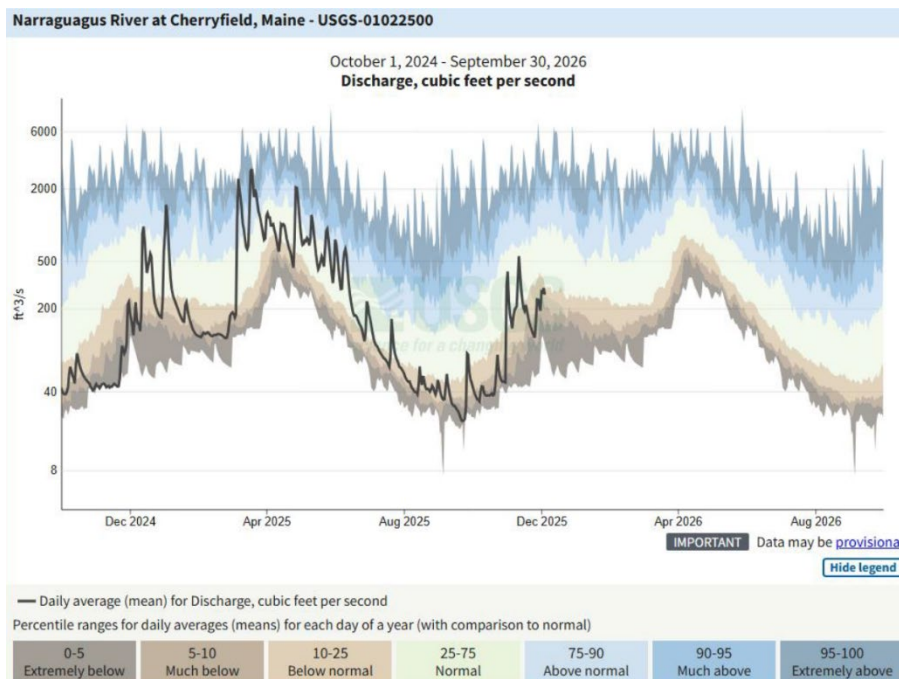
Stream Flows

Real-time streamflow data as of December 17 is limited, as many streamflow stations are impacted by ice (gray dots at right). Stations currently displaying data are on regulated systems and conditions vary from watershed to watershed. Overall, flows on the Kennebec, lower Androscoggin, and lower St. Croix are below normal for this time of year.

Large, regulated watersheds are showing below normal conditions for this time of year. The December 19th rain event is likely to improve conditions on several smaller watersheds.

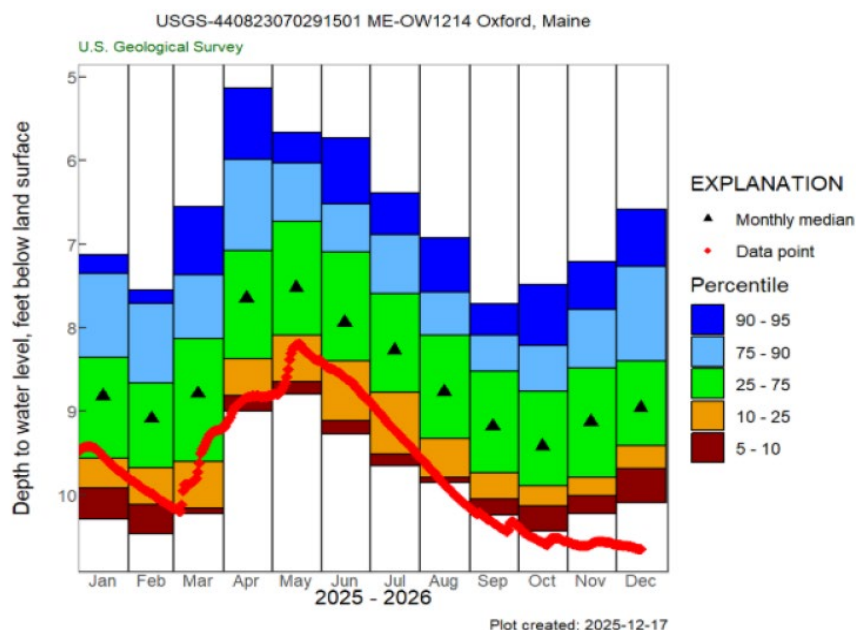


Data as of December 17

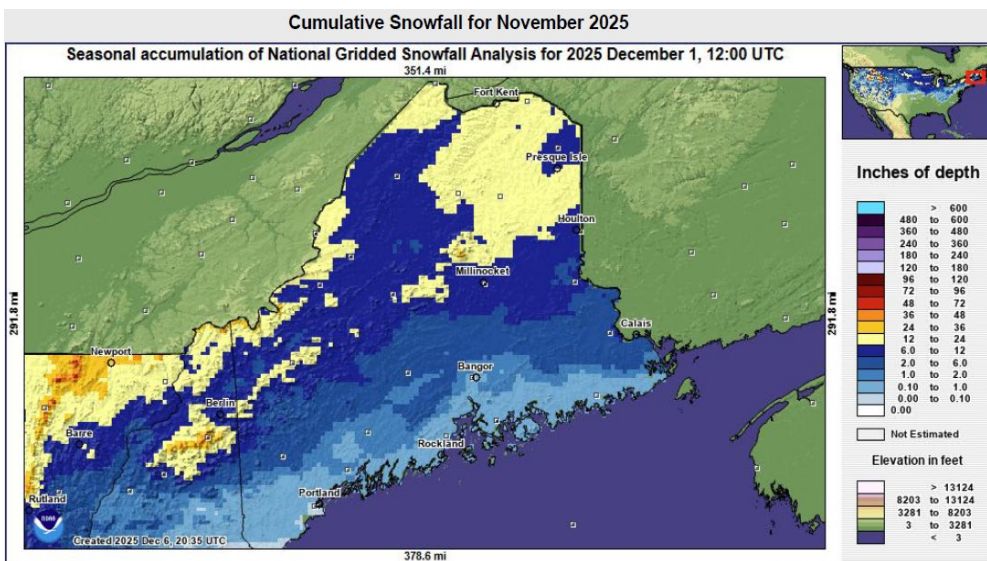
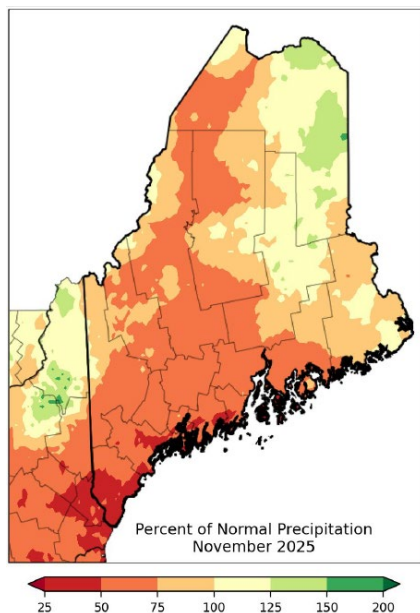


Ground Water

With few exceptions, groundwater conditions are below normal across Maine, with some wells at new period-of-record lows. For water resources in Maine, groundwater remains the biggest concern. The period of record for many wells in Maine spans 30–40 years. While a few wells showed minimal recovery from rainfall in October and November, most wells continue to show below normal conditions. Some have been below normal since last fall's drought. Without improvement this spring, groundwater could be a major concern next summer. 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

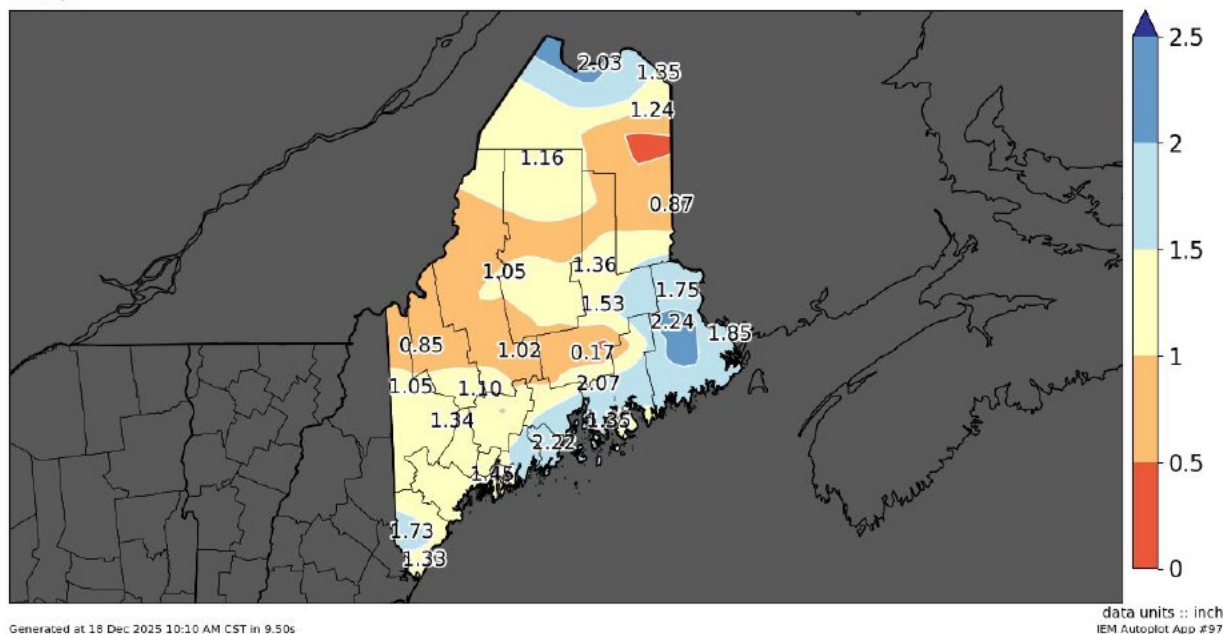


November Summary

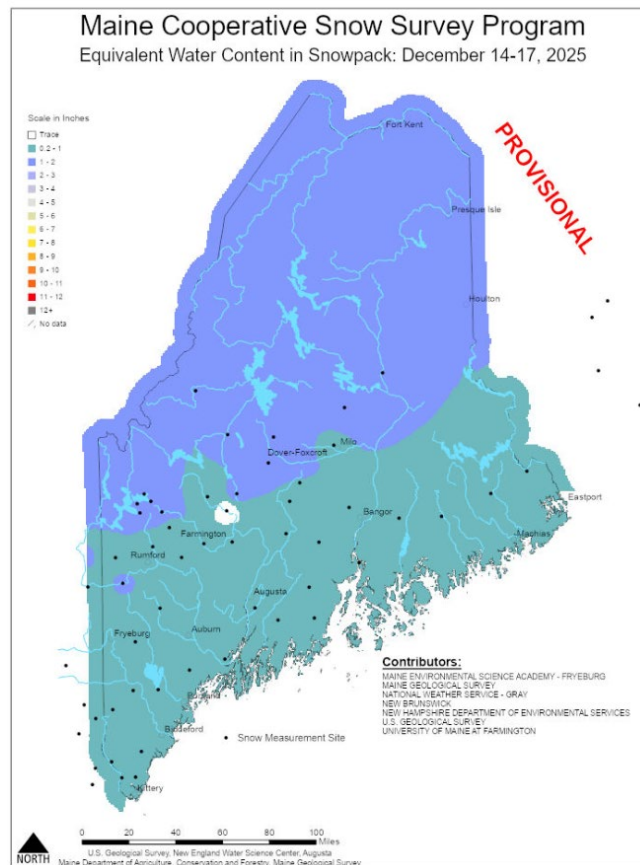
A pattern shift resulted in near to below normal temperatures across Maine. Total precipitation amounts were mostly below normal, which is common with cold, dry air masses. Most precipitation events were mixed or frozen, leading to a growing snowpack. Snow cover insulated the ground and limited frost development.



1 Dec 2025 thru 18 Dec 2025 Precipitation Total [inch]



Generated at 18 Dec 2025 10:10 AM CST in 9.50s



A collaboration between the Maine Geological Survey and U.S. Geological Survey, the Maine Cooperative Snow Survey measures snowpack depth and water content at sites across the state. Following significant December flooding in prior years, sampling now begins in mid-December rather than January 1.

December Summary

December typically averages 4–5 inches of liquid precipitation. As of December 18, precipitation amounts were running below normal. The rain-on-snow event on December 19 is expected to bring monthly totals closer to average, but droughts are not defined by precipitation deficits alone.

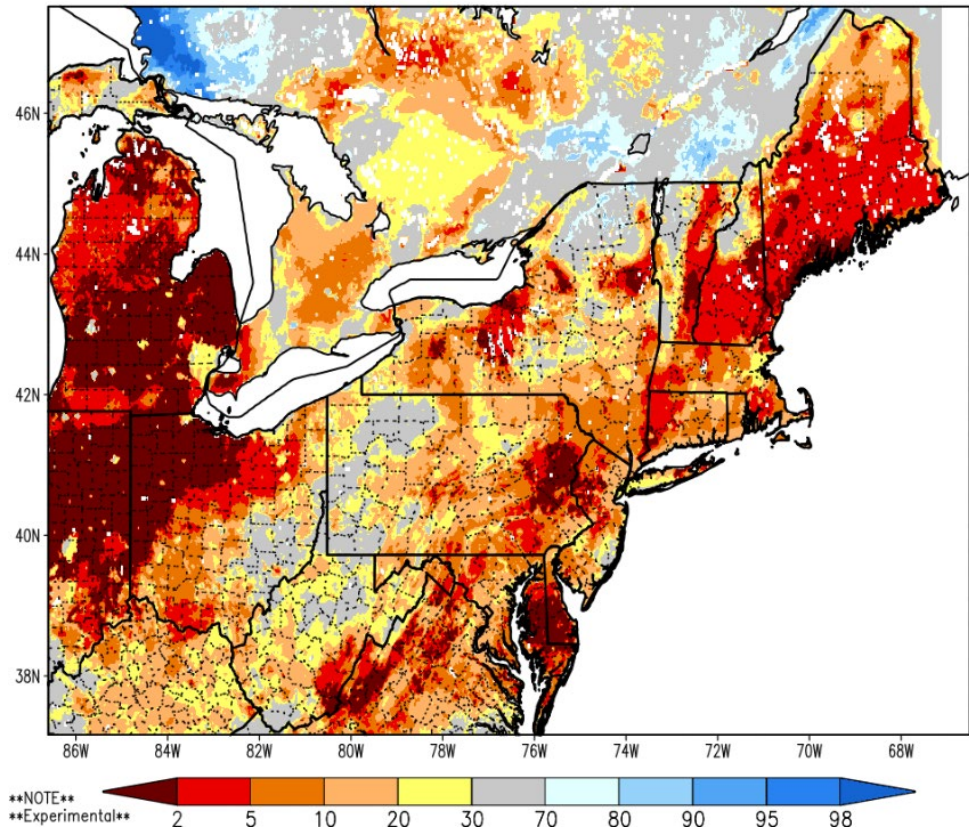
Frost depths of 3–4 inches are sufficient to cap groundwater recharge. Once frozen, precipitation that would normally replenish groundwater will not soak in, leaving wells and aquifers with little recovery until the spring thaw. As of December 18, ground frost was generally 1 inch or less in southern Maine and 3–6 inches in northern Maine. Snow cover inland will help limit frost depths.

Soil Moisture

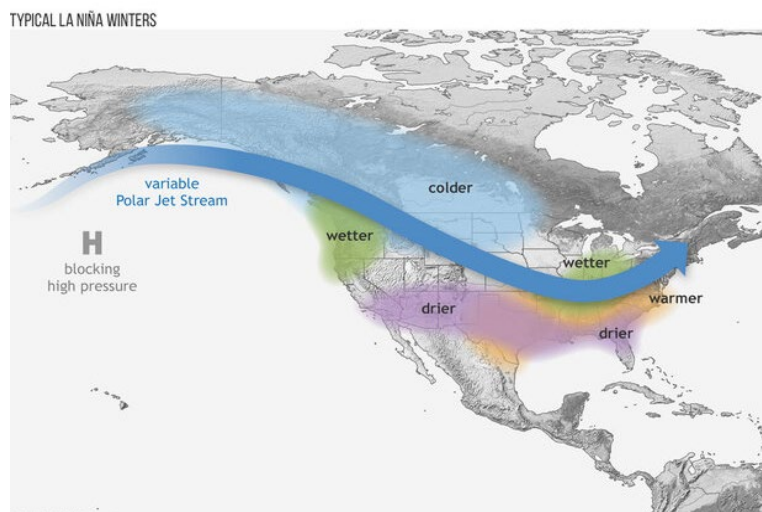
NASA's Short-term Prediction and Transition Center – Land Information System (SPoRT-LIS) provides high-resolution (about 3-km) gridded soil moisture products in real-time to support regional and local modeling and improve situational awareness.

The following map shows the moisture content of the top 1 meter of soil on December 19, 2025 compared to historical conditions from 1981–2013, based on NASA's Short-term Prediction and Transition Center – Land Information System (SPoRT-LIS). The map indicates extreme dry conditions across Maine, ranging from the 25th percentile down to near record lows <2%.

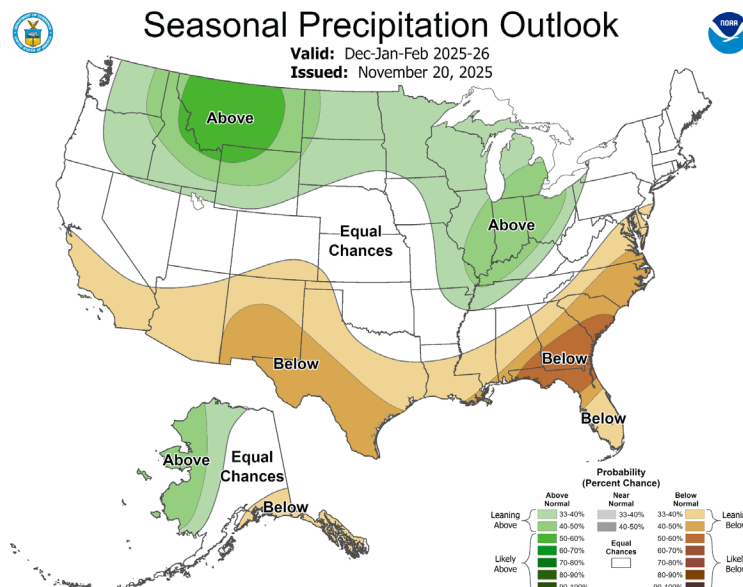
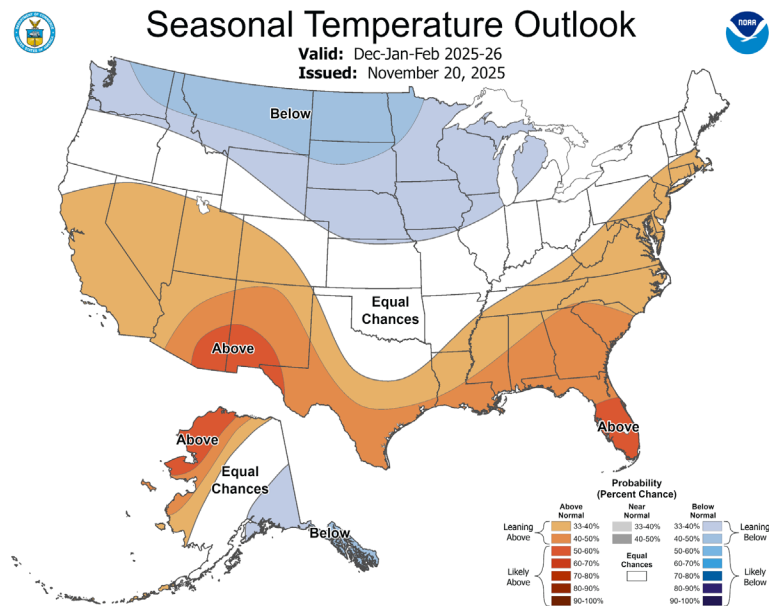
SPoRT-LIS 0-200 cm Soil Moisture percentile valid 19 Dec 2025

**Looking Ahead**

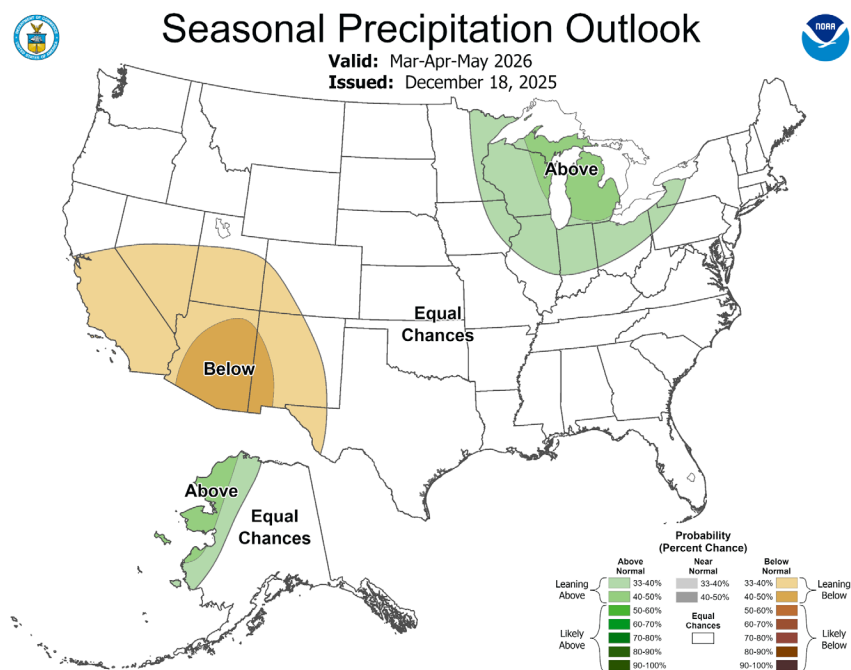
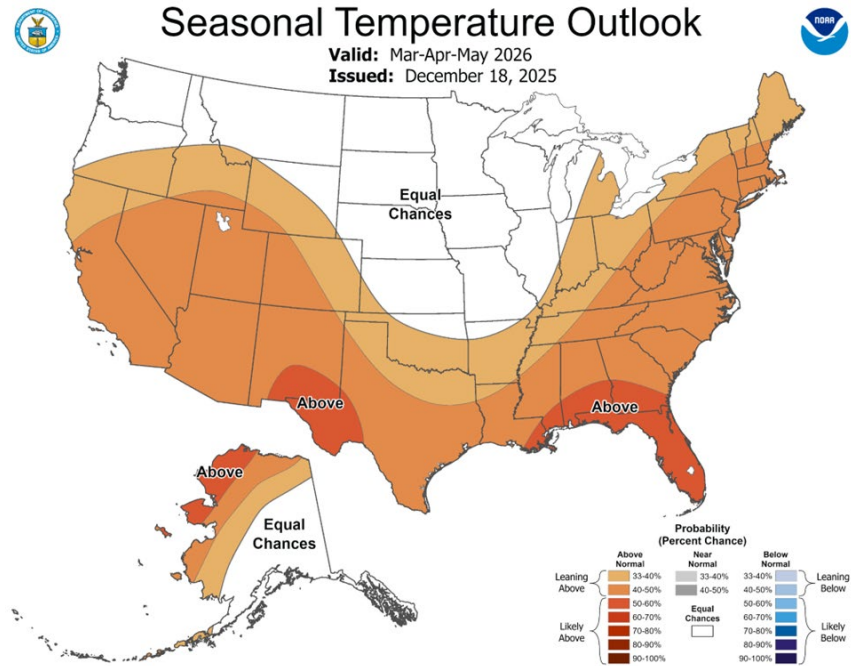
The Climate Prediction Center's three-month winter outlook shows equal chances for both above and below normal precipitation and temperature. This is the first winter outlook since 2016-17 that has not favored above-normal temperatures. CPC is forecasting weak La Niña conditions through winter, with a transition to ENSO-neutral most likely in January-March 2026. La Niña typically produces a split storm track over New England with frequent but brief intrusions of Arctic air. Past La Niña winters have resulted in both above and below normal precipitation and snowpacks, often with significant temperature swings, though overall winters have averaged near normal.

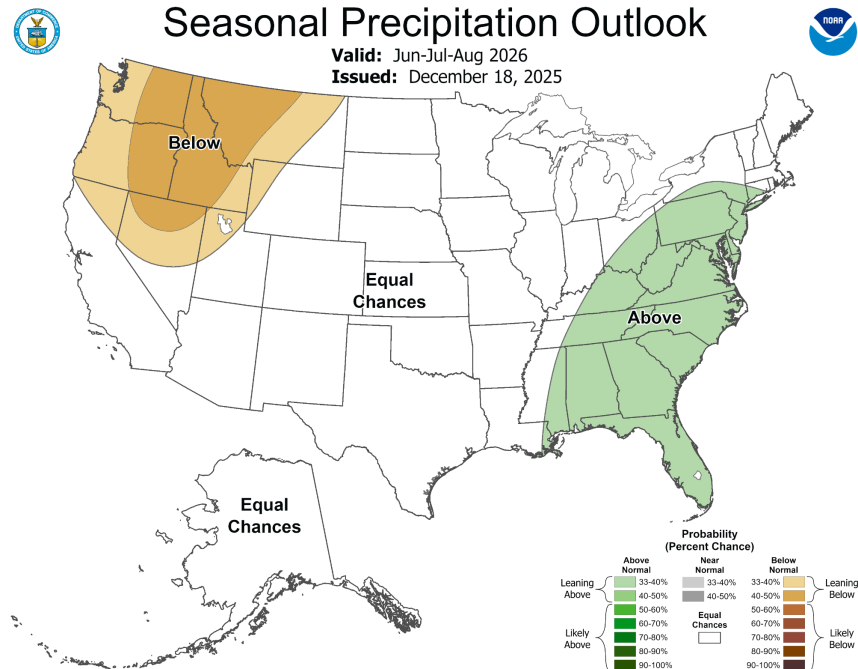
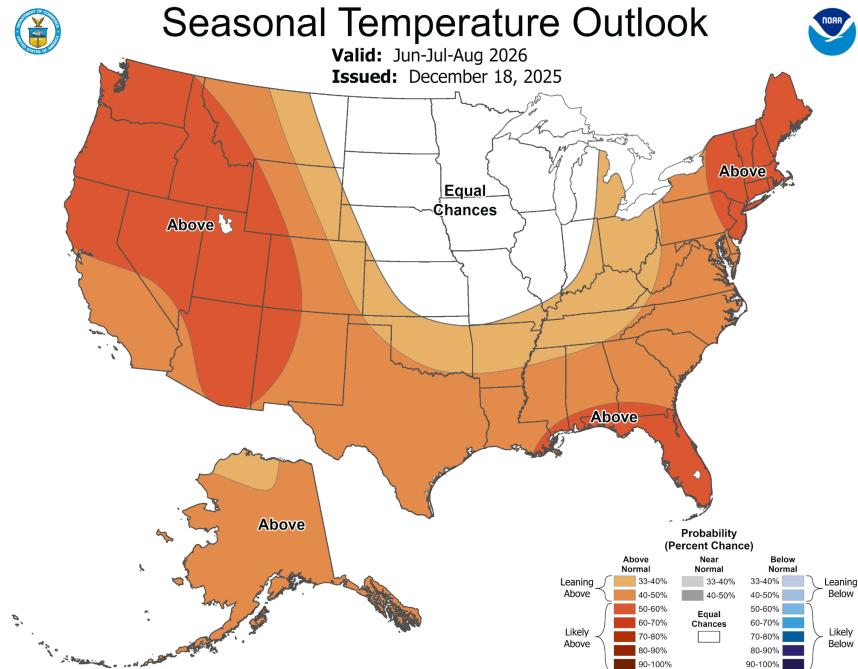


Other global indicators suggest similarities between this year and the winters of 2000-01 and 2017-18. Both featured cold Decembers with above normal snowfall, multiple nor'easters with an active March, and pronounced thaws in February with temperatures reaching into the 70s. Notably, both springs following those winters showed above normal streamflows and runoff - yet moderate drought still developed during the following warm seasons.



Spring and summer outlooks show equal chances for precipitation. The spring outlook indicates a 40% chance of above normal temperatures; the summer outlook indicates a 50% chance. The drought is expected to continue through winter. The timing and rate of snowmelt will be critical to sustaining base flows in rivers and lakes next summer. Even above normal snowfall and an active spring flood season may be insufficient to fully recharge aquifers under severe drought conditions.





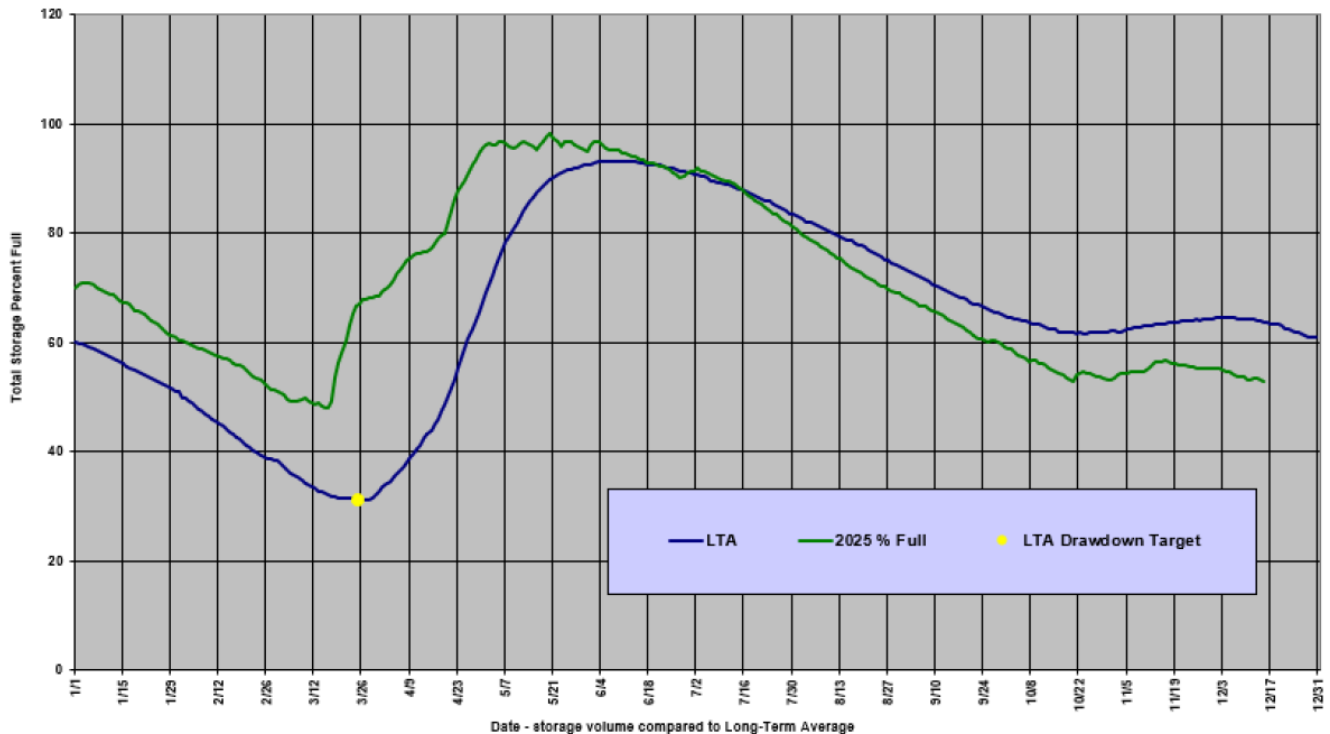
River Basin Storage Conditions

Summary: seasonal operational changes have been difficult to manage for hydropower generation under drought conditions, and many fall drawdown target levels were met early this year but have yet to rebound.

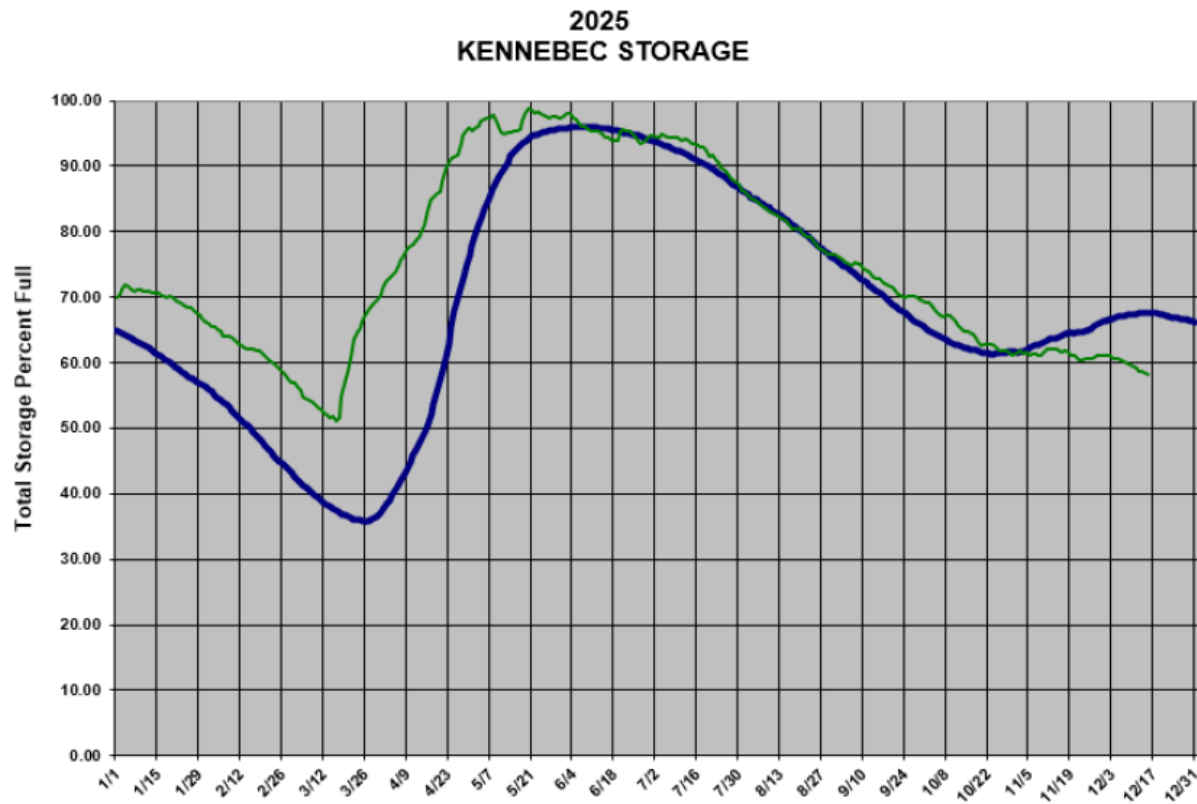
- **Presumpscot River:** Sebago Lake's Water Quality Certification requires a target water level range of 262.0-266.65 feet, and the lake currently reads at 263.32 feet. Total outflow from Sebago Lake is 459 cfs with 75+ cfs allocated to the bypass reach.
- **Androscoggin River:** Storage is 52.8% full, 11.1% below the long-term average.
 - Rangeley Lake is down 1.65 feet with an outflow of 100 cfs
 - Mooselookmeguntic is down 7.56 feet with an outflow of 500 cfs

- Richardson is down 4.95 feet with an outflow of 500 cfs
- Azizcohos is down 18.18 feet with an outflow of 325 cfs
- Errol is down 2.18 feet with an outflow of 1500 cfs.
- River flow is icing while discharging 1700 cfs at Gorham and stable while discharging 2,700 cfs at Auburn and 2,100 cfs at Rumford.

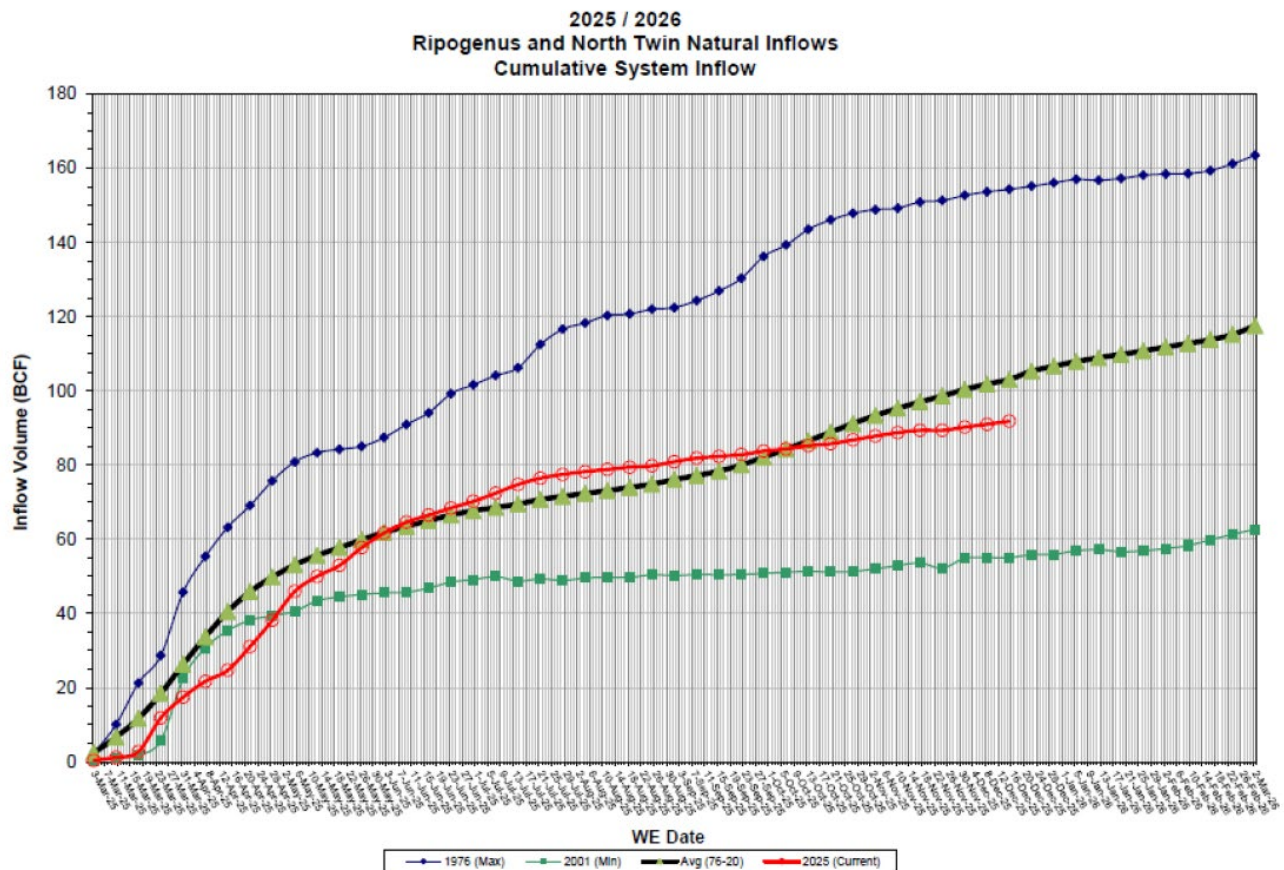
ANDROSCOGGIN CURRENT STORAGE CONDITIONS



- **Kennebec River:** Kennebec River Storage is 58.2% full, 13.9% below the long-term average.
 - River flow at Solon is set at 2,000 cfs
 - River flow at Madison is at 2,200 cfs
 - River flow at Weston is at 2,400 cfs.
 - Brassua Lake is down 8.48 feet and has an outflow of 800 cfs
 - Moosehead Lake is down 3.32 feet and has an outflow of 2,100 cfs
 - Flagstaff Lake is down 5.62 feet and has an outflow of 800 cfs



- **Penobscot River:** The Penobscot River is 46.7% full, 2.2% below the long-term average. The drought status is D2-Severe Drought.



- **Union River** – The Union River is 23.5% full, 45.9% below the long-term average. The drought status is D2-Severe Drought.
- **St. Croix River:** West Grand Lake is 39% full with an outflow of 111 cfs, East Grand Lake is 40% full with an outflow of 80 cfs, Vanceboro is 42% full with an outflow of 355 cfs, and Grand Falls is 49% full with an outflow of 876 cfs. Fall target drawdown levels were met in October but storage has not yet begun rebounding as would normally be expected by this time of year. West Grand and Forest City remain a few inches below their drawdown target levels.

Drought Impact Sectors

Public Water Supplies

The Department of Health and Human Services' Maine CDC Drinking Water Program (DWP) has been notified of drought-related water quantity challenges continuing to affect Public Water System (PWS) operations in Cumberland, Franklin, Penobscot, Somerset, 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. Reported drought-related impacts to public water system (PWS) operations in Oxford and Washington Counties are now resolved. Many PWS's have made capital improvements over time to improve drought resilience, which contributes to their ability to withstand drought conditions.

Private Wells

The Maine CDC's DWP Private Well Coordinator offers technical assistance to private well owners. In November and early December 2025, the DWP received four 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 as 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 to 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

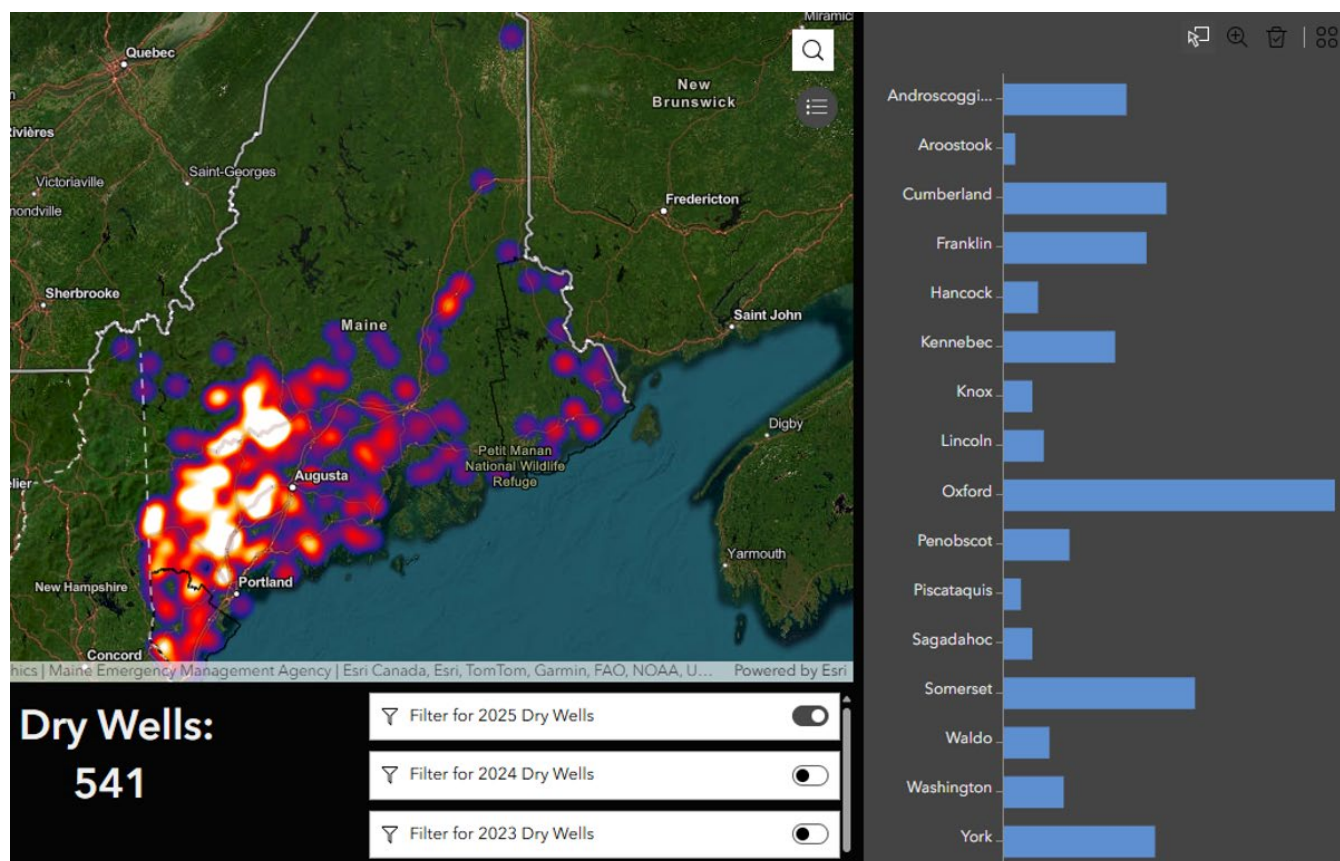
Bottled drinking water is usually available for purchase at your local grocery or big box store. In emergency situations, you can contact your local or [county Emergency Management Director](#) for assistance.

Dry Well Survey

The DWP and MEMA 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 12/18/2025, there are 541 dry wells reported spanning all 16 Maine Counties. Of these, 350 are reported as dug wells, 136 as drilled wells, 7 are spring wells and the remainder are reported as unknown. For use type, 488 reports are specifically tied to residential wells and the remaining 53 are tied to a mix of residential, livestock, or irrigation use. Oxford County reported the greatest amount at 117 dry well reports (up from 115 in last report), followed by Somerset with 67 dry well reports (59 in last report), and Cumberland with 57 dry well reports (51 in last report).

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

The 2025 drought has caused widespread impacts across almost all agricultural sectors. Lingering impacts on berry and fruit growth are anticipated for spring 2026, as plant damage from this year's drought may affect next year's yields. The drought's impact on maple syrup production remains unknown and will be monitored through February and March. Hay shortages for livestock will affect

farmers throughout the winter, potentially requiring the purchase of additional feed or reduction of herd sizes. News Center Maine reported a \$28M loss for wild blueberry growers attributed to the drought.

DACF is managing the Farmers Drought Relief Fund, a program providing financial and technical assistance to farmers for water management planning, well drilling, and farm pond installation. In 2025, DACF funded projects for 24 farms totaling approximately \$438,000.

For 2026, DACF anticipates 60+ applications and expects to commit approximately \$1.2 million from the Farmers Drought Relief Fund to support water source development on up to 40 farms. Due to heavy anticipated demand, DACF is enhancing its application review process to ensure cost-benefit effectiveness. An announcement of the 2026 grant program is expected in early 2026.

Agricultural Resources

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has designated multiple Maine counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas due to prolonged drought conditions, making producers in those areas eligible for essential federal assistance, including low interest emergency loans. Under the first designation, Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, Kennebec, Oxford, and Somerset Counties are primary eligible areas, with Aroostook, Lincoln, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Sagadahoc, Waldo, and York counties listed as contiguous eligible counties; a second designation also identifies Hancock, Knox, Waldo, and Washington as primary disaster counties with additional contiguous eligibility in Aroostook, Kennebec, Lincoln, Penobscot, and Somerset. These designations open critical financial relief to help agricultural producers recover from production and physical losses, refinance debt, and stabilize operations as they respond to drought impacts; application deadlines extend into May and June 2026.

Farmers should contact their local USDA Farm Service Agency county office to review possible federal sources of technical and financial assistance. The 2025 disaster assistance programs and emergency loans remain open based on 2025 drought conditions. The following programs have specific enrollment windows:

- Emergency Conservation Program (wells and water for livestock): closes December 31, 2025
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish: open until March 1, 2026
- On-Farm Stored Commodity Loss Program and Milk Loss Program (for 2023–24 disasters): open until January 23, 2026

Producers should reach out to their county FSA office for intake and eligibility determination. A list of county offices is available at <https://www.farmers.gov/working-with-us/USDA-service-centers>.

- 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

Maine Department of Marine Resources

Drought conditions have affected habitat availability and use for Atlantic salmon throughout the year. Low flow conditions result in exposed rocks, and when combined with cold temperatures, supercooling leads to slush patterns and ice formation that further reduce available habitat and make feeding and movement more difficult. River herring (alewife) are also affected, as juveniles attempting their fall outmigration became stranded at the base of dams due to insufficient flows to allow passage. Despite low flows, water temperatures in some streams were observed to be cooler than expected, as reduced surface water flow increased the relative contribution of groundwater inputs.

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

From a fisheries management perspective, direct effects of drought conditions are often not apparent until fish are sampled later in life, when a given age class can be correlated to environmental conditions during spawning. Fall stocking operations were challenging due to low water conditions, with some fish reallocated to alternative sites due to access issues or unsuitable conditions.

The department operates eight fish culture facilities, some fed by lakes and others by springs or wells. These facilities are located where reliable water resources exist and operate with relatively low environmental impact. Lake-fed facilities including Casco, Enfield, Grand Lake Stream, and Palermo have experienced reduced driving head pressure due to lower lake elevations but have maintained target flows by adjusting valve operations. No major changes have been needed to sustain fish production at these sites. Spring-fed facilities have been more noticeably affected, particularly Dry Mills Hatchery in Gray, where average stream flow is approximately 40% below normal for this time of year. Overall, no major impacts or concerns were reported.

Maine Department of Environmental Protection

Monitoring programs tracked low flow conditions in rivers and streams, as well as impacts to other wetlands including lakes, ponds, and vernal pools. 2025 was one of the lowest river flow years on record, particularly in central and southern Maine, with flows at or below regulatory thresholds of 7Q10 for extended periods during late summer period. Ambient water temperatures in these areas were generally a little cooler than average, which appeared to limit water quality impacts. The Department also responded to some of its highest levels of inquiries relating to low lake water levels and stream flows, but none of these inquiries resulted in regulatory actions. In northern Maine, no impacts were observed as it appears farms had sufficient water to handle withdrawals without negative consequences to aquatic organisms.

Wastewater facilities are designed and licensed to be protective under critical conditions of low receiving water flow. Infrastructure capacity at relatively few lagoon facilities allows for voluntary holding of discharges longer than usual to protect aquatic organisms due to low flows in rivers and streams. However, the low amount of precipitation provided greater storage capacity for treating wastewater at these facilities, as opposed to handling a combined amount of wastewater and stormwater.

DEP also monitored algal bloom impacts on drinking water supplies and maintains a webpage with contact information and best practices to protect lakes from blooming through establishing and maintaining healthy shoreline plants that prevent phosphorus and nitrogen getting into the water.

Department Resources:

- Sustainable Water Use Program <https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/swup/index.html>
- Waste Discharge Program <https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/programs/index.html>
- Algal Blooms in Maine Lakes <https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/lakes/algalbloom.html>

Wildfire Conditions

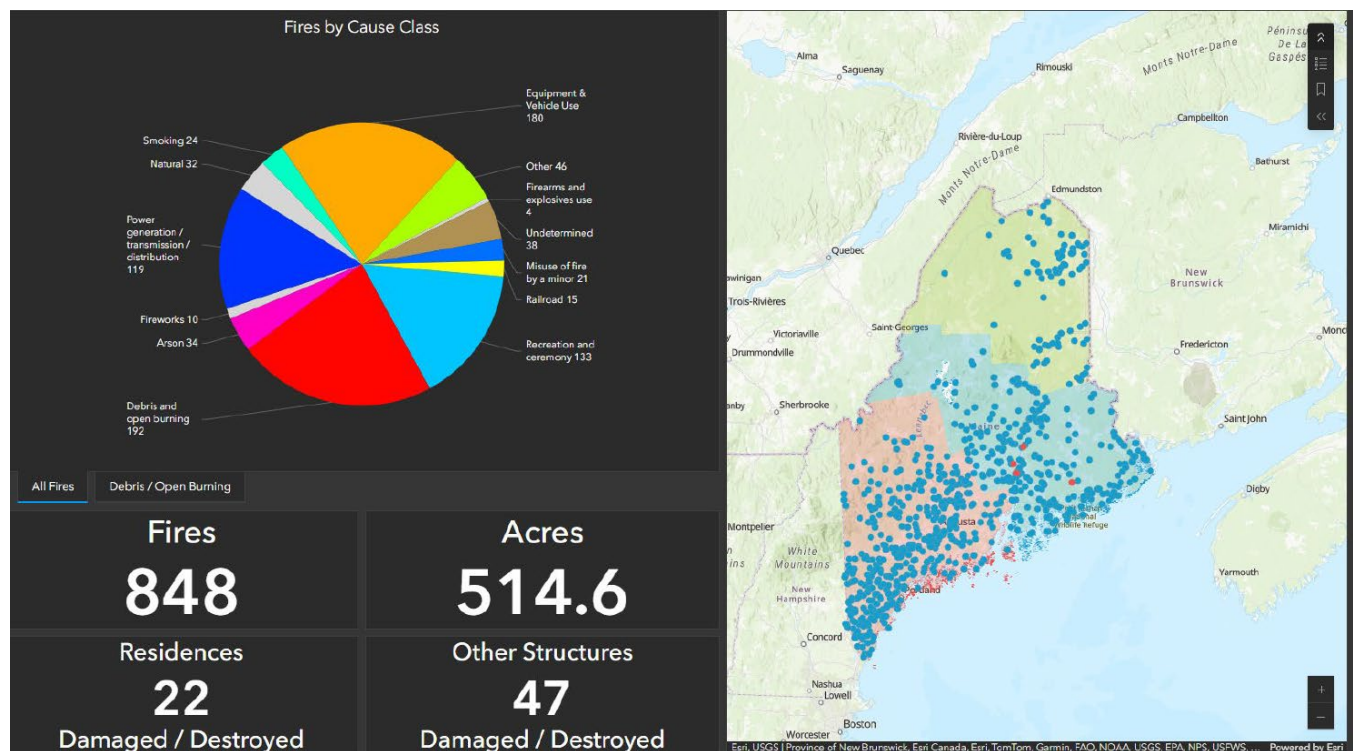
From October 1st to December 4th, wildfire activity was reduced due to cooler temperatures, frost, and increased precipitation, as is normal for late fall in Maine. Even in drought-stricken areas, daily wildfire danger ratings have not exceeded Moderate since October 20, and there have been no state-issued restrictions to open burning since that date. The most common wildfire causes continue to be debris and open burning, recreation, and equipment and vehicle use. Some wildfires were caused by hot ashes being dumped into receptive dry fine fuels. The Maine Forest Service (MFS) increased ranger staffing and canceled time off as needed to keep up with wildfire response across most of Maine prior to the rain in September/early October. MFS elevated ranger numbers working on higher fire danger class days and rested them on lower class days. Rangers leveraged technology to improve responsiveness and continue to reach out to landowners and cooperators to document all wildfires.

The ongoing drought conditions stressed vegetation across Maine and, in some areas, hardwood trees and shrubs lost foliage earlier than normal. As we move through the winter months, rangers will be

monitoring water levels, snowfall and moisture content. As spring approaches, open tree canopies will allow sun and wind to reach the forest floor, resulting in drier vegetative fuels, i.e., leaf litter and frost killed grasses, that will become more readily available to burn. Though these conditions by themselves do not cause wildfires, when an ignition source is present, they can increase both wildfire size and the difficulty of suppression. The standard spring conditions, coupled with the ongoing drought, create the potential for an above-average spring wildfire season.

Comparison to previous years:

- 2025: 848 wildfires as of 12/04/2025 burning a total of 515 acres. 252 wildfires burned in August alone, burning 115 acres. September had 87 wildfires burning 22 acres. October 1st to December 4th saw an additional 79 wildfires burning 37 acres.
- 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 on their properties.



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

- NOV 7 - [Maine apple, blueberry harvest devastated by drought](#) - Maine Public
- NOV 8 - [As winter approaches and the ground freezes, dry wells could stay dry through spring](#) - Maine Monitor
- NOV 12 - [Despite extreme drought, Maine forest fires stayed small this season](#) - Daily Dispatch
- NOV 13 - [11% drop in extreme drought across Maine](#) - WMTW
- NOV 13 - [Drought eases slightly in Maine, but long-term concerns persist](#) - News Center
- NOV 14 - [Has the recent rainfall improved the drought situation in Maine?](#) - WGME
- NOV 20 - [Level of extreme drought in Maine drops by nearly 30% from last week](#) - WMTW
- NOV 20 - [The Old Farmer's Almanac Predicts a Mild and Dry Winter for Most Maine Homeowners](#) - Realtor.com
- NOV 21 - [USDA Designates Maine Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas](#) - USDA
- NOV 21 - [1.3 million Mainers are living in areas affected by drought](#) - MainePublic
- NOV 24 - [Feds declare Maine's drought a natural disaster, unlocking relief for farmers](#) - Press Herald
- NOV 24 - [USDA designates Maine counties as natural disaster areas due to drought](#) - News Center
- NOV 25 - [The USDA declares Maine drought a natural disaster](#) - Maine Public
- DEC 5 - [Maine's drought could last through the winter](#) - BDN
- DEC 8 - [A closer look at Poland Spring's water withdrawals during Maine's drought](#) - News Center
- DEC 11 - [Maine wild blueberry growers ask for emergency funding after \\$28 million in losses](#) - WGME
- DEC 14 - [As emergency dry well assistance is reinstated, New Hampshire's drinking water future still unclear](#) - Vnews

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.nrcr.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://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/>
- 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>

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