



Drought Information Statement for New Hampshire and Western Maine

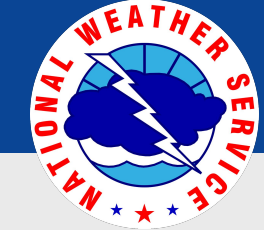
November

Issued By: NWS Gray Maine

Contact Information: gyx.skywarn@noaa.gov

- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.

- Fall precipitation was down 6 to 10 inches, which is 30% to 50% of normal.



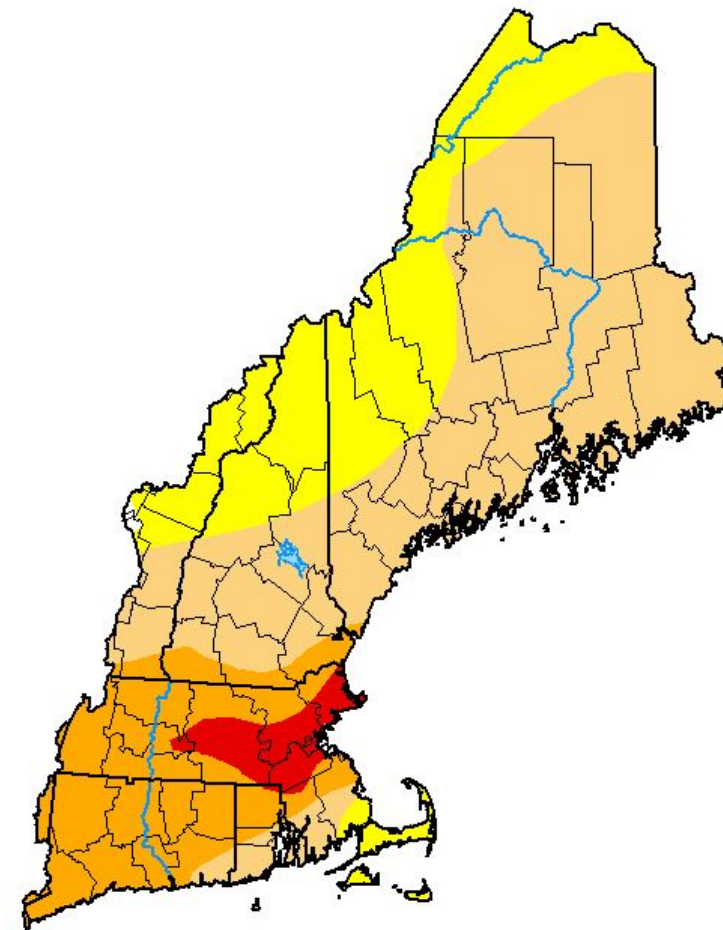
U.S. Drought Monitor

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the Northeast

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Southern Cheshire, Hillsborough, Rockingham, and York Counties
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Sullivan, Merrimack, Belknap, Strafford, Cumberland, Androscoggin, Kennebec, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, and Knox Counties, including southern portions of Grafton, Carroll, Oxford, Franklin, and Somerset Counties.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Northern portions of Grafton, Carroll, Oxford, Franklin, and Somerset Counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor New England Watershed



November 19, 2024
(Released Thursday, Nov. 21, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Current | 0.13 | 99.87 | 73.43 | 22.38 | 3.62 | 0.00 |
| Last Week 11-12-2024 | 0.12 | 99.88 | 65.42 | 11.83 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 Months Ago 08-20-2024 | 97.36 | 2.64 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024 | 99.40 | 0.60 | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Water Year 10-01-2024 | 40.60 | 59.40 | 6.61 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| One Year Ago 11-21-2023 | 99.40 | 0.60 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Intensity:

| | | | |
|--|---------------------|--|------------------------|
| | None | | D2 Severe Drought |
| | D0 Abnormally Dry | | D3 Extreme Drought |
| | D1 Moderate Drought | | D4 Exceptional Drought |

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.as>

Author:

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CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

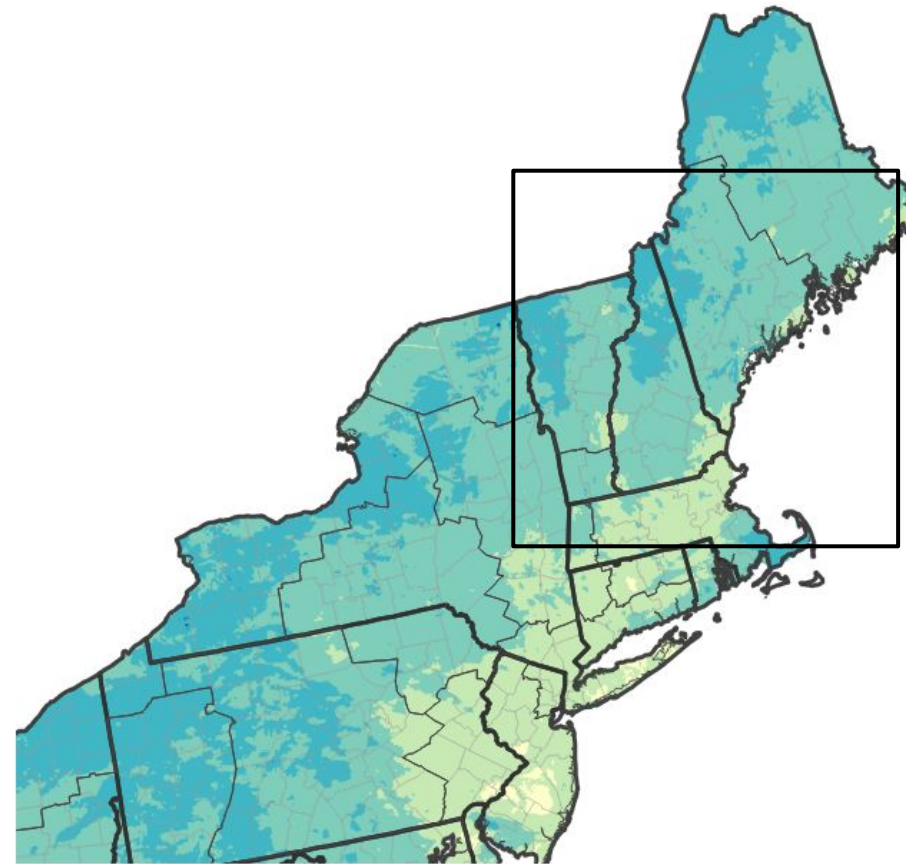
National Weather Service
Gray-Portland, ME



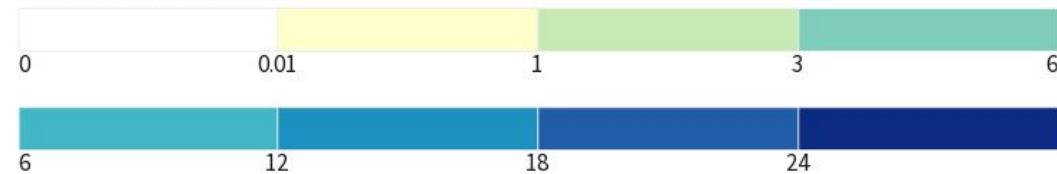
90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

Fall Precipitation Ending Nov 21 2024

- Drier than normal conditions started in September and continued into late November
- Most of the region only observed a months worth of rainfall for the entire Fall season
- Precipitation was 2 standard deviations below normal



Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 11/21/24



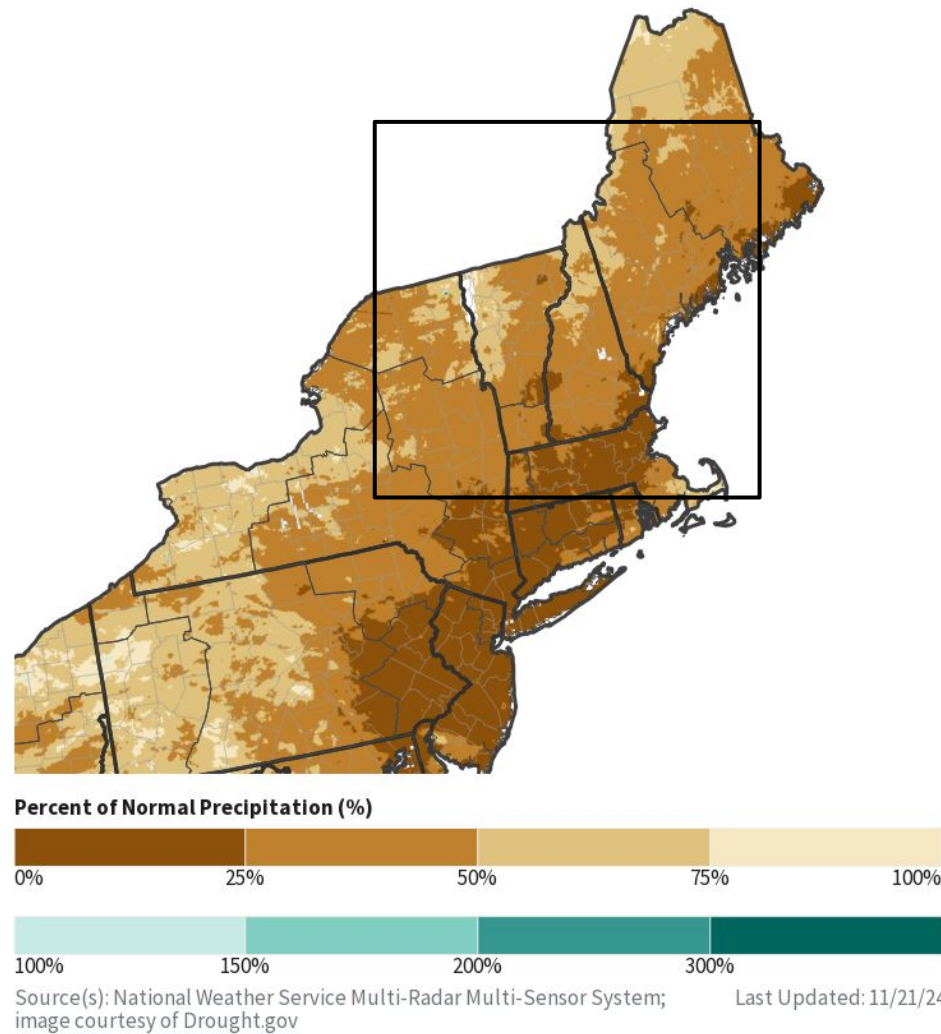


Precipitation

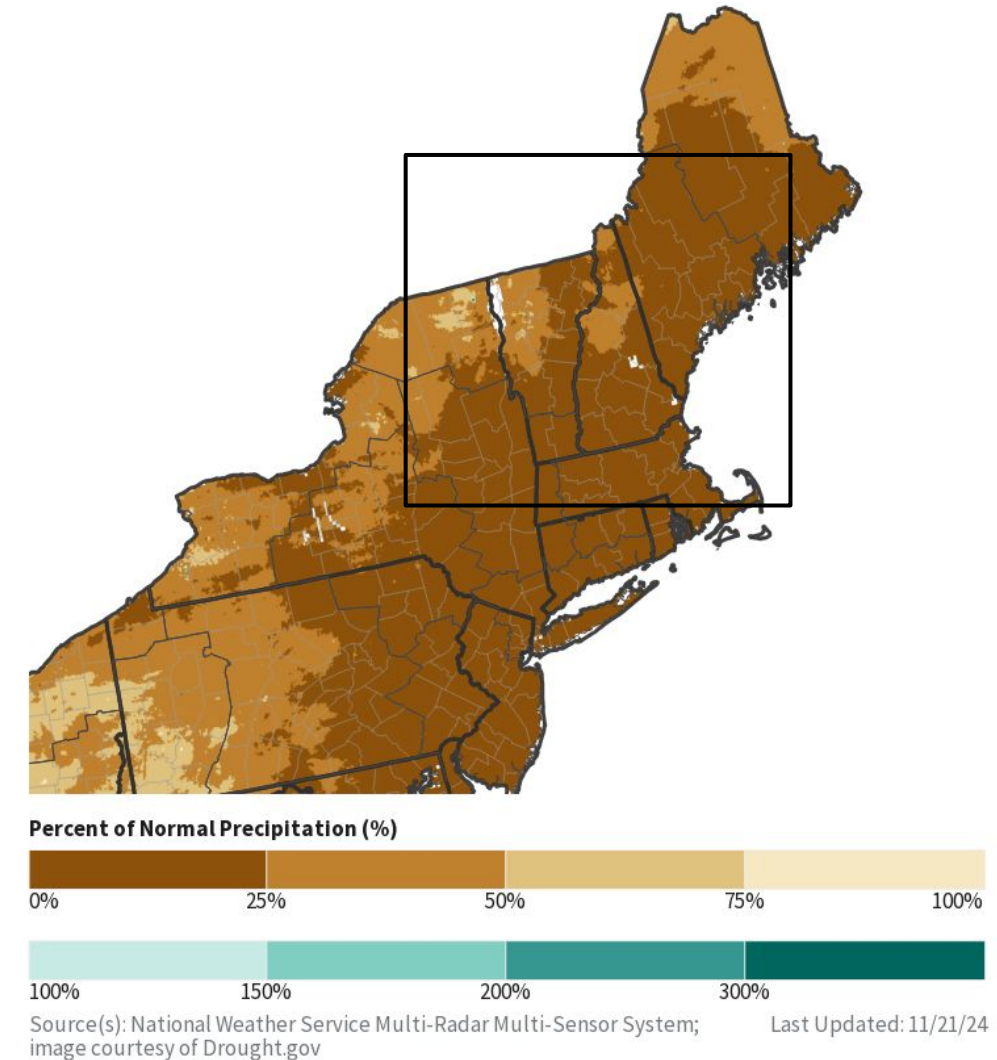
November 22, 2024
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- Deficits of 6-10" were observed in the Fall
- One of the top 5 driest falls on record

90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



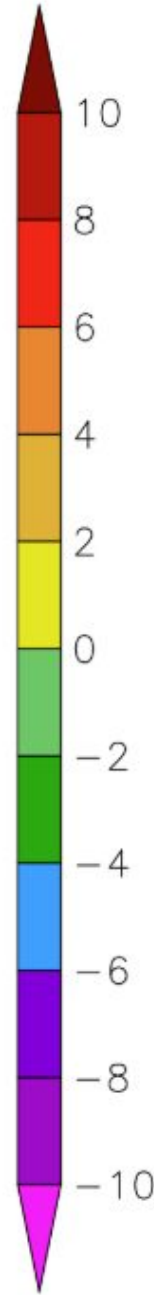


Temperature

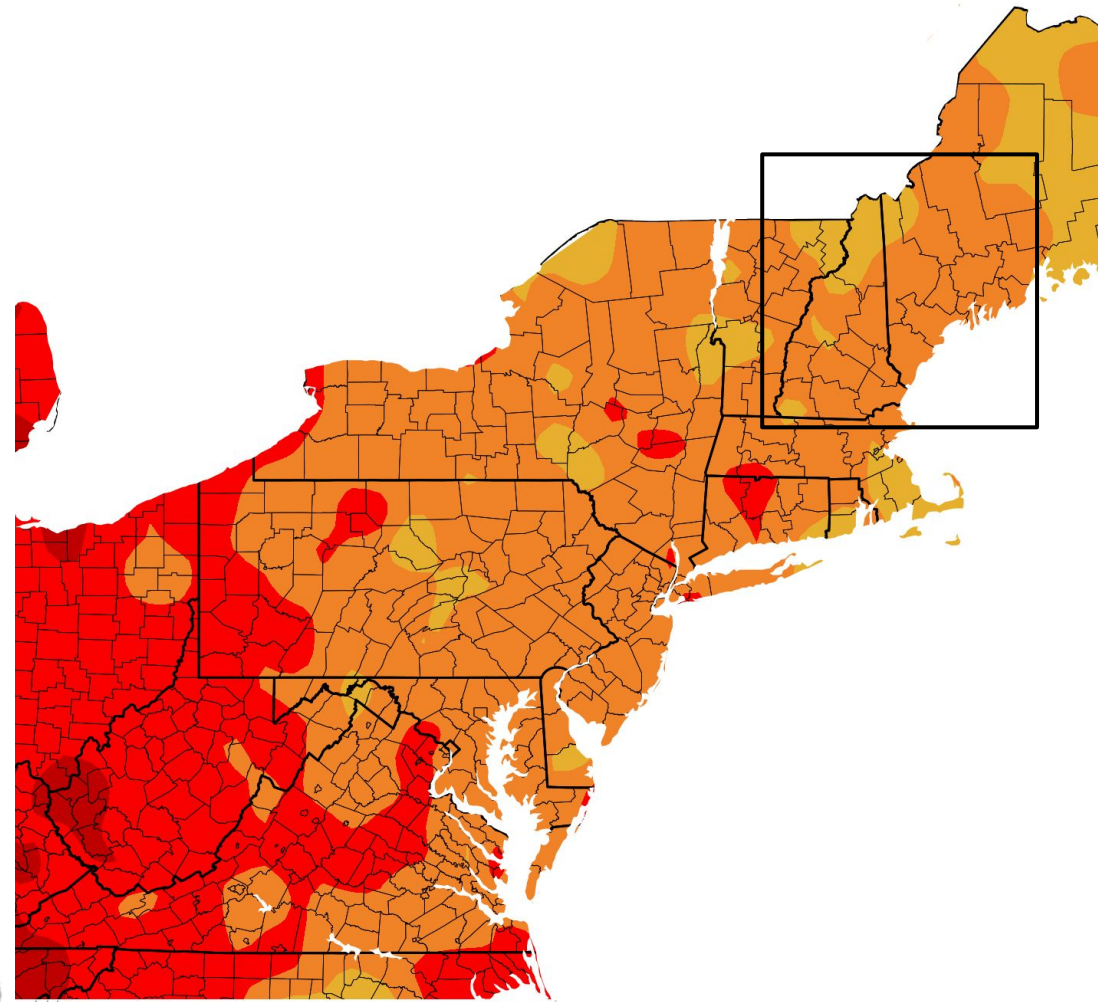
November 22, 2024
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Anomalies

Above normal temperatures coincided with dry-period, increasing evaporation and accelerating drought

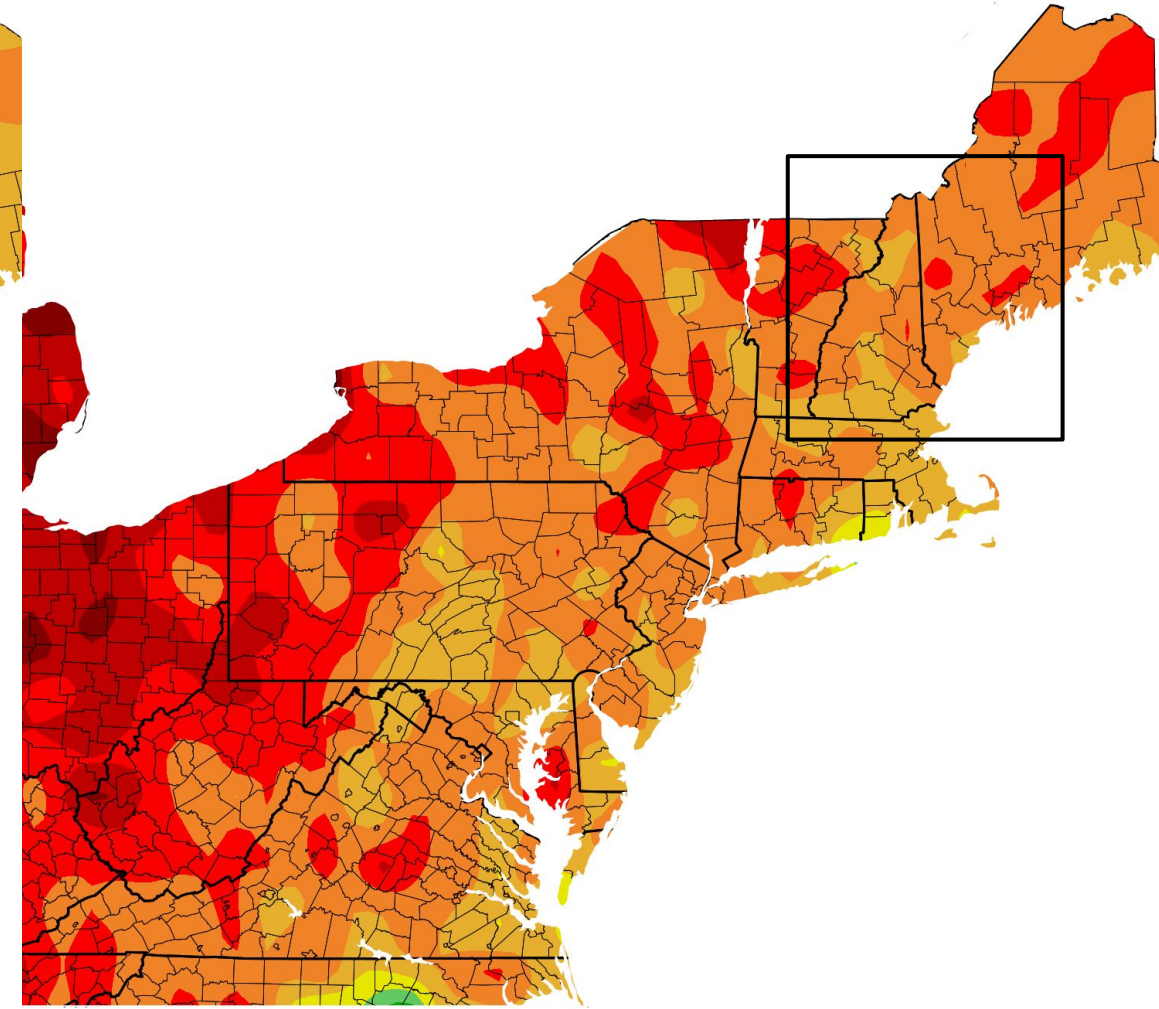


Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
10/23/2024 – 11/21/2024



2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
8/24/2024 – 11/21/2024



NOAA Region/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Region/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

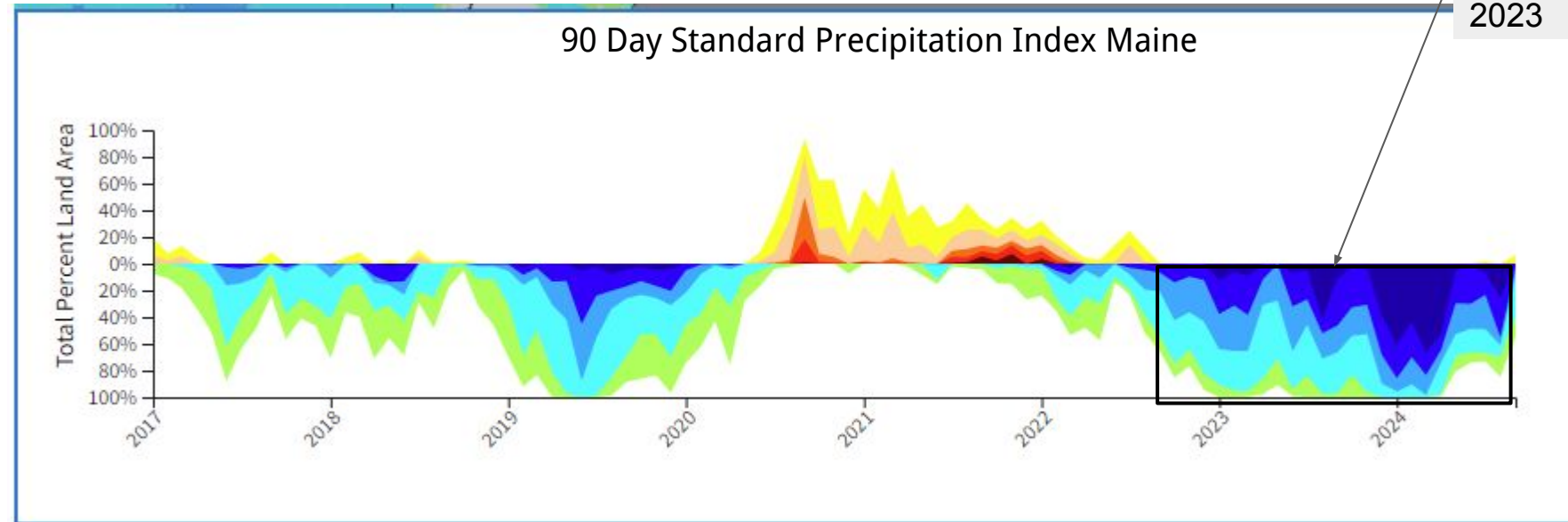
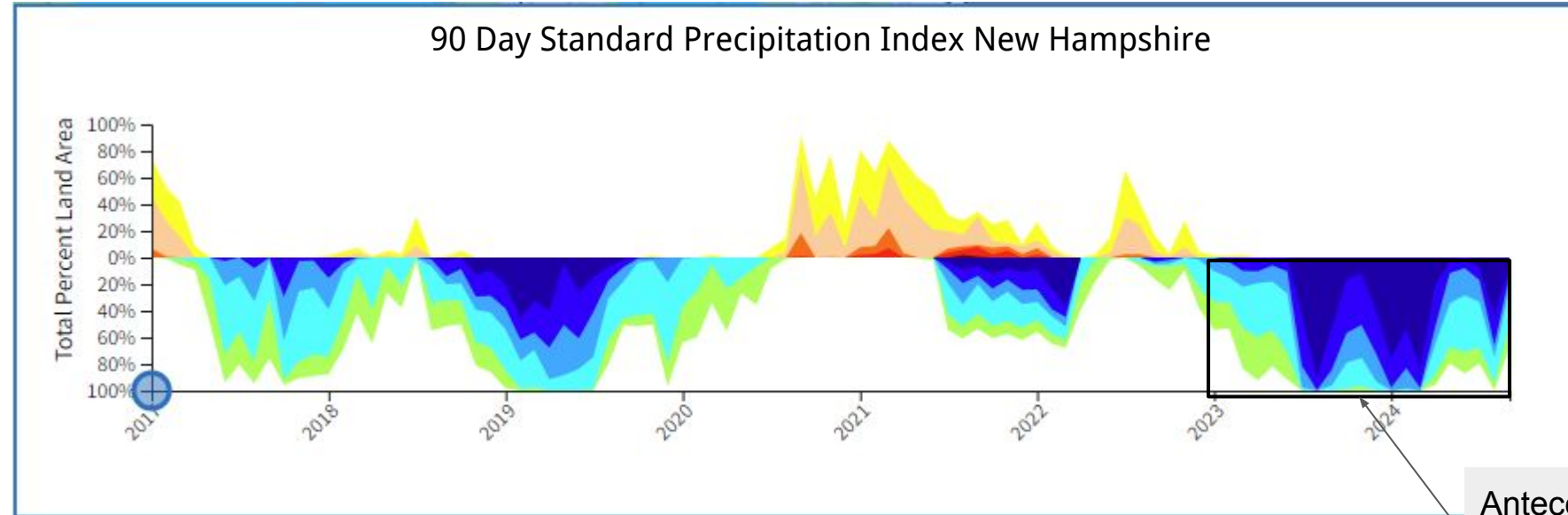




Longer-Term Precipitation Anomalies*

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Drought conditions lagged behind fall rainfall deficits due to predecessor wet conditions



The Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) measures water supply, specifically precipitation. SPI captures how observed precipitation (rain, hail, snow) deviates from the climatological average over a given time period—in this case, over the 9 months leading up to the selected date.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

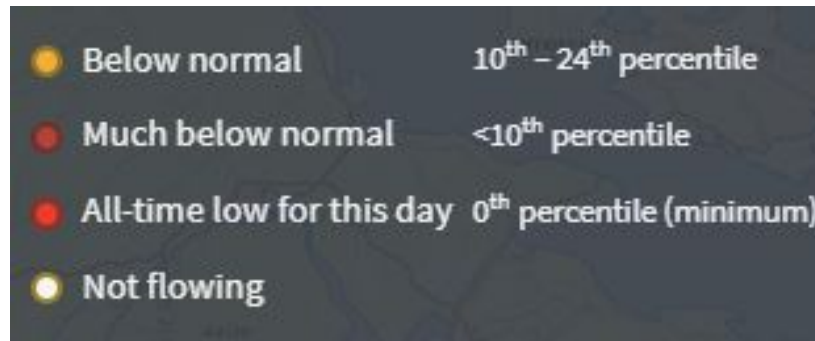
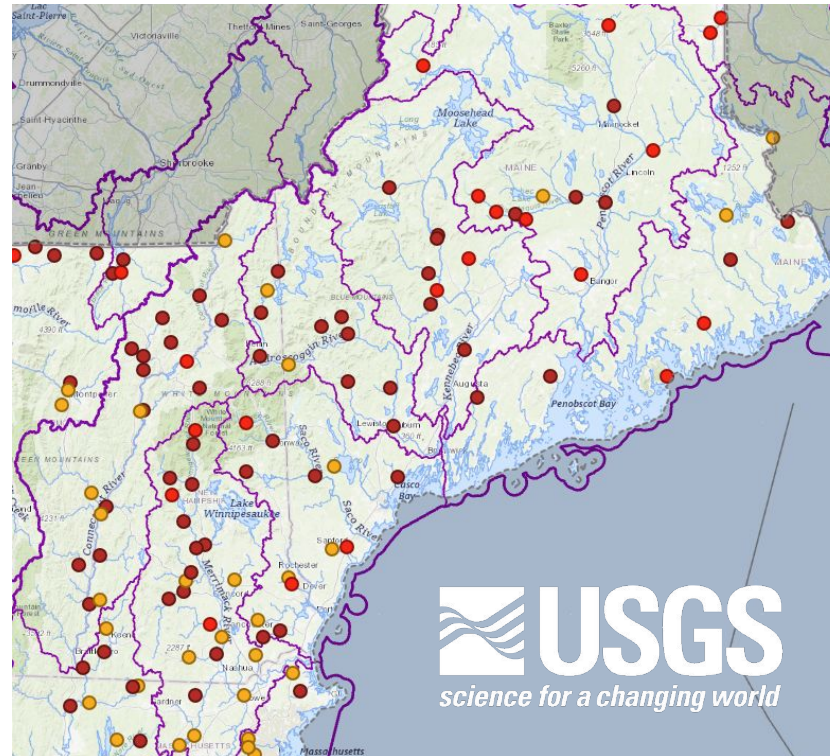
November 22, 2024
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- Drought conditions have reduced rivers to near record low levels for November based on USGS streamflow stations

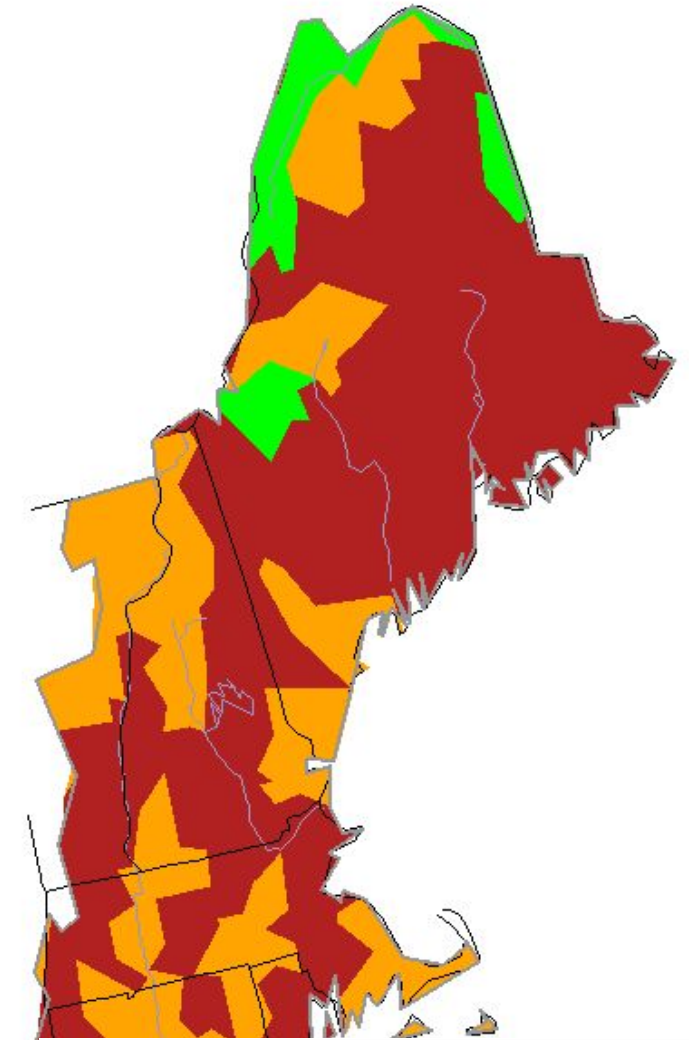
Image 1 (left): USGS Streamflow: Low Flow
Low flows are based on the percentile of existing streamflow records on this day of the year.

Image 2(right): USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid November 21 2024

USGS Streamflow: Low Flow
Nov 22, 2024



Thursday, November 21, 2024



| Explanation - Percentile classes | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|---------|------|
| Low | | | | | | | High |
| | <10 | 10-24 | 25-75 | 76-90 | >90 | No Data | |
| | Much below normal | Below normal | Normal | Above normal | Much above normal | | |



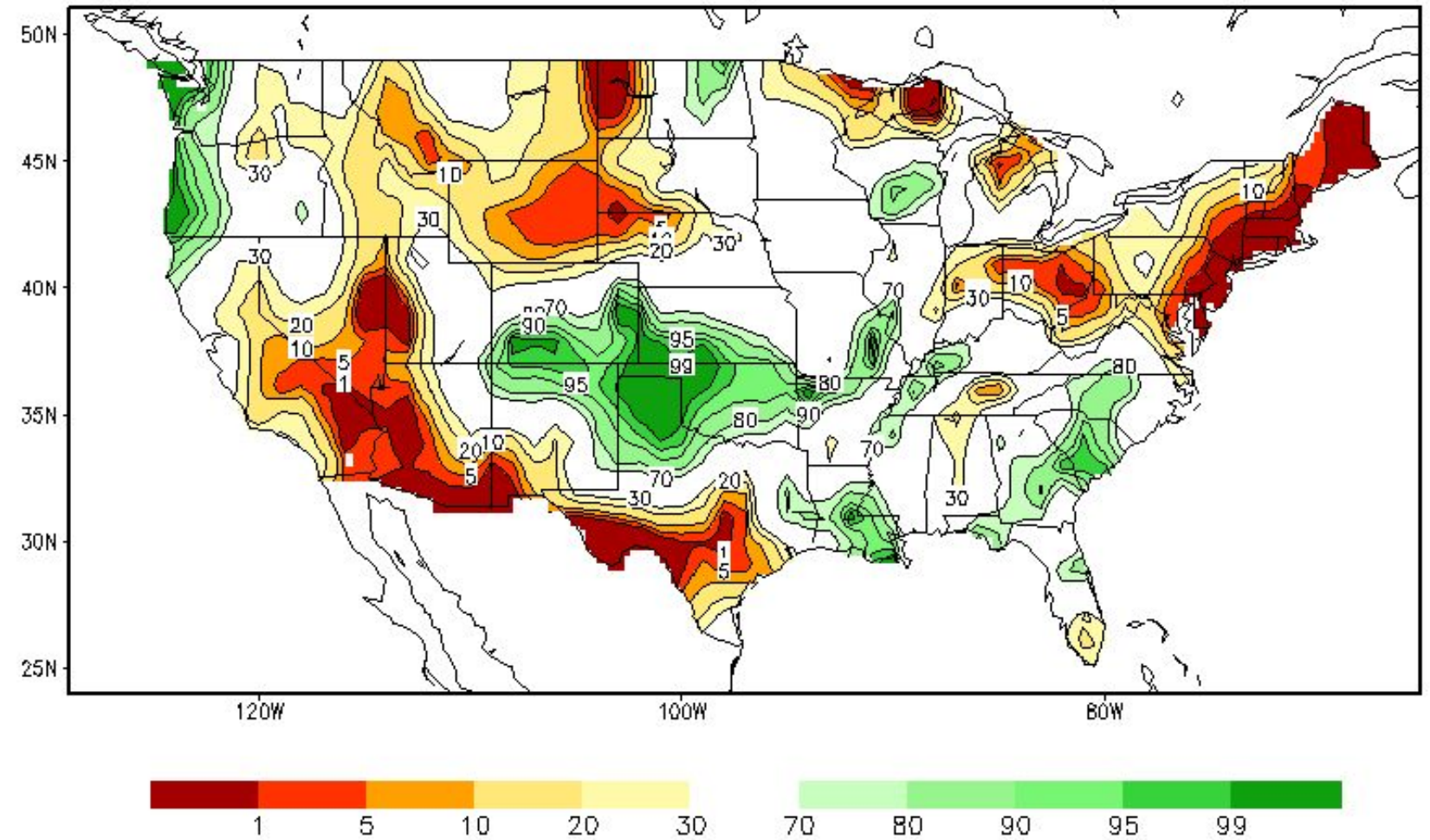


Agricultural Impacts

November 22, 2024
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- Though the agricultural growing season has passed, limited soil moisture can put stress on forests

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
NOV 21, 2024



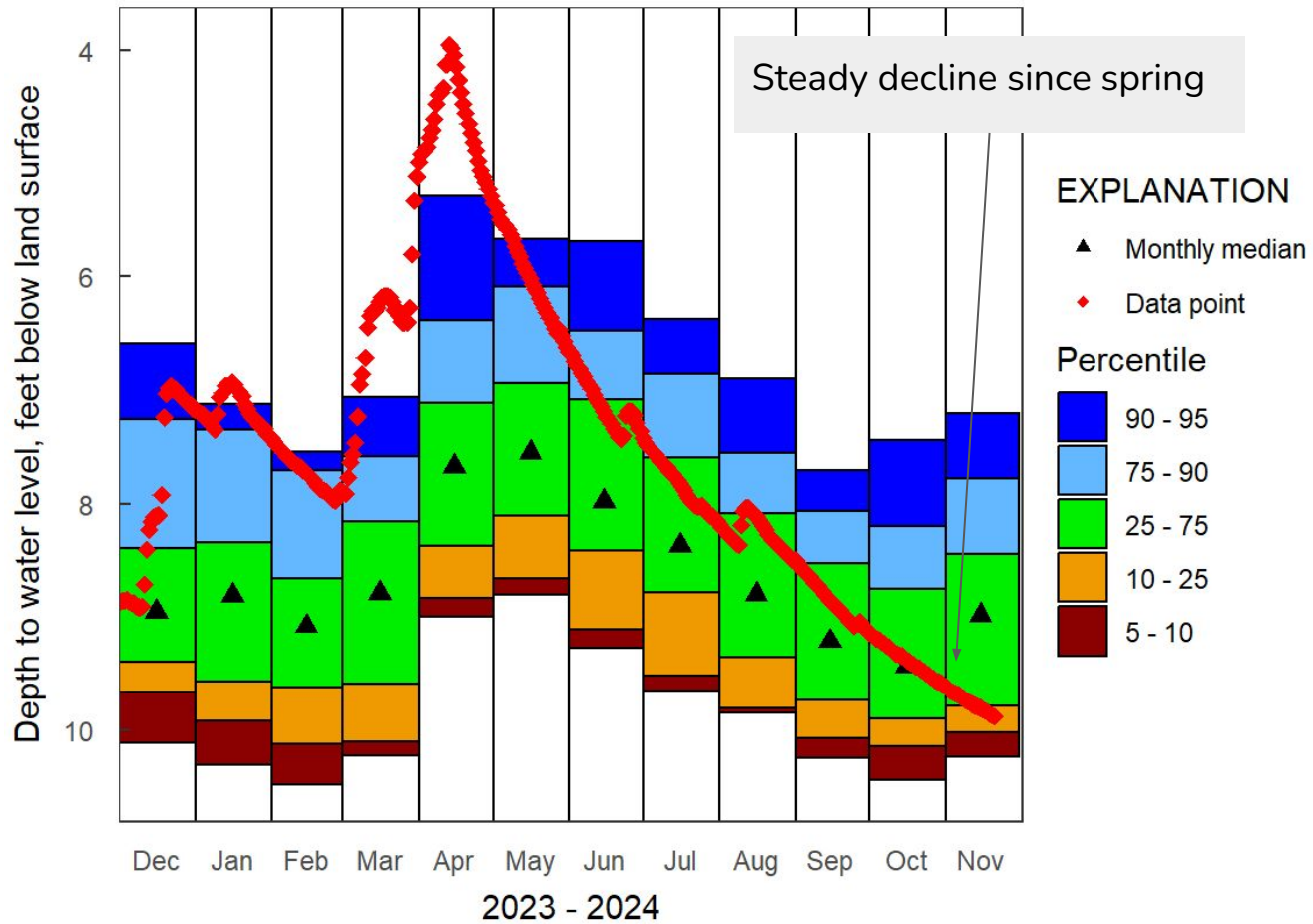


Groundwater Impacts

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

440823070291501 ME-OW1214 Oxford, Maine

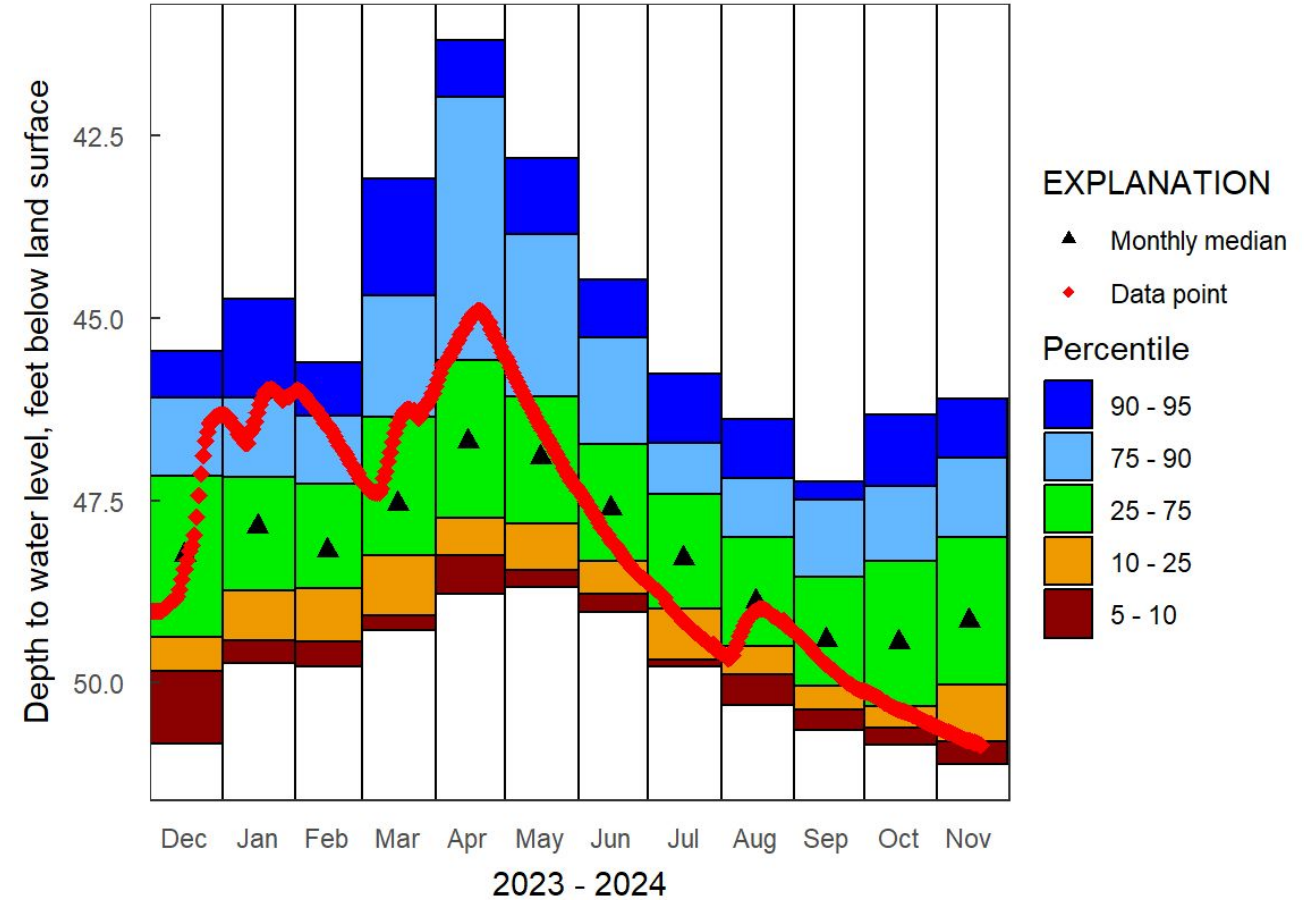
U.S. Geological Survey



Location: Oxford County, Maine

NHGS.HTW-05 Hooksett, NH Bedrock Well 5

New Hampshire Geological Survey

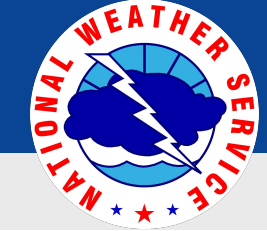


Location: Merrimack County, New Hampshire

Several groundwater monitoring wells are the lowest they've been in November for the period of record (30-40 years)

Source: USGS Groundwater Wells





Drought Outlook

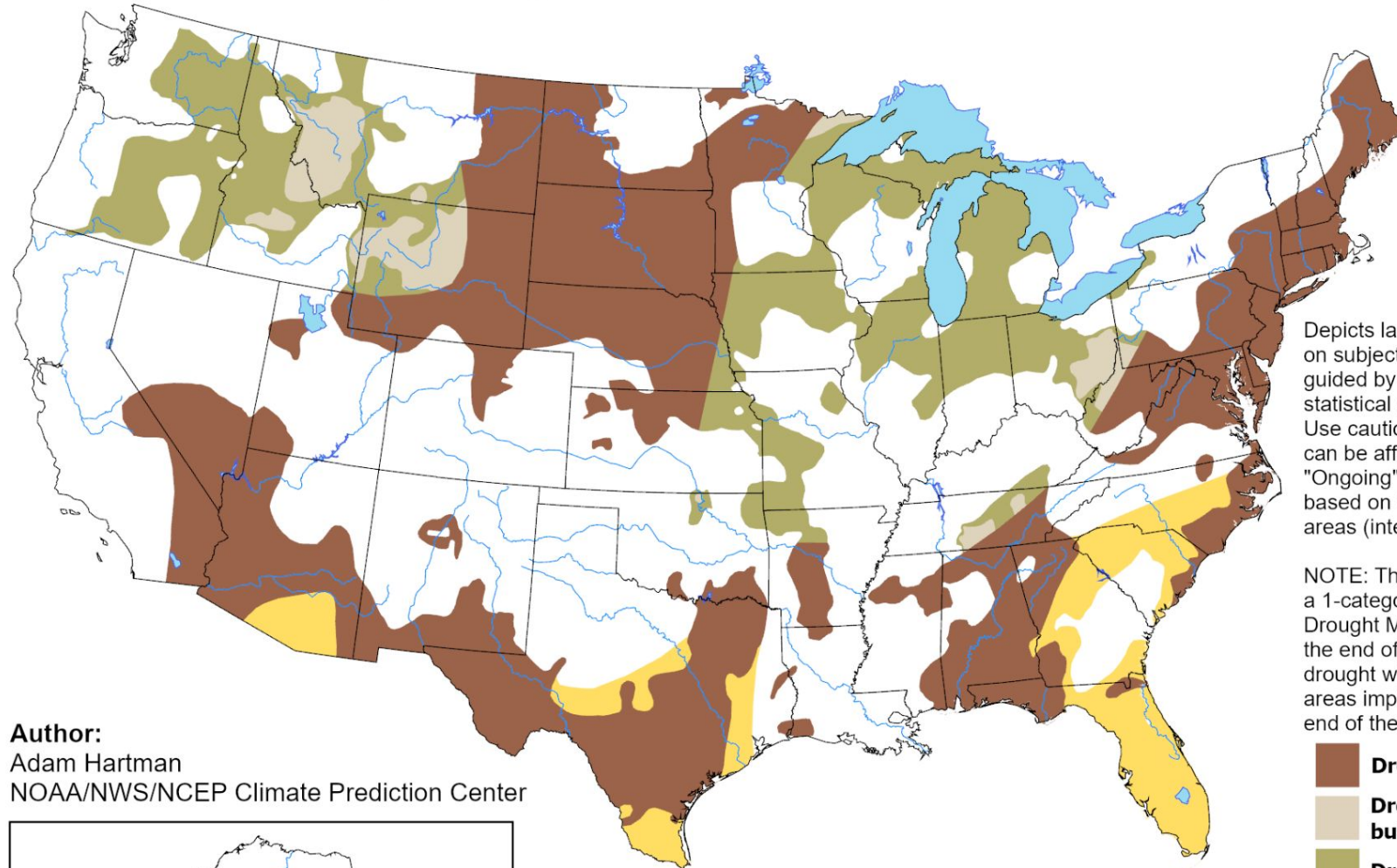
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The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Climate prediction center drought outlooks favor little change in conditions through the winter season
- Drought is favored to persist, particularly across southern areas
- Note: Once the ground freezes groundwater conditions show little change until the spring thaw.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Valid for November 21, 2024 - February 28, 2025

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period Released November 21, 2024

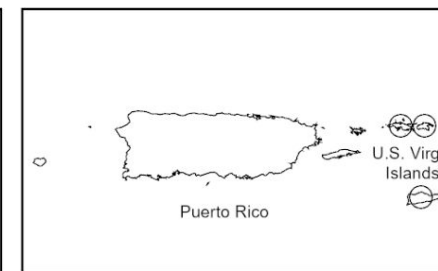
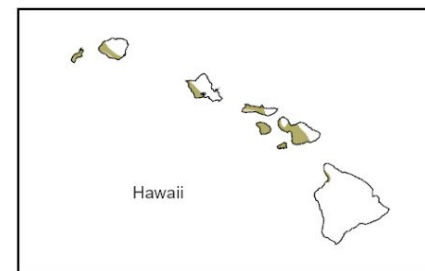
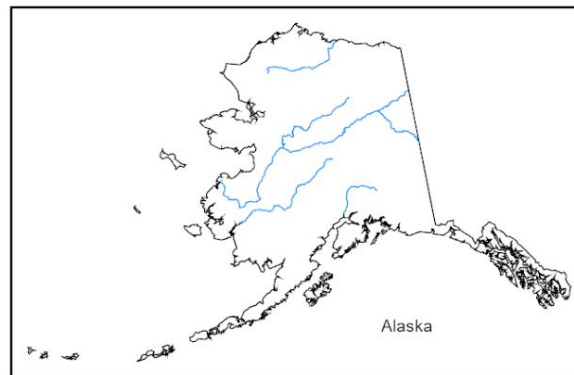


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists**
- Drought remains, but improves**
- Drought removal likely**
- Drought development likely**
- No drought**

Author:
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NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



Links to the latest:

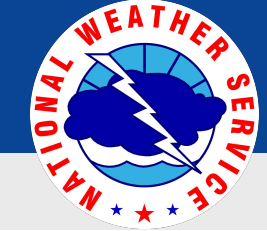
- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>



Summary of Impacts

November 22, 2024
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Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Below normal to all time low streamflows and groundwater levels for this date in November based on USGS gages

Agricultural Impacts

- Though the agricultural growing season has passed, limited soil moisture can put stress on forests

Fire Hazard Impacts

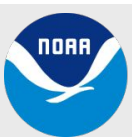
- The total count of wildfires was slightly above average

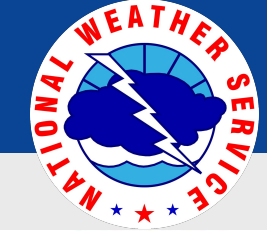
Other Impacts

- Dry wells can occur during periods of drought. Report dry wells in Maine to the [Dry Well Dashboard](#)

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Briefing Webpage

www.weather.gov/gyx/EMhome



<https://www.weather.gov/gyx/drought>



Disclaimer

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- Do Not Use After: December 21, 2024



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