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.

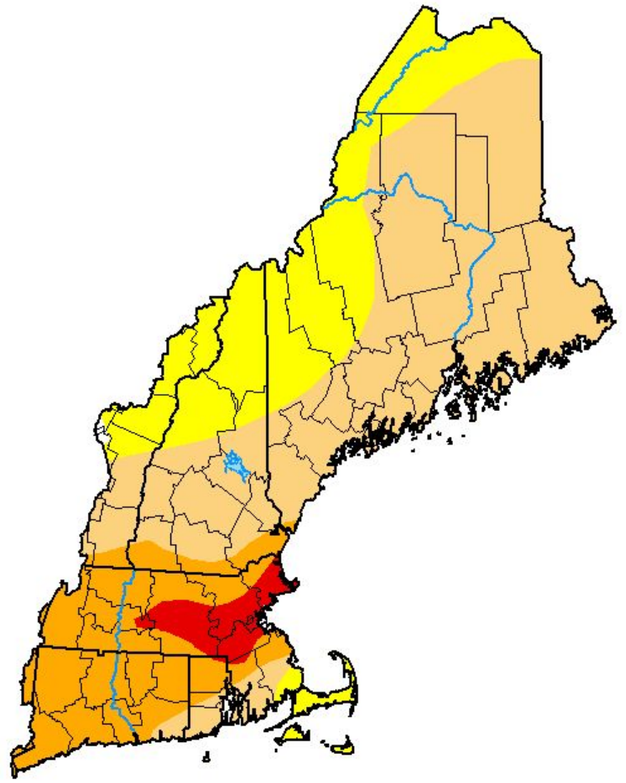
- Fall precipitation was down 6 to 10 inches, which is 30% to 50% of normal.

U.S. Drought Monitor

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

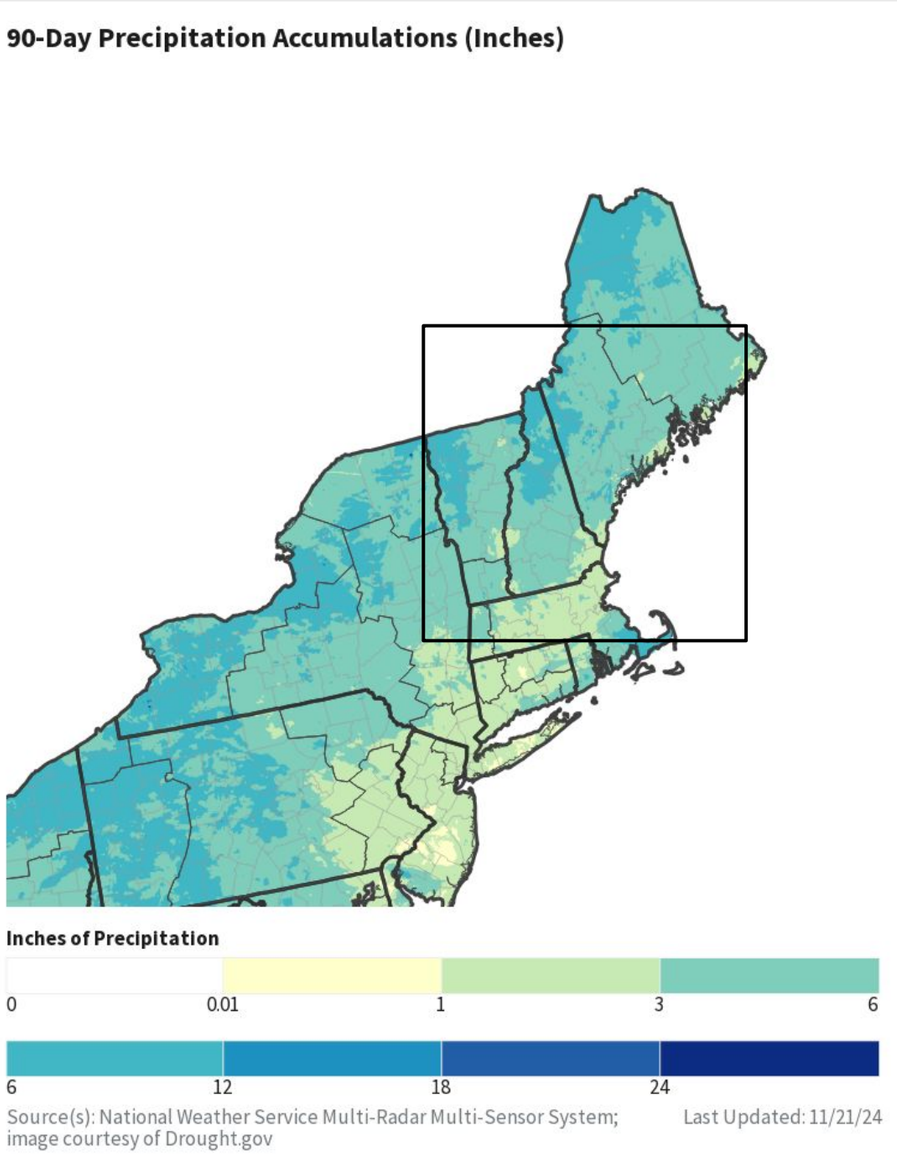
Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for the Northeast

- 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.



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

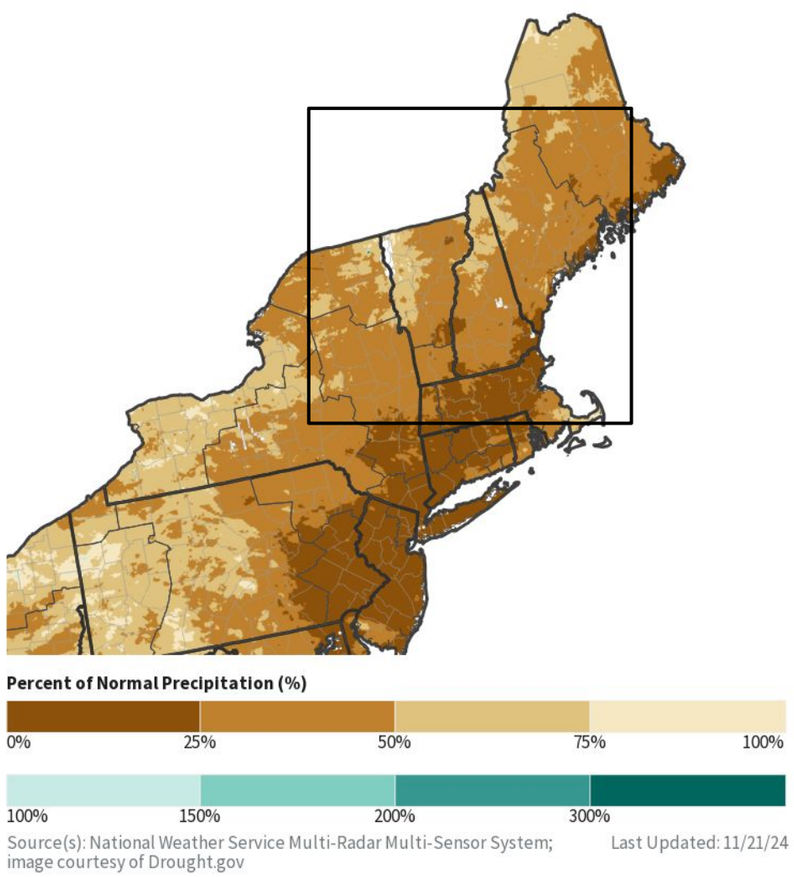


Precipitation

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

- Deficits of 6-10” were observed in the Fall
- One of the top 5 driest falls on record

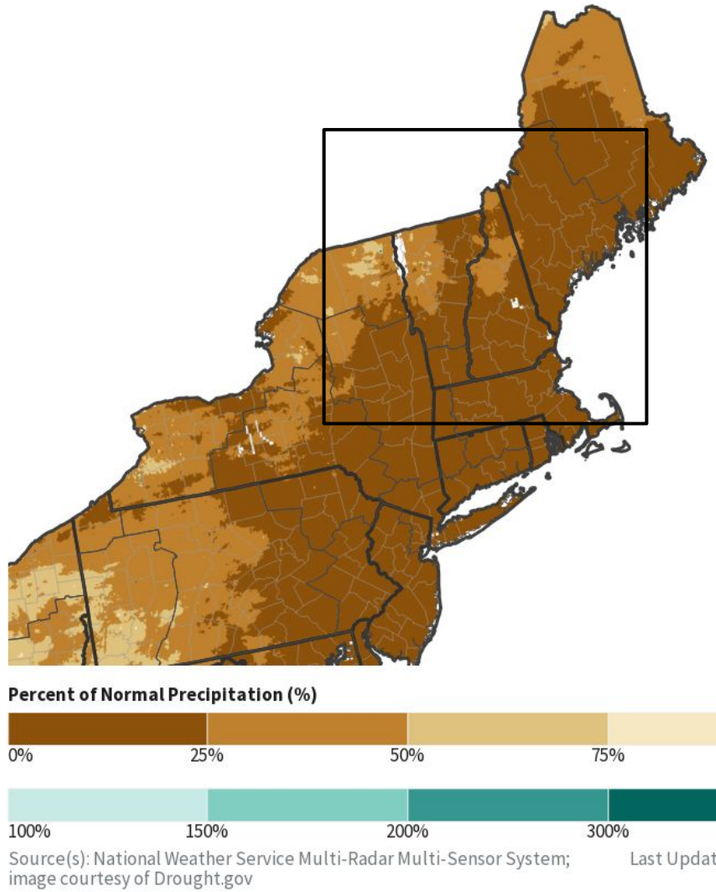
90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 11/21/24

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



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

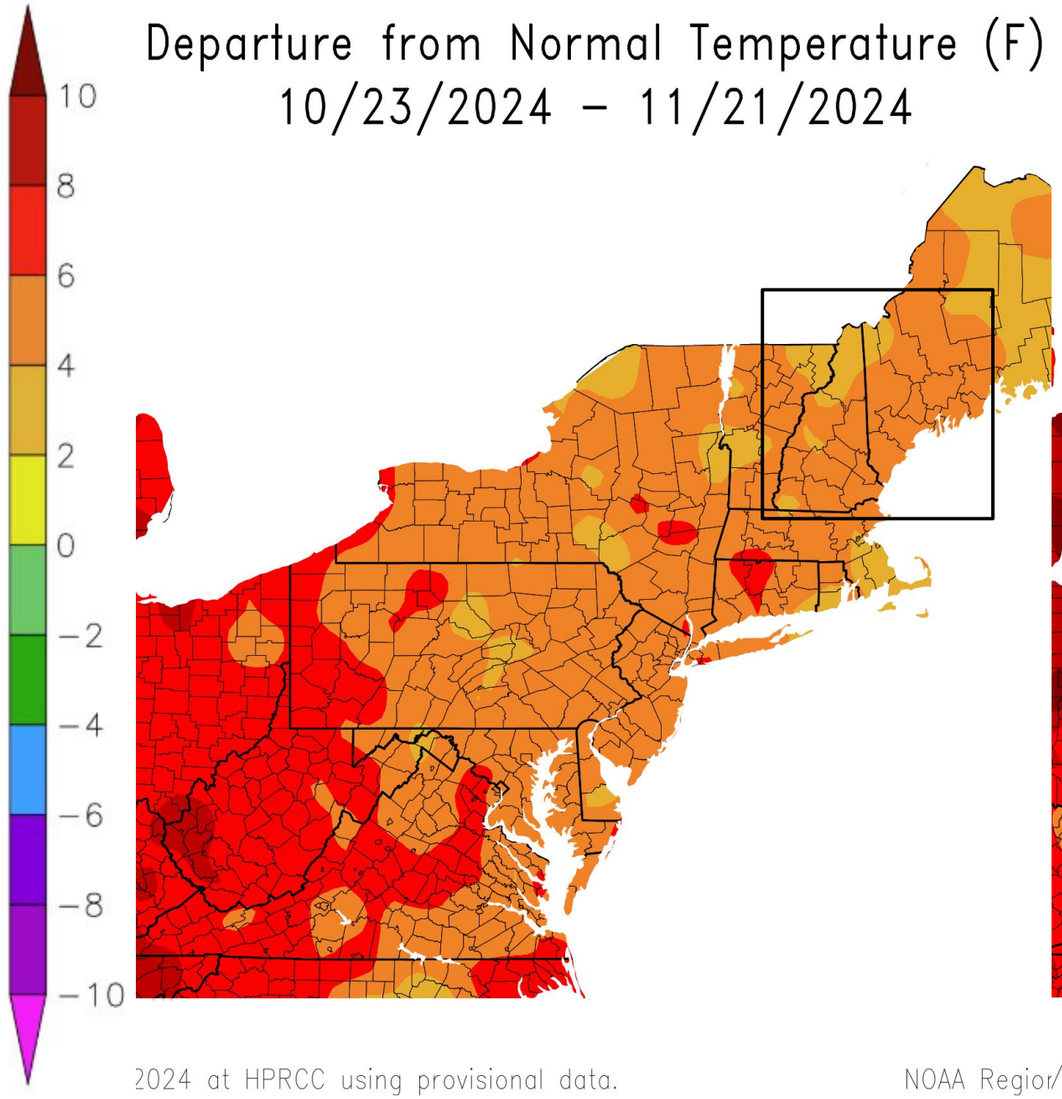
Last Updated: 11/21/24

Temperature

Anomalies

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

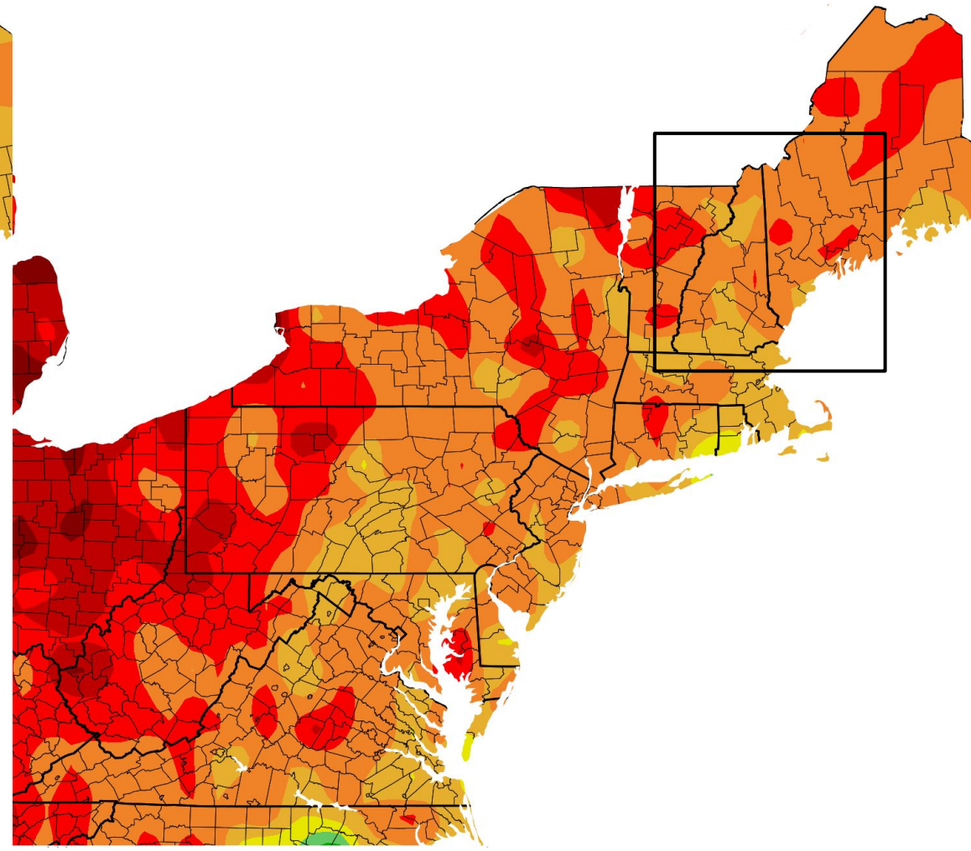
Above normal temperatures coincided with dry-period, increasing evaporation and accelerating drought



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



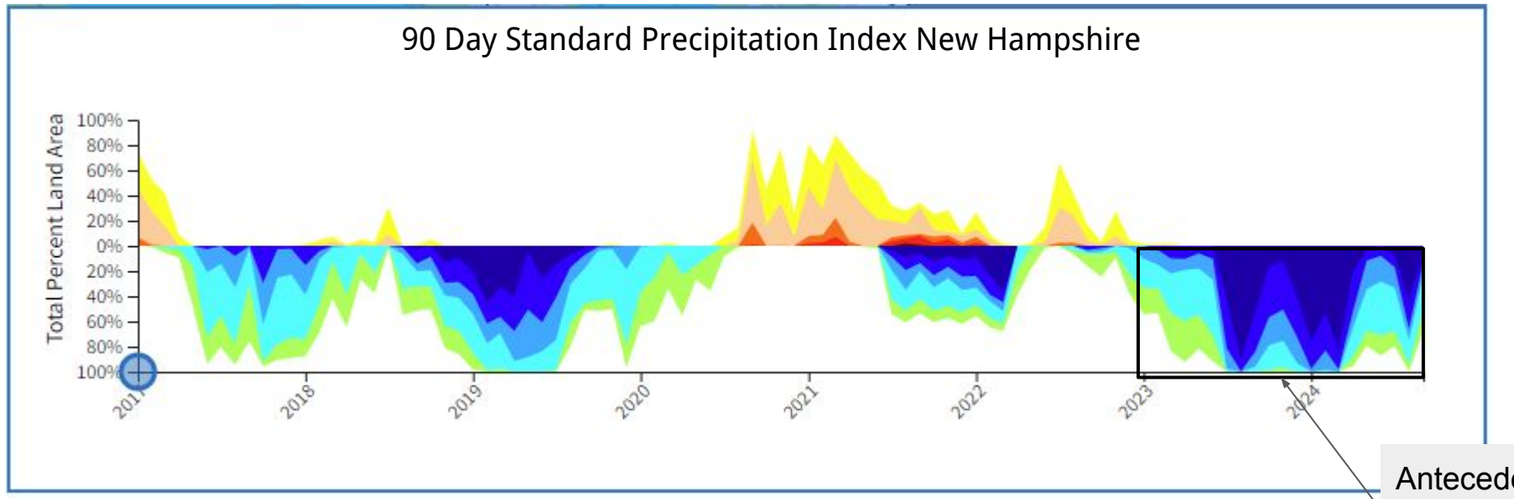
NOAA Regior/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regiona

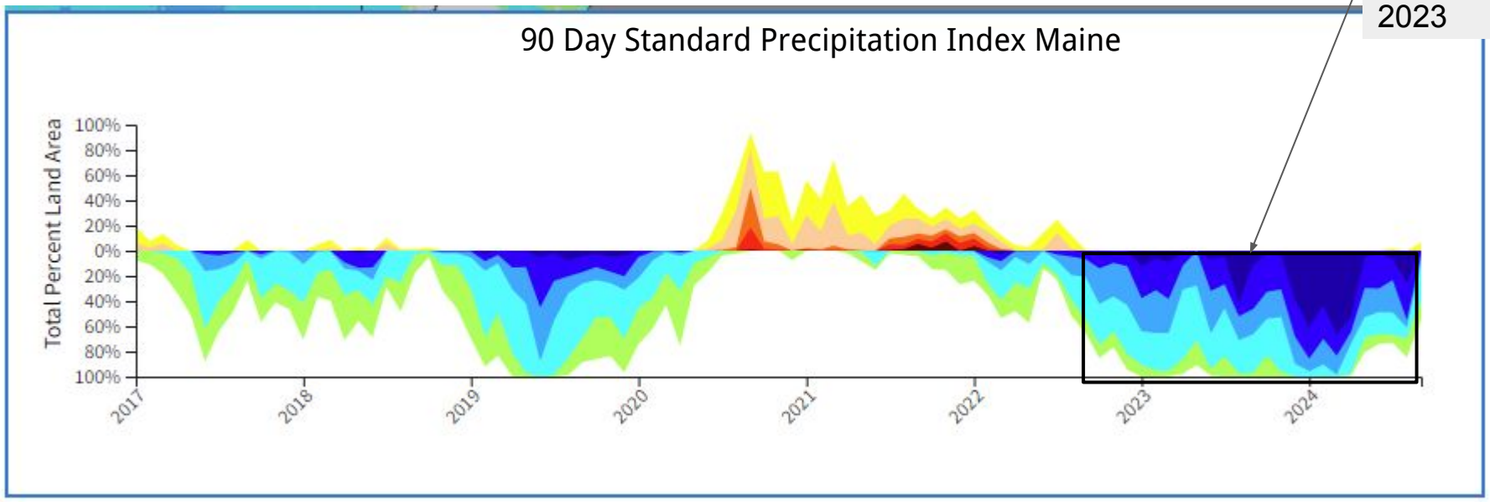
Longer-Term Precipitation Anomalies*

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

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



Antecedent wet conditions starting in 2023



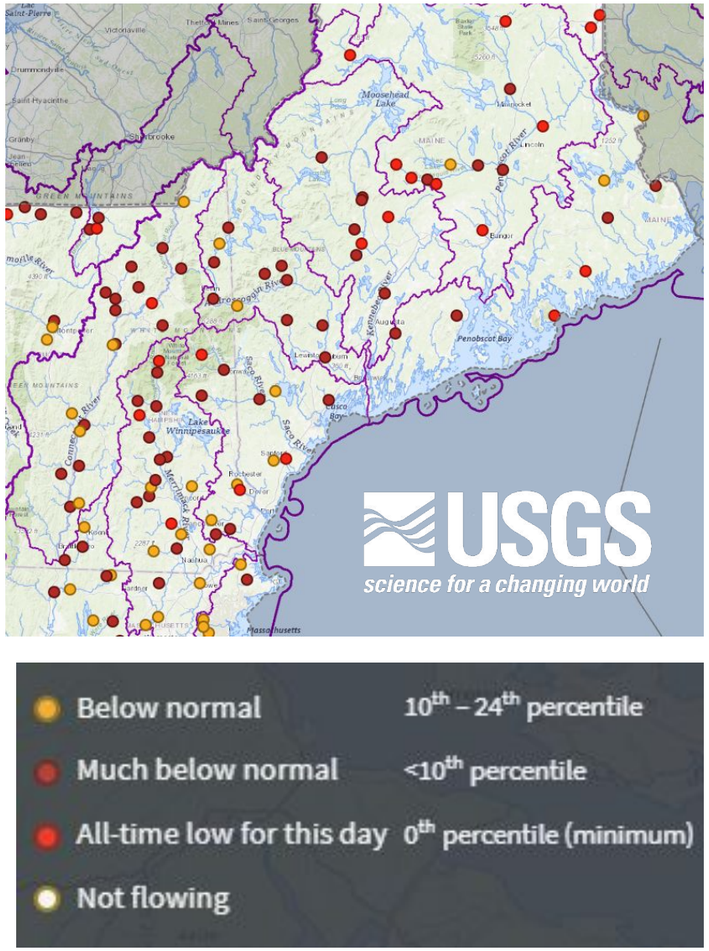
The Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) measures water supply, specifically precipitation. SPI captures how observed precipitation (rain, hail, snow) deviates from the climatological average over a given time period—in this case, over the 9 months leading up to the selected date.

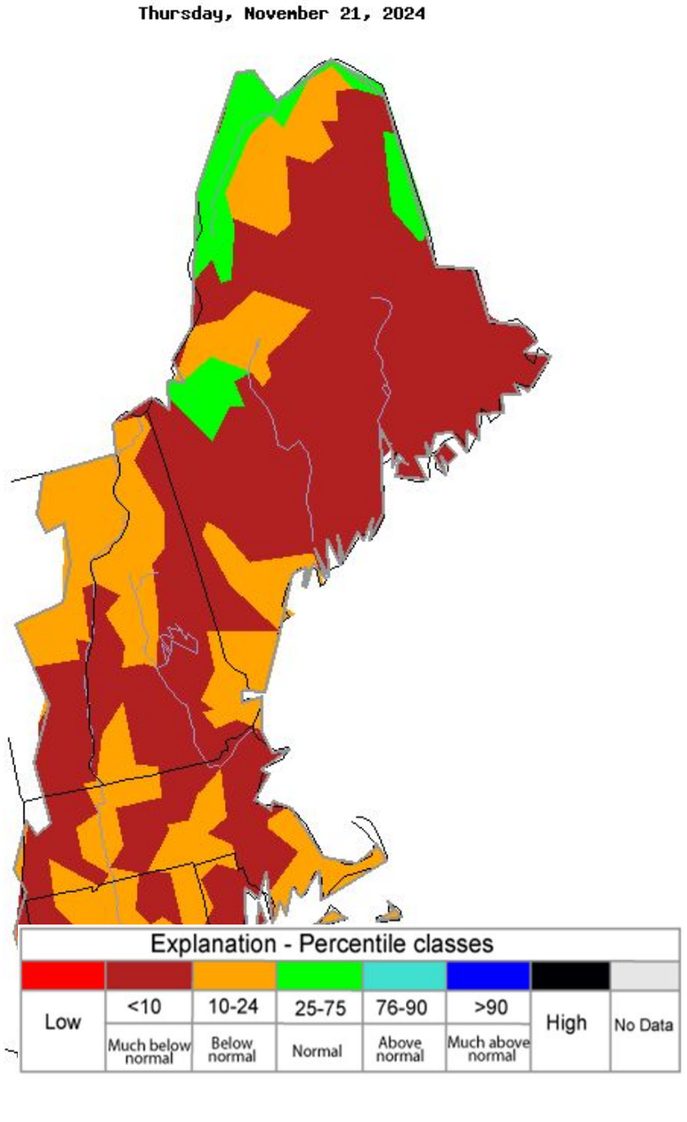
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

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

USGS Streamflow: Low Flow
Nov 22, 2024





USGS

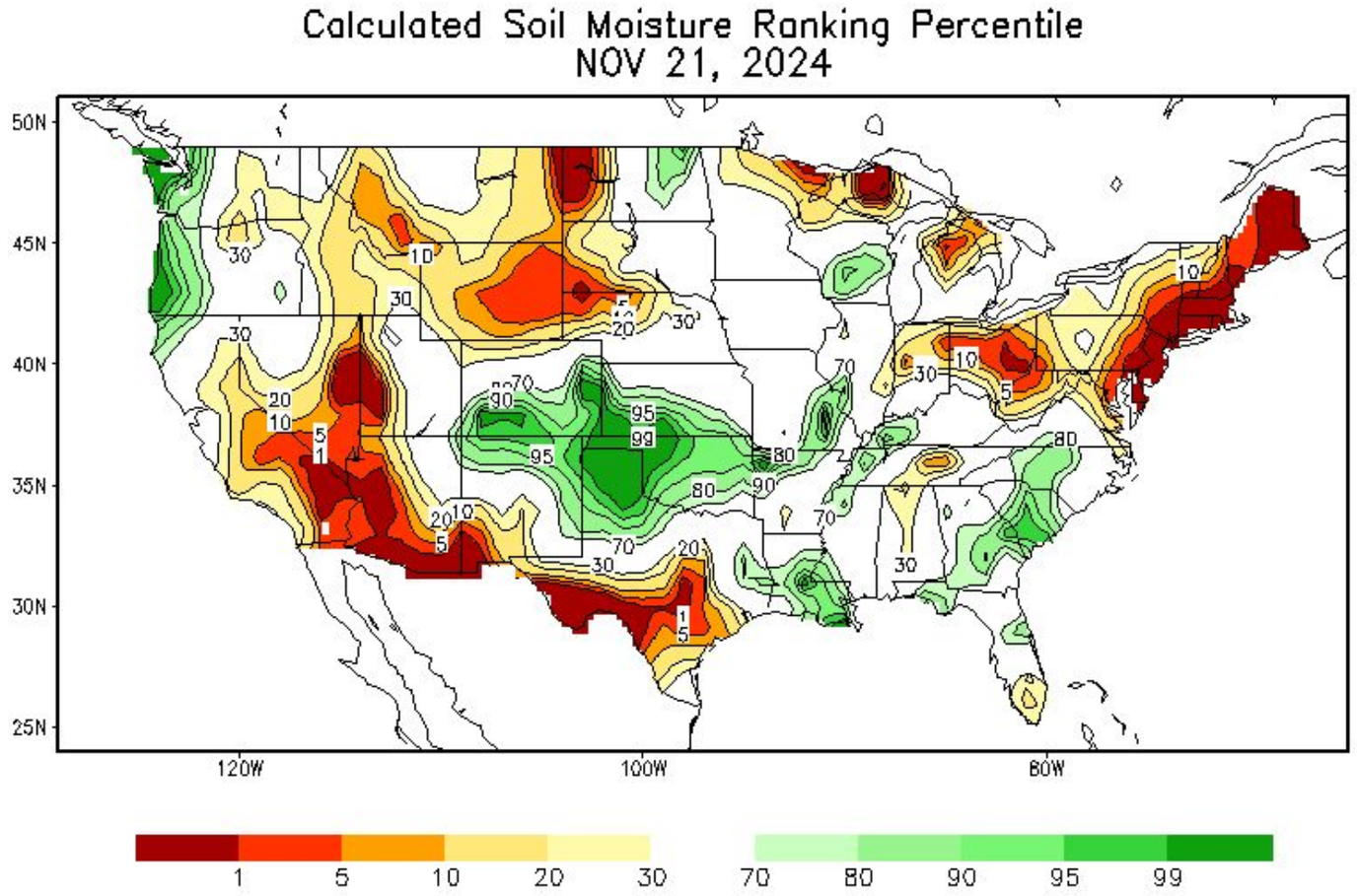
Image 1 (left): USGS Streamflow: Low Flow
Low flows are based on the percentile of existing streamflow records on this day of the year.

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

Agricultural Impacts

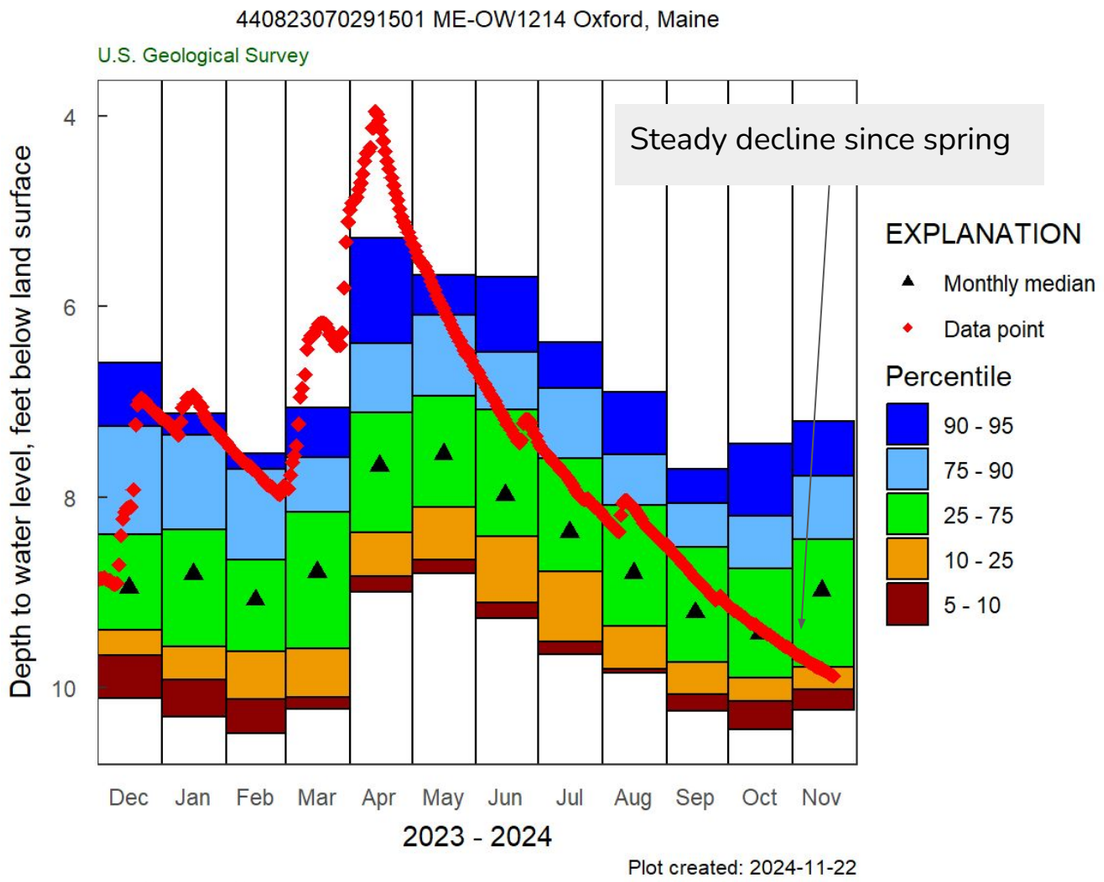
November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

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

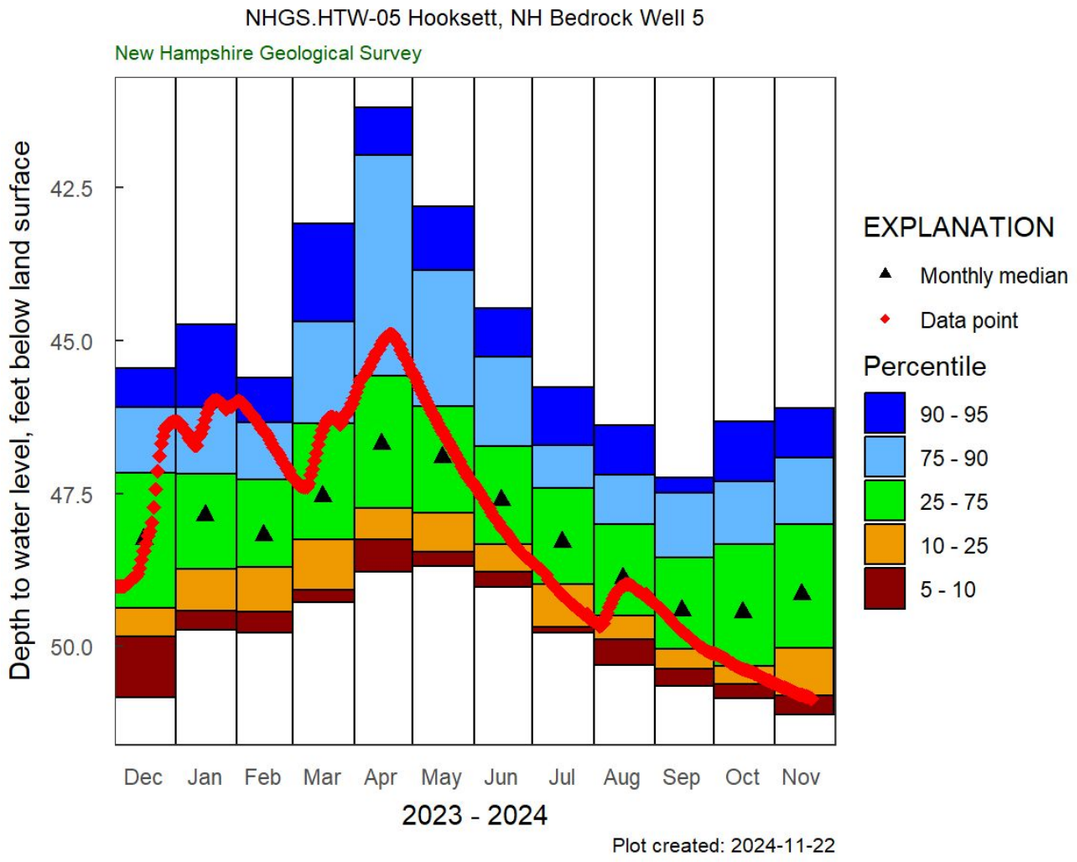


Groundwater Impacts

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM



Location: Oxford County, Maine



Location: Merrimack County, New Hampshire

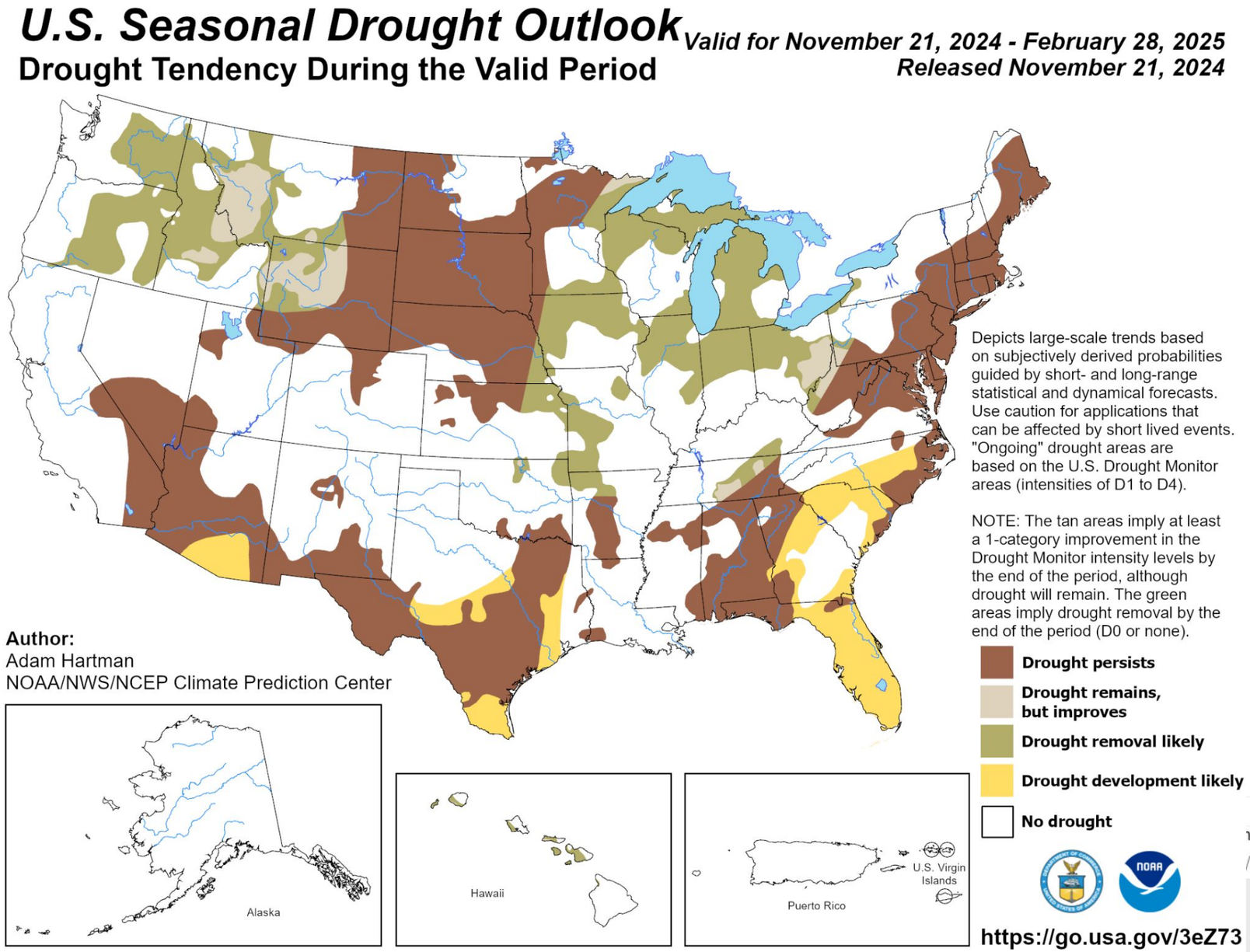
Several groundwater monitoring wells are the lowest they've been in November for the period of record (30-40 years)
Source: USGS Groundwater Wells

Drought Outlook

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

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.



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

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

Summary of Impacts

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

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.

Contact Information

November 22, 2024
12:39 PM

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

Contact Information

Web

➔ www.weather.gov/gyx

Phone (public)

➔ (207) 688-3216

Email

➔ gyx.skywarn@noaa.gov
➔ sarah.jamison@noaa.gov

Facebook

➔ NWSGray

Twitter

➔ @NWSGray