

Winter/Spring Flood Outlook #4

February 20, 2025 10:02 AM

Northern & Eastern Maine

Valid Feb 20th - Mar 6th

OVERVIEW:

The Flood Outlook is Below Normal for Eastern and Northern Maine

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- Northern Basins: Generally 20-30in SD w/ isolated amounts up to 40in. SWEs are running 3-5in w/ isolated amounts up to 6in. SD near Normal & SWE below normal.
- Central Highland Basins: 15-25in SD with isolated higher amounts in the Moosehead Region. SWEs are 2-4in w/ isolated higher amounts. SD is near normal & SWEs are below normal. Baxter State Park Chimney Pond (2971ft elevation) SD is 44in.
- Downeast to Bangor Basins: Mainly 5-15in SD with isolated amounts to 20in along Route 9 corridor. 1.5-3.5in SWE. SD & SWEs are slightly below normal.

RIVER ICE

- Northern Basins: St. John, Big Black, Allagash, Aroostook are 97-99% ice covered. Minor openings where human activity is present. The Fish River is 90% ice covered and filling in quickly. The Meduxnekeag is 80% ice covered. Ice thickness on most rivers is between 10-20 inches w/ isolated thicknesses up to 2.5ft. A former Ice Jam w/ chunks to 3ft thick exists on the Allagash near town & on the Aroostook in Fort Fairfield. Ice quality is mainly white & grey ice with some areas of blue & black ice.
- Central Highland Basins: Penobscot is 80% frozen between Medway and Eddington. However, openings in the ice exist below dams and near larger tributaries along with places where human activities take place. Ice thickness ranges from 9-18in. Piscataquis is 85% frozen from the headwaters to West Enfield. Several areas of openings noted especially near dams & turbulent tributaries. Thickness ranges from 4-12in but up to 18in on dam head ponds. Ice quality is mainly white & grey ice.
- **Downeast to Bangor Basins:** Most rivers Downeast & Bangor region are 70-85% ice covered except some areas 95-100%. Estimated ice thickness varying from 5-12in thick. Ice quality is mainly white & grey ice.

PRECIPITATION & TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

- Temperatures: Slightly Below Average. Precipitation: Slightly Above Average.
- Pattern: Weak +PNA, +NAO within weak La Nina will result in a progressive weather pattern. Storm track will be favored to be south of the area but still within margins to produce precipitation events. Very favorable for cold temperatures to continue the steady ice growth but brief periods of near normal temperatures expected.
- **RIVER TRENDS**
- River flows continues to slowly fall. Flows are below normal.
- **FROST DEPTH**
- Ground is frozen. Generally 15-25in w/ isolated depths to 35in. WFO Caribou 30in.
- **GROUNDWATER**
- Below Normal to Well Below Normal in much of Maine.





National Weather Service Caribou, ME