



Winter/Spring Flood Outlook #7

March 20, 2025

Ice Out in Progress

1:19 PM

Northern & Eastern Maine

Valid Mar 20th - Mar 27th

OVERVIEW:

- The Overall Flood Outlook is **Normal** for Eastern and Northern Maine
- The Ice Jam Threat is **Elevated** for all of Northern Maine, Central Highlands & Penobscot Region
- The Ice Jam Threat is **Limited** for Interior Downeast Maine
- The Ice Jam Threat has **Ended** for Coastal Downeast Maine

SNOWPACK (SD) & SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT (SWE)

“T” = Trace

- **Northern Basins:** 2-12in SD w/ isolated higher amounts W of Route 11. SWEs are 1-4in w/ isolated higher amounts. SD & SWE are below normal. Snowpack is “ripe”.
- **Central Highland Basins:** T-15in SD w/ higher amounts in the Moosehead Region to Baxter SP. SWEs are T-4in. SD & SWEs are below normal. Baxter SP Chimney Pond (2971ft elevation) SD is 29in. Snowpack is “ripe”.
- **Downeast to Bangor Basins:** No SD/SWE from Route 6 corridor to the Downeast coast. SD & SWEs below normal.

RIVER ICE

- **Northern Basins:** Ice out is underway with numerous areas of jumbled ice on the St. John, Aroostook and tributaries. Thermal decay and mechanical break up in progress. Allagash remains locked in place due to St. John ice at the confluence but upstream break up is underway. Ice Jams reported in Allagash, Masardis, Castle Hill & Caribou. Rapidly changing conditions noted.
- **Central Highland Basins:** Ice out is underway with numerous areas of jumbled ice on the larger rivers like Penobscot, Mattawamkeag & Piscataquis. Thermal decay and mechanical break up in progress. Ice jams noted on the Penobscot & Pleasant Rivers that have been causing minor issues.
- **Downeast to Bangor Basins:** Many rivers have completely discharged their ice but some limited issues remain on Interior Downeast rivers.

PRECIPITATION & TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

- **Temperatures:** Above Average turning cooler. **Precipitation:** Light accumulations.
- **Pattern:** Pattern is fairly progressive but active across the area. Multiple chances of light precipitation exist over the next week. Temperatures initially warm will trend cooler but still favorable for thermal decay on river ice especially during the daylight hours.

RIVER TRENDS

- River flows are above to well above average due to early Ice Out/Spring Runoff.

FROST DEPTH

- Ground is frozen but some thawing. Generally 5-20in w/ isolated depths to 35in.

GROUNDWATER

- Wells are improving with melting snowpack & frost in spots.

RIVERS OF CONCERN

- St. John, Allagash, Aroostook, Penobscot & Pleasant.

