

NWS Form E-5 (04-2006) (PRES. BY NWS Instruction 10-924)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE	HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA) Burlington VT	
MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS		REPORT FOR: MONTH	YEAR 2025
		September	2025
TO: Hydrologic Information Center, W/OS31 NOAA's National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283		SIGNATURE John Goff, Senior Service Hydrologist	
		DATE October 21, 2025	

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions below the small box, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).

☒ An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

Overview

High pressure largely dominated the weather pattern across the NWS Burlington Hydrologic Service Area (HSA) during the month of September 2025. Scattered showers and a few storms affected the region during the 30-day period, but these were more hit and miss and associated with weak frontal passages. As a whole, rainfall averaged between 2 and 4 inches across the area which was broadly below normal for most areas (Figs. 1-3). This continued the abnormally dry trend from months prior during the summer of 2025. As a result, stream and wells continued to experience very low levels, with some USGS gauges measuring near record low flows on and off through the month (Fig. 4). These conditions contributed to a gradual worsening of drought conditions across the HSA, with many areas seeing severe to extreme level drought by month's end (Figs. 5 and 6). Of note, this was the first instance during the modern USDM period (2000 – present) that D3 (extreme drought) conditions were observed in the state of Vermont. Per request from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, numerous public reports of drought impacts were also received via the Condition Monitoring Observer Reporting (CMOR) online platform (Fig. 7). This greatly aided decision makers at the state and federal level with ground truth information about deteriorating drought in the state. Given the worsening drought in the NWS Burlington HSA over the summer/early fall, the Vermont Drought Task Force initiated weekly meetings to assess, collaborate and communicate impacts across constituent's respective districts. By month's end, state level lawmakers were coordinating with federal officials to work toward a Secretarial Disaster Declaration for many areas in the state as a result of the economic/agricultural losses and drinking water impacts from the extremely dry conditions.

Notable Hydrology

There was no other notable hydrology worthy of discussion during September, other than the severe drought conditions discussed above. No flooding or high water issues were observed.

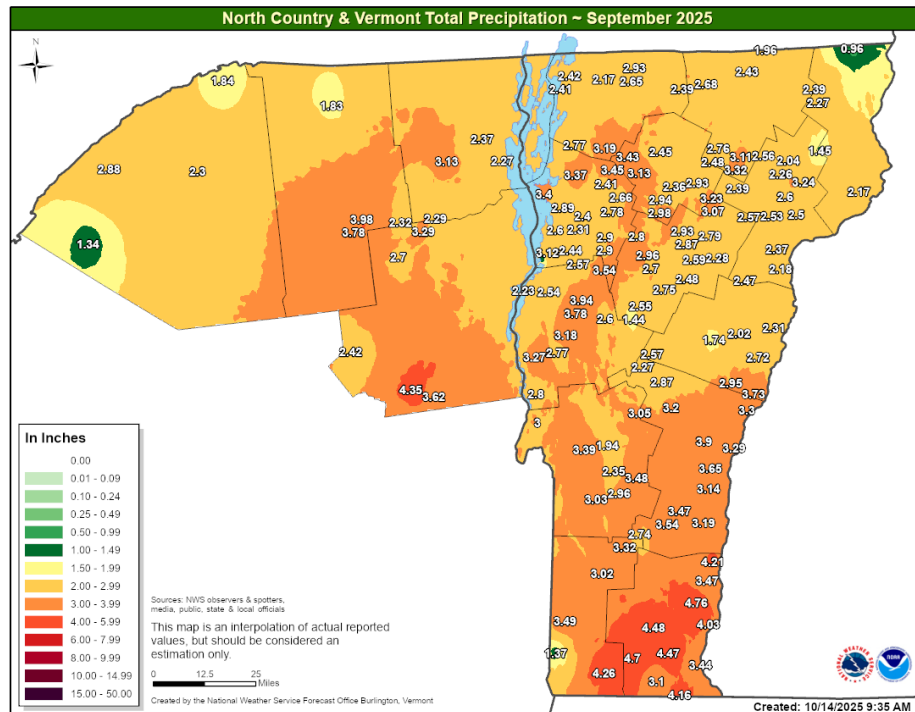


Figure 1: Septmber 2025 precipitation across the NWS Burlington, HSA. Overall, values from two to four inches were commonplace.

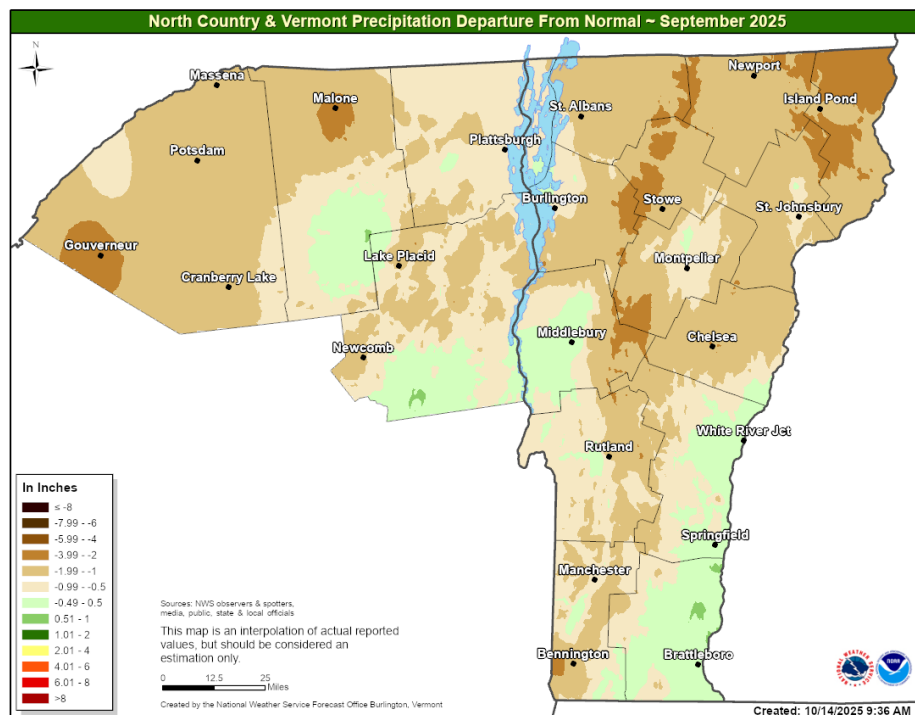


Figure 2: September 2025 precipitation departures (in inches) across the NWS Burlington HSA. Most areas observed negative departures between one half and two and a half inches.

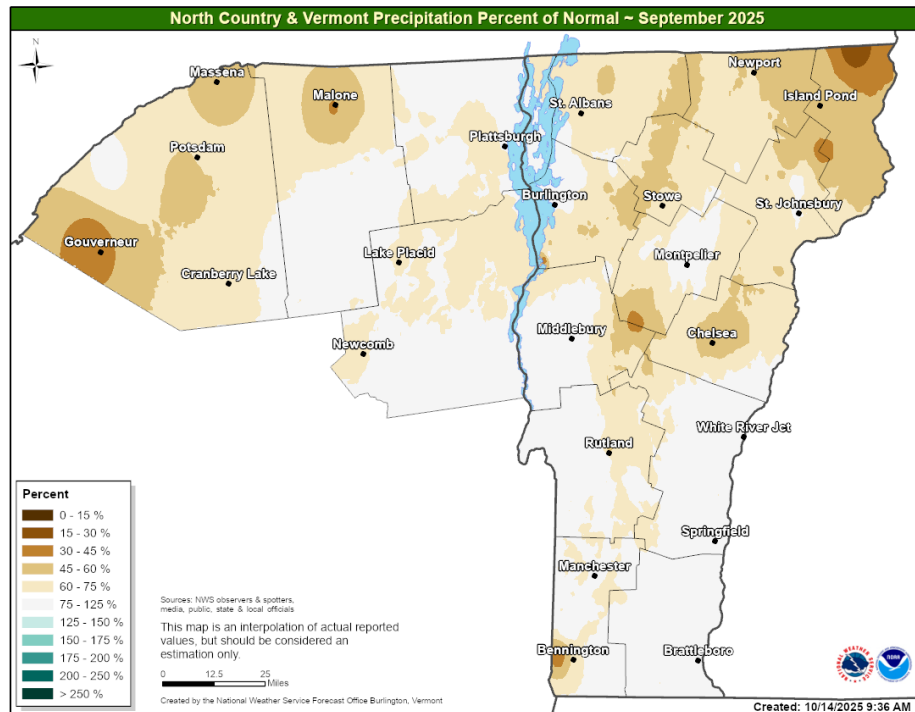


Figure 3: Percent of normal precipitation in September 2025 for the NWS Burlington HSA. Most areas fell into the 50 to 80th percentile of normal monthly amounts.

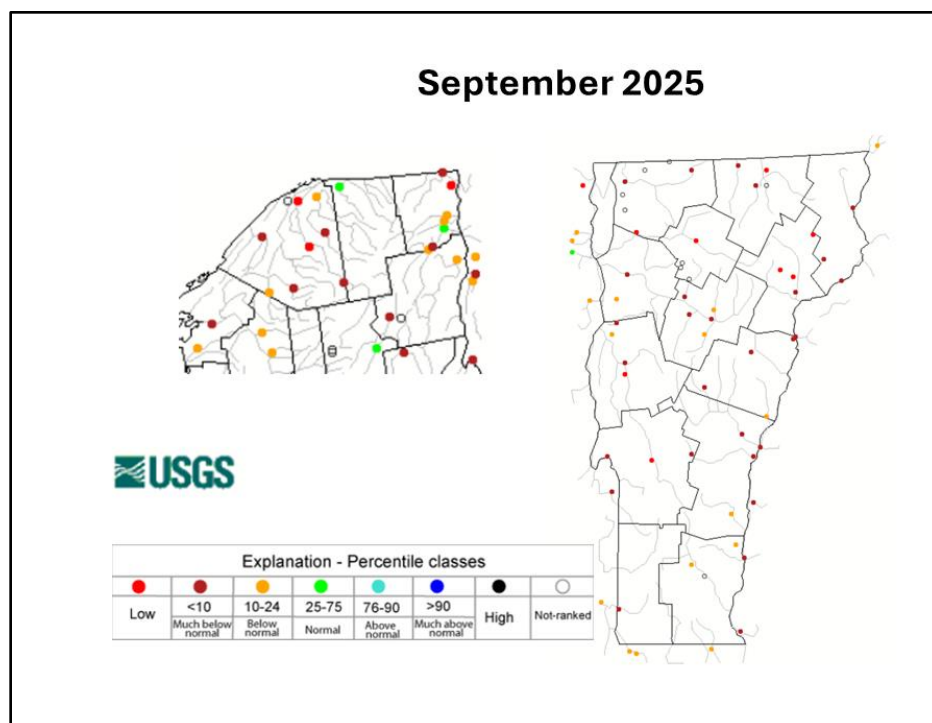


Figure 4: Monthly average streamflow for September 2025 showing well below normal values for most portions of the NWS Burlington HSA in Vermont and northern New York.

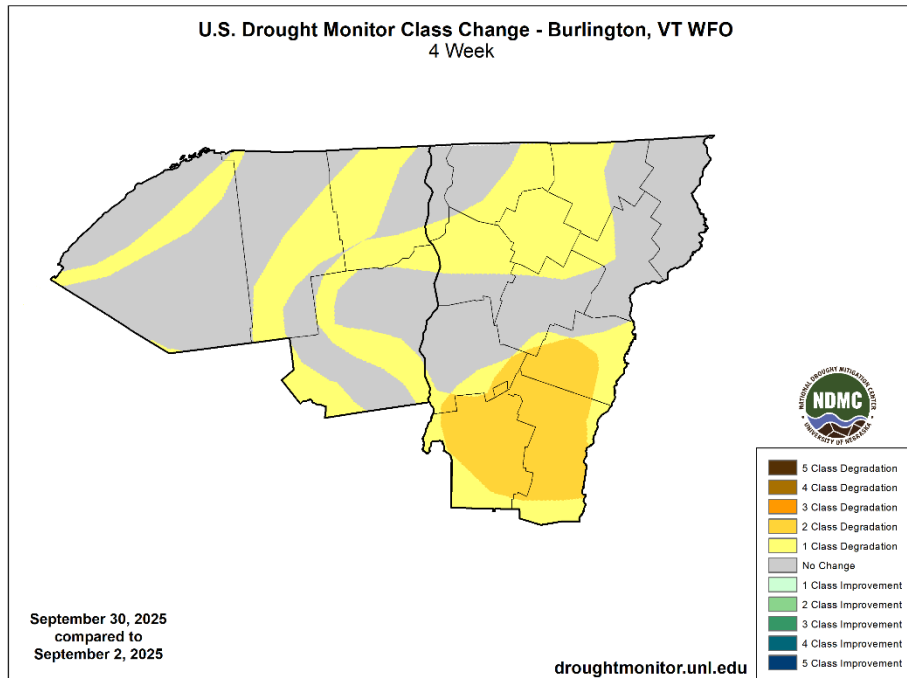


Figure 5: U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change 4-week map for the NWS Burlington HSA from September 2-30, 2025. The overall dry pattern through the month lead to 1 and 2 class degradations across portions of the area.

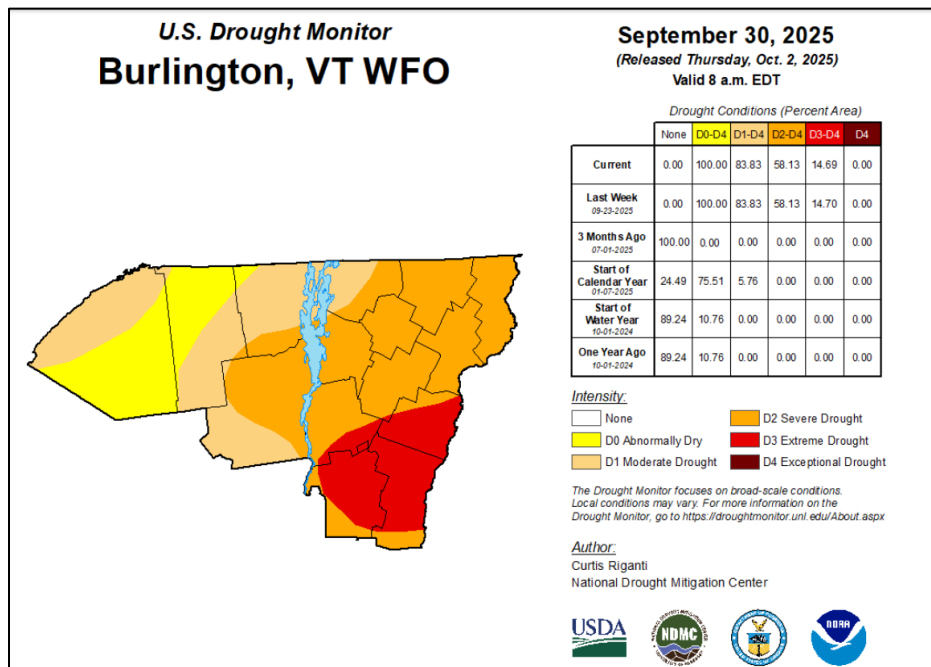


Figure 6. U.S. Drought Monitor Map from September 30, 2025 showing widespread D1 to D3 conditions across the NWS Burlington HSA.

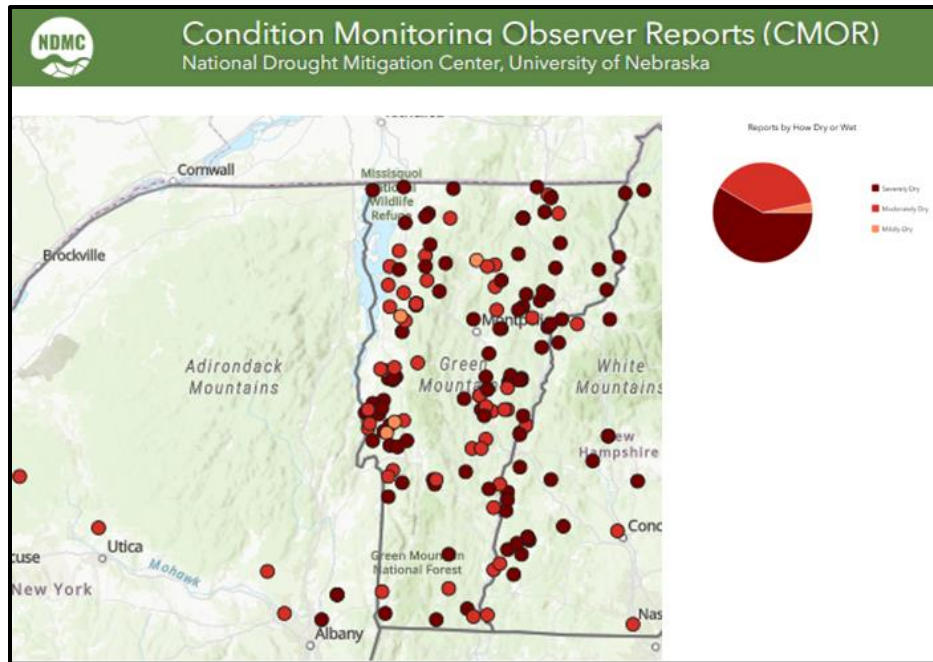


Figure 7: Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMOR) of drought conditions across the NWS Burlington HSA during the month of September 2025. An outreach effort by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources soliciting reports on the platform aided in getting ground truth drought information to state and federal level partners.