

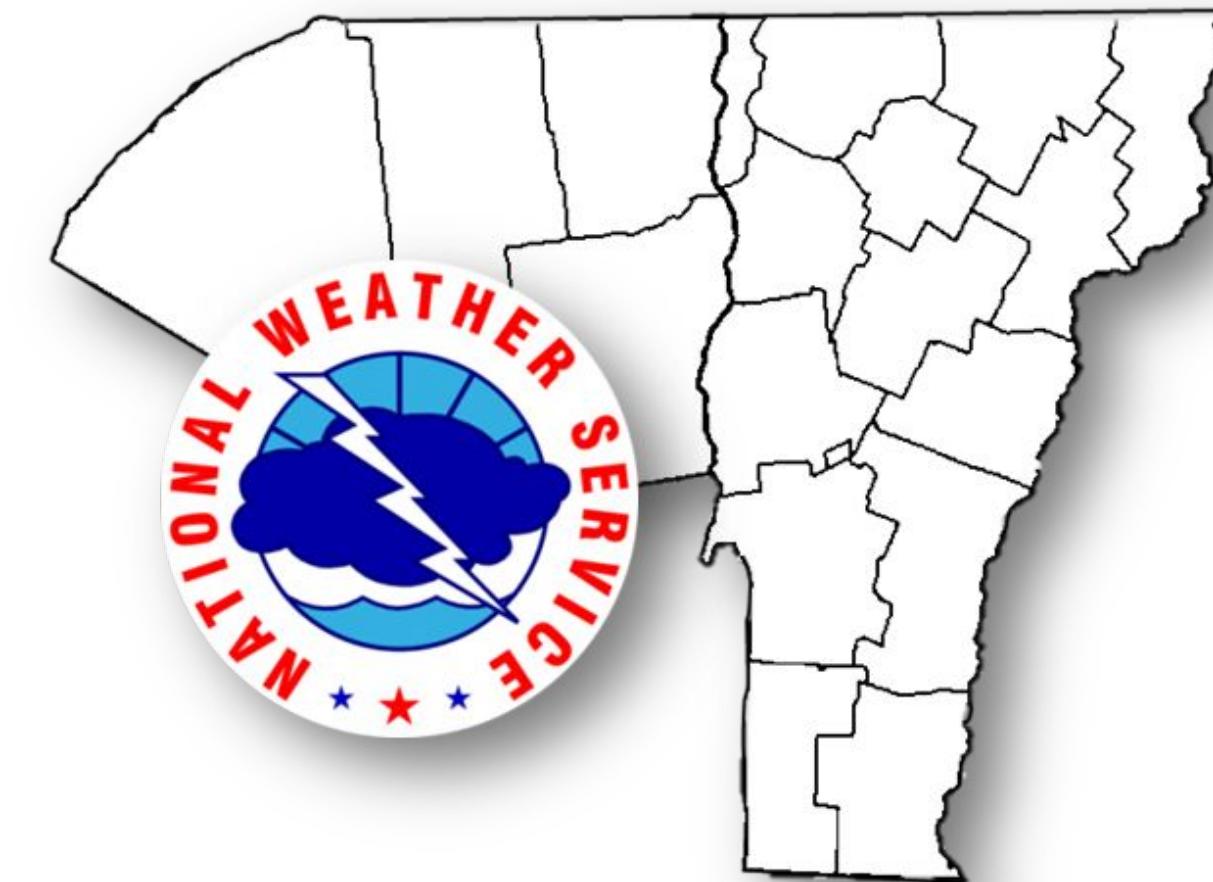


NWS Burlington: Winter/Spring Flood Outlook

January 8, 2026
11:36 AM

For northern New York and all of Vermont

Valid: January 8-21, 2026



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U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Burlington, VT



Overview

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OVERVIEW/TAKEAWAYS:

- The open water flood potential is below normal for the majority of the area for the next two weeks. Above normal flood potential exists for a small area of southwestern Vermont where a slightly higher probability of thawing/runoff exists. Some light snowmelt and/or compaction of the snowpack will likely occur in the January 8-11 time frame with modest thawing expected. However, no heavy rainfall is expected, so the threat of large-scale runoff is minimal during this period.
- Snow cover and snow water content continue to generally increase across the area, with many areas seeing near to above normal snow depths. This is especially true across higher terrain. On average, above normal temperatures are expected over the next two weeks. Near to above normal precipitation is also expected, which should fall largely as light snows or light mixed precipitation.
- River ice coverage will remain steady state or slowly build over the next two weeks, with most rivers now partially or fully ice covered. No ice jams have been observed to date. No large-scale heavy precipitation or thawing events are in the forecast, so the threat of ice breakup is minimal over the next two weeks.

HAZARDS & IMPACTS

- Minimal flood impacts are expected over the next two weeks.

OUTLOOK CHALLENGES

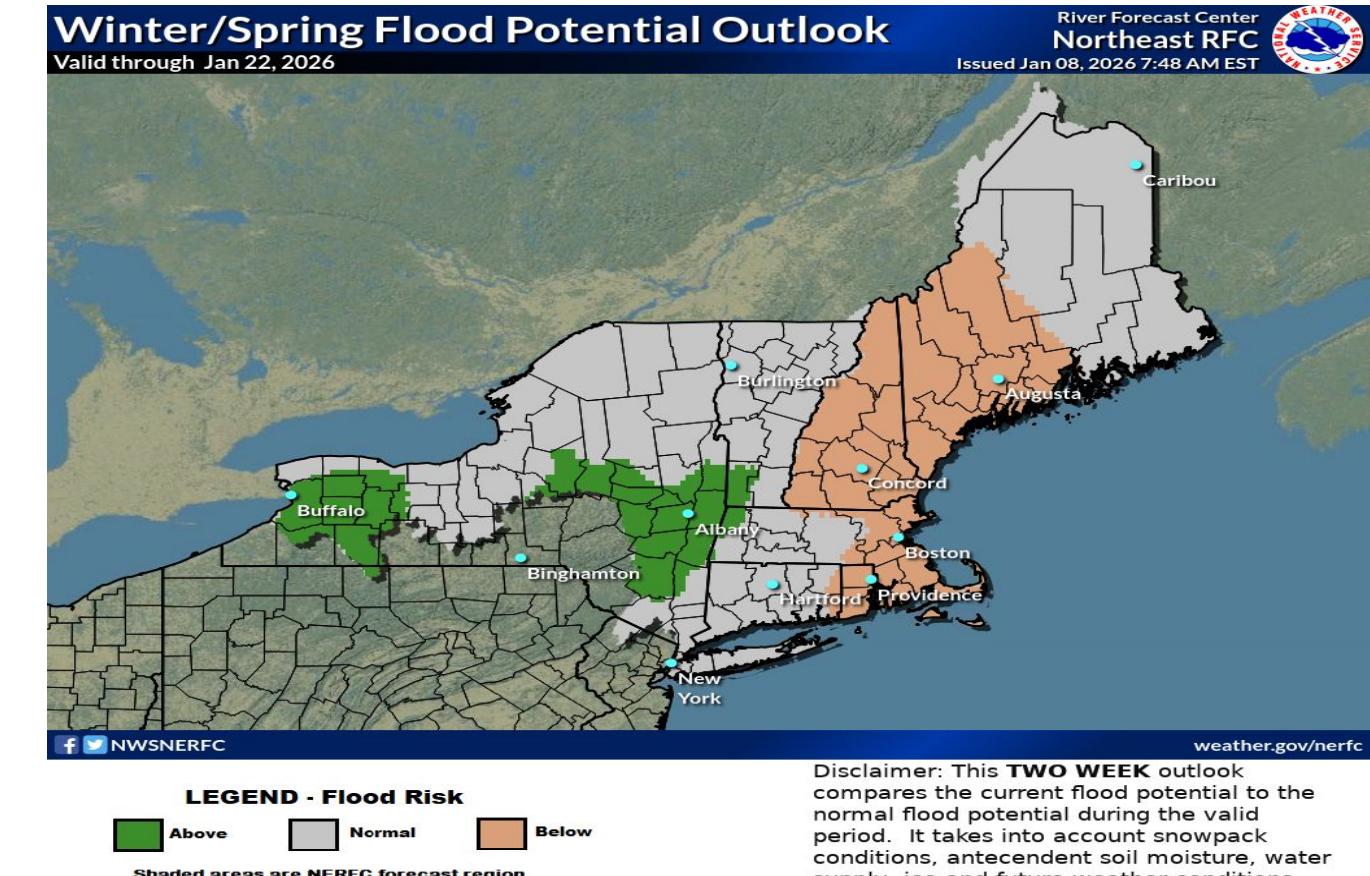
- We will lie in an active, seasonable, early to mid-winter weather pattern through the next two weeks. At this time, no highly impactful systems that could produce a significant thaw or large river rises are anticipated. Precipitation should fall mainly in the form of light snows or light mixed precipitation with limited runoff.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Recent precipitation: Near normal
- Snow cover: Near to above normal
- Snow water equivalent: Near to above normal
- River levels: Mainly near normal

- Soil moisture:** Near to below normal
- Groundwater:** Trending below normal
- Temperature outlook:** Above normal for the outlook period as a whole
- Precipitation outlook:** Leaning above normal for the outlook period as a whole

FLOOD POTENTIAL	REGIONS
Above	A limited area of southwest Vermont
Normal	Majority of VT and northern NY
Below	None
Next Briefing	January 22, 2026



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Snowpack Data for January 7, 2026

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Snowpack continues to slowly build across the area

Snow Depths

Champlain, Lower CT, and St Lawrence Valleys: ~ 5 - 10"

Mid-terrain (1000-2500 ft): ~ 10 - 30"

Higher terrain and summits (>2500 ft): 3+ feet

Near normal valleys, near to above normal in higher terrain

North Country Snow Depth Wednesday, January 7, 2026

In Inches

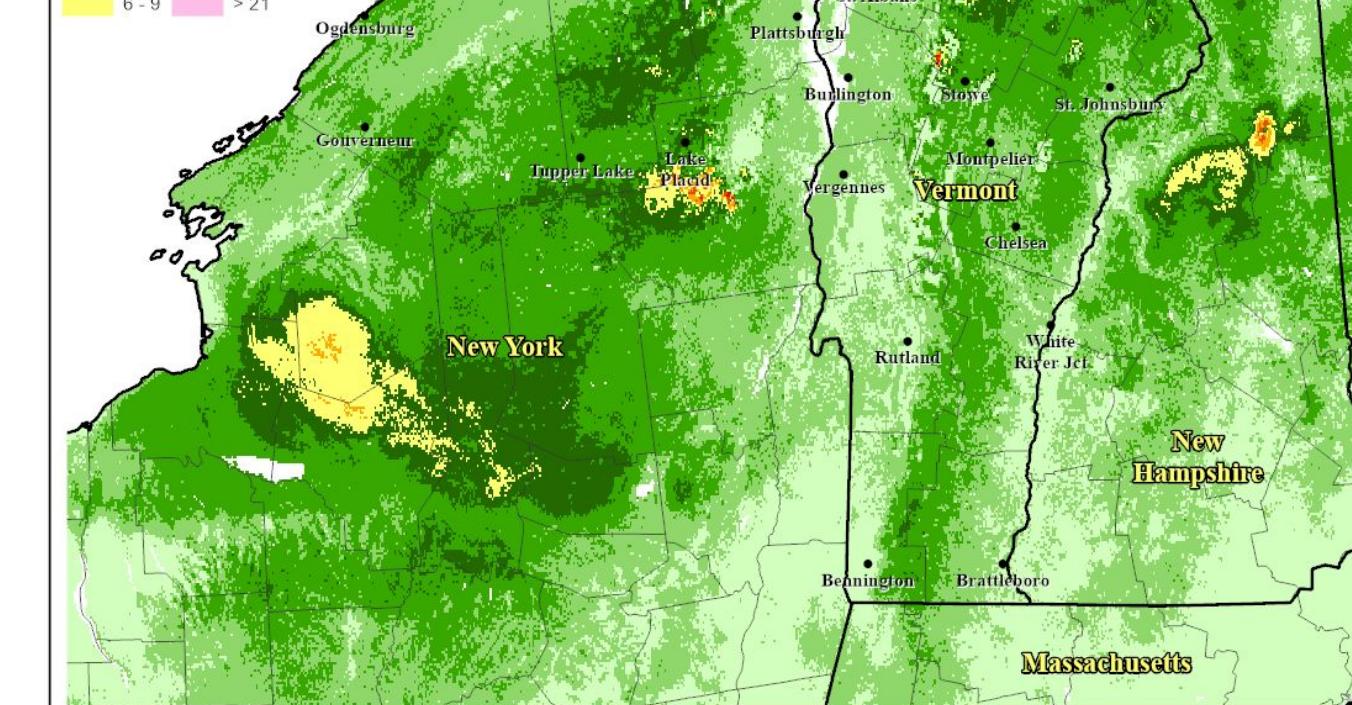
< 3	24 - 36
3 - 6	36 - 48
6 - 12	48 - 60
12 - 18	60 - 80
18 - 24	> 80



North Country Snow Water Equivalent Wednesday, January 7, 2026

In Inches

< 1	9 - 12
1 - 2	12 - 15
2 - 4	15 - 18
4 - 6	18 - 21
6 - 9	> 21



Water Equivalents

Champlain, Lower CT, and St Lawrence Valleys: ~0.5 - 2.5"

Mid-terrain (1000-2500 ft): ~ 2 - 6"

Higher terrain and summits (>2500 ft): ~ 4 to 8+"

Near normal valleys, near to above normal in higher terrain



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River Ice Coverage

As of January 8, 2026

January 8, 2026
11:36 AM

- Any potential for ice jam flooding is below normal over the next two weeks. No ice jams are currently observed.
- Rivers showing a mix of partially open channels to fully ice covered conditions. Where solid ice coverage exists, thicknesses are estimated at 3 to 6 inches.
- Despite brief thawing conditions in the Jan 8-11 time frame, large-scale snowmelt and river rises are not expected.
- Also, no heavy rainfall events are in the forecast, or look probable in the next 10 days.



East Branch Ausable River @ Au Sable Forks, NY (1/8/26)



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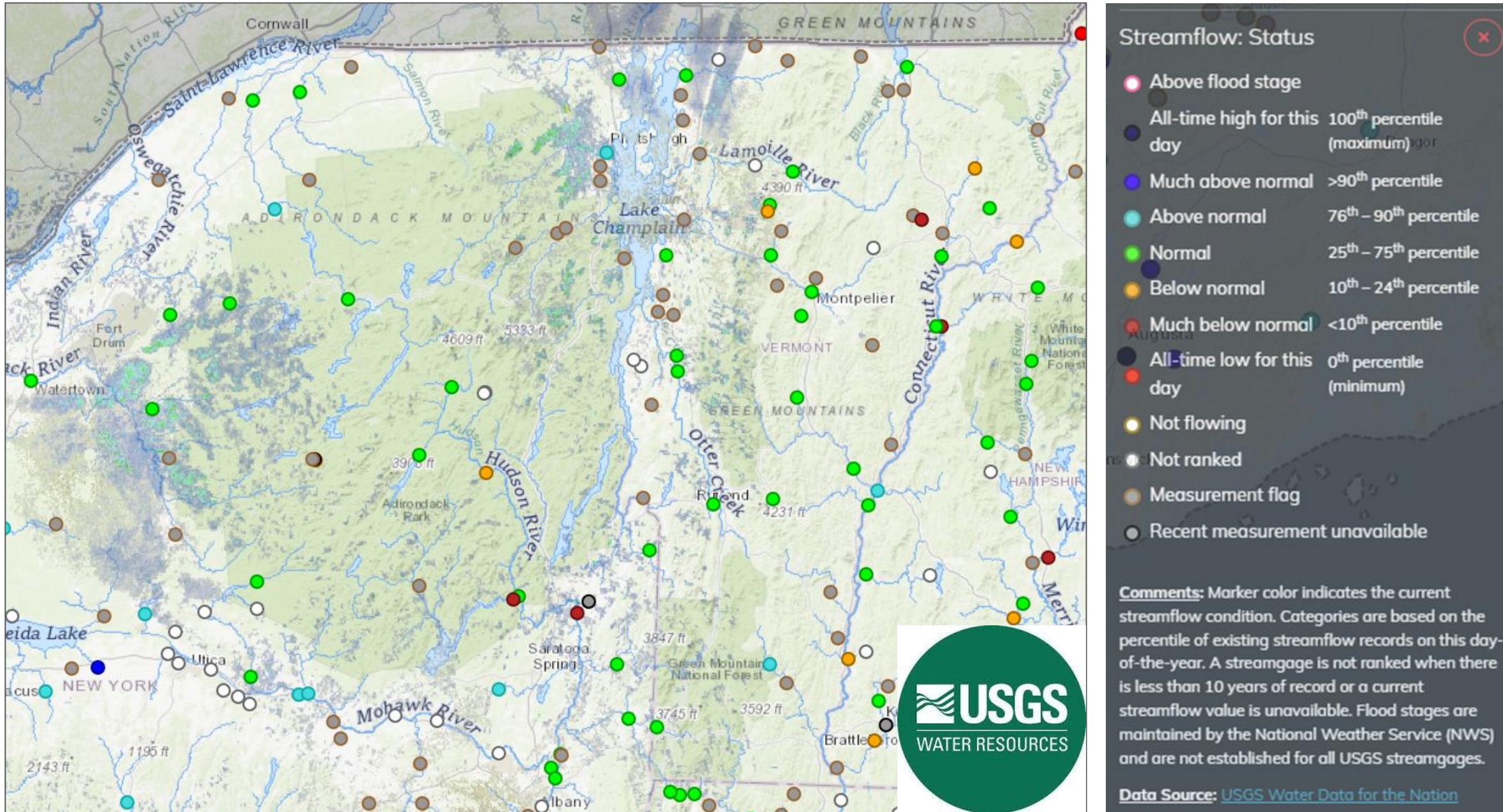
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Current Streamflow across VT and NY

January 8, 2026
11:36 AM

As of January 8, 2026



- Mainly near normal values where reliable data exists (courtesy [USGS Water Dashboard](#))
- A few below normal readings in northeastern VT where long term drought persists.



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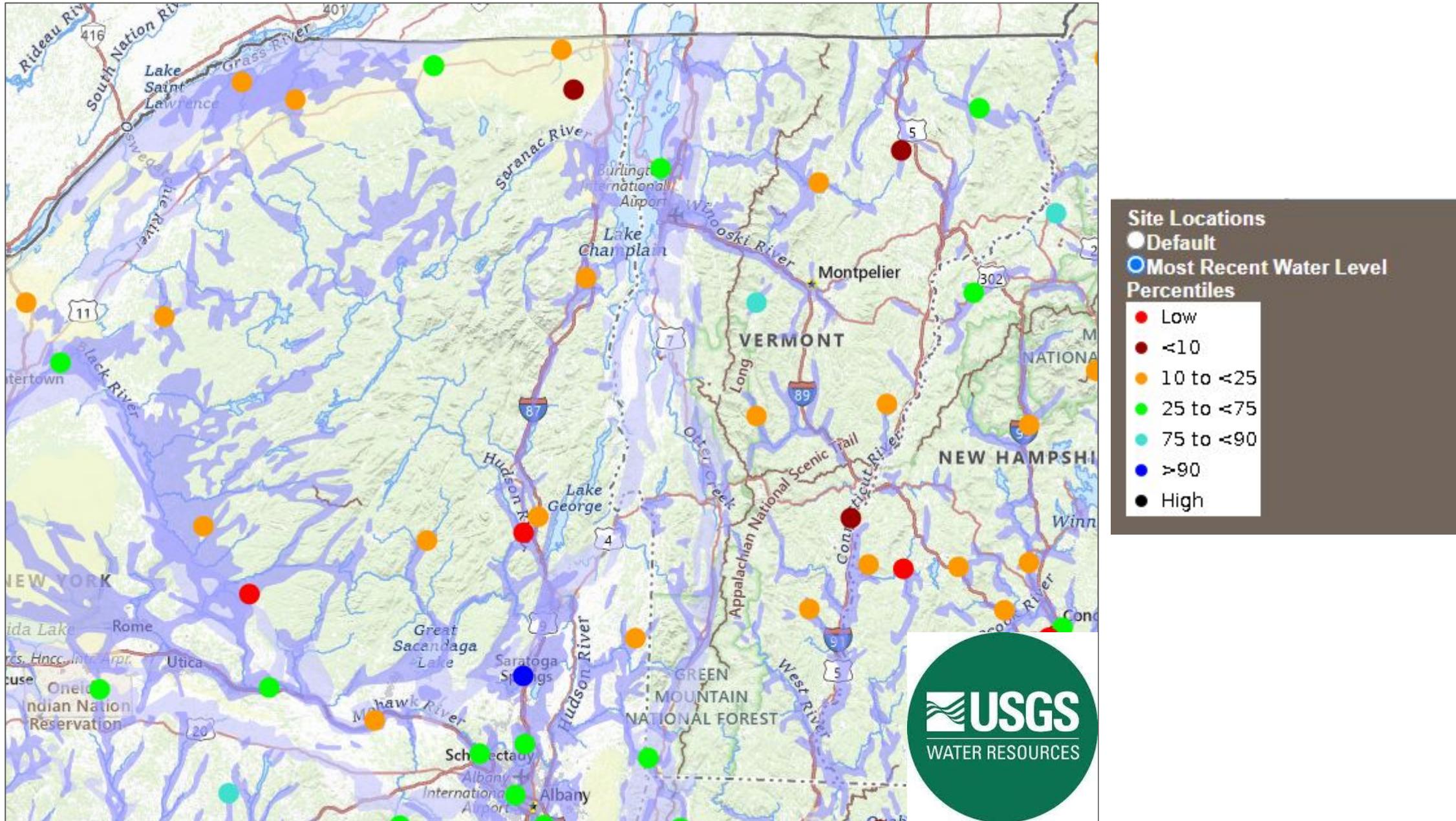
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Groundwater Conditions across VT and NY

January 8, 2026
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As of January 8, 2026



- Currently a mix of above and below normal levels our area (courtesy [USGS via the National Ground-Water Monitoring Network](#))
- A general deterioration in levels has been observed over the past 6 weeks given majority of recent precipitation is locked up in the extant snowpack.



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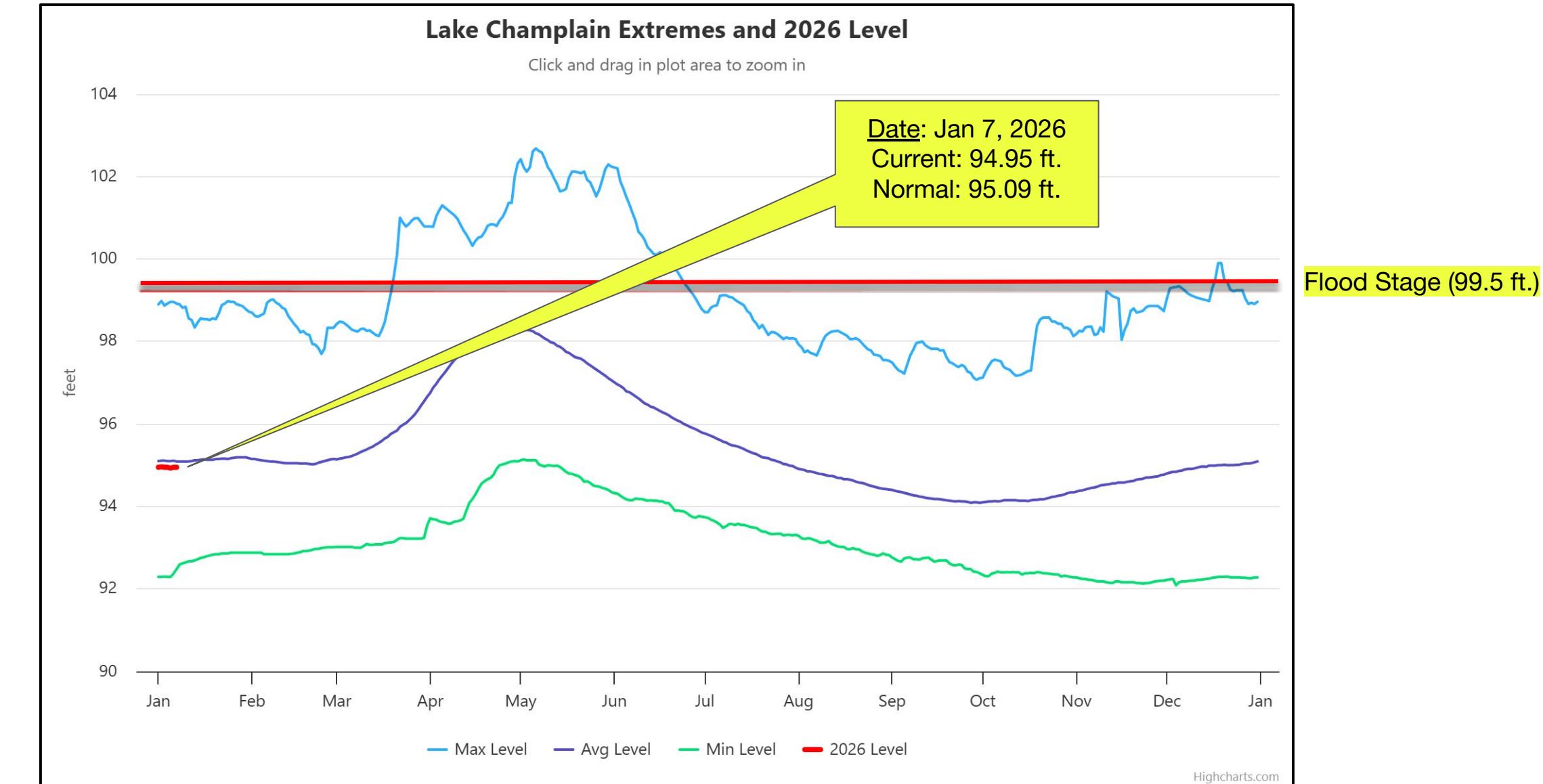


Lake Champlain

Level and overview

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- No immediate concerns with current levels near normal and close to climatologically minimum winter values.
- Future levels heavily reliant on future precipitation and snowmelt.



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6-10 Day Outlooks

January 8, 2026
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Normal mid-January Temperatures: **Highs: Mid 20s to lower 30s** **Lows: 5°F to 15°F**

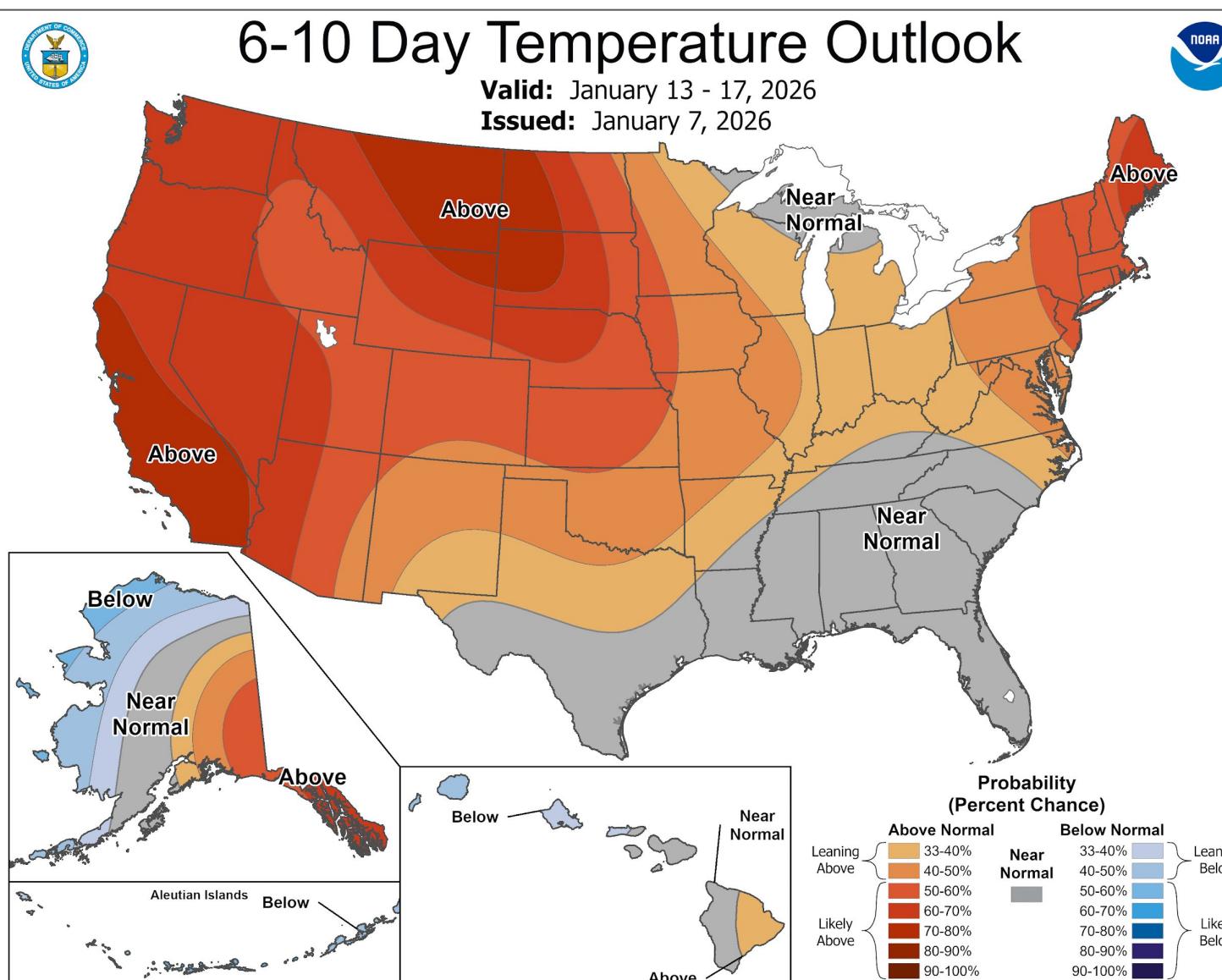
TEMPERATURE: Above Normal

PRECIPITATION: Leaning Above normal

6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: January 13 - 17, 2026

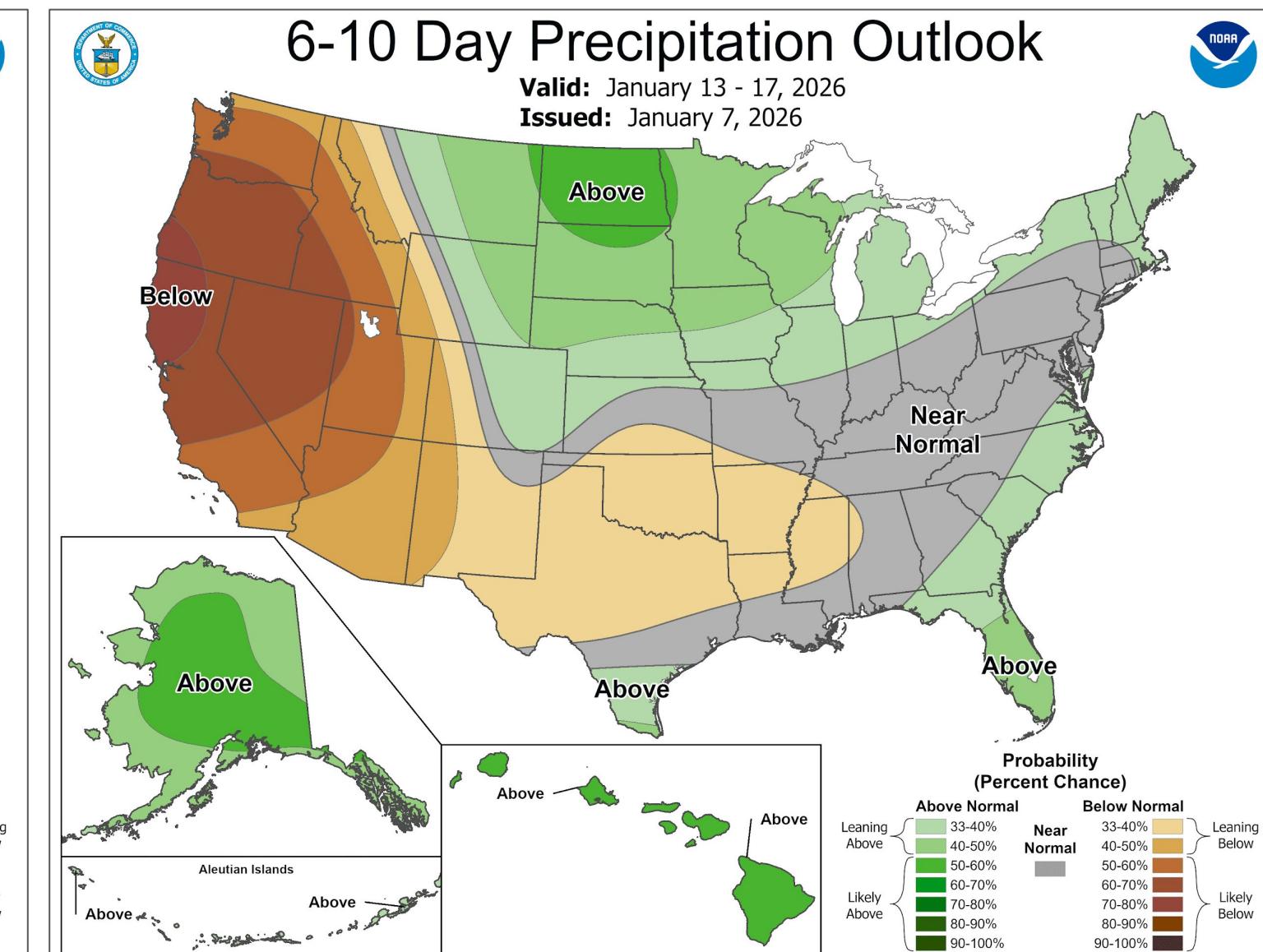
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6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: January 13 - 17, 2026

Issued: January 7, 2026



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Contact and Next Briefing Information

For northern New York and all of Vermont

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Next Briefing: Issued every two weeks

- Thursday, January 22, 2026
- Method: Sent via email by 5 pm



Disclaimer

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- Do Not Use After: Wednesday, January 21, 2026



Contact Information

Web

- weather.gov/burlington

Phone (unlisted)

- (802) 658-0150 or (802) 863-4279

Email

- nwsbtv.info@noaa.gov

Facebook

- www.facebook.com/NWSBurlington

Twitter

- twitter.com/NWSBurlington



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