



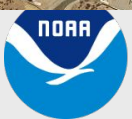
Drought Information Statement for Northern and Eastern Maine

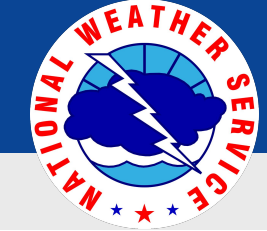
Valid November 26, 2025

Issued By: WFO Caribou, ME

- This product will be updated December 4th, 2025 or sooner, if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/car/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/car> for regional drought status updates.

- The entire state of Maine remains in some level of drought
- Rainfall + snowmelt has led to drought improvements statewide
- Seasonal transition occurring soon, limiting change to soil and groundwater conditions over the winter





U.S. Drought Monitor

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Maine

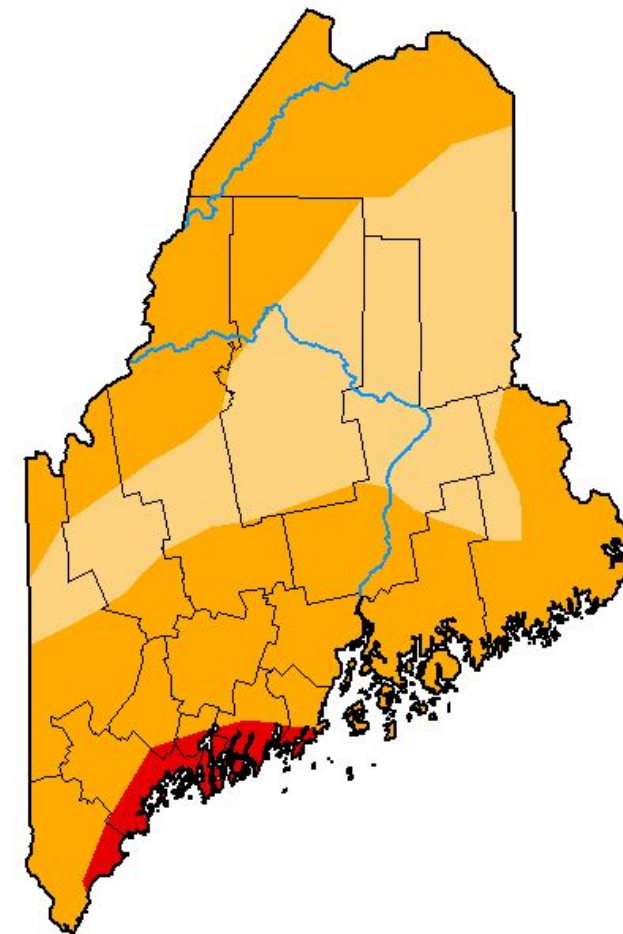
- **Drought Intensity and Extent:**

- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Northern Somerset, northern Piscataquis, northern & far southern Aroostook, southern Penobscot, central & southern Hancock & Washington counties.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Eastern & southern Aroostook, central & southern Piscataquis, northern Penobscot counties, far northern Hancock & Washington counties.
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** No areas.

Percentage of Maine in Drought

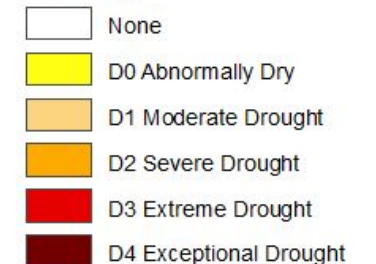
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** 0%
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** 34.07%
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** 62.86%
- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** 3.07%

U.S. Drought Monitor Maine



November 25, 2025
(Released Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Intensity:



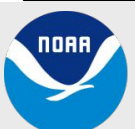
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

David Simeral
Western Regional Climate Center

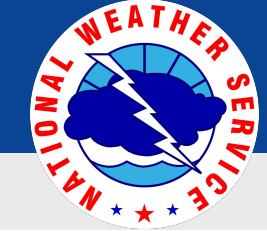


droughtmonitor.unl.edu



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

National Weather Service
Caribou, ME

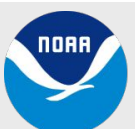
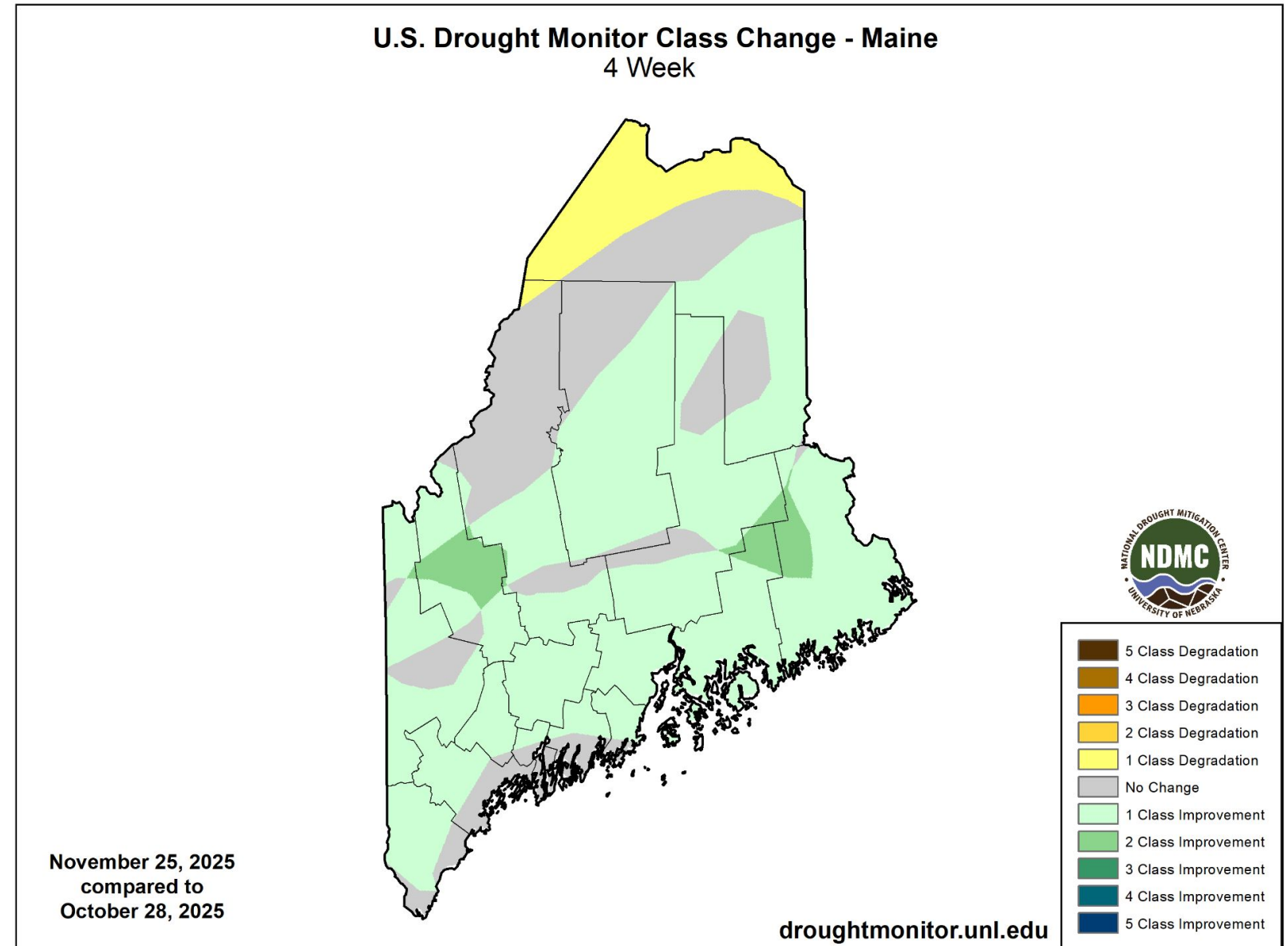


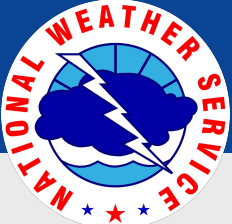
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Northeast U.S.

- Four week drought monitor class change:
 - **Drought Worsened:** North Woods & northern Aroostook County.
 - **Drought Improved:** Much of eastern Aroostook, Baxter Region, Central Highlands, Bangor Region & Downeast.
 - **No Change:** Northern Somerset, northern Piscataquis and portions of northern Aroostook County.



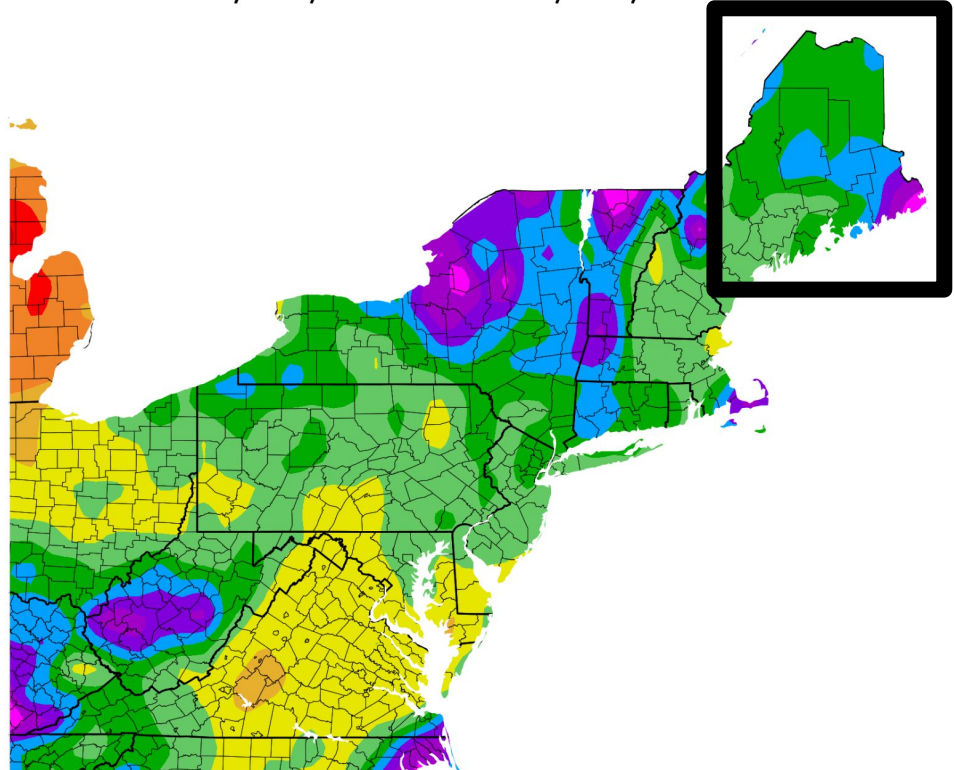


Precipitation

Link to [Northeast Regional Climate Center](#)

- Continued rainfall & snow over much of the area has resulted in the 30 day precip being 100-130% of normal in Northeastern Aroostook, and portions of eastern Washington.
- Portions of the North Woods & western Downeast locations, including the Greater Bangor area, received precip at or below normal.

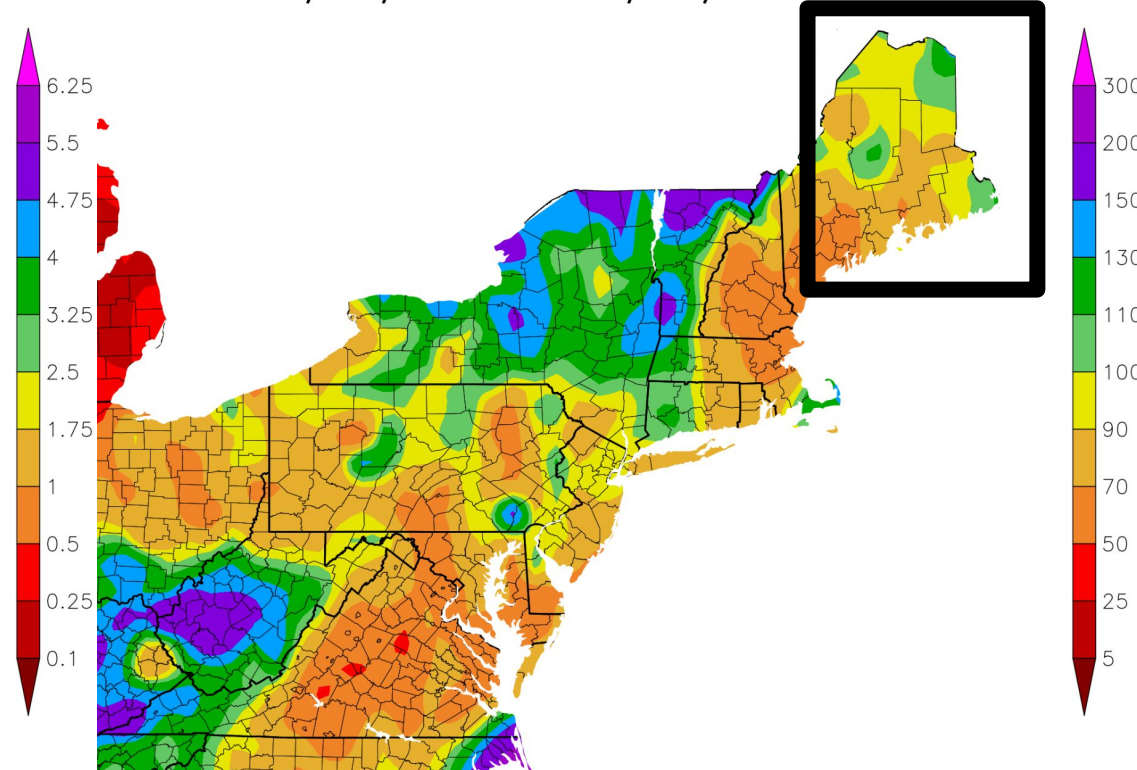
Precipitation (in)
10/26/2025 – 11/24/2025



Generated 11/25/2025 using provisional data.

Total precipitation over the past
30 days

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
10/26/2025 – 11/24/2025

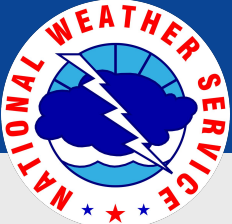


ACIS Web Services 11/25/2025 using provisional data.

Percent of normal precipitation
for the past 30 days

ACIS Web Services 11/25/2025 using provisional data.



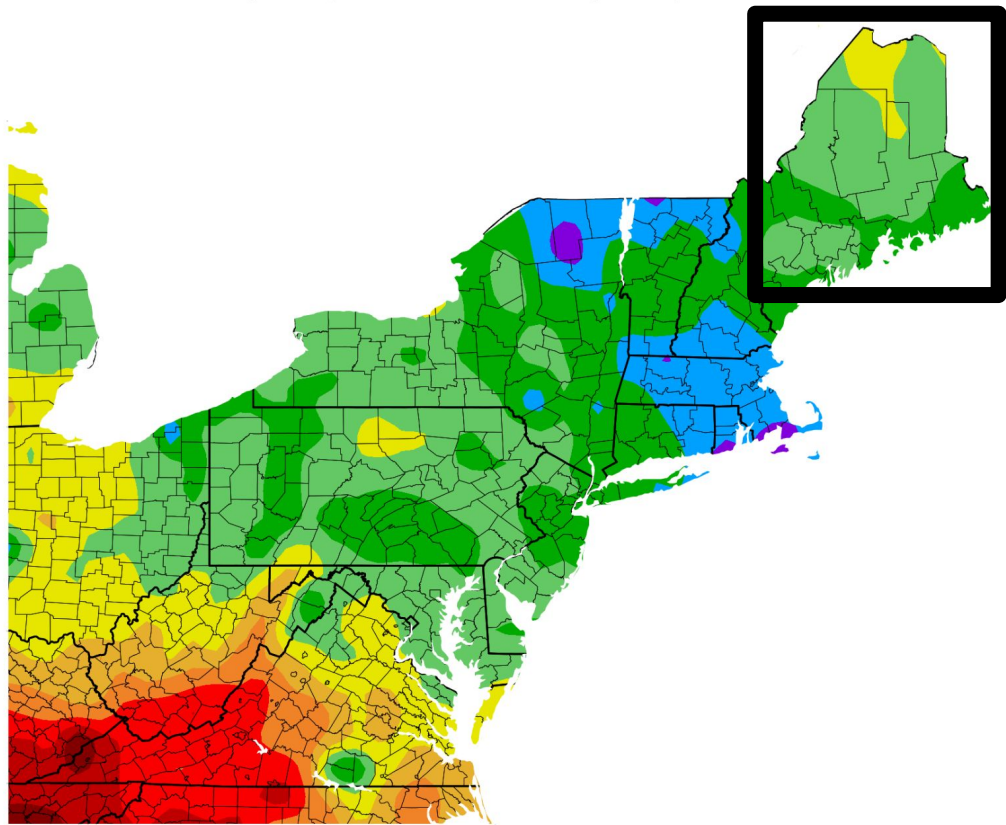


Temperature

Link to [Northeast Regional Climate Center](#)

- 7 day temperature trends have generally been near normal or 2 degrees below.
- 30 day trends are near normal to 2 degrees above normal for portions of Aroostook and Penobscot. Near normal to 2 degrees below normal everywhere else.

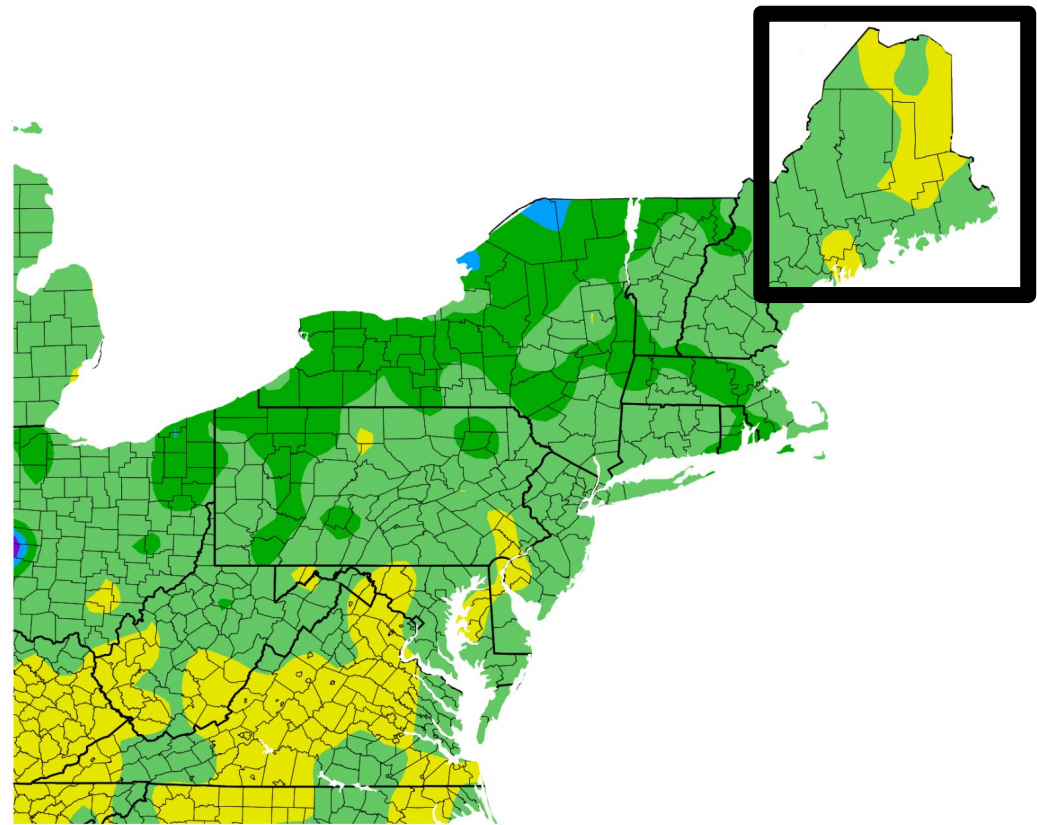
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/18/2025 – 11/24/2025



rated 11/25/2025 using provisional data.

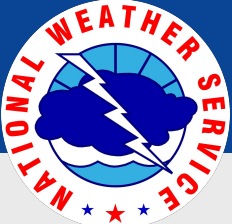
Temperature departure from normal over the past 7 days

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
10/25/2025 – 11/23/2025



ACIS Web Ser11/24/2025 using provisional data.

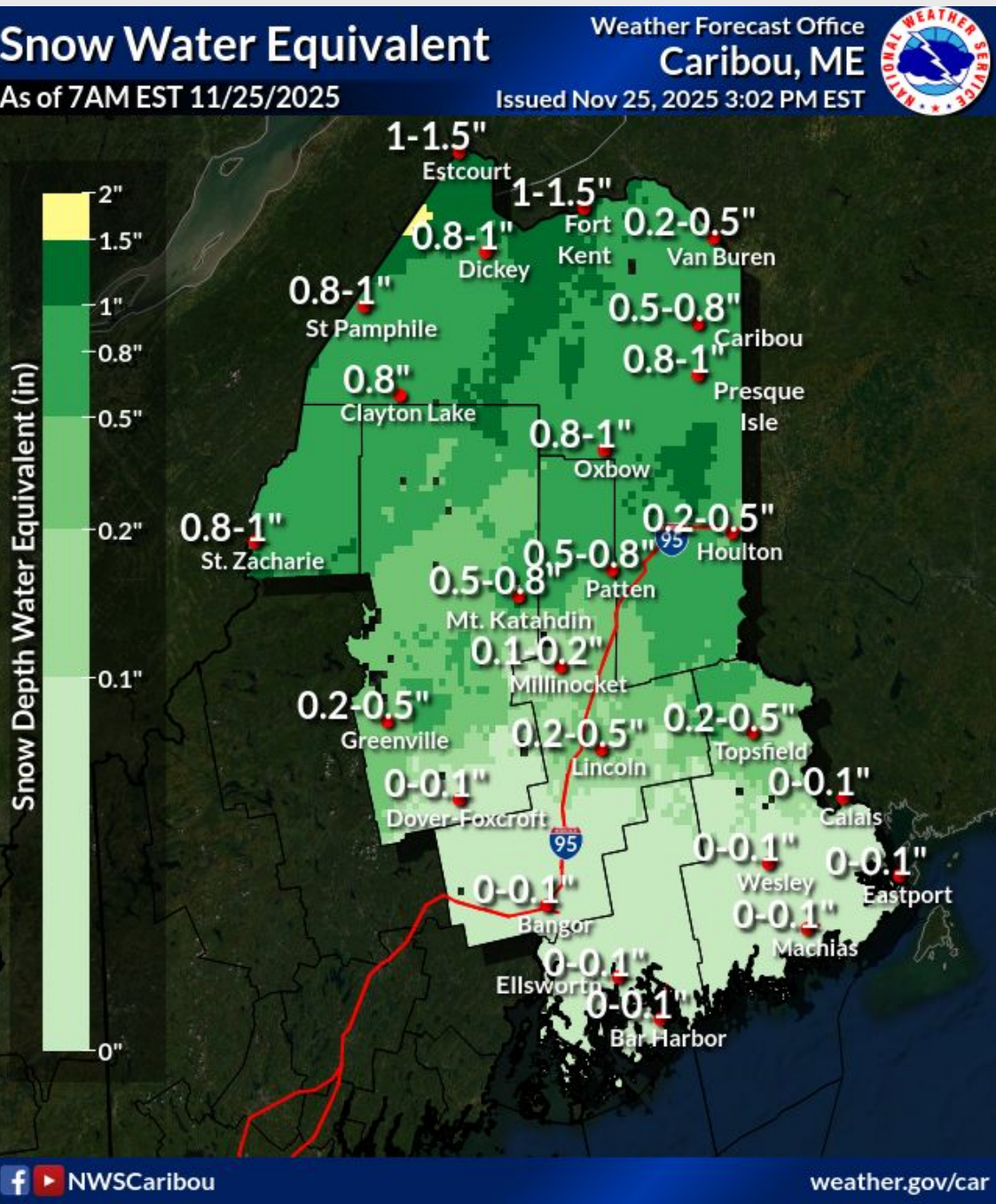
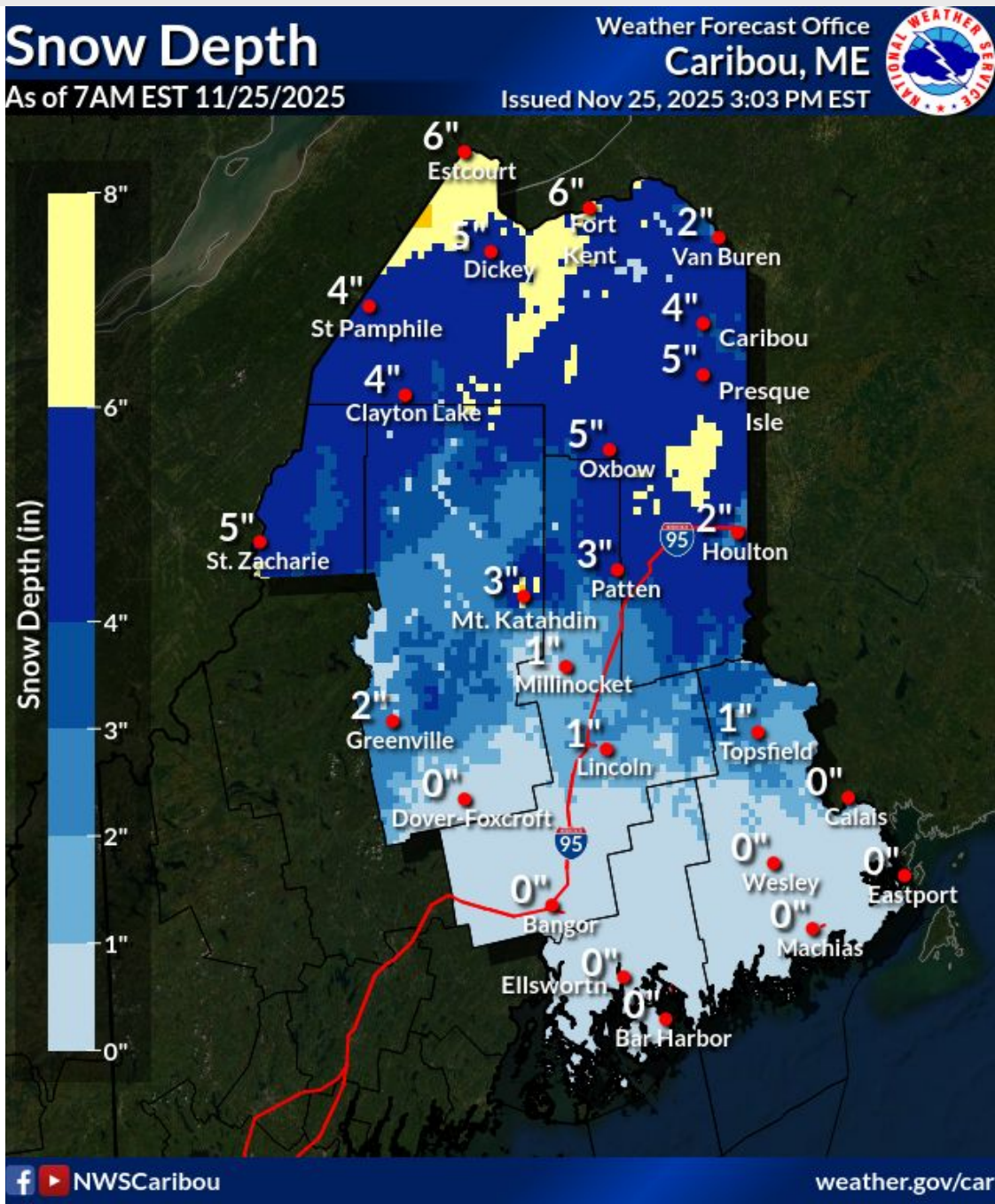
Temperature departure from normal over the past 30 days

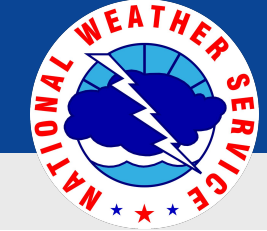


Snowpack & Snow Water Equivalent

Link to [National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center \(NOHRSC\)](#)

- Ground remains thawed under the snowpack.
- Although accumulating snow is often a positive sign for areas experiencing drought, the stored water does not provide an immediate benefit for drought recovery until it actually melts and begins to enter the wider water system.





Summary of Impacts

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- The majority of the monthly streamflows across the service area have gone down to “below normal” in the past 7 days; a few in Central Highlands and Bangor region are still near normal. [\(USGS\)](#)
- Lakes & ponds are slowly returning to near normal but most remain below normal.
- Continued slight improvements indicated on rivers and streams.

Dry Drinking Water Wells

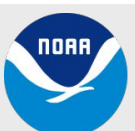
- Dry well reports continue, although reports have slowed, most of these occurring in Bangor Region and Downeast Maine.
- Maine EMA Dry Well Survey: <https://maine-dry-well-survey-maine.hub.arcgis.com/>
- Some improvement has been reported in the last week for groundwater levels in Downeast, eastern Aroostook and Central Highlands.
- Very little groundwater improvement in western Downeast areas, Bangor region, Baxter region and North Woods.

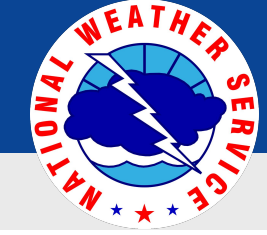
Mitigation Actions

- Conserve water and follow directions from local officials.

Winter Ice Impacts

- Increasing potential of “*anchor ice*” forming in the rivers & streams due to lower flows.
- Ponds/lakes levels low with ice formation exposing rocks posing risk to recreational activities.

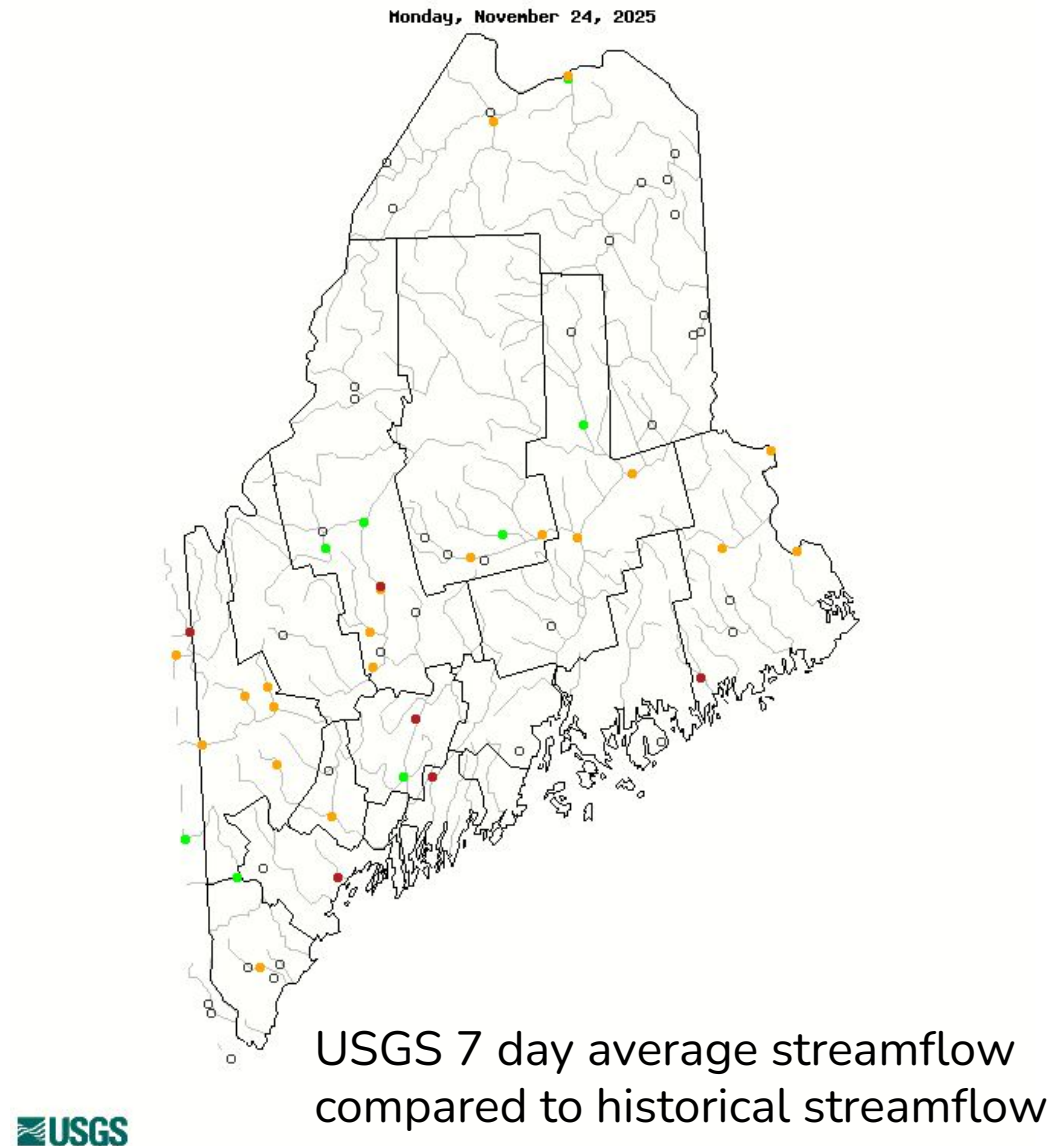




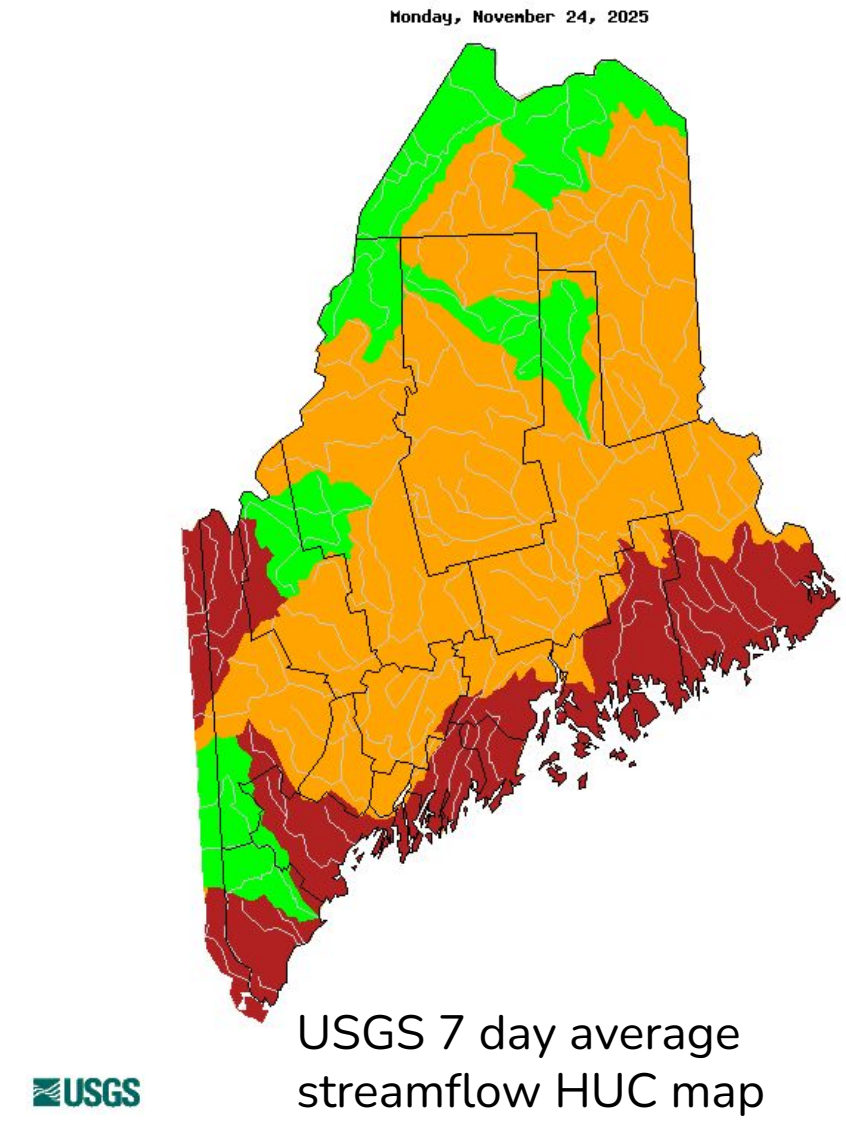
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

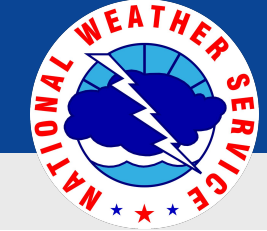
- 7 day river flows have degraded back to “below normal” values, with a few in the Central Highlands and Bangor region staying near normal.
- Downeast coast average streamflow has degraded to “much below normal”. Central Maine is mostly “below normal”. Portions of the North Woods and Crown of Maine are near normal.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	Not-ranked



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	No Data



Agricultural Impacts

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

- Near surface soil moisture across much of Maine has improved and is now at or above normal. Portions of the Downeast coast, however, are below normal.
- Deeper soil moisture continues to be significantly below normal in the Bangor region, Downeast, northern Maine and Central Highlands.

SPoRT-LIS 0-10 cm Soil Moisture percentile valid 25 Nov 2025

SPoRT-LIS 0-100 cm Soil Moisture percentile valid 25 Nov 2025

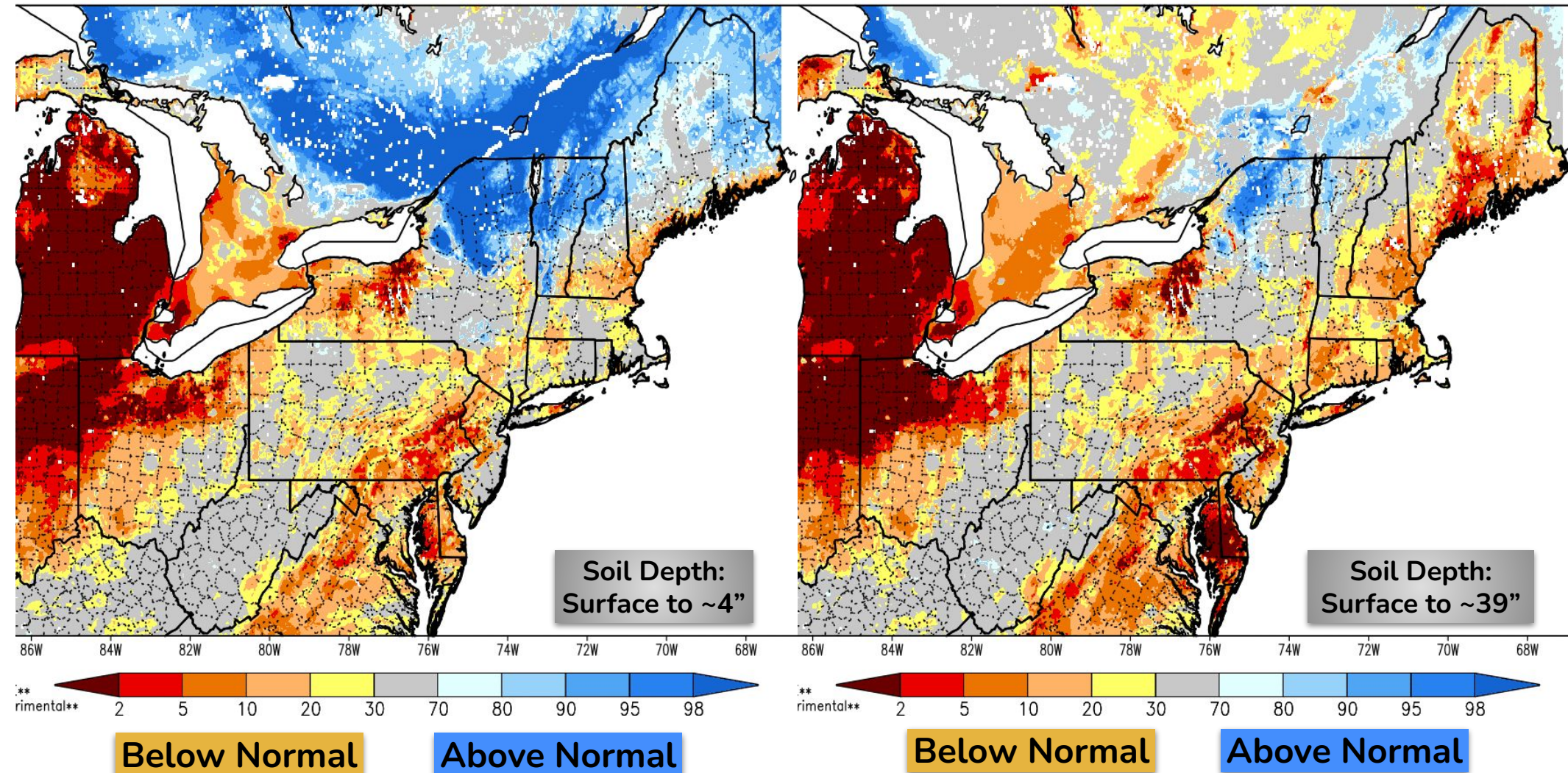
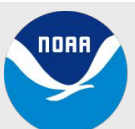


Image Captions:
National Water Model

[Soil Moisture Percentile 0-10cm Depth](#)
[Soil Moisture Percentile 10-40cm Depth](#)

>This indicator will be less relevant heading into winter as the ground freezes.



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Caribou, ME



Groundwater Impacts

- Deep layer moisture continues to be “below” to “much below normal” as it takes time for recent events to percolate through the soil.
- Drinking water wells continue to be dry, no significant improvements yet.
- Maine Drought Task Force Dry Well Survey reporting page [here](#).

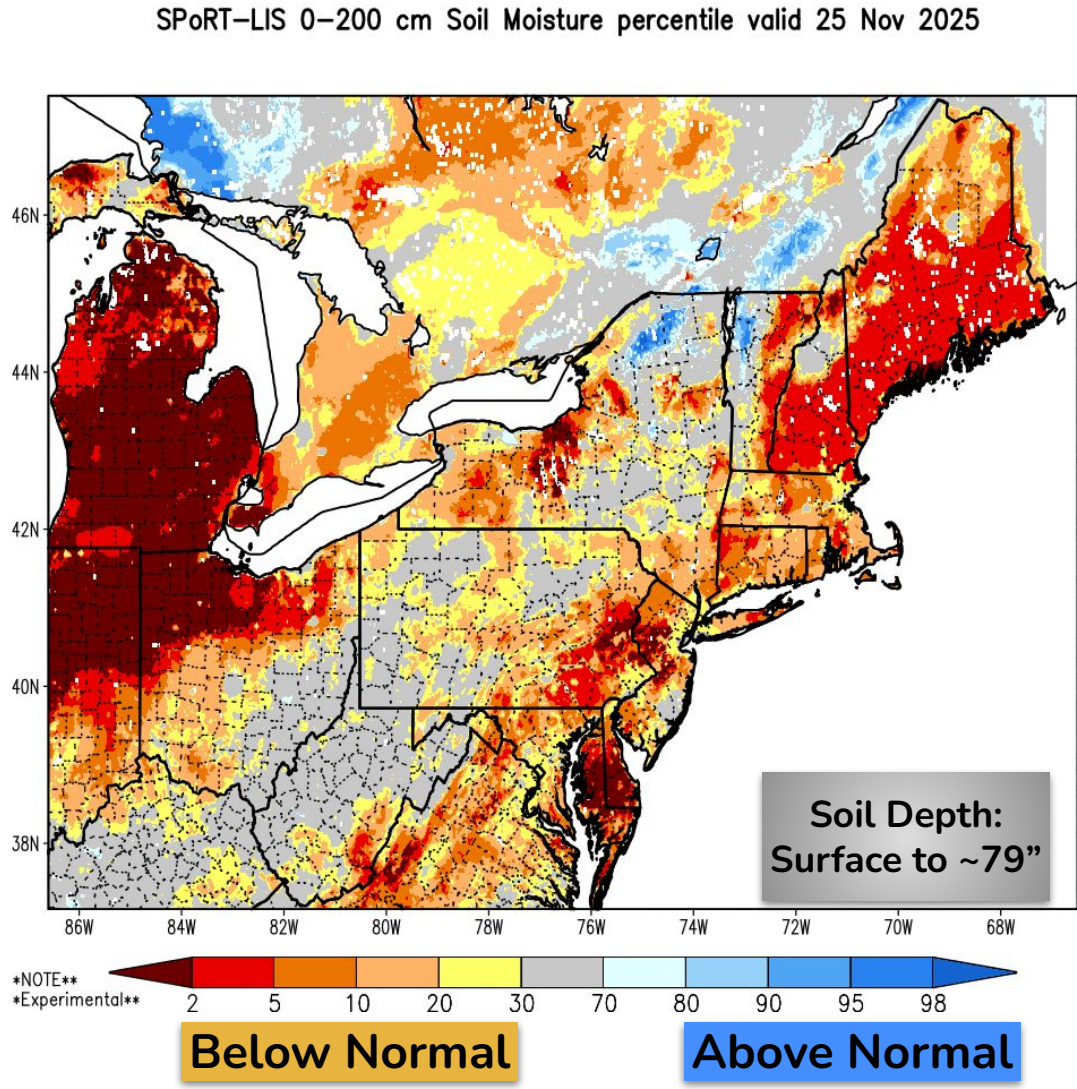
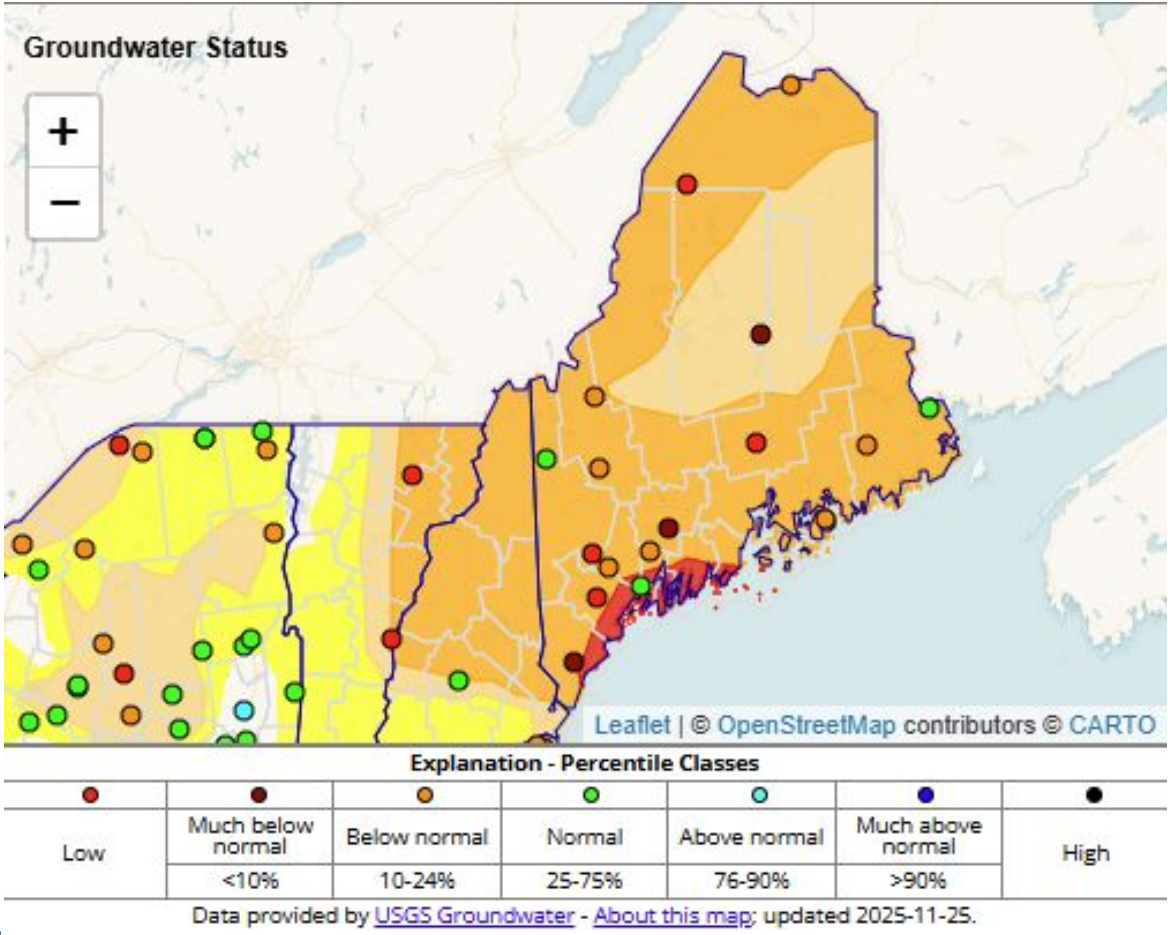
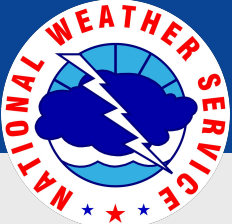


Image Captions:
[USGS Groundwater Gauge Status](#)
[Soil Moisture Percentile 0-200cm Depth](#)





Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- Mostly low fire danger across the area.
- Relatively cloudy with significant rainfall will bring nearly an end to fire danger. Soaked fuels, combined with the lowering sun angle which has less influence in mid-late fall.
- Typical wildfires in late October and November usually do not require the same level of effort to extinguish.

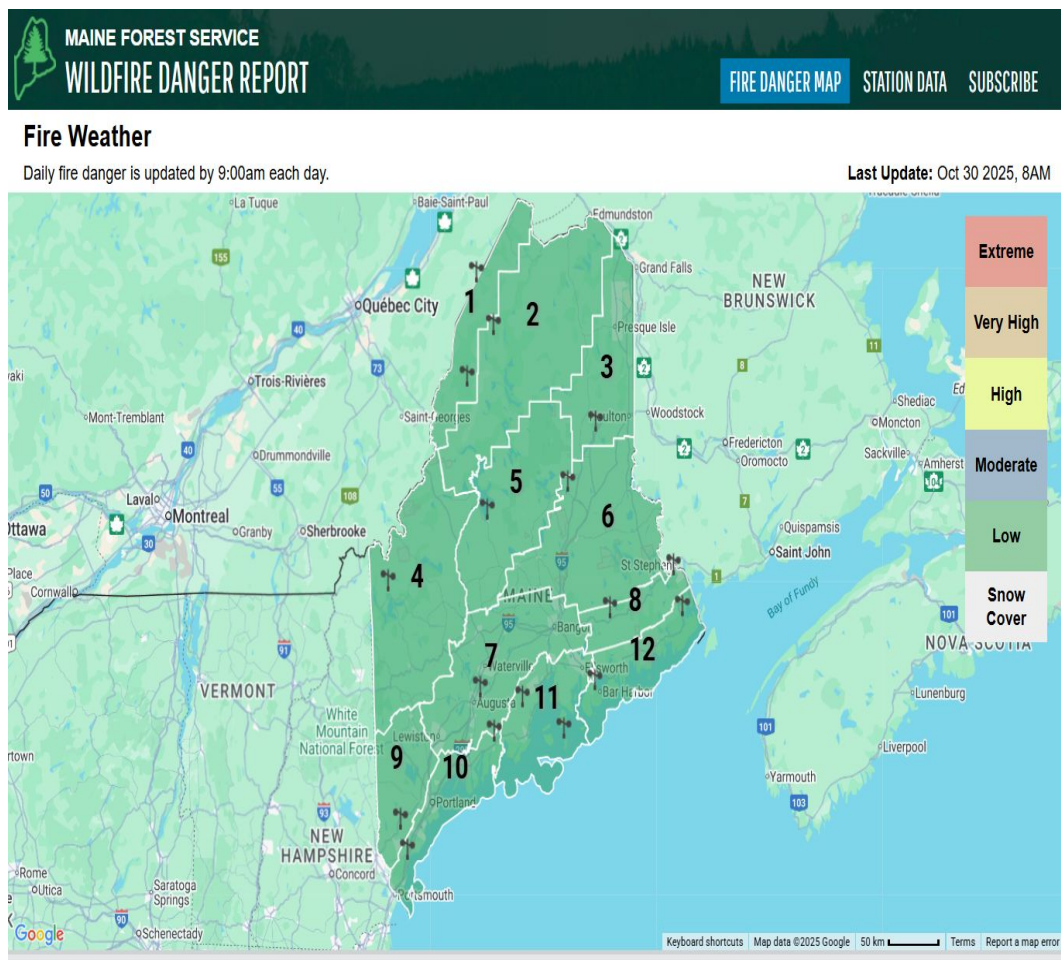


Image Captions:
[Maine Wildfire Danger Report](#)

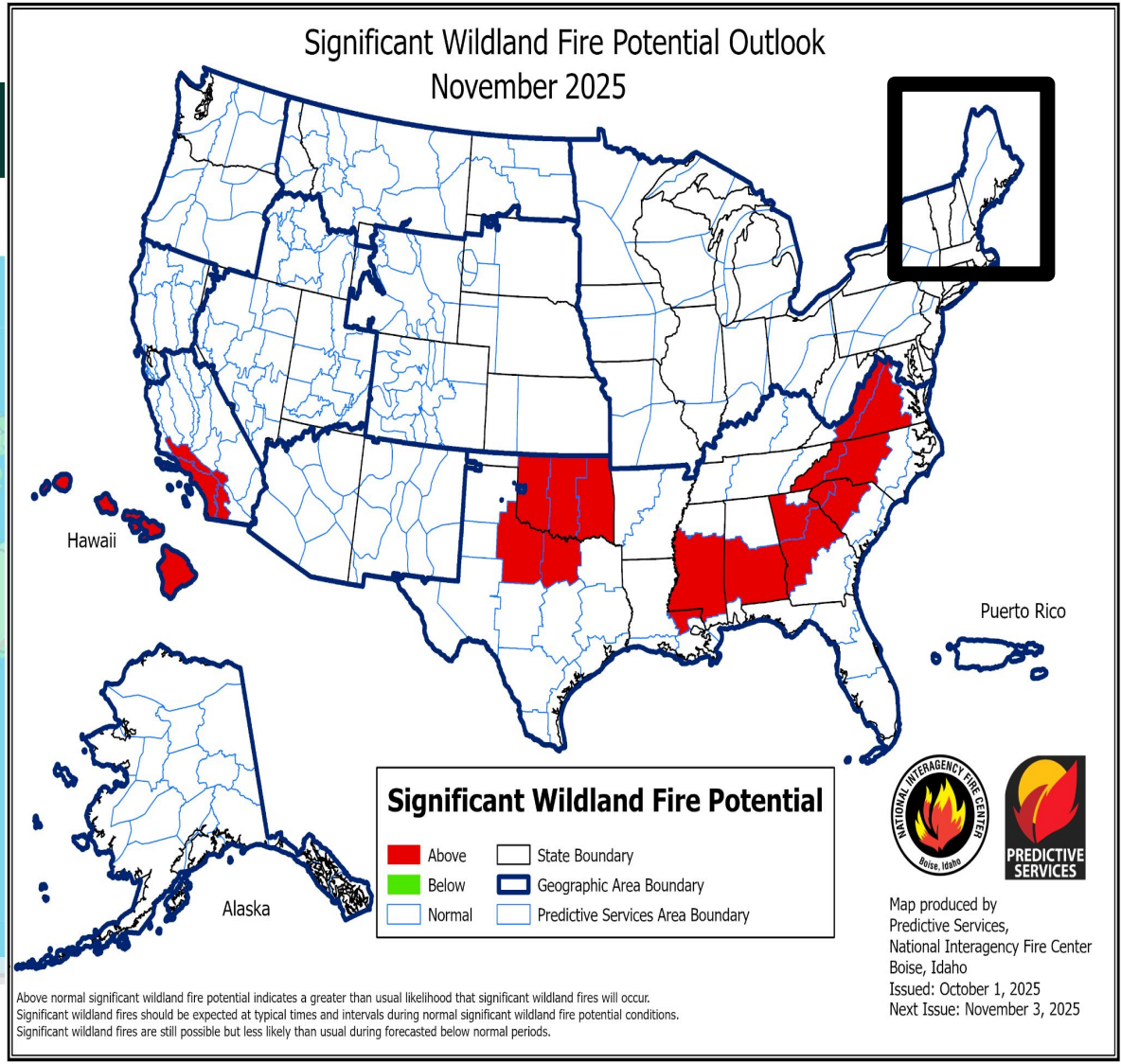
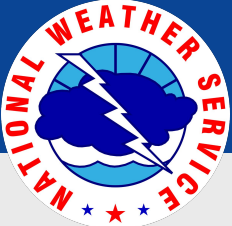


Image Captions:
[NICC November 2025 Significant Fire Potential](#)



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

- Unsettled weather pattern through the weekend, with additional rainfall & snowfall. Around half an inch of rain expected Wednesday through Thursday, and up to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch along the coast. Warm daytime highs until the weekend, so expect some melting that will contribute positively to soil moisture.
- Another round of precipitation possible in the north on Friday, and early next week.

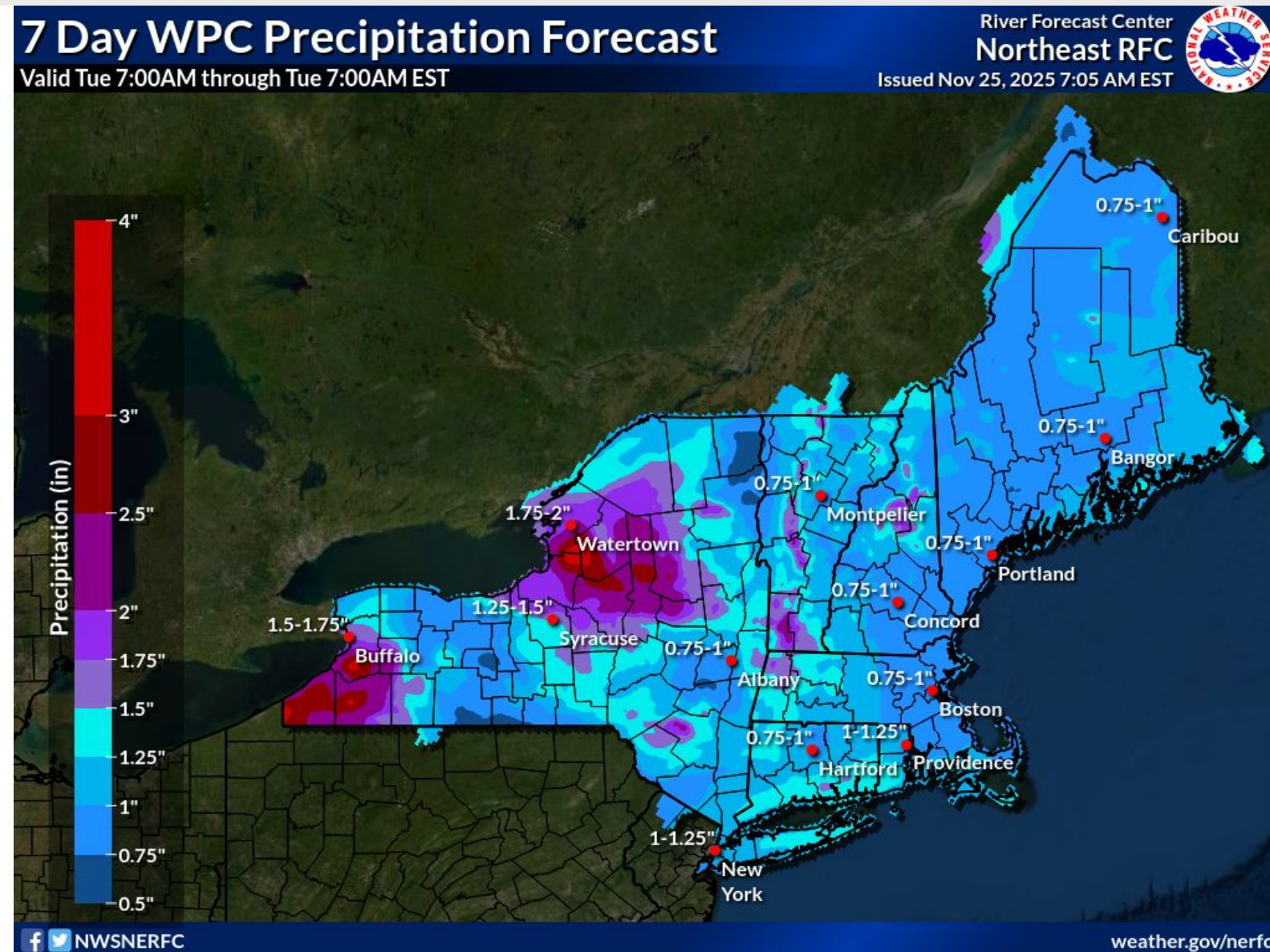
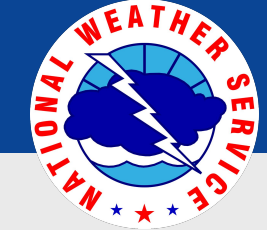


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#)
valid 11/25 7AM to 12/07 7AM





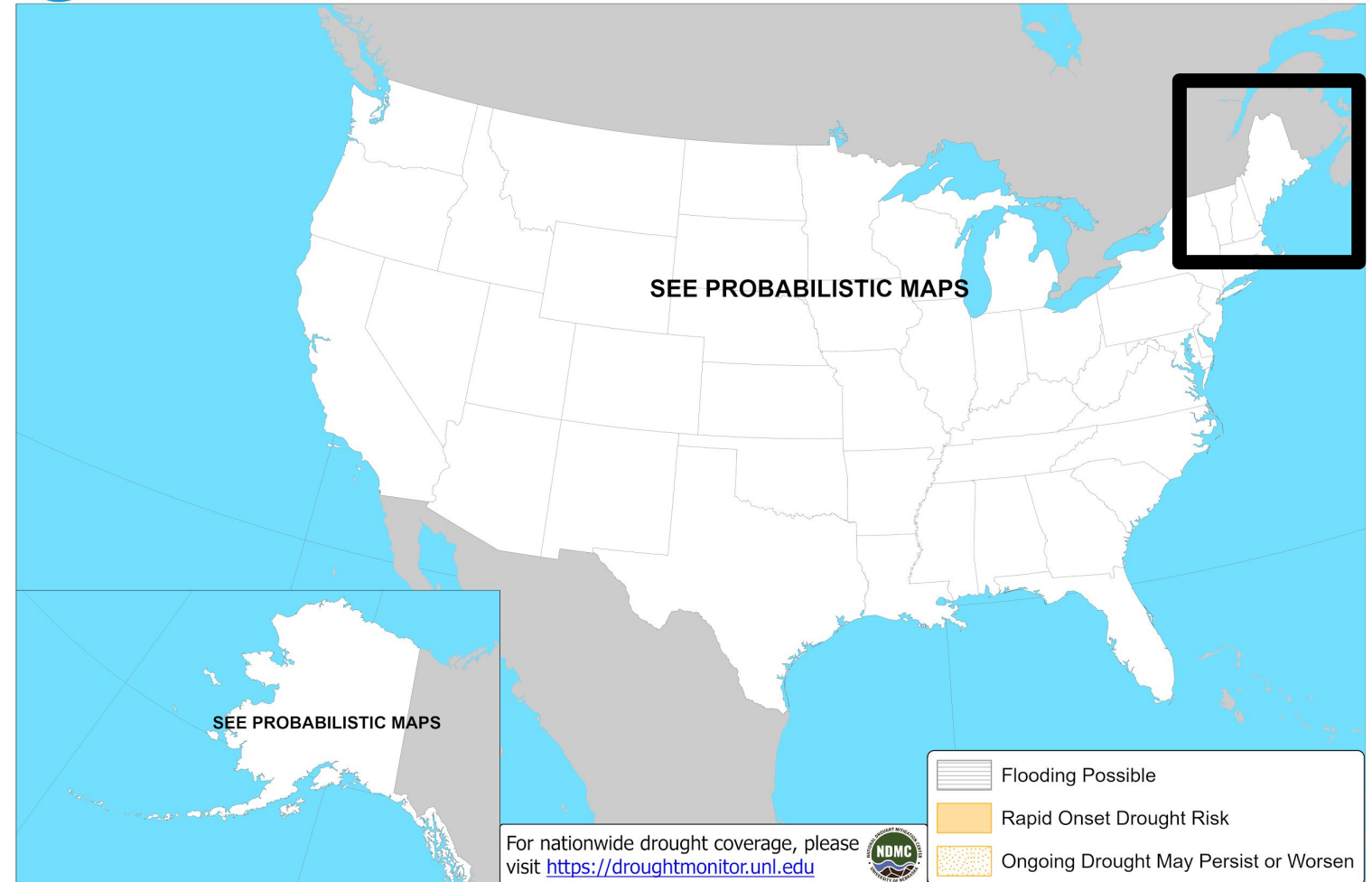
Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

- Currently no rapid drought risk forecast in the next two weeks.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook
Valid: November 27 - December 3, 2025

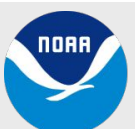


Climate Prediction Center

Released: November 19, 2025 3:00 PM EST

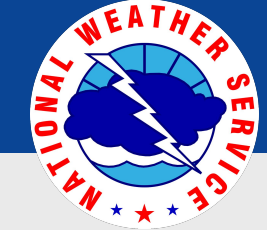
Follow us:

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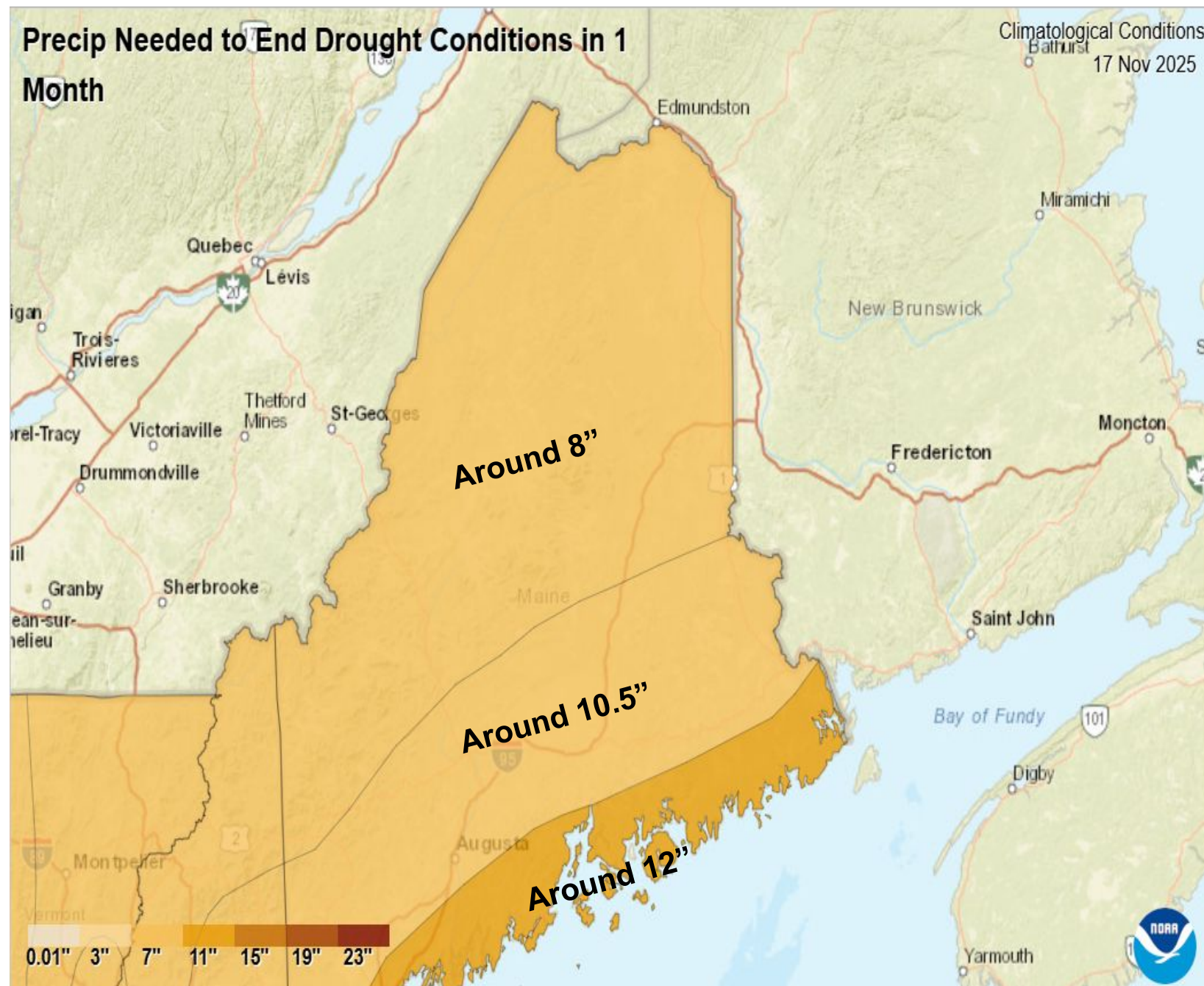
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Caribou, ME

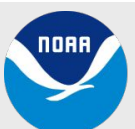


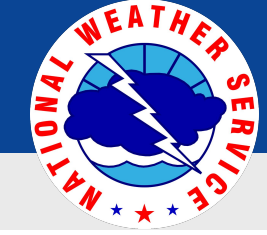
Rainfall Needed to “End the Drought”

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST



- 175-225% of normal precipitation over the next month is needed to ameliorate drought conditions before the ground freezes.
 - Once frozen, precipitation that would normally replenish groundwater won't soaking in, leaving wells and aquifers with little recovery until the spring thaw
- Steady, light-rain events with high absorption rates are ideal. Snowfall at night melting during the day is ideal. Lastly, no rapid cold air outbreaks is ideal.
- 5-8" of **above normal or extra** rainfall is needed to see full recovery before the ground freezes.
- Ground frost in Maine can start as early as now in the north and higher elevations, and mid to late December in southern areas on average, with long cold snaps often necessary to make depths over 4".
- While accumulating snow is often a positive sign for areas experiencing drought, the stored water, measured as snow water equivalent (SWE), does not provide an immediate benefit for drought recovery until it actually melts and begins to enter the wider water system.





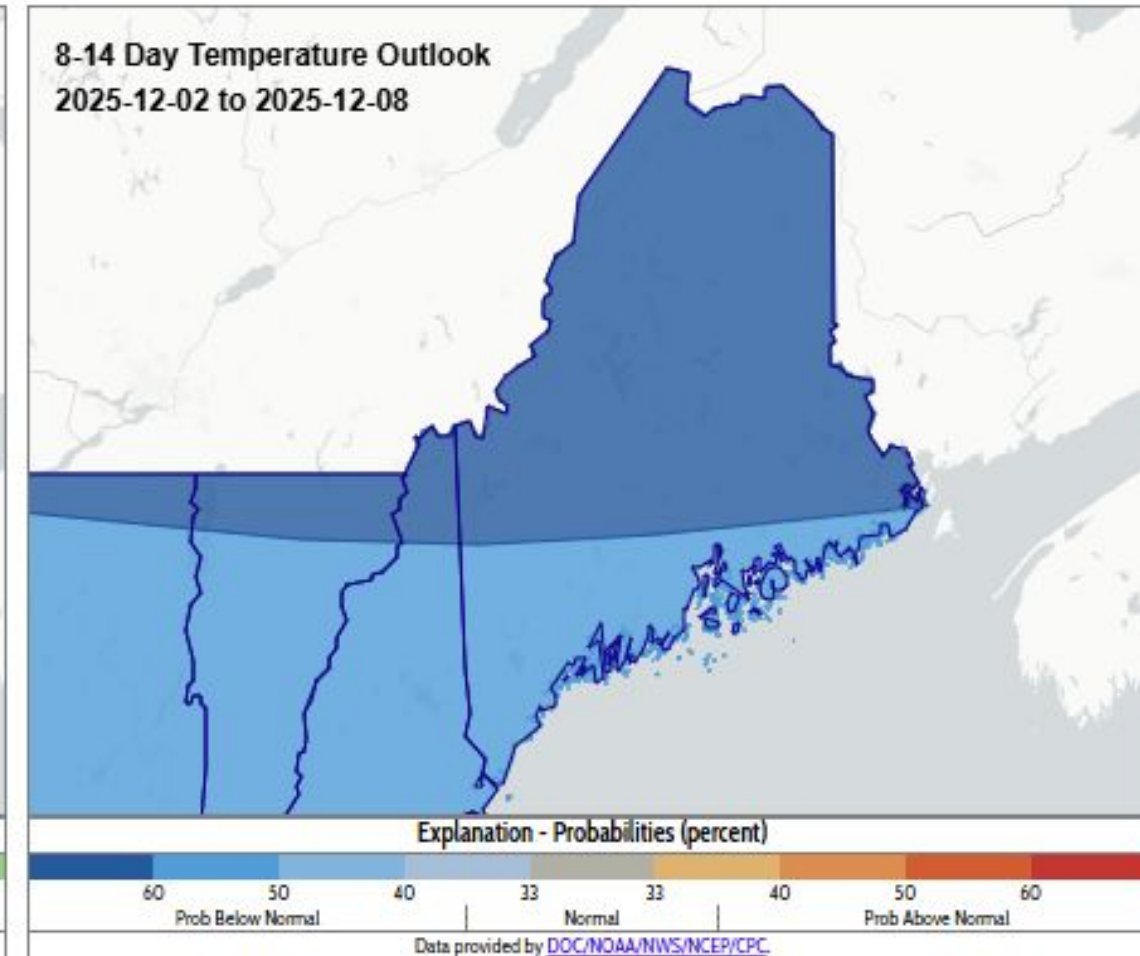
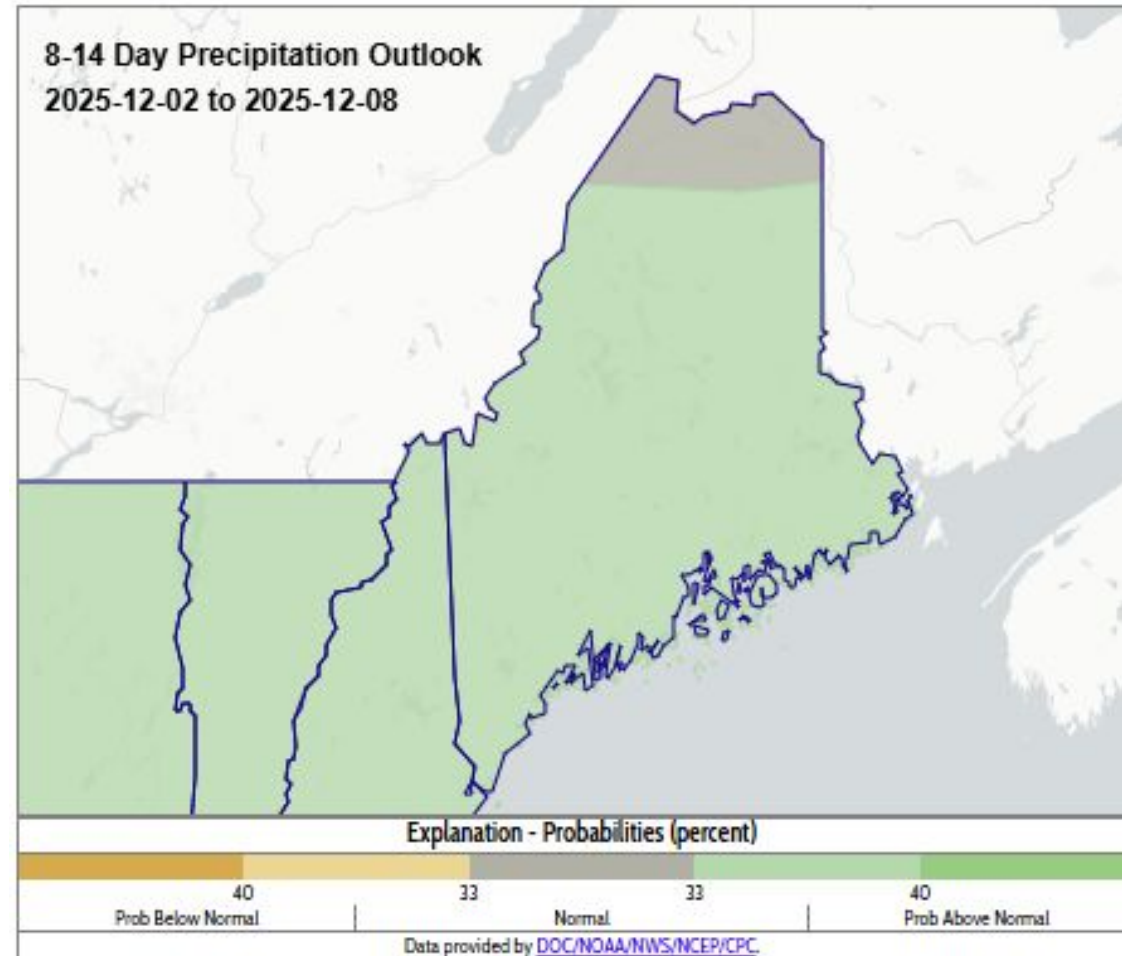
8 to 14 Day Outlooks

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

Main Takeaways for the 2 Week Period:

- Moderate signal of *below normal temperatures* expected.
- A weak to moderate signal for *wetter than average* precipitation (rain or snow).



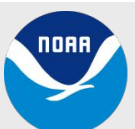
Possible Impact

- This outlook indicates a potential trend toward improving drought conditions. Freeze-up is expected soon and it is unlikely the drought will be over before then.

Image Captions:

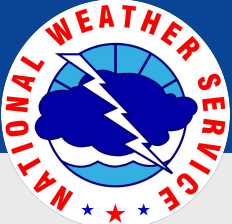
Left - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook.](#)
Right - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook.](#)

Valid Dec 2 to Dec 8.



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Caribou, ME



Long Range Outlooks (December)

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

Main Takeaways for the Next Month:

- Weak signal for *Below Normal* temperatures in northern portions of the state. No significant signal for southern areas.
- Weak signals of *above normal precipitation* (snow or rain).

Winter Pattern Outlook

- Weak La Nina will result in subseasonal factors playing larger role in the pattern. It is likely that there will be some improvement, but not enough to prevent us from going through the winter under some drought conditions.

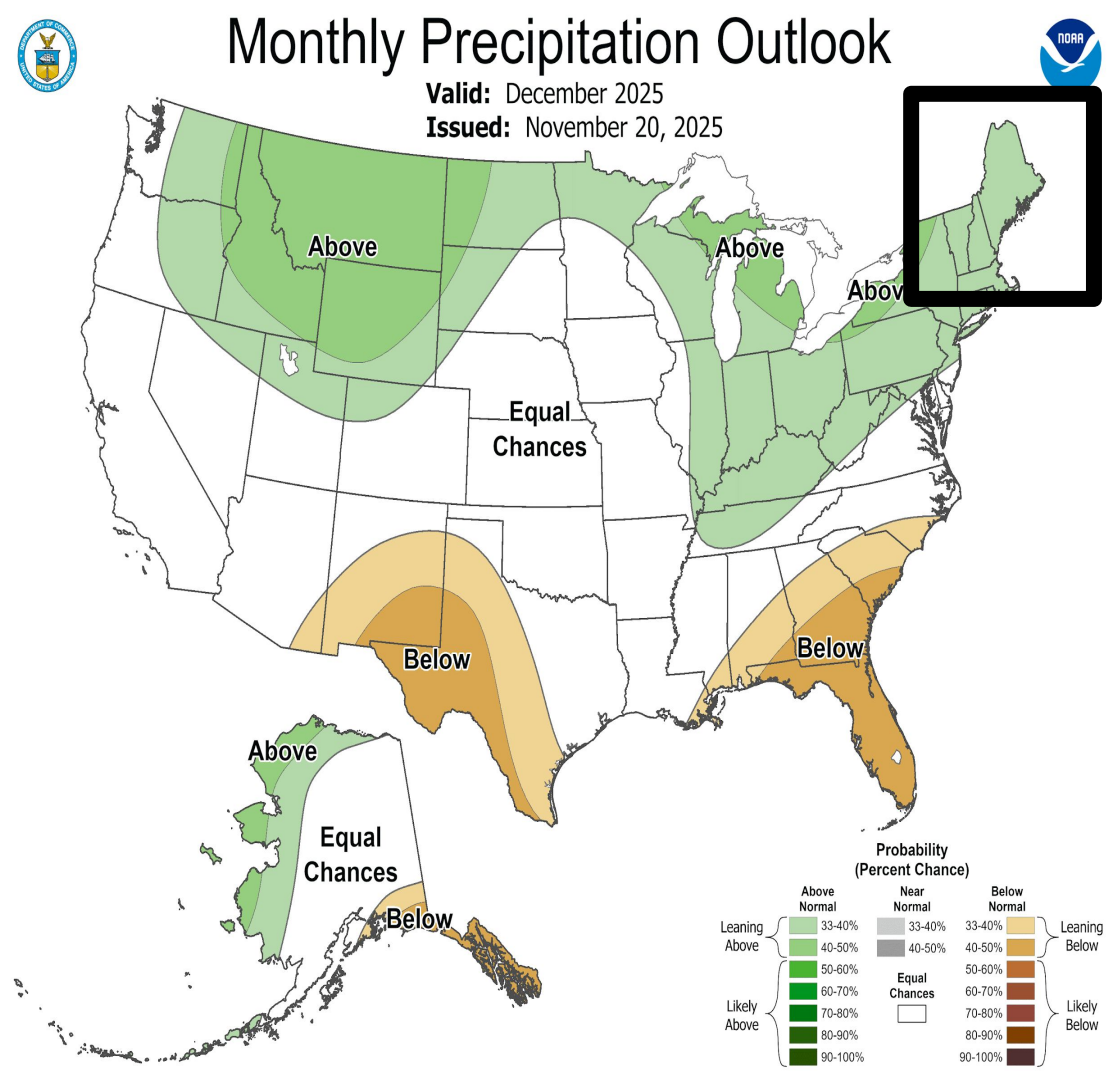
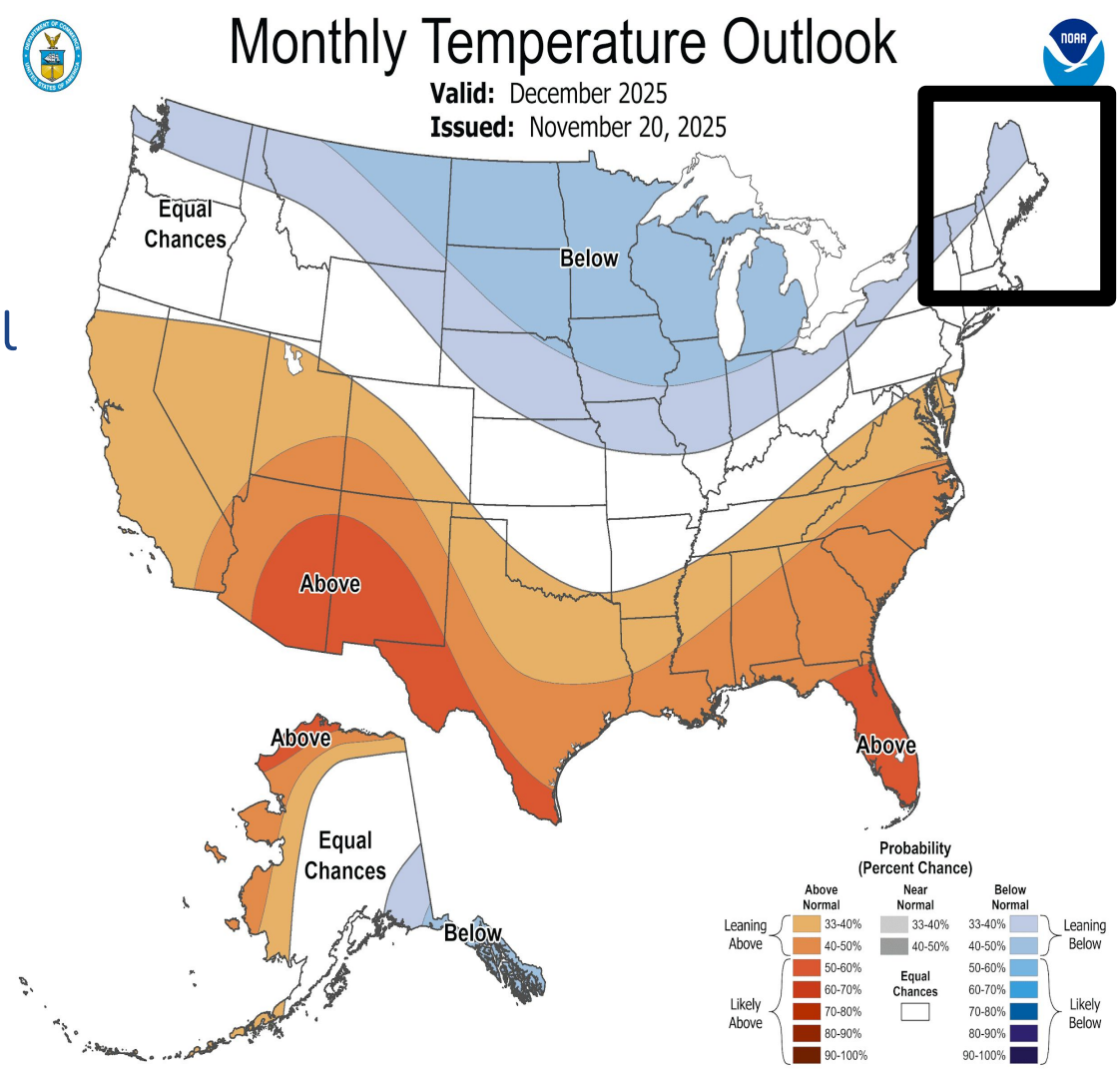
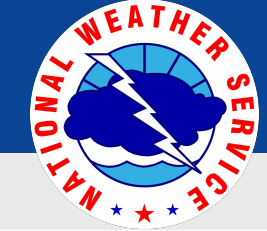


Image Captions:
Left - [Climate Prediction Center December Temperature Outlook.](#)
Right - [Climate Prediction Center December Precipitation Outlook.](#)
Valid Nov 25 2025.





Drought Outlook

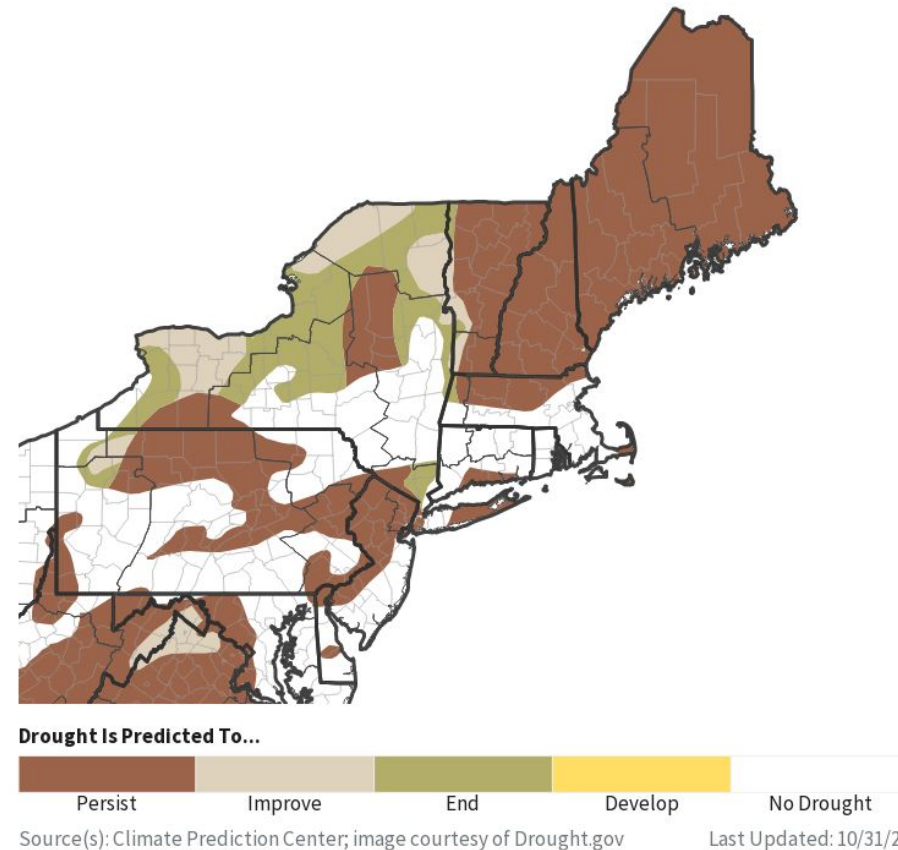
November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

Main Takeaways

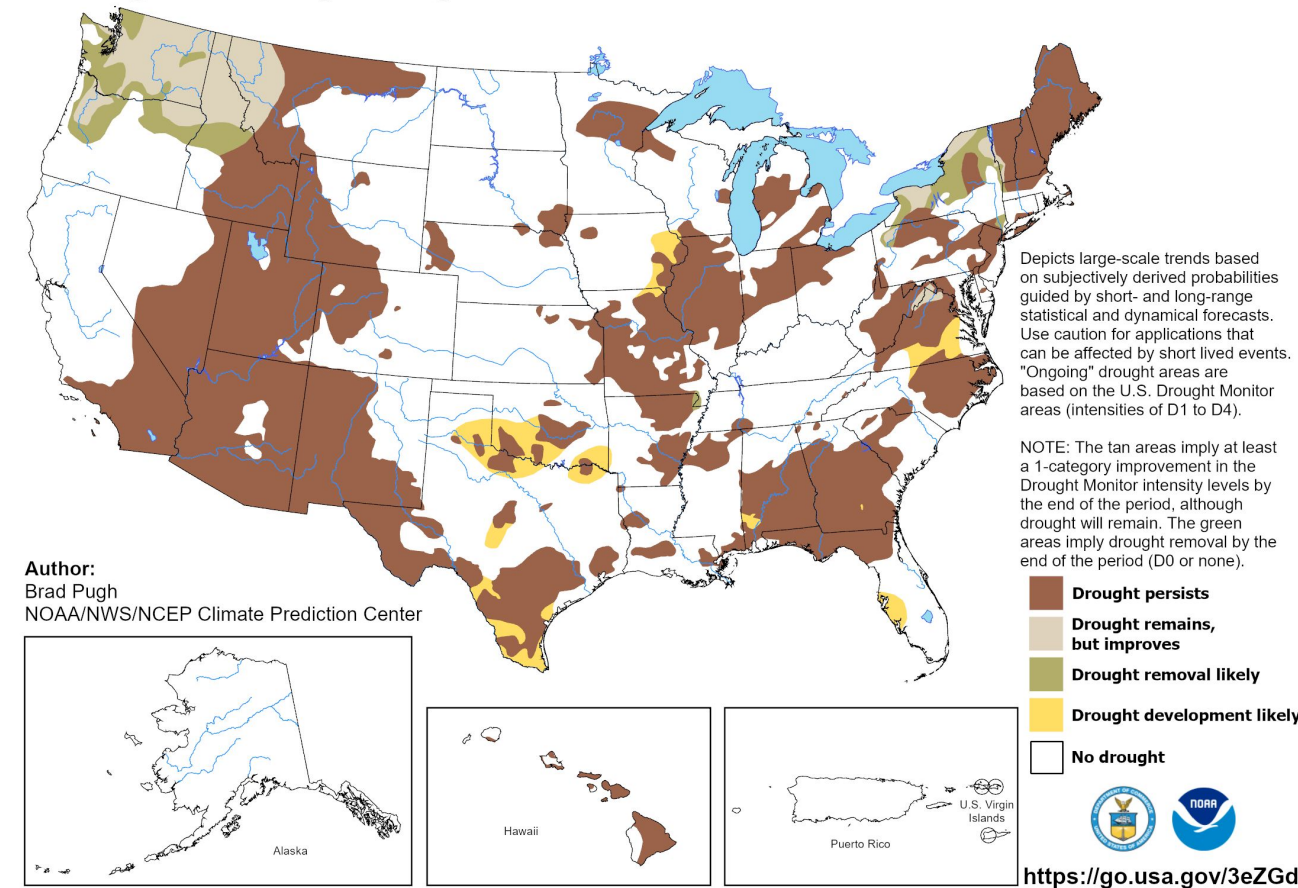
- No projected change in drought the remainder of this month.
- The severity of the ongoing drought suggests some degree of drought is expected to persist into the 2025-26 winter.

1-Month Drought Outlook for November 1,
2025–November 30, 2025



U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for November 2025
Released October 31, 2025

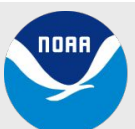


Possible Impact

- Drinking water supply issues continuing due to deep groundwater deficits.

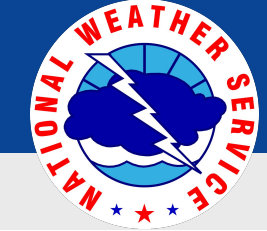
Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and
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U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Caribou, ME



Main Takeaways

November 26, 2025
10:37 AM EST

- Widespread Moderate to Severe Drought conditions continue across northern and eastern Maine, with some improvements in most locations.
- Impacts include, but are not limited to: Dry drinking water wells, low lake/pond and river/stream levels and dried marshlands.
- A little improvement expected over the next 7 days. Indications signal for some improvement to arrive in December, but overall will not produce enough to overcome the drought.
- 8-12 inches of rainfall, roughly 175-225% of normal, is needed between now and when the ground freezes. Otherwise, drought will linger throughout the winter.
- Accumulating snow can be beneficial to drought by insulating the ground before it has a chance to freeze; plus it stores water that can melt and contribute to groundwater recharge.
- The severity of the ongoing drought suggests some degree of long-term drought conditions persisting into the 2025-26 winter.

Contact Information

Web

- www.weather.gov/gyx
- www.weather.gov/car

Questions? Email

- nws.caribou@noaa.gov
- james.sinko@noaa.gov
- Louise.fode@noaa.gov

