



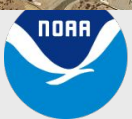
Drought Information Statement for Northern and Eastern Maine

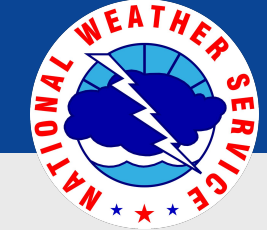
Valid October 16, 2025

Issued By: WFO Caribou, ME

- This product will be updated October 23, 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.

- Drought levels maintained across the state from last week
- Moderate to Extreme Drought now covers the entire state





U.S. Drought Monitor

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

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

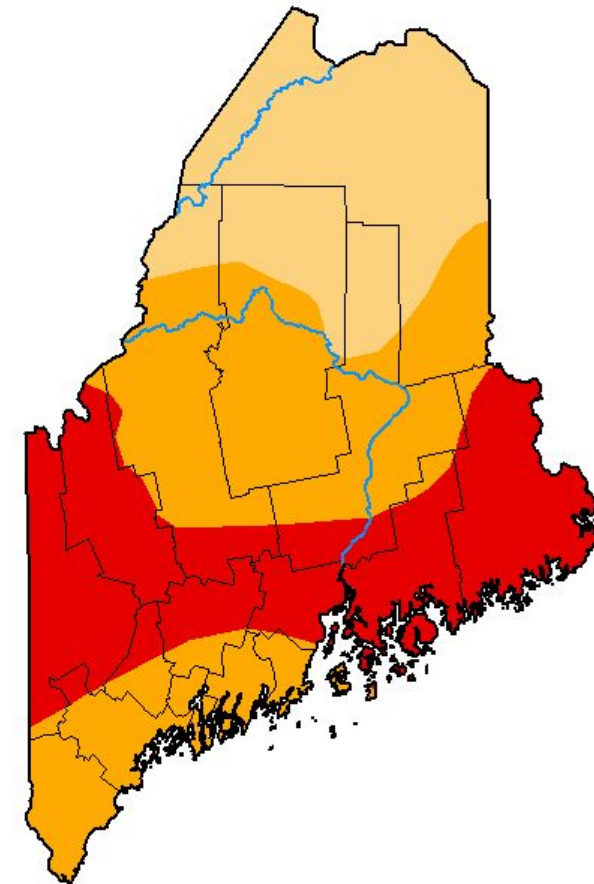
- **Drought Intensity and Extent:**

- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Hancock, Washington, & southern Penobscot counties.
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Central Piscataquis, Penobscot & southern Aroostook counties.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Northern Maine, including northern Piscataquis, Penobscot and Aroostook counties.
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** No areas are abnormally dry at this point in time.

Percentage of Maine in Drought

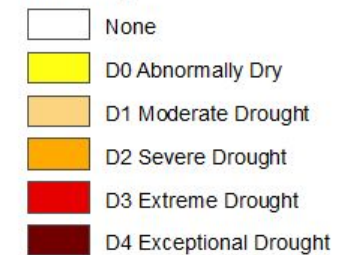
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** 0%
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** 26.63%
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** 39.77%
- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** 33.60%

U.S. Drought Monitor Maine



October 14, 2025
(Released Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity:



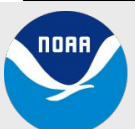
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP

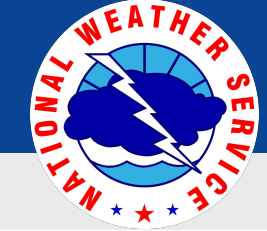


droughtmonitor.unl.edu



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

National Weather Service
Caribou, ME

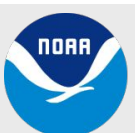
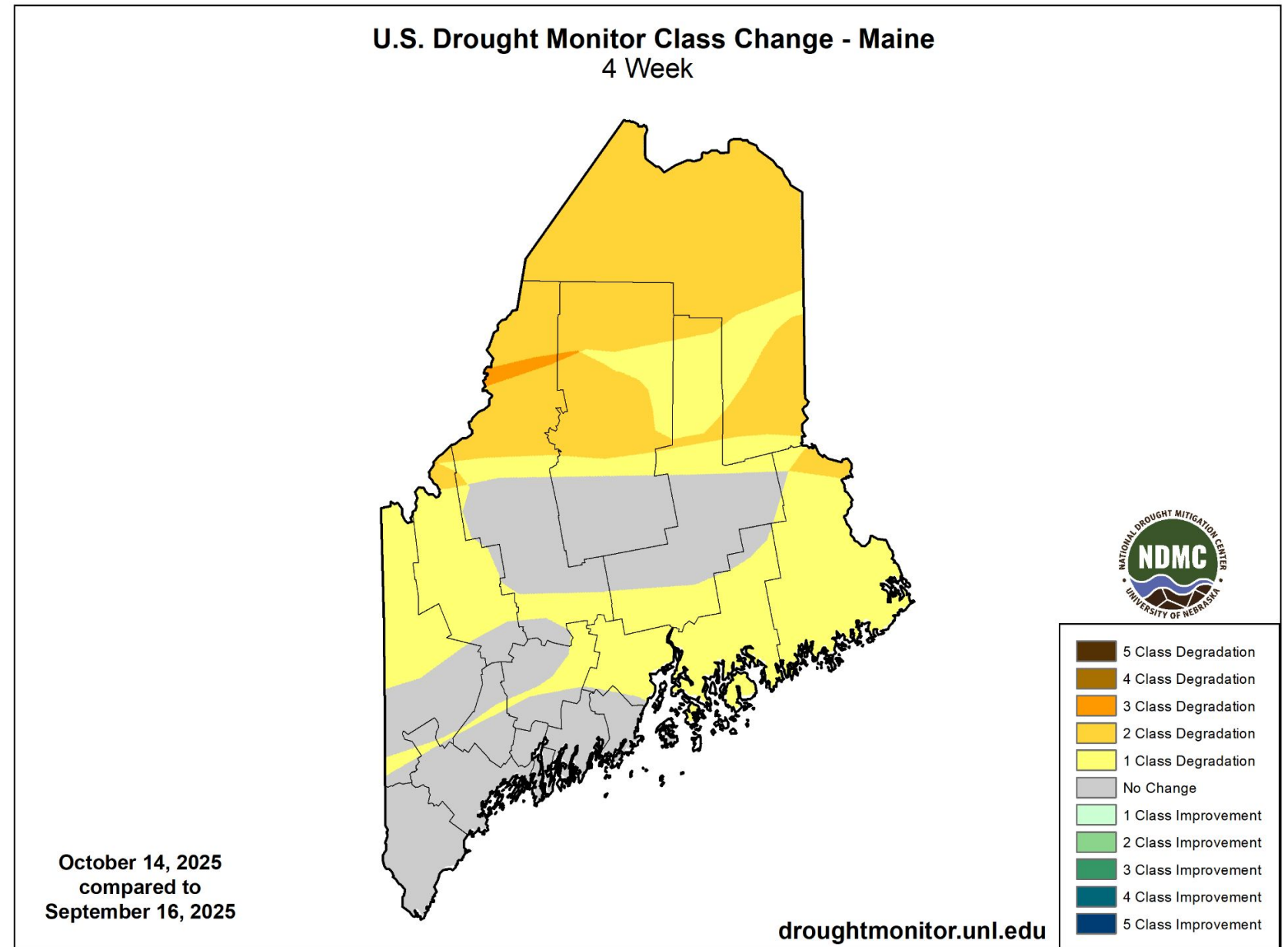


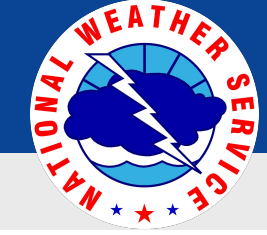
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

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

- Four week drought monitor class change:
 - **Drought Worsened:** Northern Maine, Interior and Coastal Downeast, and Bangor Area.
 - **No Change:** Central Highlands.





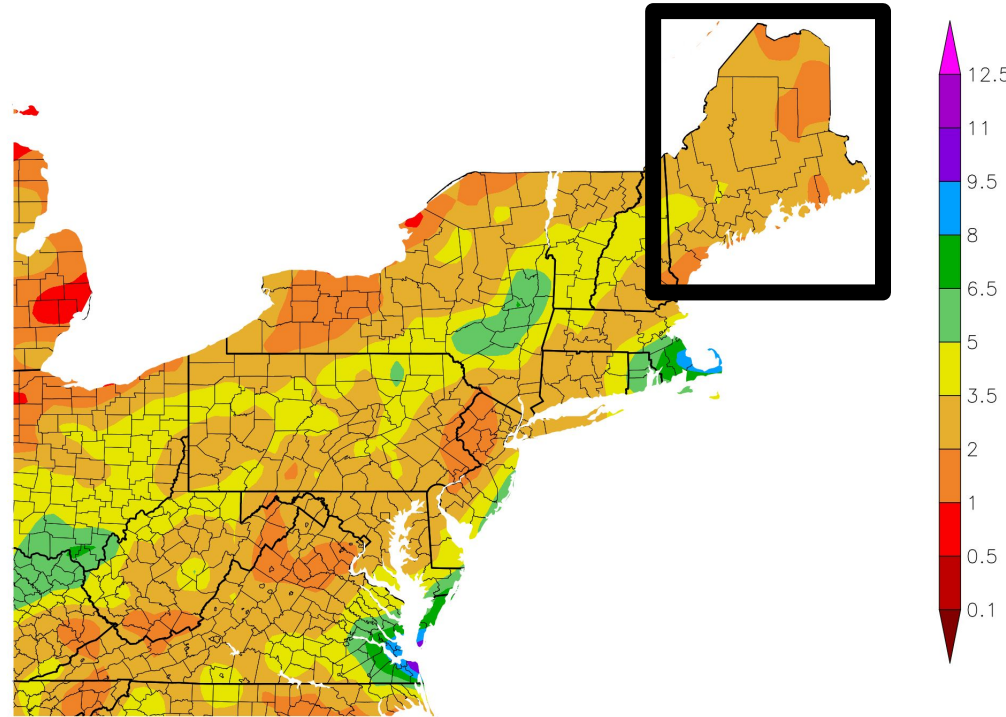
Precipitation

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

Link to [Northeast Regional Climate Center](#)

- A couple of rainfall events have raised precipitation totals over the area, with most areas seeing between 1 and 3 inches of rainfall.
- However, overall conditions are still running low, with most of the region running between 25% to 70% of normal.

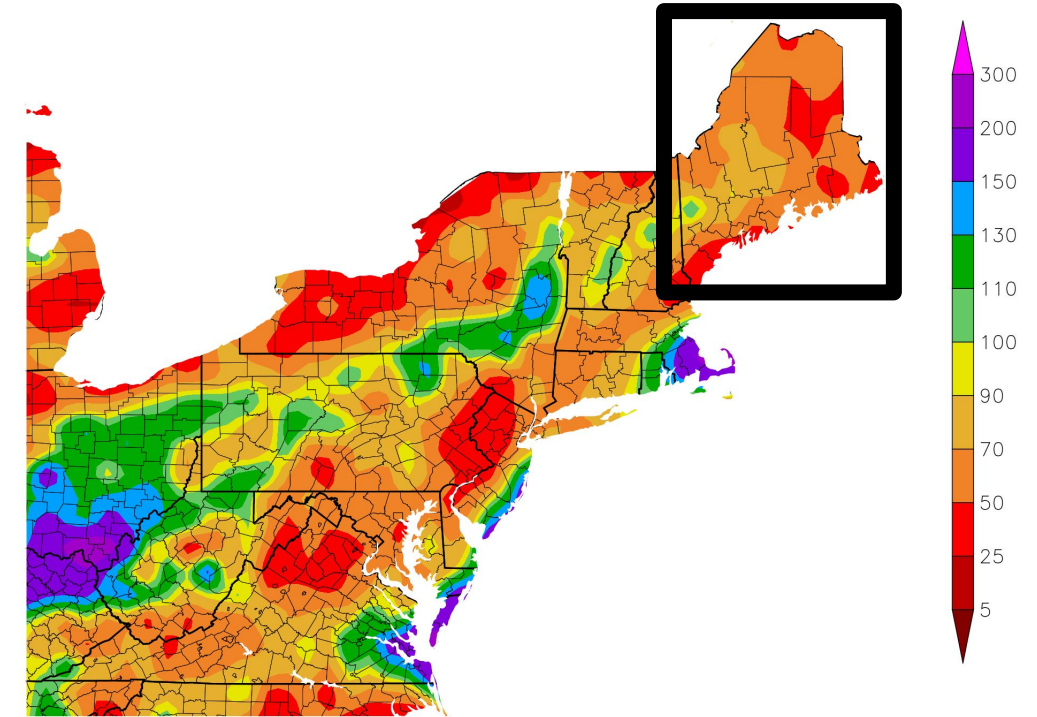
Precipitation (in)
9/16/2025 – 10/15/2025



Generated 10/16/2025 using provisional data.

Total precipitation over the past
30 days

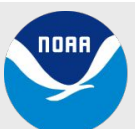
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/16/2025 – 10/15/2025

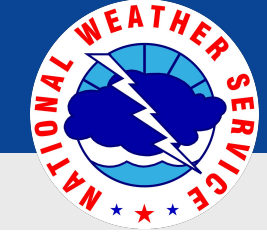


ACIS Web Services rted 10/16/2025 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Percent of normal precipitation
for the past 30 days





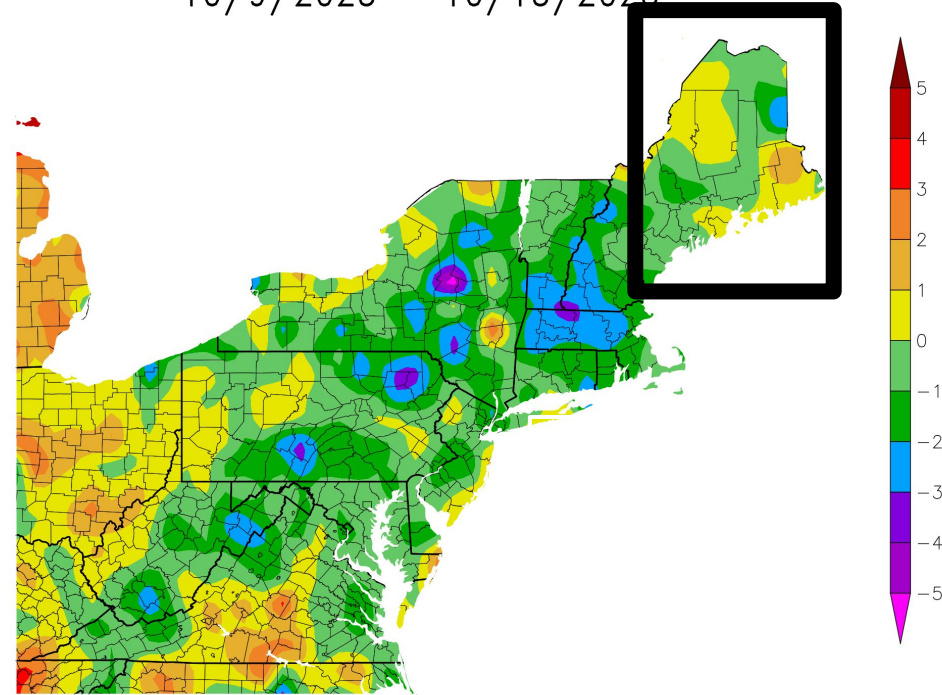
Temperature

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

Link to [Northeast Regional Climate Center](#)

- 7 day temperature trends have been slightly below normal across much of the area.
- 30 day trends are only slightly warmer than normal for most locations.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
10/9/2025 – 10/15/2025

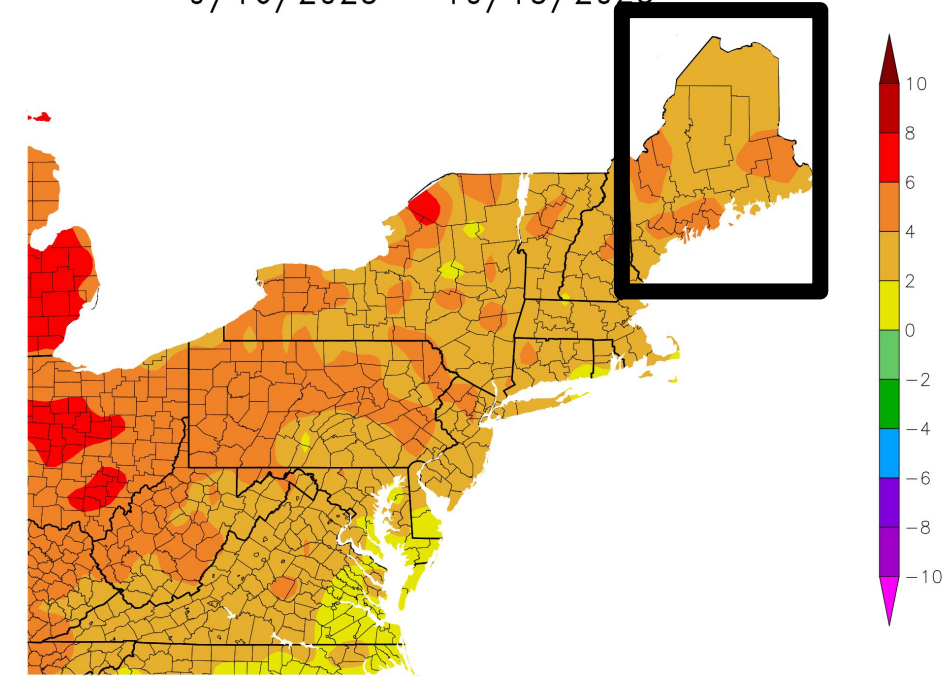


Generated 10/16/2025 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Temperature departure from
normal over the past 7 days

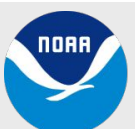
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
9/16/2025 – 10/15/2025

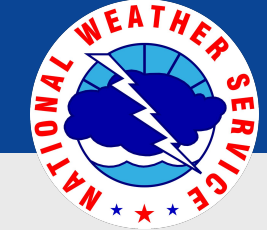


Generated 10/16/2025 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Temperature departure from
normal over the past 30 days





Summary of Impacts

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- The majority of streamflows across the service area continue to remain within the “Below” to “Much Below Normal” percentiles. [\(USGS\)](#)
- Some sites have reached record low flows for this time of year.

Agricultural Impacts

- Remaining harvest underway; ~30% crop losses due to ongoing drought conditions according to <https://moderator.droughtreporter.unl.edu/RSSfeed/ImpactView/60476>

Fire Hazard Impacts

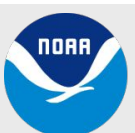
- Wildfire activity has been above average in Maine since August.
- Seasonal leaf fall continues; leaf litter is extremely dry.

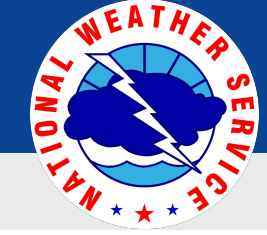
Other Impacts

- Dry wells can occur during periods of drought and have been reported over the past few weeks.
- Maine EMA Dry Well Survey: <https://maine-dry-well-survey-maine.hub.arcgis.com/>

Mitigation Actions

- Conserve water, practice fire prevention and follow directions from local officials.

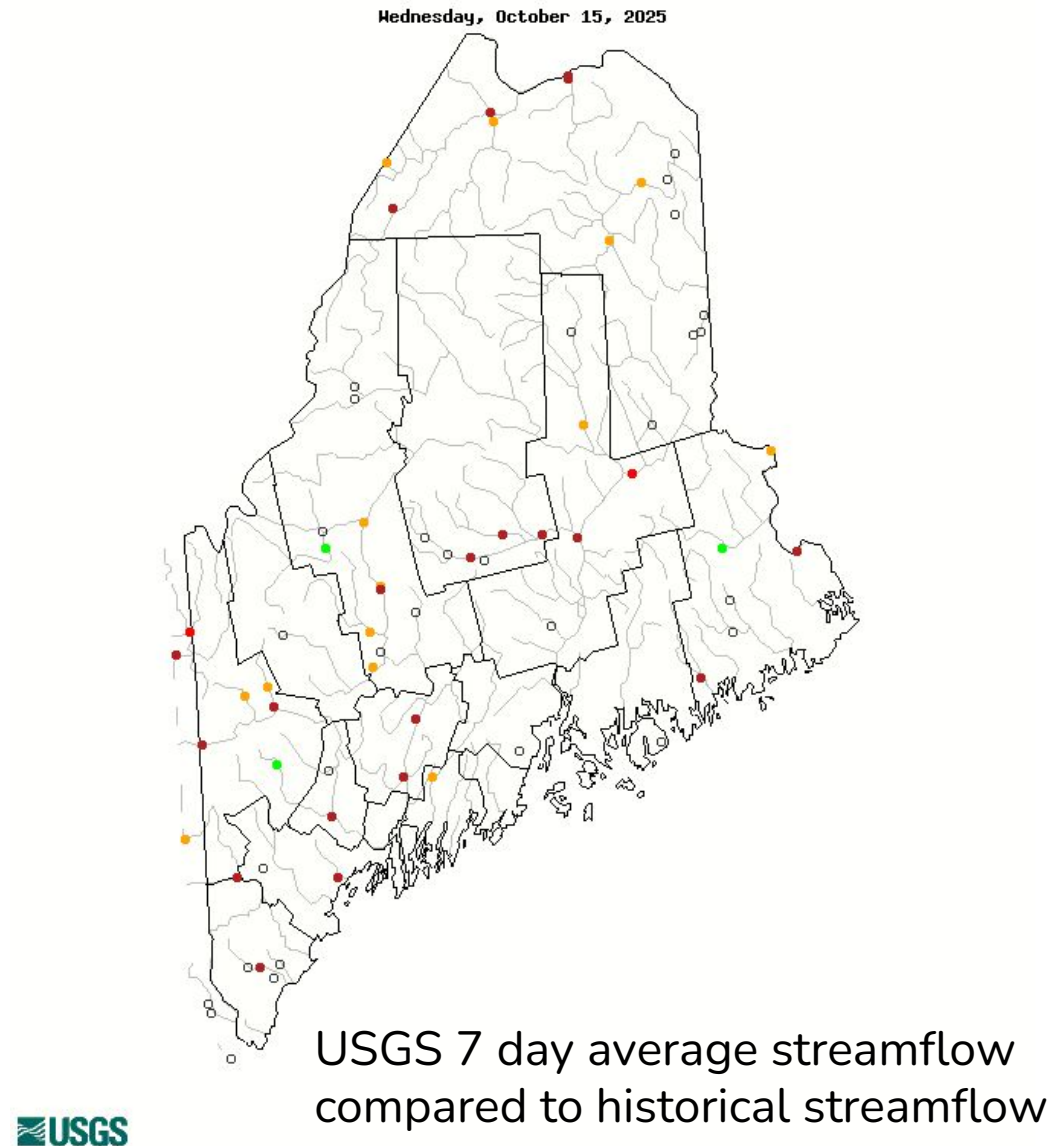




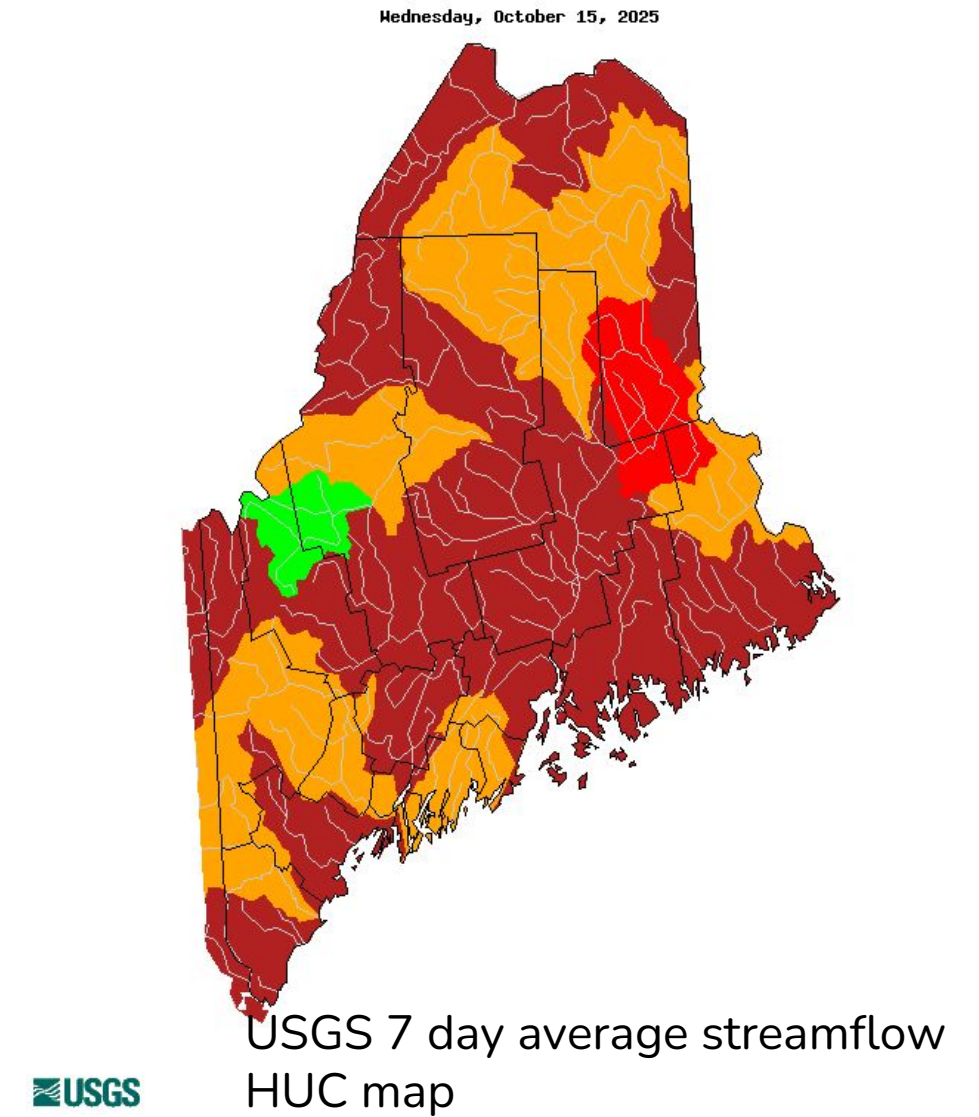
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

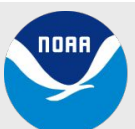
- Majority of the stream flows northern Maine remain in the “below normal” or “much below normal” categories.
- A few locations are now at record low flows for this time of year.
- Only a few isolated spots are within the “normal” category.

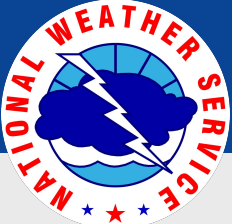


Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	Not-ranked



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





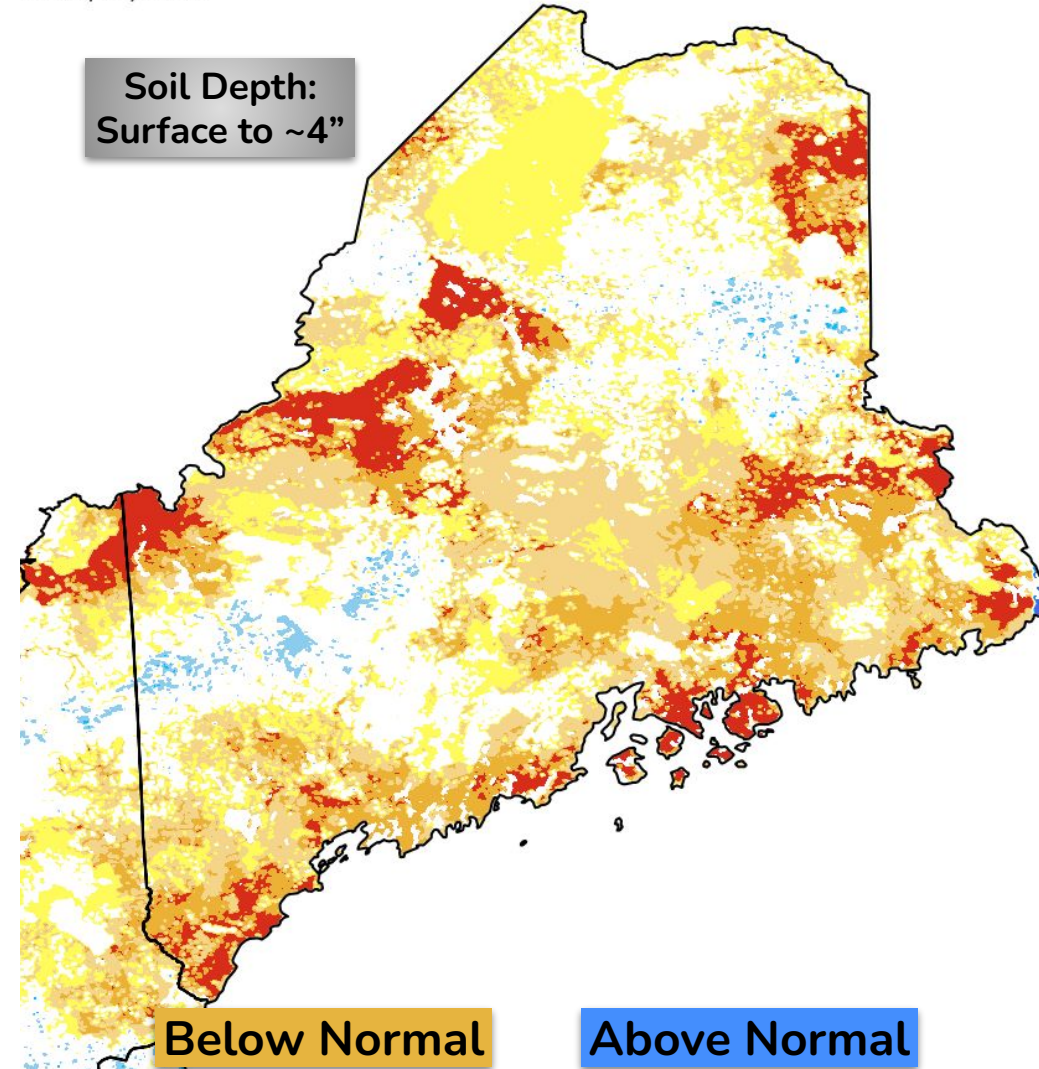
Agricultural Impacts

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

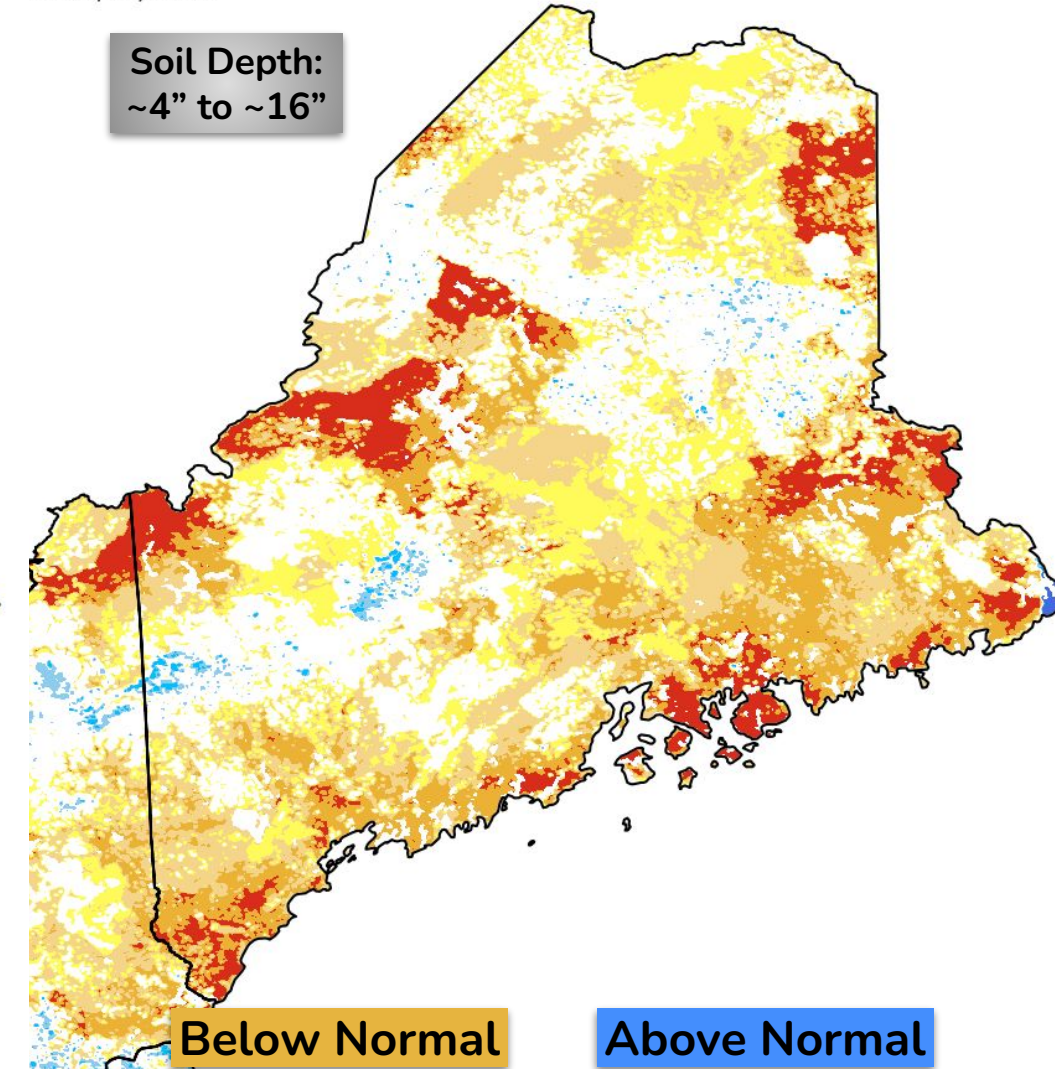
- Surface soil moisture across northeastern Maine has dropped due to crop harvest leaving bare fields. This is reflected at a slightly lower depth as well.
- Soil moisture across Downeast Maine has improved, but continues to be below normal.

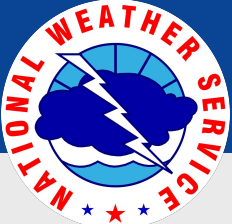
Image Captions:
National Water Model
[Soil Moisture Percentile 0-10cm Depth](#)
[Soil Moisture Percentile 10-40cm Depth](#)

10M Soil Moisture Percentile
Depth: 0-10 cm
Date: 10/15/2025



10M Soil Moisture Percentile
Depth: 10-40 cm
Date: 10/15/2025

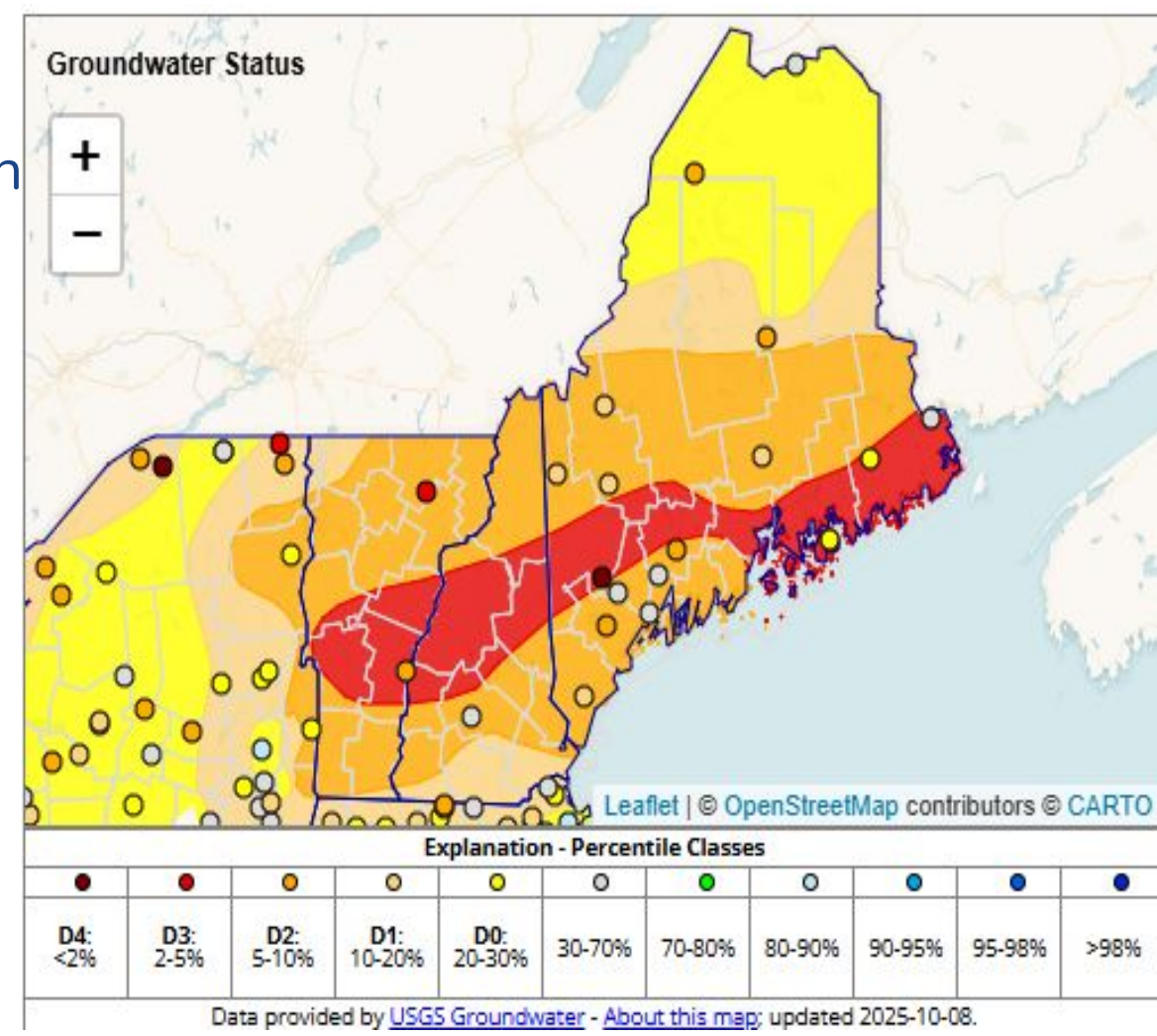




Groundwater Impacts

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

- Significant impacts to deeper soil moisture conditions continue, with most groundwater gauges below normal.
- Maine Drought Task Force Dry Well Survey reporting page [here](#).



VM Soil Moisture Percentile
Depth: 100-200 cm
Date: 10/15/2025

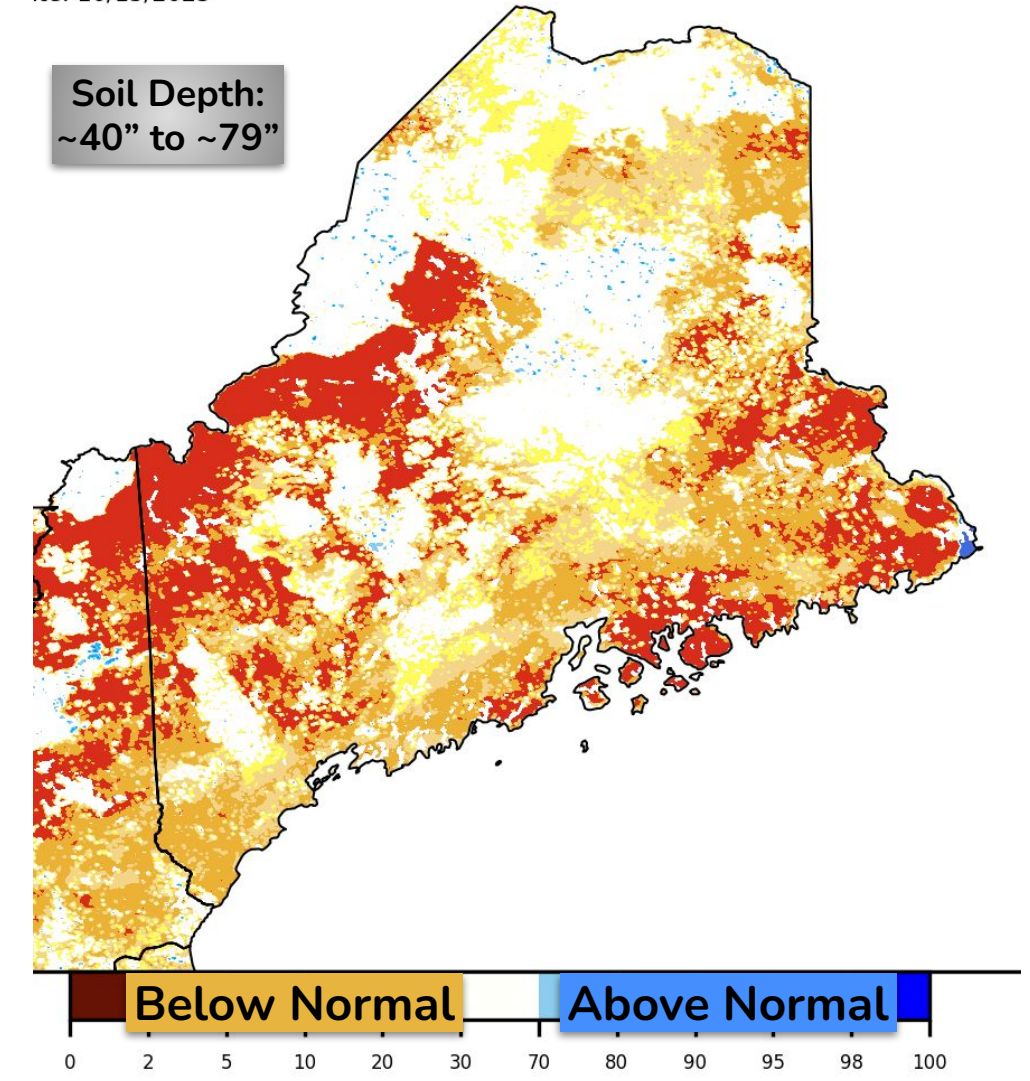
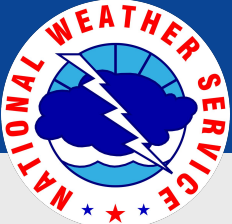


Image Captions:
[USGS Groundwater Gauge Status](#)
[Soil Moisture Percentile 100-200cm Depth](#)





Fire Hazard Impacts

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

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

- Mostly Moderate fire danger across the north as recent rainfall has improved conditions slightly.
- Sunny conditions over the weekend could dry fuels out more, however the lowering sun angle has less influence in mid-late fall.

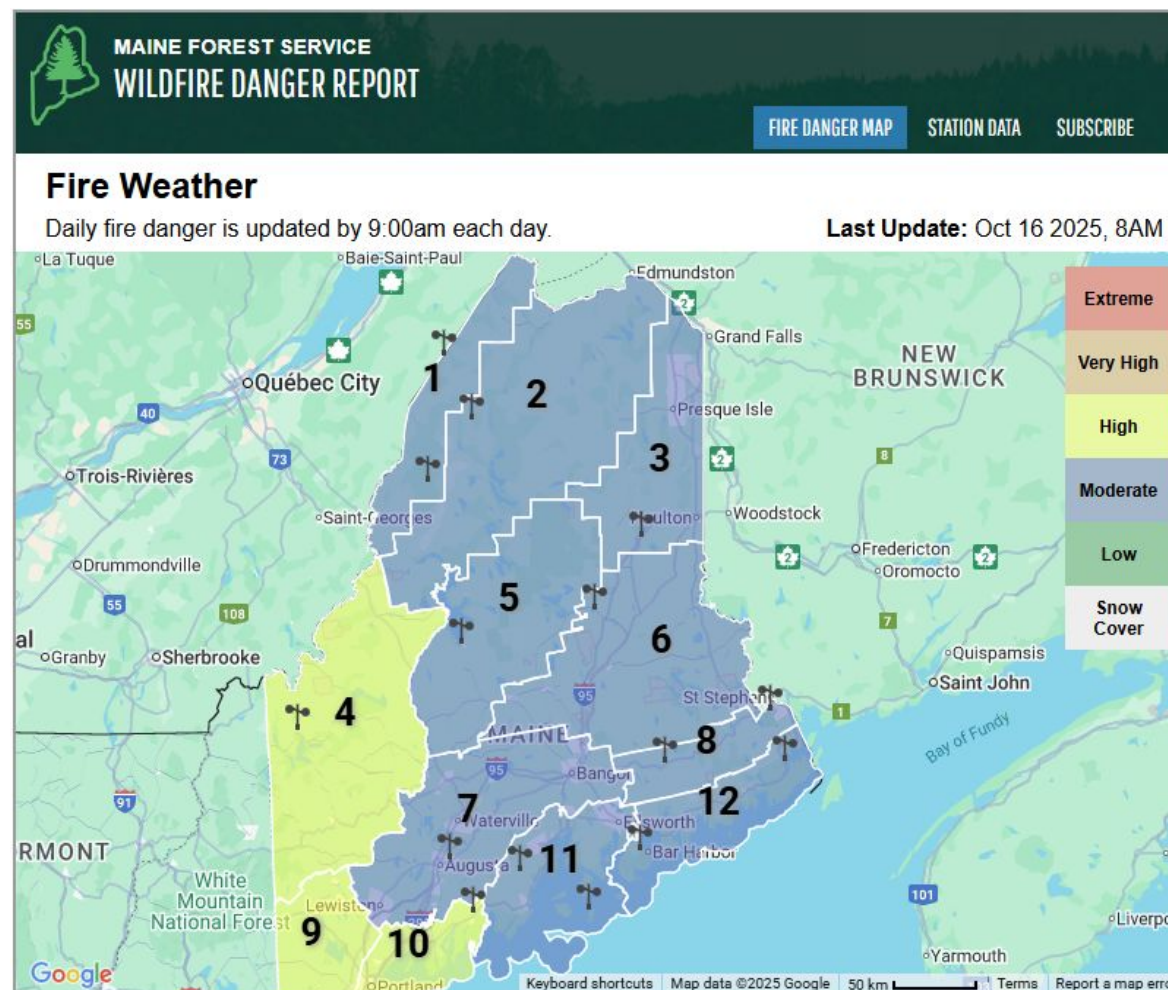


Image Captions:
[Maine Wildfire Danger Report](#)

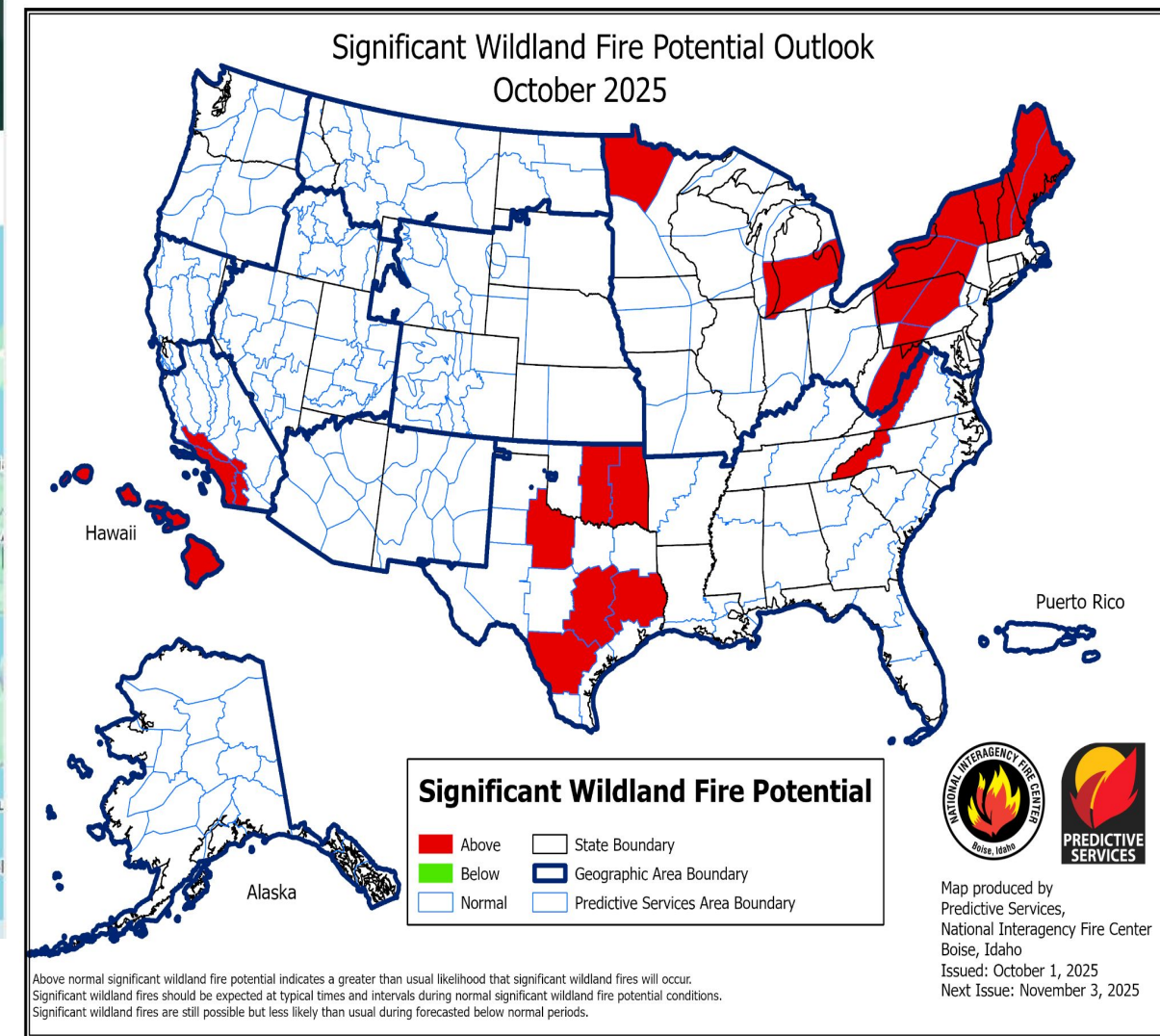
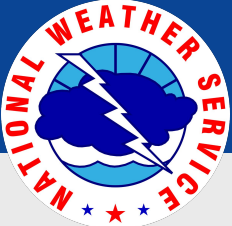


Image Captions:
[NICC October 2025 Significant Fire Potential](#)





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

- Dry conditions expected through the weekend.
- A change for a rainier pattern at the beginning of next week has the potential to bring more widespread rainfall. This will help improve the drought, but there is still uncertainty about how much rain to expect.

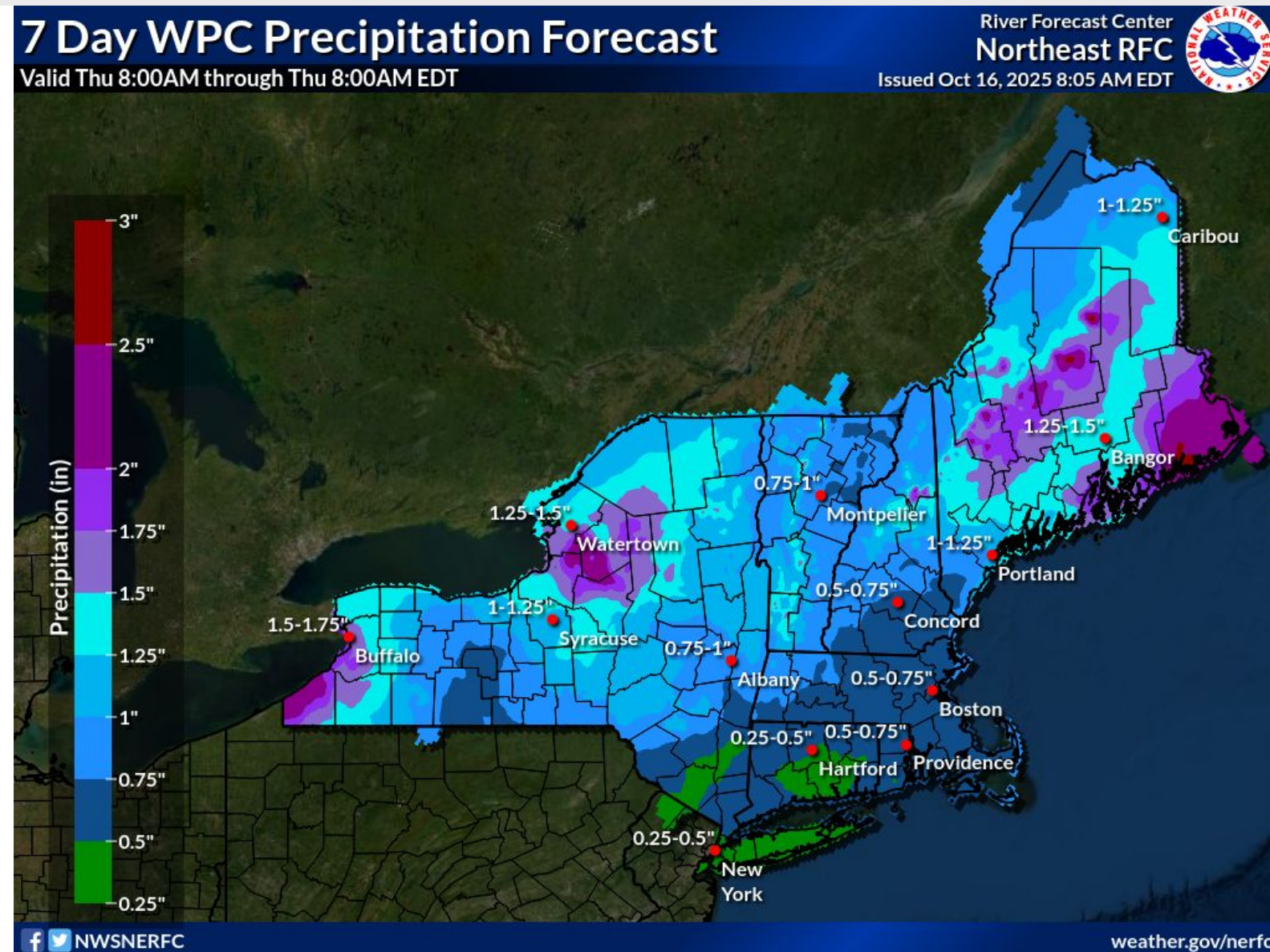
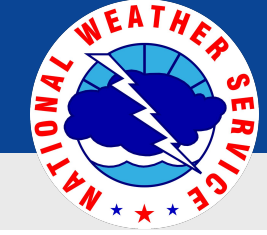


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid 10/8 8AM to 10/15 8AM



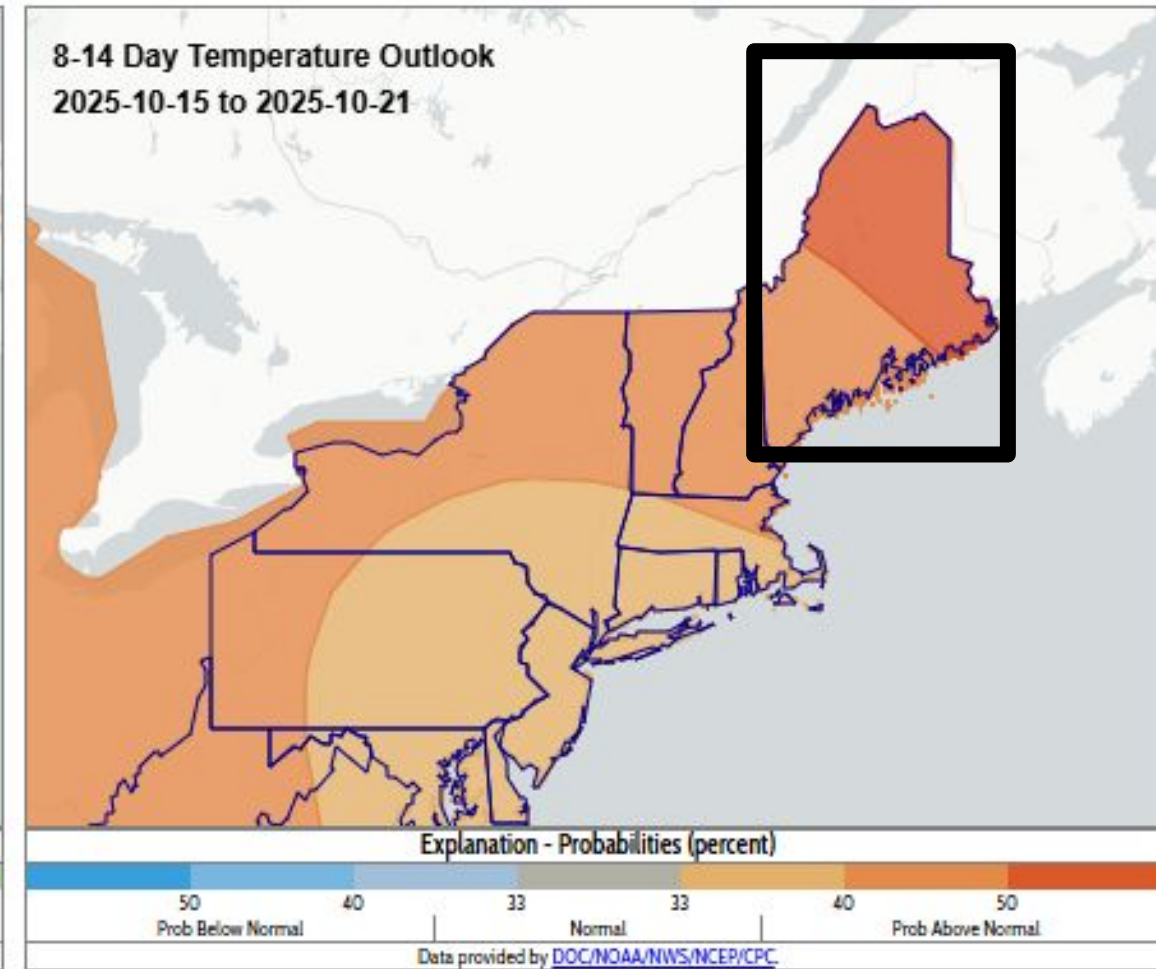
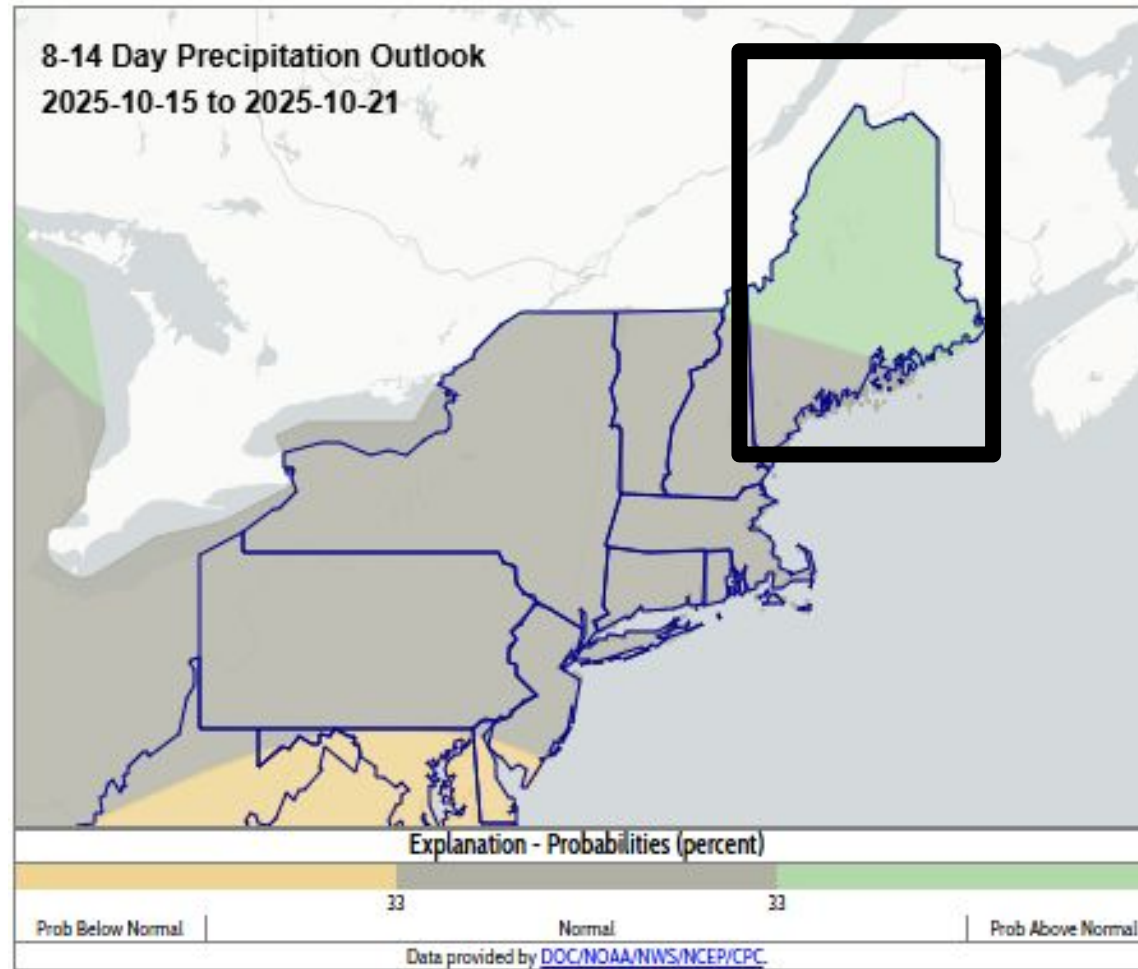
8 to 14 Day Outlooks

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

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

Main Takeaways for the 2 Week Period:

- Stronger signal of *above normal* temperatures expected.
- A slight signal for *wetter than average* precipitation.



Possible Impact

- This outlook indicates a trend toward improving conditions. However, how warm the temperatures are is a factor that may increase evaporation.

Image Captions:

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

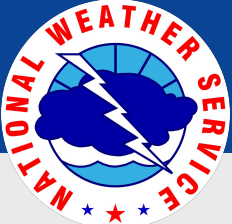
Right - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook.](#)

Valid Oct 15 to 21.



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

National Weather Service
Caribou, ME



Long Range Outlooks

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

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

Main Takeaways for the Next Month:

- Strong signal for *Above Normal* temperatures.
- *No strong signals* for either wetter or drier than average precipitation.

Possible Impact

- High uncertainty on precipitation does not indicate a long term trend toward drought improvement.

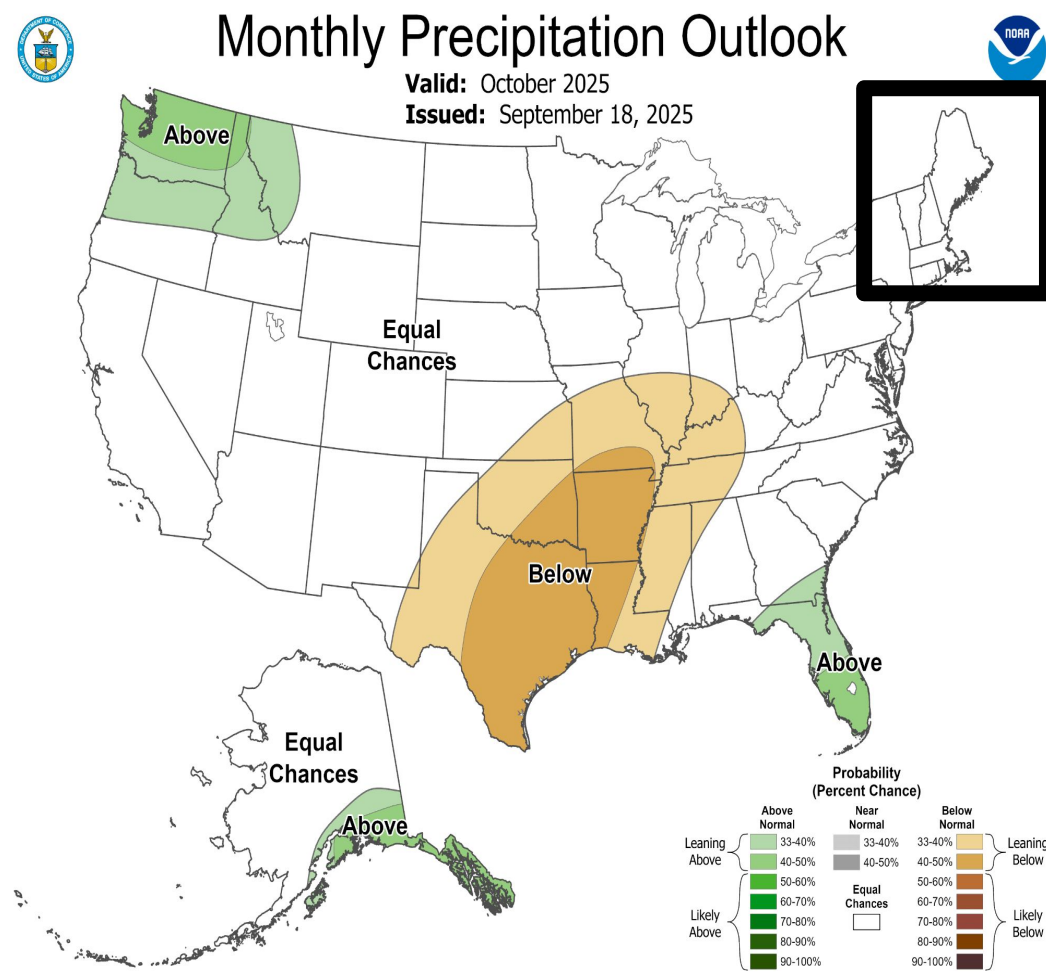
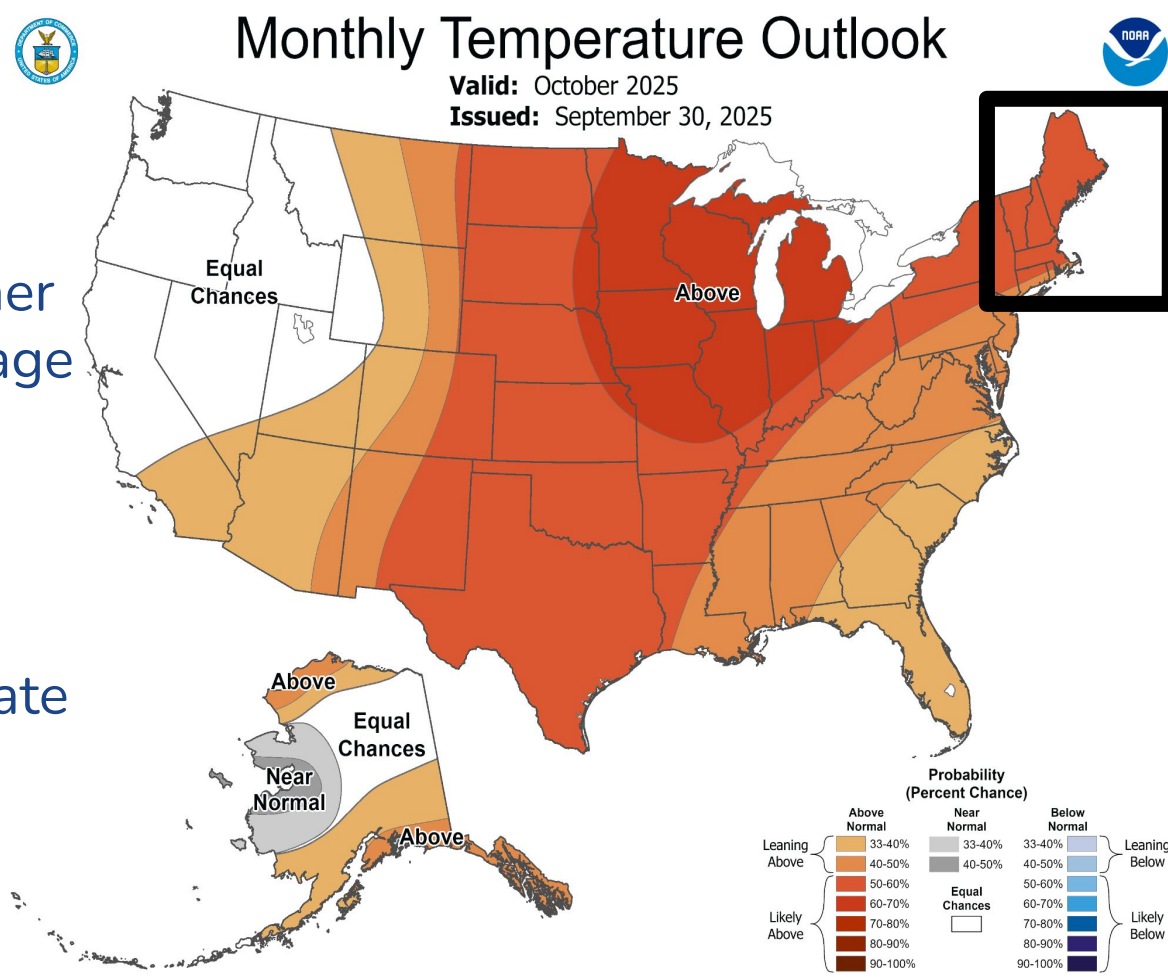
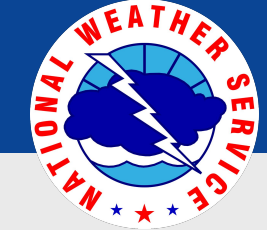


Image Captions:
Left - [Climate Prediction Center October Temperature Outlook.](#)
Right - [Climate Prediction Center October Precipitation Outlook.](#)
Valid Oct 2025.





Main Takeaways

October 16, 2025
10:33 AM EDT

- Drought conditions have stayed the same since last week. All of Northern Maine is experiencing some level of drought.
- A trend toward cooler temperatures and some rainfall has prevented drought conditions from worsening through mid-October.
- Reduced harvest yields are expected to continue through the rest of the harvest season.
- Additional impacts include, but not limited to, declining streamflows, lake levels, and groundwater.
- Next week will trend towards a warmer/rainier pattern. Uncertainty is still moderate to high on how much rainfall can be expected.

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

