



Winter/Spring Flood Outlook #7

March 12, 2026

Northern & Eastern Maine

1:17 PM

Flood Outlook due to Natural Flows is **Below Normal**

Valid Mar 12th-19th

OVERVIEW:

- The Risk of Ice Jams is **Above Normal** for the Central Highlands, Bangor Region & Downeast Maine.
- The Risk of Ice Jams is **Normal** for Northern Maine (St. John & Aroostook Basins).

SNOWPACK (SD) & SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT (SWE)

"T" = Trace

- **Northern Basins:** SDs 5-15" w/ isolated amounts up to 25". SWEs 1.5-4" w/ isolated higher amounts. SD & SWE below normal.
- **Central Highlands, Moosehead & Baxter Regions:** SDs 0-10" w/ isolated higher amounts up to 2.5ft. Chimney Pond (Baxter SP @ 2914ft) SD is 23". SWEs generally 0-3" with amounts up to 5" at highest terrain. SD & SWE below normal.
- **Downeast to Bangor Basins:** SDs generally 0-8" w/ isolated higher amounts in the higher terrain to 15". SWEs 0-3". SD & SWE below normal.

RIVER ICE

- **Northern Basins:** The St. John and Aroostook Basins remain 90-95% ice-covered, though recent runoff has created new openings and areas of ice rot. Conditions are dangerously thin in spots, with thickness varying significantly from a few inches to 2ft. The ice is primarily grey and white, with some black ice noted.
- **Central Highlands, Moosehead & Baxter Regions:** 80-90% ice cover in the Penobscot & Piscataquis Basins w/ exception near & downstream of dam/mill discharges. Several areas of ice rot causing very thin ice conditions. Ice thickness significantly varying between few inches to 2ft. Ice is grey & white.
- **Downeast to Bangor Basins:** 70-85% ice cover. Several areas of ice rot causing very thin ice conditions. Ice thickness significantly varying 4-15 inches.

PRECIPITATION & TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

- **Temperatures:** Above Normal. **Precipitation:** Above Normal.
- **Pattern:** Several systems will impact the region through the outlook period, likely bringing mixed precipitation and significant accumulations. As the ground remains largely frozen, any rain or melt will run off into rivers, increasing flows and the risk of mechanical ice breakup.

RIVER FLOW STATUS

- Flows are Below Normal. Expect flows to rise.

FROST DEPTH

- Northern Basins: 20-30" Deep, Central & Downeast: 4-16" Deep.

GROUNDWATER

- Below Normal to Well Below Normal due to ongoing Moderate to Severe Drought.

Estimated Snow Depth

Valid 8:00AM 03/12/26

Weather Forecast Office

Caribou, ME

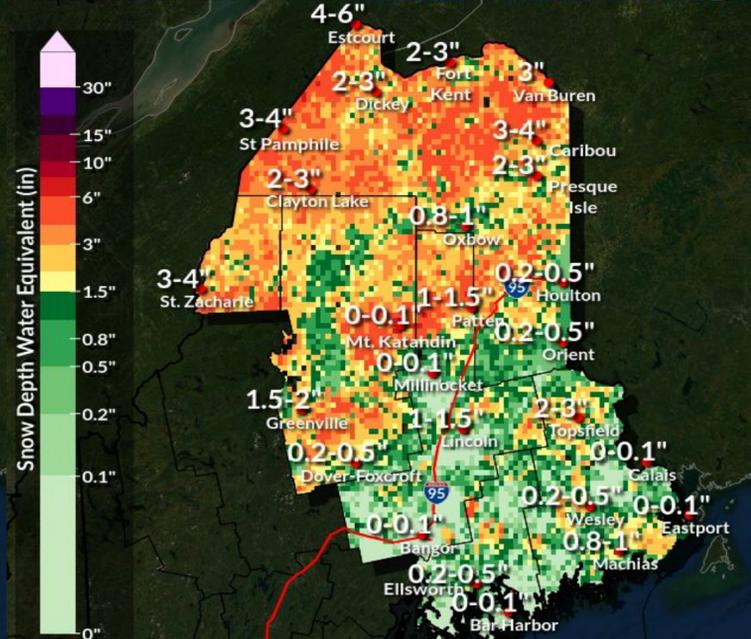
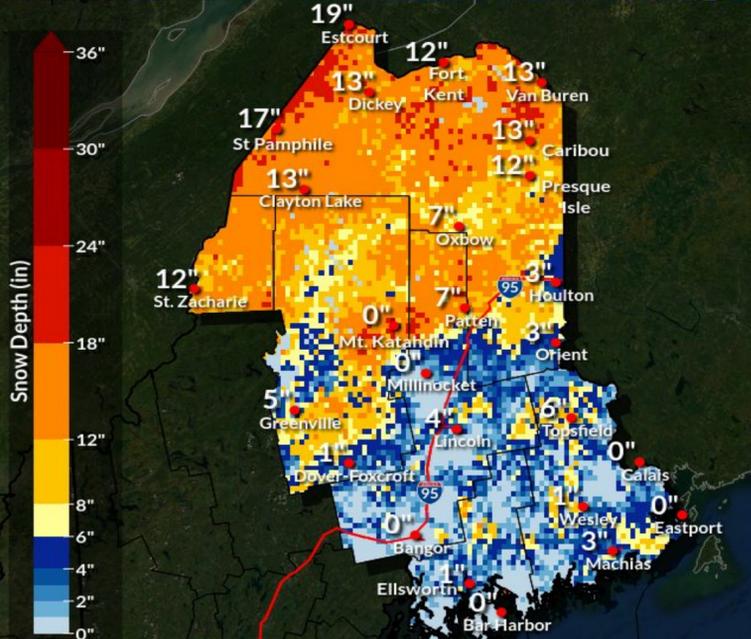


Estimated Snow Water Equivalent

Valid 8:00AM 03/12/26

Weather Forecast Office

Caribou, ME



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

Please Report River Ice Conditions via Social Media or email us at nws.caribou@noaa.gov

National Weather Service
Caribou, ME