Introductions

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Map of real-time streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of the year (Rhode Island)

Monday, August 01, 2016 08:30 ET

Explanation - Percentile classes:
- <10: Much Below Normal
- 10-24: Below Normal
- 25-75: Normal
- 76-90: Above Normal
- >90: Much Above Normal
- High
- Not Ranted

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, incrementis

Map generated 8/1/2016 8:57:15 AM

Groundwater Watch
Help Page
National Streamflow Conditions During July 2016

Discharge Measurements Are Made at Streamgages to Check or Adjust Stage-Discharge Ratings at Various Flow Rates
Monthly Groundwater Levels at Selected USGS Observation Wells in Rhode Island
October 2014 to July 2016

EXPLANATION
- Monthly median groundwater level for period of well record
- Monthly groundwater level measurement during water years 2015 and 2016
- Unshaded area shows range between highest and lowest monthly median groundwater level for period of well record

A. 419020671254601, RI-CUW295, Cumberland, RI (1946-2016)

B. 414022071332801, RI-COW411, Coventry, RI (1961-2016)

C. 412214071323900, RI-CHW18, Charlestown, RI (1946-2016)

D. 413907071495001, RI-W3W181, West Greenwich, RI (1999-2016)
Monthly Streamflow Conditions at Selected USGS Streamgages in Rhode Island
October 2014 to July 2016

A. 01112000 Blackstone River at Woonsocket, RI: Drainage area, 416 mi² (1929-2016)

B. 01118500 Pawtuxet River at Cranston, RI: Drainage area, 200 mi² (1959-2016)

C. 01119000 Wood River at Hope Valley, RI: Drainage area, 72.4 mi² (1941-2016)

D. 01117500 Pawtuxet River at Wood River Jct, RI: Drainage area, 100 mi² (1940-2016)
Rhode Island Rivers (30 years or more record) With New Record Low Monthly Mean Discharges During May, June, or July 2016

- Moshassuck River at Providence (01114000)—8.06 cfs, July (previous low, 8.07 cfs, July 1999)
- Usquepaug River near Usquepaug (01117420)—29.5 cfs, June (previous low, 30.4 cfs, June 1994)
- Beaver River near Usquepaug (01117468)—8.28 cfs, June (previous low, 9.02 cfs, June 1994)
- Pawcatuck River at Wood River Jct (01117500)—36.0 cfs, July (previous low, 38.2 cfs July 1957)
# Rhode Island Drought Indices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drought Phase</th>
<th>Palmer Drought Index +</th>
<th>Crop Moisture Index</th>
<th>Precipitation +</th>
<th>Ground Water** +</th>
<th>Stream flow +</th>
<th>Reservoirs**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>-1.0 to -1.99</td>
<td>0.0 to -1.0</td>
<td>Slightly Dry</td>
<td>1 month below normal</td>
<td>2 consecutive months below normal</td>
<td>Reservoir levels at or near normal for the time of year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisory</td>
<td>-2.0 to -2.99</td>
<td>-1.0 to -1.9 Abnormally Dry</td>
<td>2 month cumulative below 65% of normal</td>
<td>At least 2 out of 3 months below normal</td>
<td>3 consecutive months below normal</td>
<td>Small index Reservoirs below normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watch</td>
<td>-3.0 to -3.99</td>
<td>-2.0 to -2.9 Excessively Dry</td>
<td>1 of the following criteria met: 3 month cum. &lt;65% or 6 month cum. &lt;70% or 12 month cum. &lt;70%</td>
<td>4-5 consecutive months below normal</td>
<td>At least 4 out of 5 consecutive months below normal</td>
<td>Medium index Reservoirs below normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warning</td>
<td>-4.0 and below</td>
<td>&gt; -2.9 Severely Dry</td>
<td>2 out of 3 of the above criteria met: 3 month cum. &lt;65% and 6 month cum. &lt;65% or 6 month cum. &lt;65% and 12 month cum. &lt;65% or 3 month cum. &lt;65% and 12 month cum. &lt;65%</td>
<td>6-7 consecutive months below normal observation wells recording monthly record lows</td>
<td>At least 6 out of 7 consecutive months below normal</td>
<td>Large index reservoirs below normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>-4.0 and below</td>
<td>&gt; -2.9 Severely dry</td>
<td>Same criteria as Warning and Previous month was Warning or Emergency</td>
<td>&gt;7 months below normal Observation wells recording monthly record lows</td>
<td>&gt;7 months below normal</td>
<td>Continuation of previous month's conditions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+ Major Hydrologic Indicators.

** Local triggers from the water system supply management plans will also be considered in assessing drought phases on a regional basis. The WRB staff will review local plans and work with suppliers to coordinate regarding drought phases and to collect, review and report surface reservoir and ground water data.

"Normal" is defined as the statistical average of the data for the period of record. Percentages for precipitation are relative to normal.
Based on the drought indices...

- **Groundwater**
  - May—About normal
  - June—Below normal
  - July—Some recovery, but still mostly below normal
    - Two out of three months below normal

- **Surface water**
  - May—Below normal
  - June—Below normal
  - July—Below normal
    - Three consecutive months below normal
Questions??