

FLOOD TRACKING CHART

Mohawk River Basin

The "1999 Flood Tracking Chart for the Mohawk River Basin" can be used by local citizens and emergency response personnel to record the latest river stage and predicted flood-crest information. By comparing the current stage (water-surface elevation above some datum) and predicted flood crest with the recorded peak stages of previous floods, emergency response personnel and residents can make informed decisions concerning the threat to life and property.

During a flood, the USGS provides current river-stage information to the public through news releases and, more directly, at selected sites, through the USGS "Home Page" on the world-wide web (www). The New York District of the USGS displays available near-real-time river-stage data on the www at the following address: <http://ny.usgs.gov>.

The National Weather Service (NWS) has direct access to all information collected by the USGS for use in their forecasting models and routinely provides the forecast information to the news media and broadcasts it on shortwave radio.

Knowing the elevation of the flood waters and the elevation of a specific piece of property, it is possible to make some rough estimations of how flood waters may affect that property. However, caution must be used in making decisions based on these

comparisons as they may only be valid if the reported flood stage is from a site that is very close to the property. The surface of flowing water is not flat; it has a slope that can vary both with the distance upstream and downstream as well as with distance away from the river. Also, the extent and elevation of floodwaters can result from possible ice or debris damage within the stream channel or at bridges and culverts.

The network of gaging stations in the Mohawk River Basin is operated by the USGS in cooperation with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York City Department of Environmental Protection, and the New York Power Authority.

River stage is reported in feet above a datum. To convert the stage values to feet above sea level¹, add the stage value to the datum for the gage. For example, to convert a stage of 1.02 feet at the Schoharie Creek at Burtonsville site, add 1.02 to 507.98 which equals an elevation above sea level of 509.00 feet.

For more information about USGS programs in New York contact:

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Published Reports and Detailed Fact Sheets

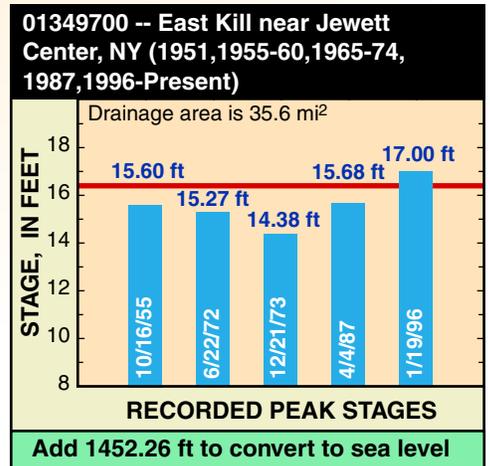
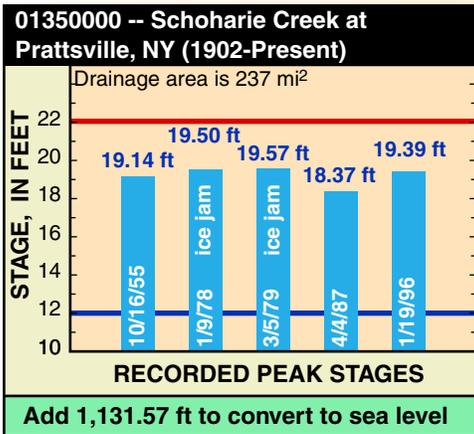
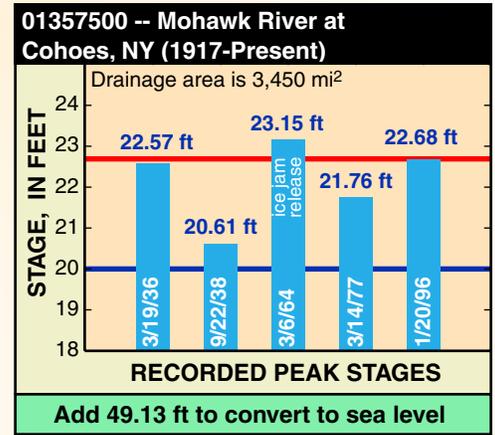
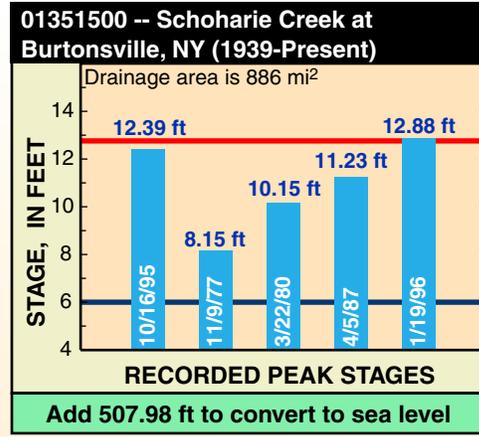
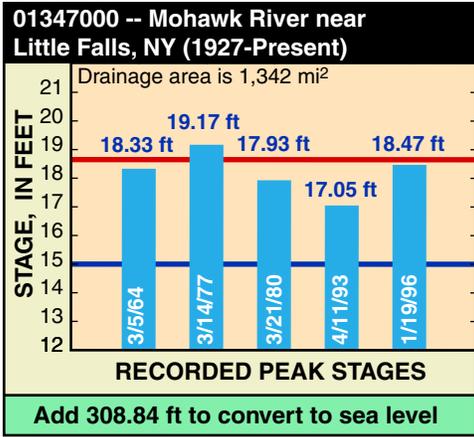
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1. Sea level: In this report, "sea level" refers to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD of 1929)—a geodetic datum derived from a general adjustment of the first-order level nets of both the United States and Canada, formerly called Sea Level Datum of 1929; also known as "mean sea level."



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EXPLANATION

- ▲ Gaging station with telemetry
- ▲ Gaging station without telemetry
- NWS Flood-stage
- 100-year Flood-stage



NWS Flood-stage not available