

Hydrologic Conditions – November 2015

The Hydrologic Conditions Mapper for New York State has been updated for the month of November 2015 and can be accessed at:

<http://ny.water.usgs.gov/projects/eom/>

The average precipitation across most of New York was between 1 and 2 inches, but ranged from 0.81 inches in Genesee County to 3.47 inches in Delaware County during the month. All counties reported precipitation deficits with rainfall totals from 0.38 to 2.98 inches below normal quantities for November. According to the National Weather Service (<http://www.weather.gov/nerfc/watersupply>), since January 1, 2015, western New York and the Adirondack Region have cumulative precipitation deficits of 5 to 10 inches. Many counties in eastern New York and on Long Island have cumulative deficits of 10 to 15 inches.

Streamflows were generally in the normal range at most sites across the State. Five index basins scattered across the State reported below-normal flow conditions. New York City reservoirs were collectively near normal capacity (about 80 percent) at the end of November.

Groundwater levels were both above- and below-normal levels across the State, with no discernible pattern. Just about half of the reporting sites, 48 percent, reported water levels within their respective normal ranges, whereas 45 percent of the sites reported low-to-very-low water levels. Low water levels were measured in approximately the same percentage of water-table and bedrock wells. Many of the wells with high and very-low water levels were from sites with less than 13 years of record.

Exceedance percentages shown on the Hydrologic Conditions Mapper are calculated for individual USGS sites. This information along with additional information from other Federal, State, and local agencies assist the NYSDEC and the State Drought Management Task Force to evaluate regional conditions for determination of drought classifications.

Let me know if you have any questions.