

Hydrologic Conditions – June 2016

The Hydrologic Conditions Mapper for New York State has been updated for the month of June 2016 and can be accessed at:

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

Precipitation totals for June ranged from 0.85 inches in Orleans County to 4.11 inches in Delaware County. Fifty percent of the counties in the State had precipitation totals between 1.8 and 3.2 inches and monthly precipitation deficits between 0.9 and 2.2 inches. Besides Orleans, other counties with monthly precipitation totals close to 1 inch included those along the southern shore of Lake Ontario, those in the Finger Lakes region, and Suffolk County. Large precipitation deficits (greater than 2.5 inches) were recorded in several counties in the Finger Lakes Region; however, the largest deficit (3.21 inches less than normal quantities) was recorded in Suffolk County. Except for Delaware County, most of the counties with the greatest monthly totals and near-normal precipitation quantities, were located east of Lake Ontario and along the St. Lawrence River.

Streamflows ranged from normal to “very dry” in New York. Normal flows were generally recorded along the main stem of the upper Susquehanna River and Mohawk River Basins, as well as at scattered index stations in the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains Regions. Below-normal streamflows were recorded in western New York (from the Chenango River Basin westward), the upper and lower Hudson River Regions, on Long Island, and scattered sites in northern New York.

New York City reservoirs were collectively at about 91-percent capacity at the end of the month, which is about 2 percent less than normal for the end of June. Monthly precipitation in the areas that drain to the reservoirs was, on average, 1.3 inches below normal quantities.

About 33 percent of groundwater levels at index sites across the State were at or near normal levels. Only 5 percent of wells reported above-normal water levels, whereas 62 percent reported low-to-very-low water levels. Fifty-six percent of the reporting bedrock wells had water levels that were at or above normal levels; whereas 71 percent of the reporting water-table wells had water levels that were below normal levels. Although wells with normal and above-normal water levels could be found scattered across the State, wells with below-normal water levels appeared to be clustered in the northwestern corner of the State, across the central Finger Lakes Region, around the perimeter of the Adirondack Mountains, in the Capital District, and on Long Island.

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.