Hydrologic Conditions – June 2022

The Hydrologic Conditions Mapper for New York State has been updated for the month of June 2022 and can be accessed at:

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

During June, monthly precipitation totals averaged 3.6 inches, and 0.6 inches below normal quantities across the State. The highest precipitation amount (5.9 inches) was recorded in Herkimer County and the largest positive departure from normal quantities (1.6 inches) was recorded in Franklin County. The lowest precipitation amount (1.7 inches) and largest negative departure from normal quantities (-2.8 inches) were recorded in Chautauqua County.

Of the 32 index streamflow sites, 27 recorded normal levels, 2 recorded wet levels, 3 recorded dry levels, and none recorded very dry levels during June. The National Weather Service (NWS) flood stage was not exceeded at any streamflow sites during June in New York State.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) reported that all drought regions in New York State were in normal status at the end of June.

Average lake levels of Lake Ontario during June were about 0.2 feet above long-term monthly average water levels (https://www.glerl.noaa.gov/data/wlevels/).

New York City reservoirs were collectively at about 90.5 percent of capacity at the end of the month; about even with the normal storage capacity of about 90.5 percent (https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/reservoir-levels.page).

Fifty-seven percent of the index groundwater wells with sufficient data for the month and period of record (95 in total) reported normal water levels for the month. Nineteen percent reported above-normal water levels, 19 percent reported low water levels, and 5 percent reported very-low water levels. Most low and very-low water levels were recorded the western half of the state; otherwise, there was no discernible strong geographical distribution of the wells that fell into the different classifications. The percentage of bedrock wells reporting above-normal water levels (28 percent) was about even with the percentage reporting below-normal water levels (28 percent) while the percentage of water-table wells reporting above-normal water levels (13 percent) was less than the percentage reporting below-normal water levels (22 percent).

One of the 95 wells with sufficient data reported a new record low monthly median level for June (a bedrock well in Tioga County with records dating back 5 years). Two of the 95 wells with sufficient data reported new record high monthly median levels for June (a water-table well in Franklin County with records dating back 17 years, and a bedrock well in Monroe County with records dating back 5 years).

Although the Hydrologic Conditions Mapper showed only four reporting wells with sufficient data on Long Island—two of which reported low water levels, and two of which reported normal water levels—the USGS Groundwater Watch (at https://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov/) showed that many wells in Nassau and Suffolk Counties continued to indicate below-normal water levels at the end of June.

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,

assists the NYSDEC and the State Drought Management Task Force with evaluating regional conditions for determination of drought classifications.

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