



Winter/Spring Flood Outlook #9

Ice Rotting in Place in Northern Maine

Northern & Eastern Maine

April 3, 2025
3:47 AM
Valid Apr 3rd - Apr 17th

OVERVIEW:

- The Overall Flood Outlook is **Normal** for Eastern and Northern Maine
- The Ice Jam Threat is **Low & Localized** for portions of the Aroostook & St. John River’s.
- The Ice Jam Threat has **Ended** for the rest of Eastern & Northern Maine.

SNOWPACK (SD) & SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT (SWE)

“T” = Trace

- **Northern Basins:** T-15in SD w/ isolated higher amounts to 18in in higher elevations. SWEs are T-5in w/ isolated higher amounts. SD & SWE are significantly below normal. Snowpack is “ripe”. Many areas w/ little to no snowpack east of Route 11 in open areas of Aroostook & N. Penobscot Counties.
- **Moosehead & Baxter Regions:** T-12in SD w/ higher amounts near Katahdin up to 35in. SWEs are generally T-5in. SD & SWEs are significantly below normal. Baxter SP Chimney Pond (2971ft elevation) SD is 28in. Snowpack is “ripe” & melting.
- **Central Highlands, Downeast to Bangor Basins:** SD has melted with no SWE. Isolated T amounts of SD/SWE in deeper north facing forest.

RIVER ICE

- **St. John River:** Jumbled ice remains stuck in spots in the upper headwaters near the Nine Mile gage. An Ice Jam exists near the St. John & St. Francis town line. There remains consistent area of decaying sheet & jumbled ice downstream of Grand Isle to Hamlin with some open areas.
- **Aroostook River:** Ice Jams remain in place in Wade near the Gardner Creek Road. Another jam remains in place near the Fort Fairfield / Caribou town lines. These jams have grinded into the river bed and show little movement.
- **Moosehead, Baxter, Central Highlands, Downeast to Bangor Basins:** Ice out is complete with rivers completely flushed. Ice rotting on the banks.

PRECIPITATION & TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

- **Temperatures:** Below Normal. **Precipitation:** Turning Above Normal
- **Pattern:** Pattern is active with a large Bermuda ridge which will keep the active northern jet stream over the Northeast with numerous rounds of precipitation. Maine will remain on the cooler side favoring wintry mix to rain events and favors less widespread impactful rainfall events. Remaining ice will slowly thermally rot.

RIVER TRENDS

- River flows near average due to the early Ice Out/Spring Runoff.

FROST DEPTH

- Ground is frozen but some thawing. Generally 5-10in South & 20-30in North.

GROUNDWATER

- Wells continue improving with melting snowpack & frost in spots.

