

NWS Form E-5  
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(PRES. BY NWS Instruction 10-924)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)

**WFO Caribou, Maine**

**MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS**

REPORT FOR:  
MONTH            YEAR  
**January        2017**

TO: Hydrologic Information Center, W/OS31  
NOAA's National Weather Service  
1325 East West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

SIGNATURE  
**Maureen Hastings, HPM**

DATE

*When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions below the small box, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).*

An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

### January 2017

The year 2017 started out on a very warm note with most of our climate locations averaging 6 to 8 degrees above normal for the month of January. Precipitation was near to above normal, but with the mild conditions, monthly snowfall was below normal, particularly in the Bangor region and Downeast.

Precipitation was, on the whole, spaced out through the month, with the bulk coming in three events. The first of these occurred on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and produced a half an inch to one inch of liquid precipitation. Most of this fell as snow across the north (Caribou received 6.8 inches of snow) while Bangor only got a tenth of an inch of the white stuff. Overall the rivers showed very little response to this precipitation.

The next event transpired on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of the month. Precipitation amounts were modest, mainly around a half inch or so. The more important part of this event was that temperatures sky rocketed, reaching into the mid 40s across the north and around 50 Downeast. This allowed for plentiful snowmelt (Caribou lost 10 inches off its snowpack), and rivers rose correspondingly. No flooding was noted, but rises of 2 to 4 feet were common.

The final significant precipitation arrived late in the month, on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. This was a mixed precipitation event; Presque Isle, just south of Caribou, saw over 4 inches of sleet, while Bangor reported nearly 2 inches of rainfall, with just a little over one inch of sleet. Northern waterways evidenced little response, just rising a foot or so at most, but rivers such as the Piscataquis and Penobscot saw sharp rises of 2 feet or more. Again, no flooding was reported.

The monthly averages for river flows and groundwater levels were not available at the time of this writing.

### Precipitation Totals for Select Locations

All units inches

Location	Total Precip	Normal Precipitation	Departure from Normal	Snowfall	Normal Snowfall	Departure from Normal Snowfall	Greatest Snow Depth
Frenchville	1.72	1.76	-0.04				
Caribou	3.45	2.71	+0.74	19.4	25.2	-5.8	30
Houlton	2.83	2.86	-0.03				
Millinocket	2.91	2.93	-0.02	14.5	23.0	-8.5	21
Bangor	3.63	2.89	+0.74	6.0	19.2	-13.2	9

\*Millinocket snowfall measured at wastewater treatment plant, not the ASOS site

### Stream Flows for Selected Rivers

River	Normal Flow (cfs)	Monthly Mean Flow (cfs)	Monthly Mean Precip (in)	Percentile Class	Drainage (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Years of Record
St. John River at Ninemile Bridge					1341	66
St. John River at Fort Kent					5665	90
Aroostook River at Washburn					1654	86
Narraguagus River at Cherryfield					227	68
E Br Penobscot River at Grindstone					837	114
Mattawamkeag nr Mattawamkeag					1418	82
Piscataquis River nr Dover-Foxcroft					298	114

### Groundwater Levels

Station	Normal Range (ft)	Mean Water Level Below Land-sfc Datum (ft)	Departure from Month-end Median (ft)	Percentile Class	Years of Record
McFarland Hill					13
Crooked Road					13
Hadley Lakes					30

Kenduskeag					37
Calais					16
Millinocket					22
Clayton Lake					37
Fort Kent					38

Flow or Water Level	Percentile Range	Explanation
Record Low	0 <sup>th</sup>	The monthly mean streamflow or median water level during this month is the lowest ever recorded during the period of record for this site.
Very Low	0 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup>	The monthly mean streamflow or median water level during this month is less than the 10 <sup>th</sup> percentile when compared to all of the months during the period of record for this site.
Low	10 <sup>th</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup>	The monthly mean streamflow or median water level during this month is between the 10 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> percentiles when compared to all of the months during the period of record for this site.
Normal	25 <sup>th</sup> to 75 <sup>th</sup>	The monthly mean streamflow or median water level during this month is between the 25 <sup>th</sup> and 75 <sup>th</sup> percentiles when compared to all of the months during the period of record for this site.
High	75 <sup>th</sup> to 90 <sup>th</sup>	The monthly mean streamflow or median water level during this month is between the 75 <sup>th</sup> and 90 <sup>th</sup> percentiles when compared to all of the months during the period of record for this site.
Very High	90 <sup>th</sup> to 100 <sup>th</sup>	The monthly mean streamflow or median water level during this month is greater than the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile when compared to all of the months during the period of record for this site.
Record High	100 <sup>th</sup>	The monthly mean streamflow or median water level during this month is the highest ever recorded during the period of record for this site.

**Non-Routine Hydrologic Products  
January 2016  
WFO Caribou, ME**

PIL	TIME (UTC)	Date	Description

**Significant River Crests  
January 2017  
WFO Caribou, ME**

Location	ID	Date	Time (UTC)	Crest Stage (ft)	Flood Stage (ft)



# January 2017 Snowfall Departure from Average

