



*Massachusetts Rivers Alliance
Presentation to Drought Management Task Force
July 21, 2022*



Weir River, Hingham

July 15

Photo: North and South Rivers WA



+ Weir River, Hingham July 15

Photo: North and South Rivers Watershed Association



+ North and South Rivers

(Unable to access photo files)

- Streamflow is very low
- Tributaries are going dry, especially those not fed by groundwater (most of them)
- "Everyone focuses on the here and now, but we are most worried about lasting ecological effects in September, October, and into next year if we don't get a healthy snowpack this winter. Things are dying now but we are concerned about the health of the herring population as they will not be able to get back to the ocean for their outmigration."



+ Neponset River, Hyde Park (mainstem) July 9

Photo: Tom Palmer, NepRWA



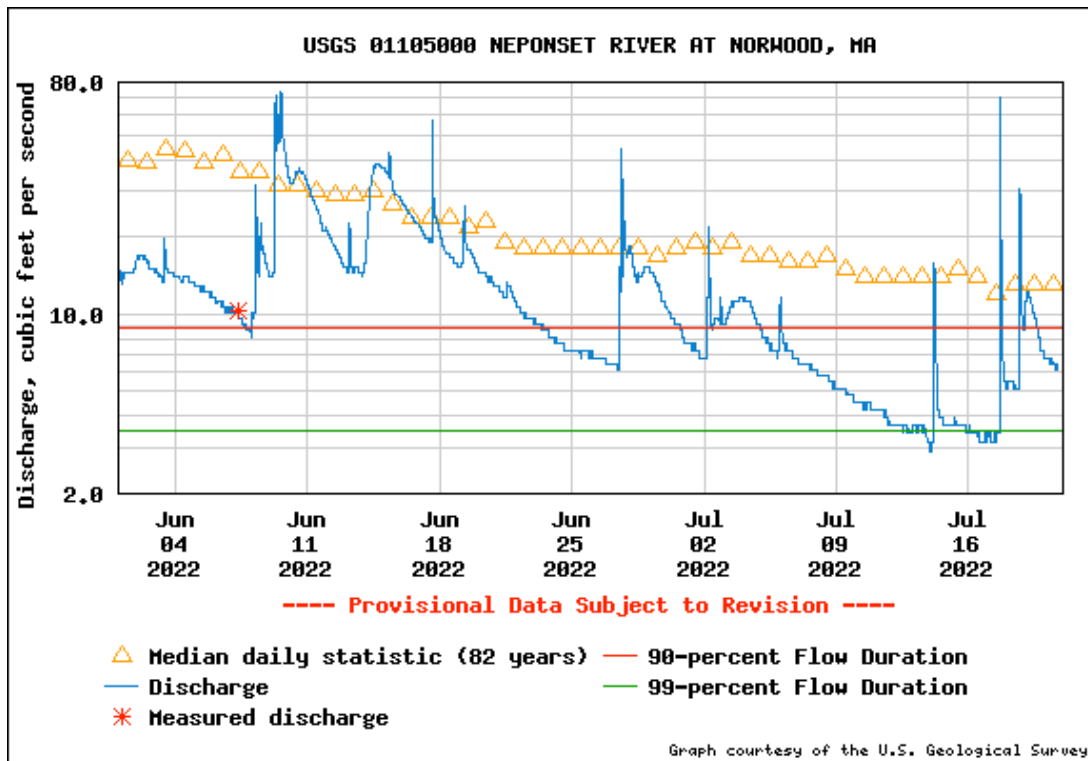
+ Neponset River, Milton July 13

Photo: Ian Cooke, NepRWA



- Fowl Meadow
- Always has water in it
- Worst Ian has seen it: turbid, shallow, filamentous algae

+ Neponset, Norwood (USGS gage 6/4-7/16)



- Neponset has been below 90% flow for all of July, below 99% last 10 days.
- Lowest recorded flow in 85 years was 2cfs, was at 3cfs, thinks it's now down to 2.
- Not worst drought (precipitation), thinks evaporation due to climate change/heat is severely impacting river.

+ Nashua River, Shirley July 14

Photo: Nashua River WA



+Palmer River, Rehoboth July 14

Photo: Mass Rivers Alliance



- No water flowing over the dam
- Dry streambed downstream
- Friends of Palmer River have not seen it like this in several years
- Drains to Narragansett Bay



Charles River, Bogastow Brook, Millis

July 19

Photo: Charles River Watershed Association



- Reach upstream of Ridge St culvert
- Bank exposed on stream left (right side in photo); depth at culvert ~2 inches





Charles River, Fuller Brook, Wellesley, July 19

Photo: Charles River Watershed Association



- Along Brook Path, upstream of Forest St
- Dry river bed in most upstream portion of brook, right near major [stream restoration project area](#)

+ Runnins River, Seekonk (Trib to Ten-Mile), July 18

Photo: Mass Rivers Alliance

- Tributary to the Ten-Mile
- Completely dry



+ Not a river...
Seekonk Community Garden

