

MASSACHUSETTS RIVER OVERVIEW



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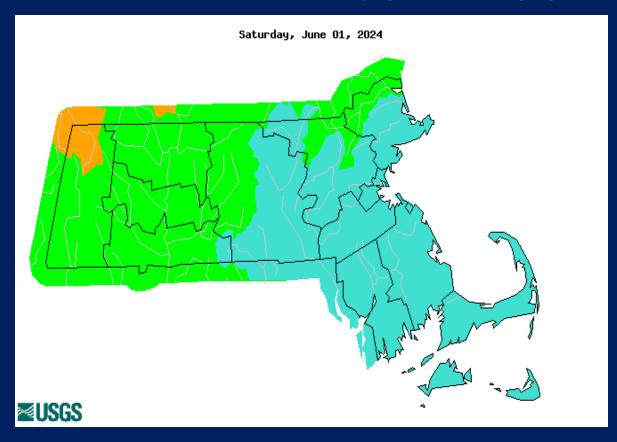
MA Drought Management Task Force

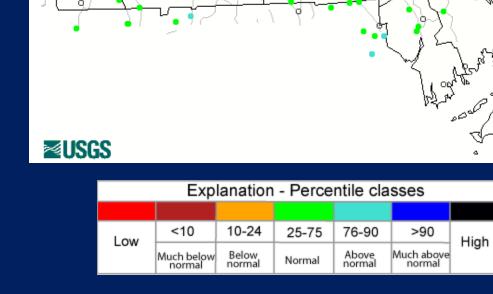
10 July 2024

OUTLINE

- Snapshot of Massachusetts River Flows
- NERFC River Forecast Outlook Western Massachusetts
- Conclusions

MASSACHUSETTS RIVER FLOWS





Monday, July 08, 2024

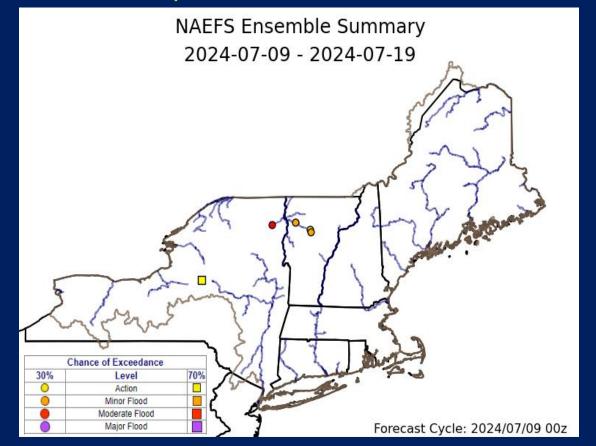
No Data

Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

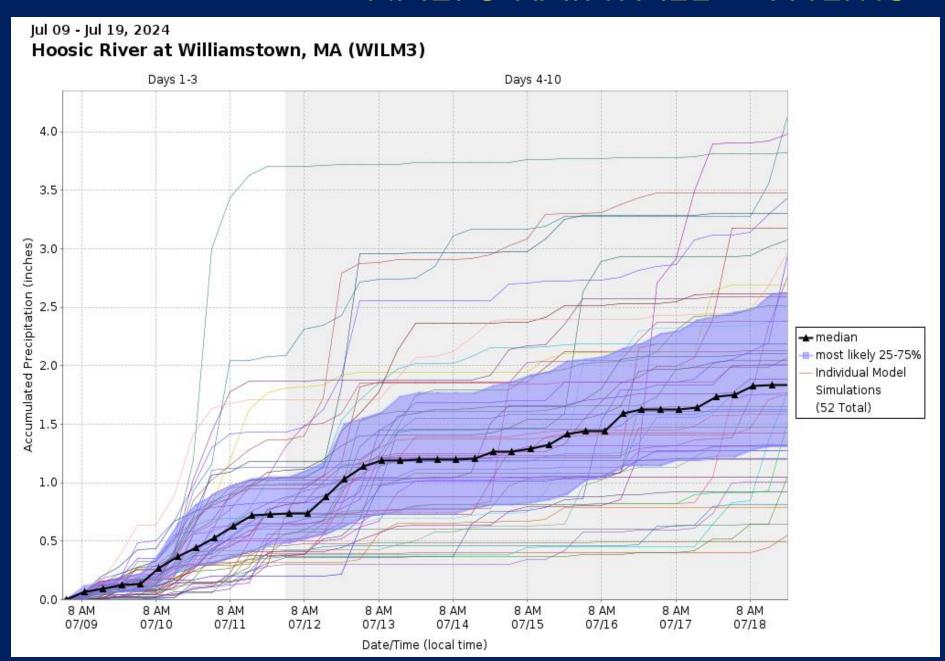
Over the past month...flows have held steady or increased across central and western Massachusetts and decreased a bit over eastern Massachusetts.

NAEFS ENSEMBLE RIVER FORECAST OUTLOOK

- A 52 member ensemble run for all NERFC forecast points to give us an idea of the possible range of river flows out 10 days.
 - Basically 52 slightly different initial conditions in the weather models lead to 52 different river forecasts based on rainfall and temperature.
- Will show results for...
 - Hoosic River at Williamstown (WILM3)
 - Westfield River at Westfield (WSFM3)



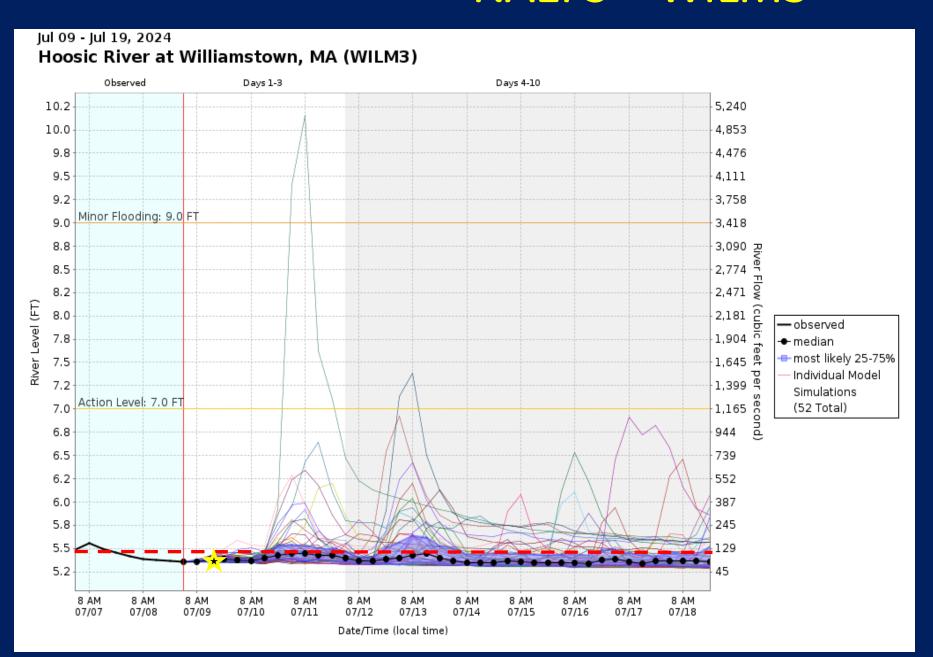
NAEFS RAINFALL — WILM3



Over the next 10 days...median forecast rainfall is pretty generous at around 1.75 inches.

There is a lot of spread in the forecast precipitation due to the expected convective nature of the rainfall.

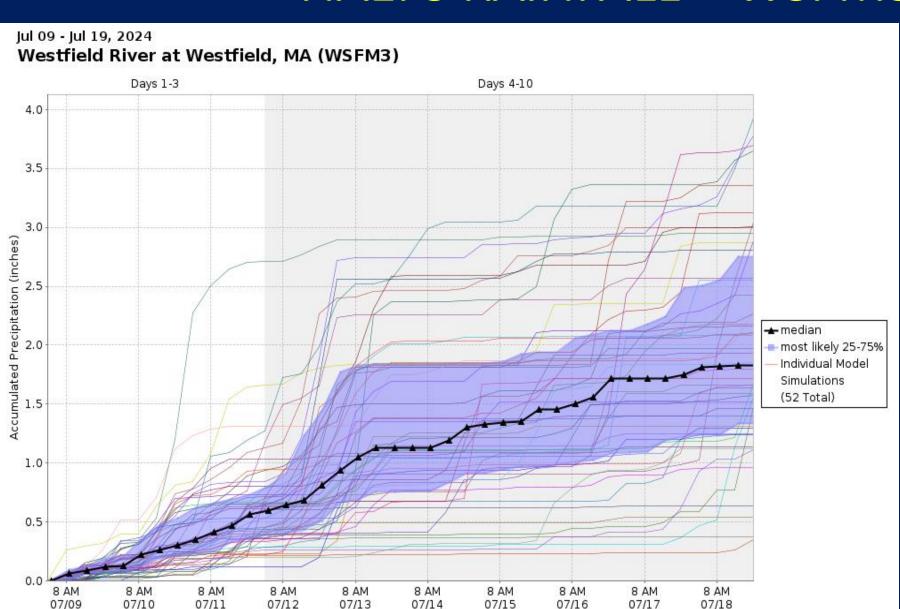
NAEFS – WILM3



Flows are expected to remain near to just below median early July levels (red dashed line) over the next 10 days.

Any thunderstorms with heavy rainfall have the potential to boost flows above the monthly median as seen in individual ensembles.

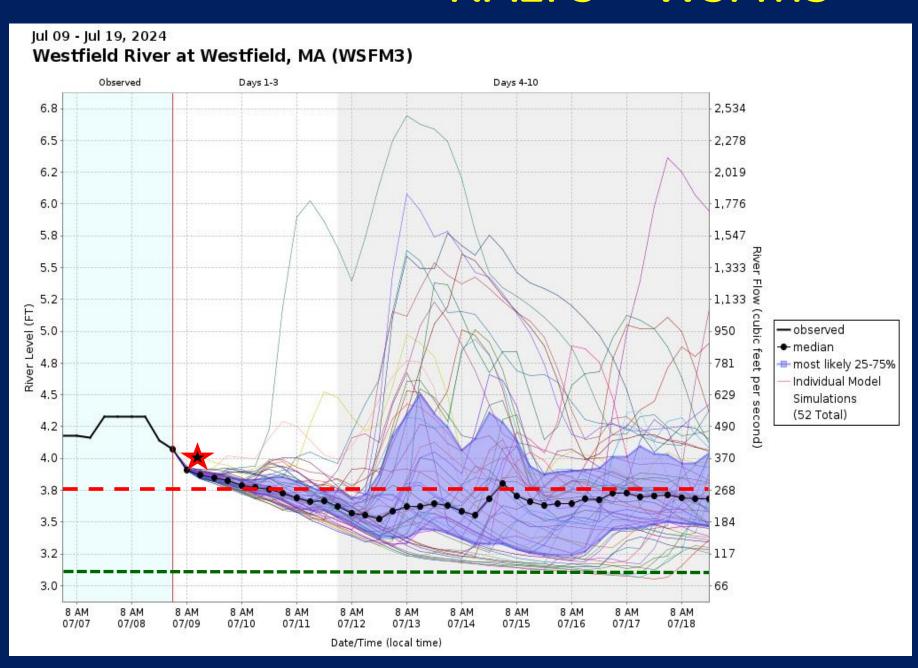
NAEFS RAINFALL – WSFM3



Date/Time (local time)

Similar to the Williamstown precipitation forecast...a healthy amount of rainfall is likely across the Westfield basin although there is fairly large spread beyond Day 3.

NAEFS – WSFM3



- Flows on the Westfield River will likely remain close to median levels (red dashed line) over the next 10 days.
- Almost every one of the 52 ensemble members keeps flow above minimum early July levels (green dashed line).

CONCLUSIONS

- Heading into mid-July 2024...river flows across most of the Commonwealth are in good shape. Over the past month...flows have increased a bit across western and central Massachusetts but have tended to decrease across eastern and southeastern portions of the state.
- The weather pattern looks fairly active for July with several chances for rainfall over the next 10 days. As a result...the NERFC river forecast ensembles call for rivers and streams to remain close to current levels as we head into the latter one-half of July.
- The heaviest rainfall associated with the remains of Hurricane Beryl are currently forecast to remain north and west of Massachusetts through Thursday.

weather.gov/nerfc