April Review

By: Samantha Borisoff
Climatologist, Northeast Regional Climate Center
Temperatures

- Northeast was 0.6°F colder than normal
  - 7 of 12 states colder than normal

- Temps varied
  - New England: cool
  - WV: warm
  - Areas in between: within 1-2°F of normal

- At the 35 airport climate sites
  - 5 ranked month among top 20 warmest
  - Caribou, ME, had its all-time lowest April temp
Snow

- 31 airport climate sites saw below-normal snowfall
- Only 10 sites saw measurable snowfall
- Only 5 sites saw 1”+
Precipitation

- Northeast saw 95% of normal precip
  - 10 of 12 states drier than normal

- Precip varied
  - New England: dry
  - WV: wet
  - Areas in between: mix of above- and below-normal

- At the 35 airport climate sites
  - 7 ranked month among top 20 driest Aprils
  - 5 ranked month among top 20 wettest Aprils
Continued Dryness

- Below normal precip continues
  - New England, NY, PA, & NJ
  - Less than 70% of normal since late Feb.
- Streamflows very low in some areas
- Slowed crop growth
- Increased fire risk
Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor

Northeast

May 19, 2015
(Released Thursday May 21, 2015)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Statistics type: □ Traditional (D0-D4, D1-D4, etc.) ○ Categorical (D0, D1, etc.)

Drought Condition (Percent Area):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>D0</th>
<th>D1</th>
<th>D2</th>
<th>D3</th>
<th>D4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>2015-05-19</td>
<td>36.04</td>
<td>41.22</td>
<td>22.74</td>
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<td>Last Week</td>
<td>2015-05-12</td>
<td>37.83</td>
<td>62.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Months Ago</td>
<td>2015-02-17</td>
<td>82.13</td>
<td>17.87</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of Calendar Year</td>
<td>2014-12-30</td>
<td>86.73</td>
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<td>Start of Water Year</td>
<td>2014-09-30</td>
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<td>One Year Ago</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Population Affected by Drought: 24,754,687

View More Statistics

Intensity:
- D0 - Abnormally Dry
- D1 - Moderate Drought
- D2 - Severe Drought
- D3 - Extreme Drought
- D4 - Exceptional Drought

- Moderate drought introduced in parts of the Northeast
- More Drought Monitor information during June webinar!
Contact Information

- sgh58@cornell.edu or nrcc@cornell.edu
- 607-255-1751

Upcoming Webinars

- Tuesday, June 30 at 9:30
  - May/spring review & Drought Monitor discussion
- Tuesday, July 28 at 9:30
  - June review & severe weather