

# WATER LEVELS STATUS REPORT

## **THROUGH AUGUST 12, 2025**

### **PRECIPITATION** *measured at CWD office in Winthrop:*

June total	2.86 inches
July total	1.47 inches
August so far:	0.03 inches



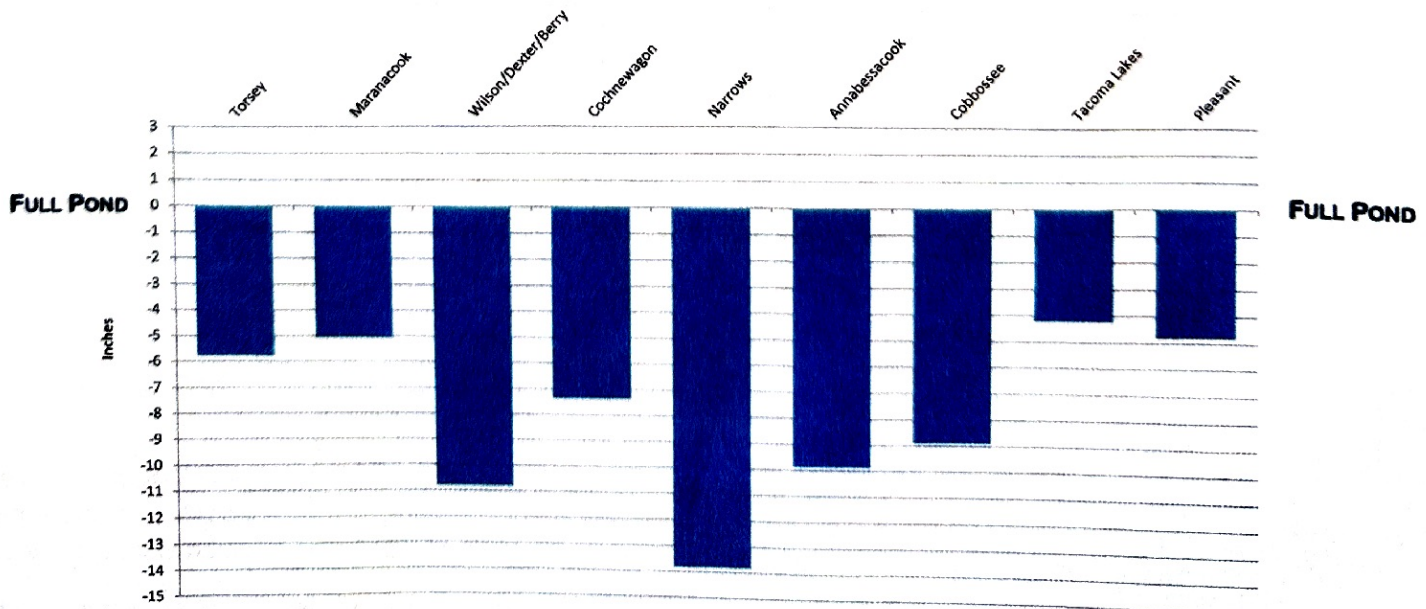
Precipitation has been well below normal this summer. June precipitation as measured at CWD in Winthrop was below average. **July** precipitation was further below, at only 37% of average, and ranked the 3rd lowest July rainfall in the past 50 years. Following that, basically no rain has fallen in **August**. There has been almost no overland runoff and stream inflow is very low. Conditions have been favorable for high evaporation of surface water.

### **Lake Levels**

Summer water level management goals are to start with a full pond and minimize seasonal water loss from evaporation by minimizing water discharges and dam leakage, resulting in only a gradual lowering of water levels throughout the summer. Due to lack of rain or runoff, and high evaporation, lake levels have been declining faster than normal this summer. Dam leakage has compounded the water loss at some lakes.

At present, lake levels range from 4 to 14 inches below full pond, as shown in the graph below. There is no dam structure at the outlet of the Narrows Ponds, which are measuring the lowest level. Berry, Dexter and Wilson at almost 11 inches below full, lost a few inches in July before a dam leakage problem was addressed. Annabessacook Lake rose early in July following measures to reduce leakage at the Martin Hovey Dam, but then lost water again for the climate related factors outlined above. Boat navigation and docking have been negatively affected in parts of some lakes. Additional details are on page 2.

**CWD Lake Levels August 11-12, 2025 as inches above or below full pond**



**Summer water level standards went into effect June 1st.** All lakes are within summer standards. The table below gives current lake levels and compares to the summer standards. Levels are expected to continue declining during summer unless there is a major change in rainfall. Dam operators are trying to hold water in lakes as best they can and letting out a minor amount for aquatic life downstream.

Recent lake levels and MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SUMMER water level STANDARDS (feet above sea level )

LAKE	RECENT LEVEL	SUMMER MINIMUM	SUMMER MAXIMUM	WATER LEVEL STATUS	DAM STATUS
ANNABESSACOOK LAKE	169.38 8/11	168.7	170.35	Within summer standards. 10 inches below full pond.	All boards in. Flow is leakage only.
COBBOSSEE LAKE	166.56 8/11	166.1	167.6	Within summer standards. 9 inches below full pond.	1 gate open 1 inch. Outflow est. 30 cfs, to be reduced 8/12 pm.
COCHNEWAGON LAKE	270.29 8/11	269.4	271.0	Within summer standards. 7 inches below full pond.	Gate very slightly open to provide a little stream flow.
MARANACOOK LAKE	211.08 8/12	210.0	212.0	Within summer standards. 5 inches below revised full pond elevation.	Gate slightly open, outflow 7 cfs.
NARROWS PONDS	170.85 8/11	170.5	172.0	Within summer standards. 14 inches below full pond.	none
PLEASANT POND and Cobbossee Stream	134.6 8/11	134.5	135.0	Within summer standards. 5 inches below full pond.	Gates closed, one board out. Outflow = 10 cfs.
TORSEY POND	262.52 8/12	262.0	263.5	Within summer standards. 6 inches below revised full pond.	1 gate open 0.5 inches.
WILSON POND and Dexter & Berry Ponds	240.60 8/12	240.2	241.7	Within summer standards. 11 inches below full pond.	Gates closed, no flow over boards, outflow is leakage only.
WOODBURY POND /Tacoma Lakes *Not feet above sea level.	7.15* 8/11	none	7.5	Below TLA maximum goal of 7.5 on staff gage. 4 inches below full pond.	Gates closed

**Dam notes:** Annabessacook/Martin Hovey Dam: Leakage control measures were installed at the boards in June. Leakage inspected every few days; Monmouth scheduled to inspect dam again today.

Cobbossee Lake Dam: Repairs were made in July to the dam structure around two gates, to reduce leakage and improve structural condition.

New Mills Dam: The dam was inspected in July and plans are being developed to repair eroding cribwork under the spillway apron.

Wilson Pond Dam: Measures to reduce leakage at one of the three gates are underway. Also, leakage at the Mill Pond dam downstream was reduced in July with a temporary solution of tarps and sandbags. A corner of that structure needs additional leak proofing which will be done 8/13.

Larger, expensive, long-term repair projects are being discussed/ developed for several dams.