Groundwater Report

Drought Management Advisory Council

Raleigh, NC

September 29, 2020

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Groundwater Management Branch

Groundwater Resources Section

Drought Indicator Wells

- 81 wells with a 32 year average record
- 33 have telemetry (satellite or cell phone)
- 49 DWR wells
- 17 USGS wells
- 15 Local wells





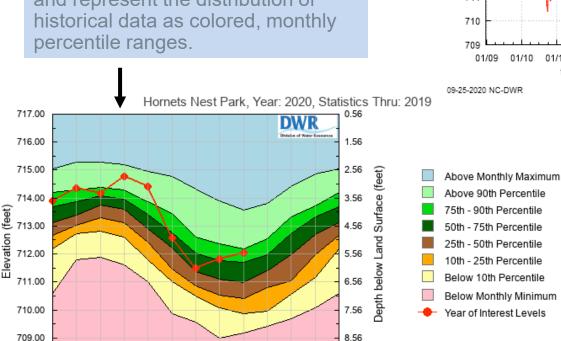
Example DIW (Hornets Nest)

Water levels collected over time at various times of year can be seen in the timeseries plot.

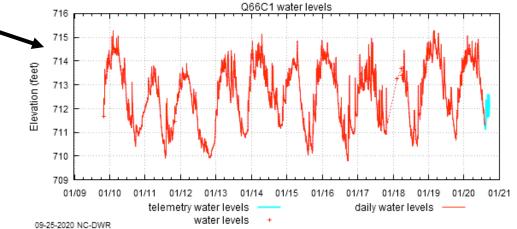
Collapse that plot into a year's time and represent the distribution of historical data as colored, monthly percentile ranges.

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

708.00



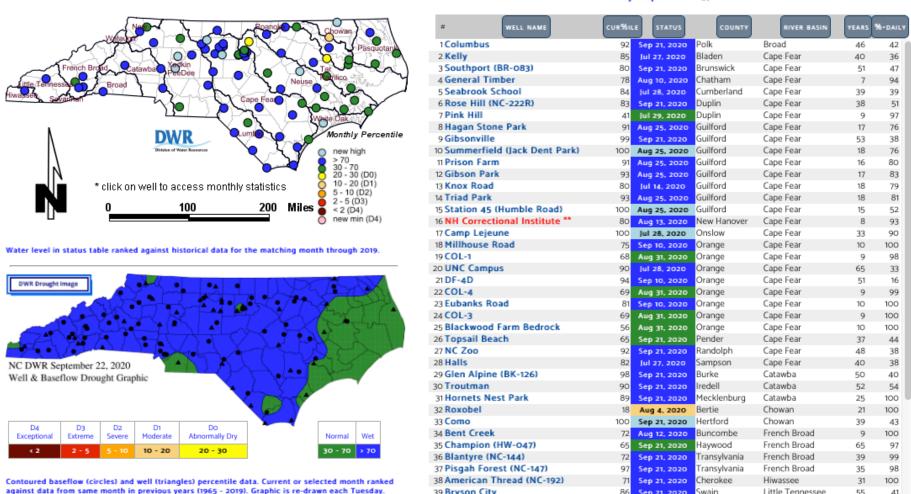
Month



Now, it's much easier to see how this year's water levels compare to that well's history of water levels.



Today: September 25, 2020



39 Bryson City

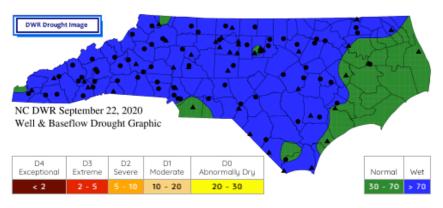
NC DMAC, Current Conditions Tab https://www.ncdrought.org/current-conditions.php



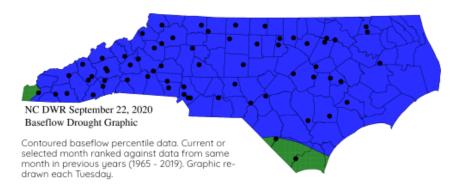
Little Tennessee

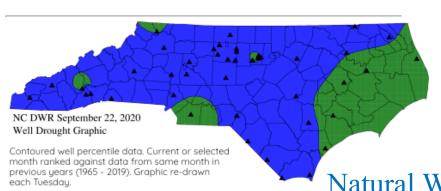
Swain

Sep 21, 2020



Contoured baseflow (circles) and well (triangles) percentile data. Current or selected month ranked against data from same month in previous years (1965 - 2019). Graphic re-drawn each Tuesday.



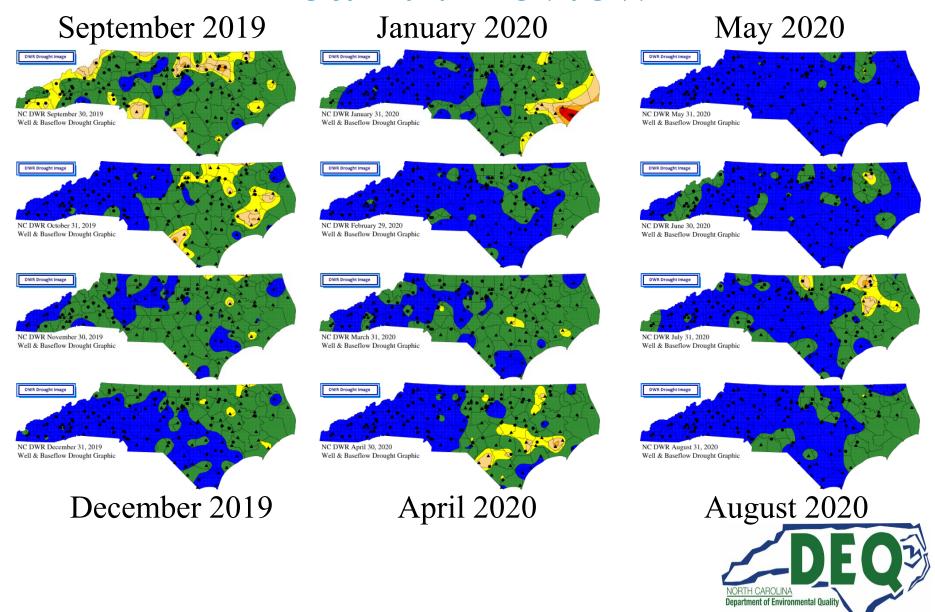


DWR Drought Image

- Surface water gage data is filtered to create daily baseflow data – baseflow separation
- Latest baseflow values are ranked against historical baseflow data
- The resulting percentiles are contoured
- Similarly, latest groundwater levels are ranked against historical groundwater level data and the resulting percentiles are contoured
- The combined set of percentiles are contoured in the DWR Drought Image (top map)



Year in Review



What's Next?

Adding wells

- Additional DWR wells will age into the drought indicator well network (with 5 to 10 years of data).
- DWR has reached the peak number of telemetry wells using the current equipment. Maybe another platform will allow expansion?

Local networks

- Orange and Guilford county wells have been added to the Drought Indicator Well webpage and are used for drought analysis.
- Wake County (USGS) is currently collecting water level and quality data from their own network.



Como Station
Hertford County