

Washington Metropolitan Region Drought and Water Supply Status and Outlook -
April 2010

Dear Colleagues,

COG's Department of Environmental Programs suffered a tragic loss on the morning of October 13, 2009. Jim Shell, a beloved colleague here at COG, was killed in an automobile accident in West Virginia. Many of us had the pleasure of working with him throughout the years and understand how deeply committed he was to his career and family. He was married to his wife, Ellen, for thirty-two years and had three beautiful children.

To say that Jim was dedicated is truly an understatement. He lived in Winchester, Virginia and had a two hour commute to and from work. Somehow he always managed to be the first person in the office (and often the last to leave). He began his career at COG in April, 1989, and was a major player in assisting the region with water security, emergency water supply and drought response planning, pollution prevention, hydrilla harvesting, wastewater management, Potomac River and Anacostia restoration, along with many other accomplishments.

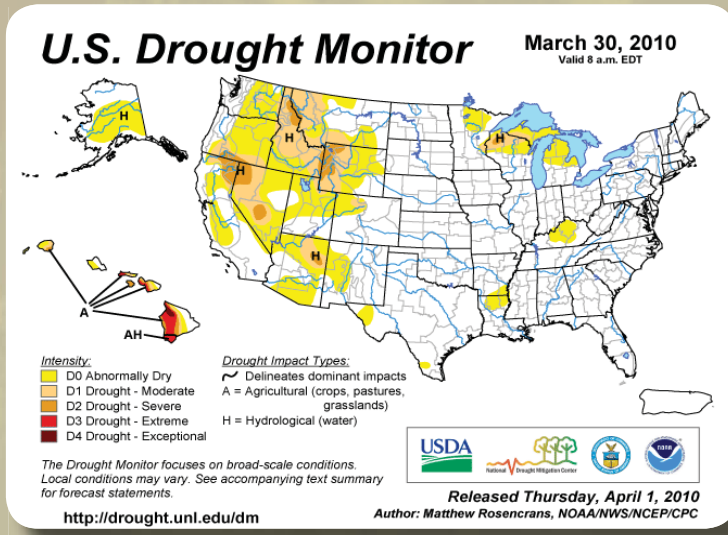
We would like to use this report as a small way to honor his memory and contributions to COG and our region. You won't see many changes in this Drought and Water Supply Outlook as we progress throughout the reporting season, just a different style. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

COG Department of Environmental Programs

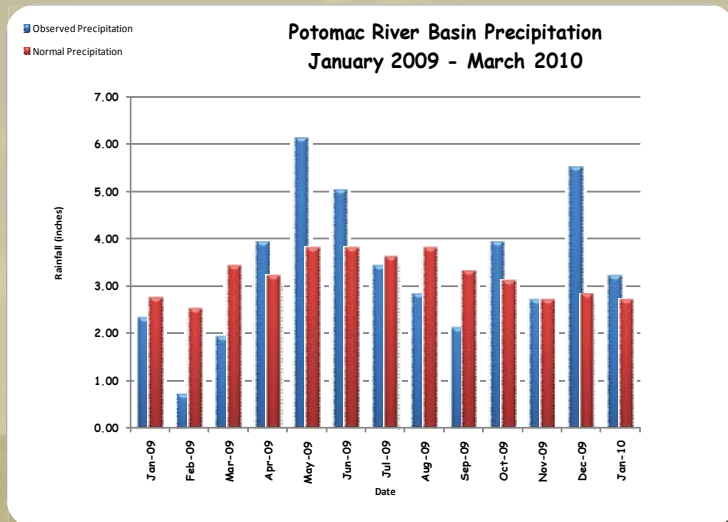
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Metropolitan Washington Water Supply and Drought Awareness Response Plan - Drought Stage NORMAL



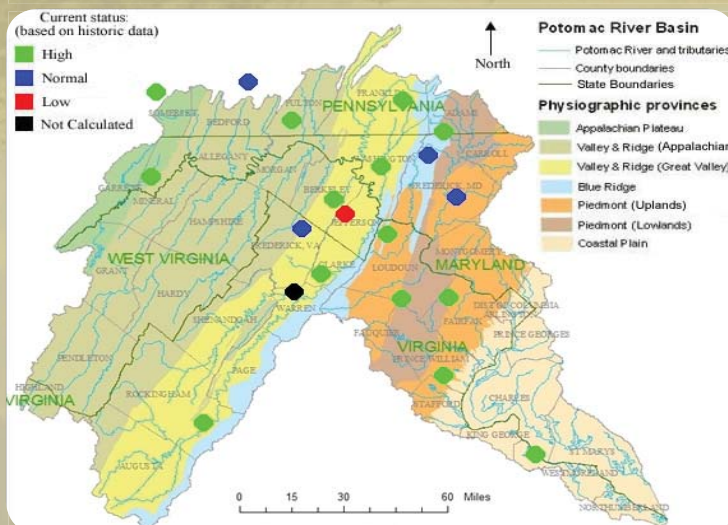
U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR - 100% NORMAL

The Drought Monitor released on March 30, 2010 indicates that 100% of the Potomac River Basin is normal. Regional experts will continue to monitor conditions and provide additional updates as needed.



POTOMAC BASIN PRECIPITATION DATA April 2010 - Above Normal

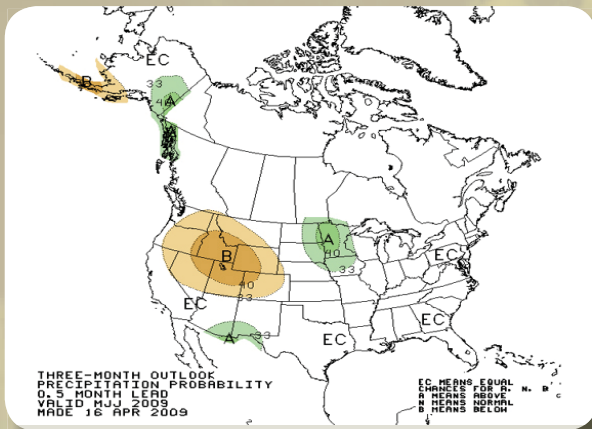
March was above average for the month - the Basin received 4.6 inches of rain, 1.2 inches above normal. Since January 2009 our region has received almost 4 inches above normal - thanks to the record amount of snowfall this winter and heavy rain in May and June of 2009.



GROUNDWATER STATUS

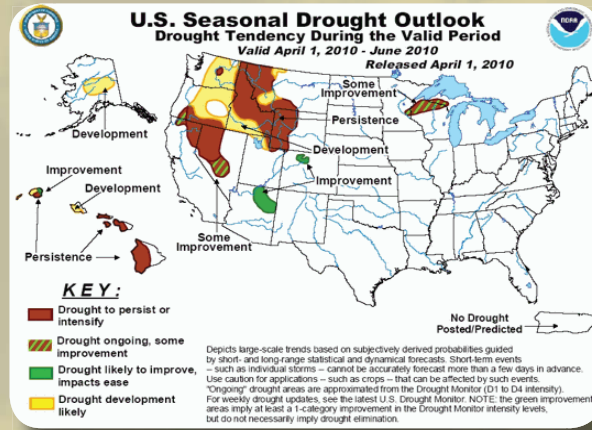
April 1, 2010 - Above Normal

As of April 1, 2010 most of the groundwater wells report high to normal levels throughout the Potomac River Basin. One well in Jefferson County, West Virginia, Jef-0526 does not have current data - the low level reported on the map is from October 7, 2009, which is the last known reading. We will provide updated data as soon as it becomes available.



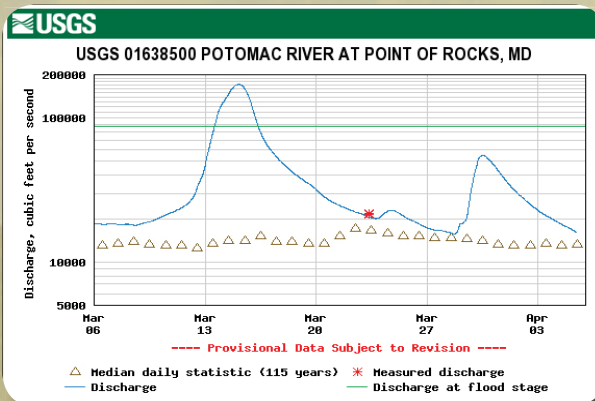
THREE MONTH PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK

The Climate Prediction Center of the National Weather Service produces three month precipitation forecasts for the United States. According to the April, May, June outlook, our region has an equal chance of above or below normal precipitation.



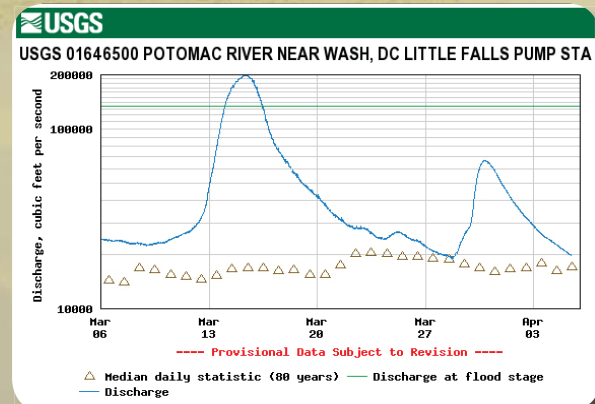
SEASONAL DROUGHT OUTLOOK APRIL 2010

The seasonal drought outlook released on April 1, 2010 indicates that our region should not experience a drought between now and June, 2010.



POTOMAC RIVER FLOW POINT OF ROCKS and LITTLE FALLS Above Average

On March 15th Point of Rocks reached a flood stage of 25 feet - 9 feet above the flood stage. Little Rocks reached levels of almost 13 feet, 3 feet above flood stage. As of April 1st, streamflow levels are still above normal but below the peak levels from the previous weeks.



RESERVOIR STATUS April 2010 - 100% Full

The probability of releases this summer and fall from the Washington metropolitan area's back-up water supply reservoirs is below normal. There is a three to five percent conditional probability that Potomac flow will drop below 600 to 700 million gallons per day (MGD) at Little Falls through December 31 of this year; at these flow levels, water supply releases from Jennings Randolph and Little Seneca Reservoirs may occur. Jennings Randolph Reservoir is 100% full at this time. Source: ICPRB

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