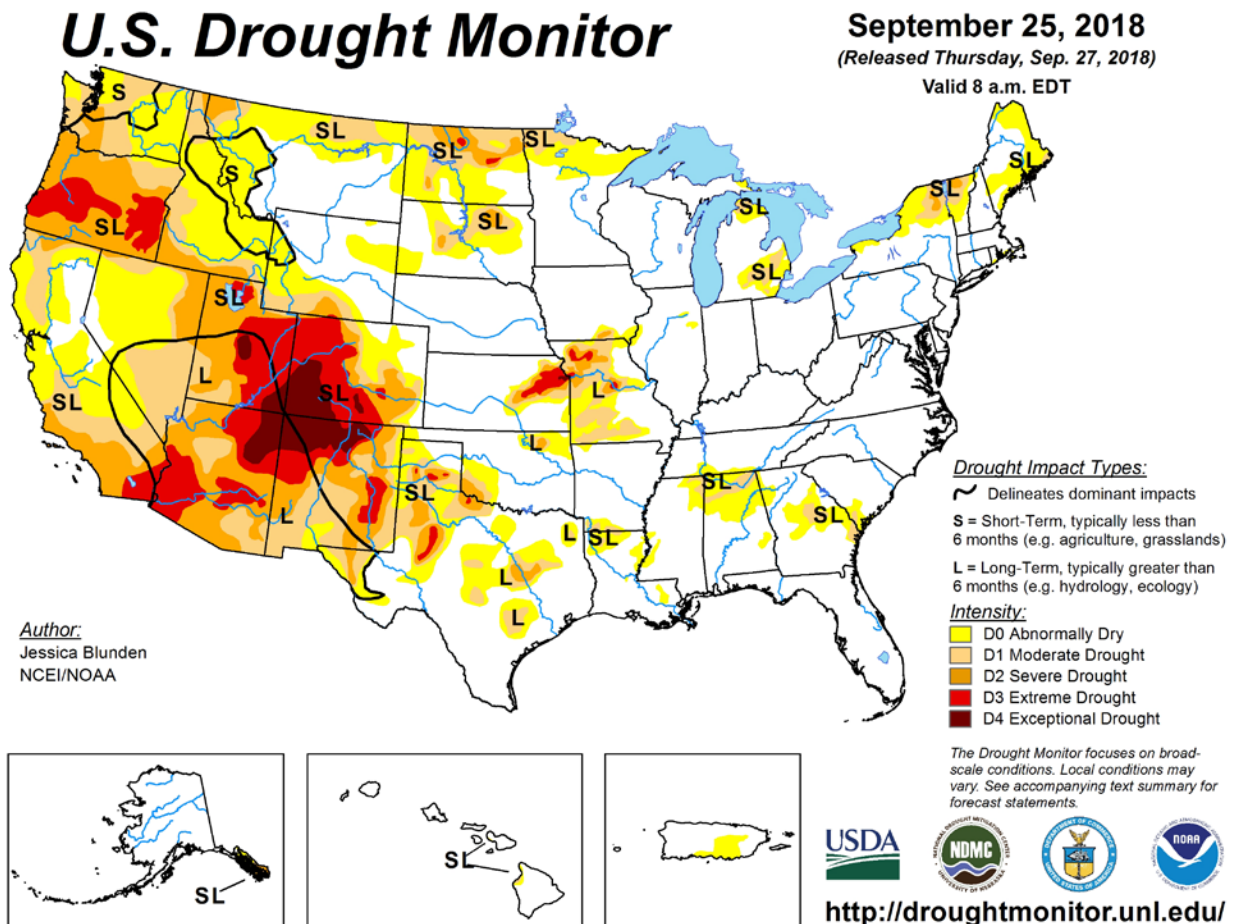


# Regional Drought and Water Supply Status September 2018

## SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS (as of September 27, 2018)

[Washington has seen more than twice as much rain as Seattle and London this year](#) and [2018 is in the running for the wettest year on record](#) as reported by the *Washington Post*. As expected, the COG region remains well protected from a drought. Potomac streamflow, groundwater, and precipitation levels are all well above normal levels, and local reservoirs are full. There is a [below normal probability of releases](#) from the Washington metropolitan area's back-up water supply reservoirs for the 2018 fall season. In [Maryland \(MDE\)](#) and [Virginia \(VADEQ\)](#) all COG regions are under a normal status. For additional information regarding regional water supply and drought conditions, please visit COG's website at: <https://www.mwcog.org/drought>



The September 25 U.S. Drought monitor indicates that the COG region is free of drought.

Source: NOAA <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

## POTOMAC STREAMFLOW LEVELS

Potomac streamflows are currently well above median levels. Instantaneous flows readings on September 27 were:

Little Falls – 88,500 cfs/median 2,240 cfs

Point of Rocks –66,300 cfs/ median 2160 cfs

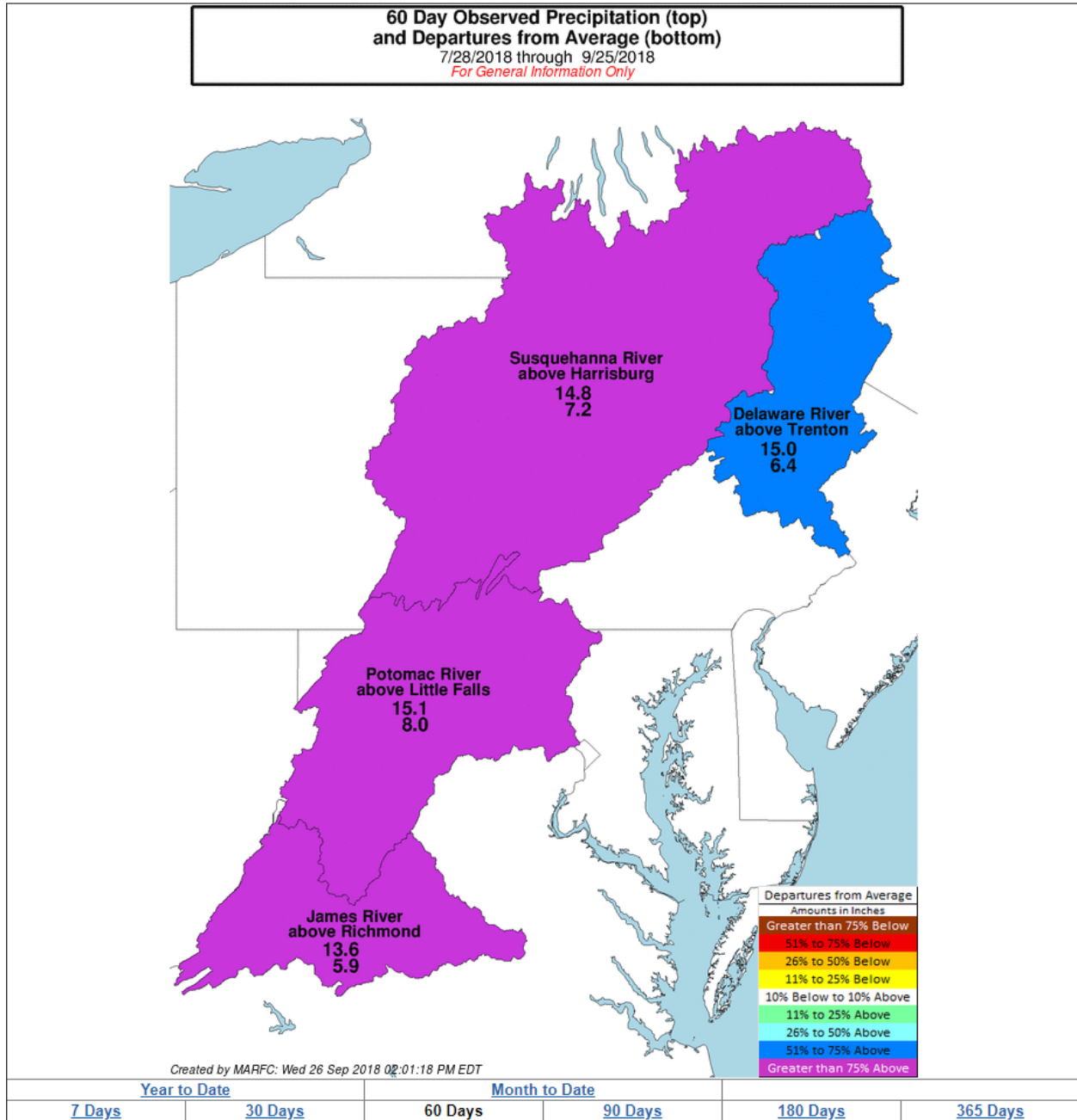
USGS Little Falls: <https://waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/uv?01646500>

USGS Point of Rocks: <https://waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/uv?01638500>

**POTOMAC BASIN PRECIPITATION (as of 09/26/18)**

The Potomac Basin received 15.1 inches in the last sixty days which is 8.0 inches or greater than 75% above average. Source: Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center

<https://www.weather.gov/marfc/BasinPrecipitation60Day>



**GROUNDWATER LEVELS**

The majority of regional groundwater levels are high or 'greater than the 90 percentile/much above normal'.

Source: USGS

[https://md.water.usgs.gov/groundwater/web\\_wells/current/water\\_table/counties/index.html](https://md.water.usgs.gov/groundwater/web_wells/current/water_table/counties/index.html)

<https://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov/NetMapT1L2.asp?ncd=crn&sc=51>

<https://pa.water.usgs.gov/potomac/new/>

## DROUGHT OUTLOOKS

The latest U.S. Seasonal Outlook indicates that drought development is not likely in the COG region over the next three months. Source: NOAA

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert\\_assessment/sdo\\_summary.php](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/sdo_summary.php)

## RESERVOIR LEVELS

Drinking water reservoirs at Jennings Randolph and Little Seneca are full.

Source: <http://www.nab-wc.usace.army.mil/nab/potopub.html>

There is a below normal probability of releases from the Washington metropolitan area's back-up water supply reservoirs for the 2018 summer and fall seasons. Generally, the use of Jennings Randolph and Little Seneca reservoirs is triggered by low flows brought about by a combination of low summer precipitation and low groundwater levels. There is a minimal (<1%) conditional probability that natural Potomac flow will drop below 600- to 700-million gallons per day (MGD) at Little Falls through December 31 of this year. Source: ICPRB  
<https://www.potomacriver.org/focus-areas/water-resources-and-drinking-water/cooperative-water-supply-operations-on-the-potomac/drought-monitoring-and-operations/water-supply-outlook-status/>

## 7 DAY PRECIPITATION FORECAST

The 7 Day quantitative precipitation forecast calls for roughly 0/75 - 1.25 inches of precipitation.

SOURCE: <http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml>

