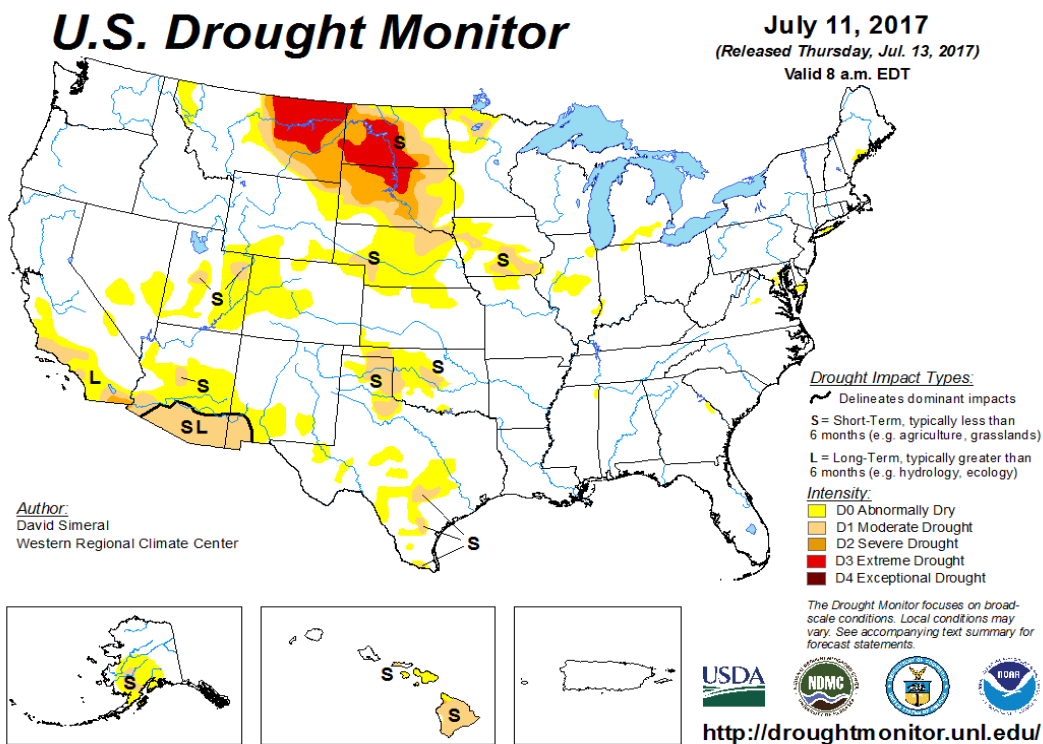


Regional Drought and Water Supply Status and Outlook July 2017

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS

The COG region received an above average amount of rain in the past 30 days and continues to be drought free. Since the start of the calendar year, dry conditions have improved significantly and only a small portion of abnormal dryness remains in southern Maryland. Local reservoirs are full, regional groundwater and streamflows are currently near median levels, and drought status conditions in Maryland and Virginia are improving.

In [Maryland](#), the Central region has improved to drought Watch and the Eastern region has moved from Watch to Normal. In [Virginia](#), the Drought Watch Advisory previously issued for the Northern Virginia drought evaluation region has been lifted.



The July 11, 2017 U.S. Drought monitor indicates that our region is currently free of drought except for a small portion of abnormal dryness in the southern region of Maryland. On this week's map, areas of Abnormally Dry (D0) were reduced in response to rainfall activity (2 to 5 inches) in northern Virginia and Maryland during the past week. Source: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

POTOMAC STREAMFLOW LEVELS

Potomac streamflows are currently near median levels. Instantaneous flows readings on July 11, 2017 are indicated below:

Little Falls – 3,920 cfs/median 4,100 cfs Point of Rocks 3,910 cfs/ median 3,560 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

The Potomac Basin received 4.3 inches in the past 30 days which is 0.5 inches or 11-25% above normal.

Source: Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center

http://www.weather.gov/images/marfc/departures/dep_basins.30.png

GROUNDWATER LEVELS

Groundwater levels vary throughout the Potomac Basin from much below normal to normal, although many are reporting normal levels. Source: USGS

https://md.water.usgs.gov/groundwater/web_wells/current/water_table/counties/index.html

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

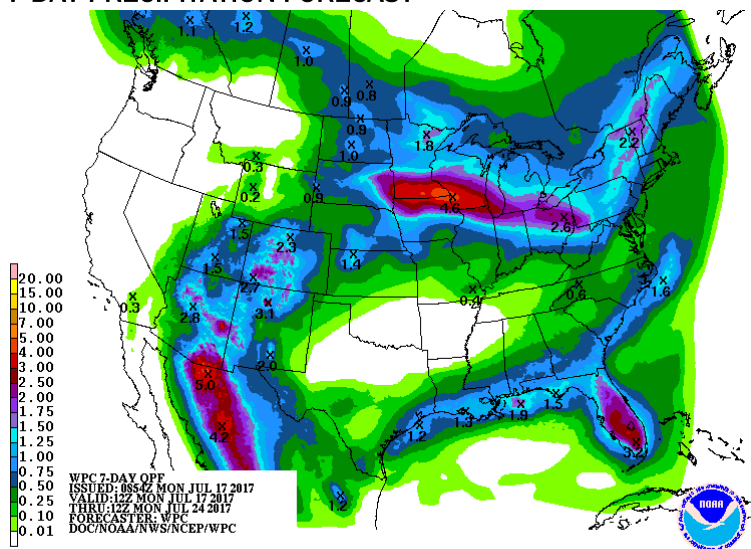
<https://pa.water.usgs.gov/potomac/new/>

DROUGHT OUTLOOKS

The latest U.S. Seasonal Drought outlook indicates that our region should not experience drought conditions over the next few months.

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/sdo_summary.php

7 DAY PRECIPITATION FORECAST



The 7 Day quantitative precipitation forecast calls for roughly .25– 1.00 inches of precipitation:

Source: National Weather Service, Weather Prediction Center

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

RESERVOIR LEVELS

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

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

There is near to above normal probability of releases from the Washington metropolitan area's back-up water supply reservoirs for the 2017 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 5 to 16 percent 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/>

For additional information regarding regional water supply and drought conditions, please visit COG's website at: <https://www.mwcog.org/drought>