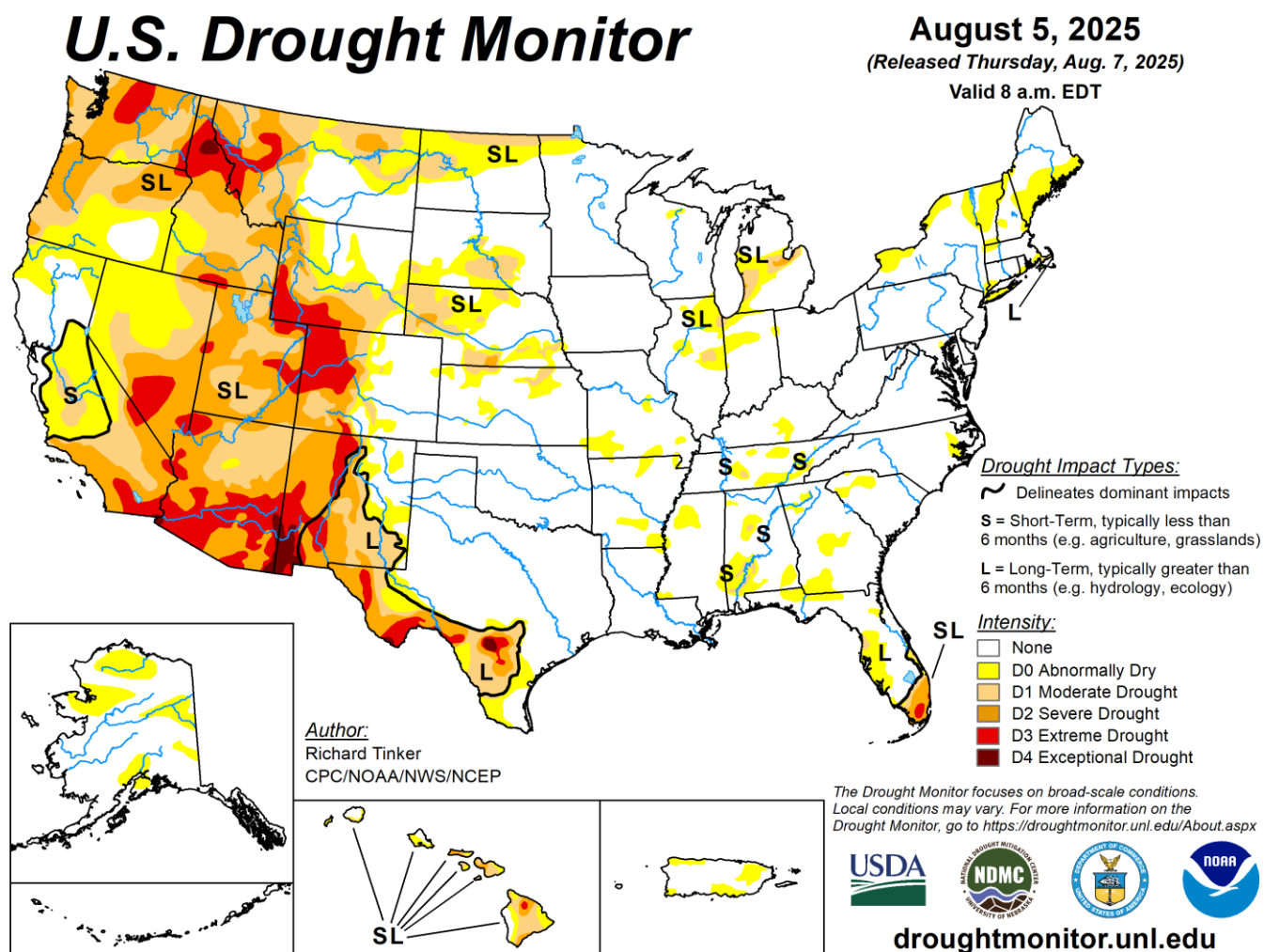


Regional Drought and Water Supply Status

August 2025

Summary of Current Conditions in the COG Region

The current drought stage is **Normal** as defined in COG's Regional Water Supply and Drought Plan. Our region continues to remain drought free according to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor, and streamflow, precipitation, and groundwater levels are normal to above normal for this time of year. The areas monitored in the COG region by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, and the Maryland Department of the Environment are reporting normal conditions and local backup reservoirs remain full.



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

mwcog.org/drought

Potomac Streamflow

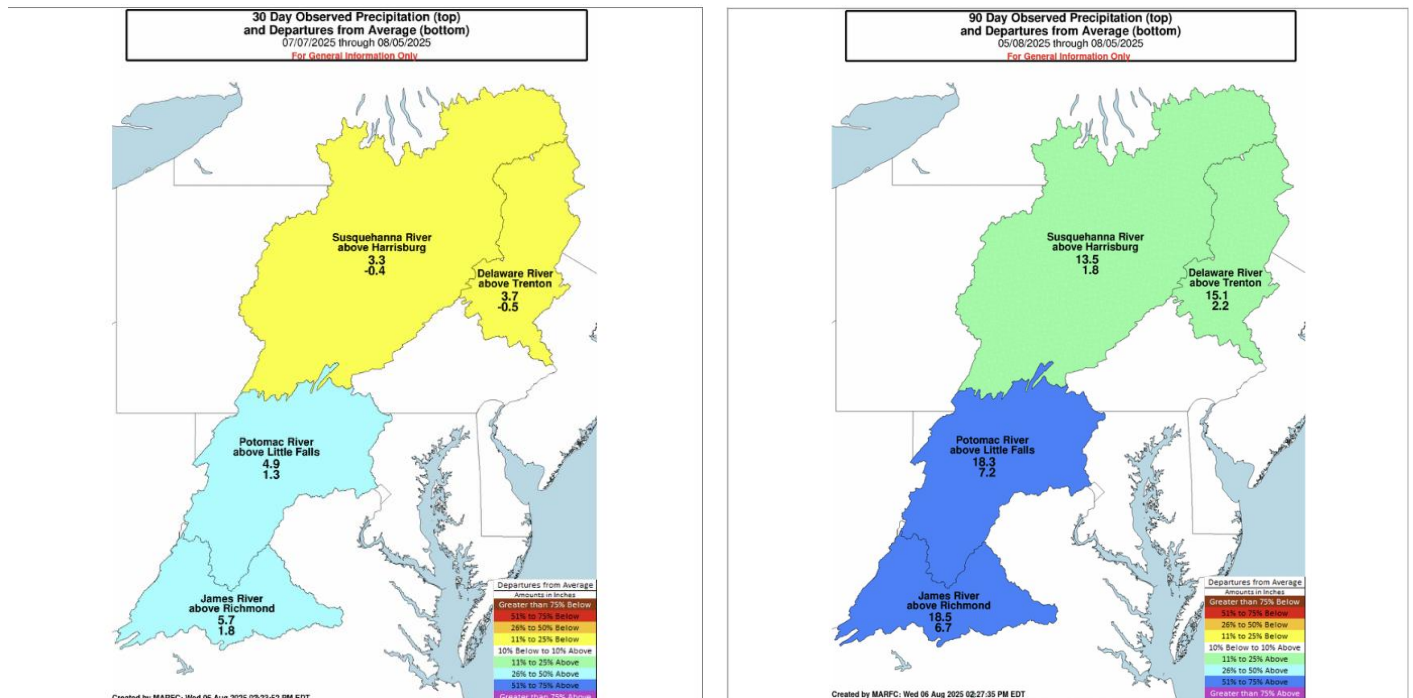
Instantaneous flows readings as of August 7

Little Falls: 4,680 cfs (median 2,760 cfs) Source: [USGS Little Falls](#)
Point of Rocks: 4,620 cfs (median 2,805 cfs) Source: [USGS Point of Rocks](#)

Potomac Basin Observed Precipitation and Departures from Average

Source: https://www.weather.gov/marfc/precipitation_departures

30 Day 4.9 inches of precipitation, 1.3 inches above normal
90 Day 18.3 inches of precipitation, 7.2 inches above normal



Groundwater Levels

Most of the groundwater levels are normal the COG region.

Source: <https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/app/nwd/?region=lower48&aoi=default>
<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/va/nwis/current/?type=gw>
<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/current/?type=gw>

Reservoir Levels

Drinking water reservoirs at Jennings Randolph and Little Seneca are at normal levels.

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

Probability of Reservoir Releases

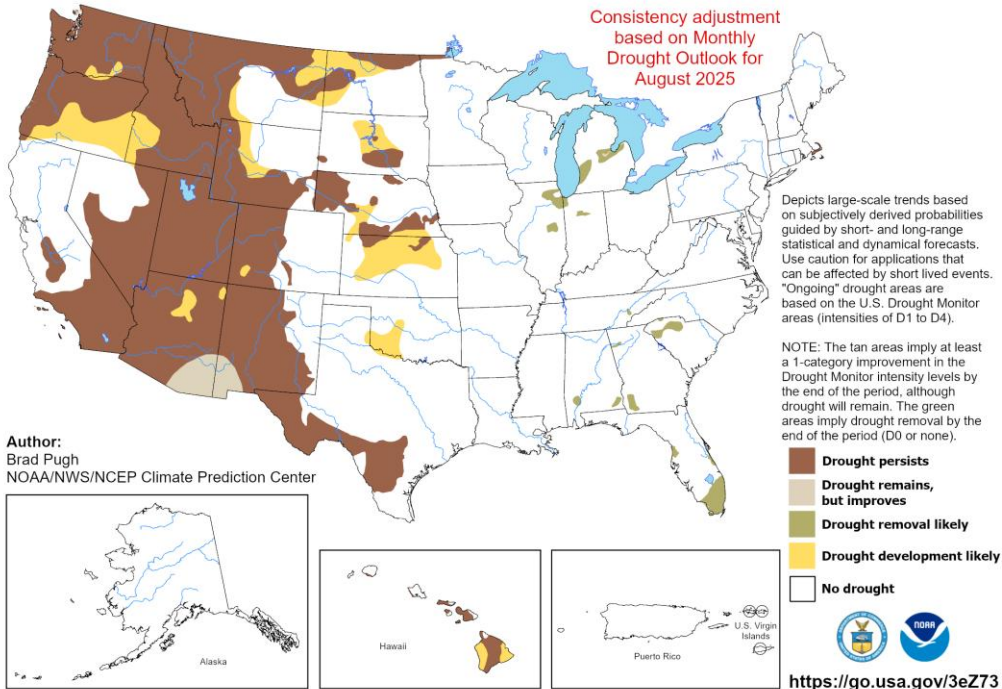
As of the August 2025 report, the probability of needing water supply releases from the Washington metropolitan area's backup reservoirs during summer and fall 2025 is below normal. Generally, the use of Jennings Randolph and Little Seneca reservoirs is triggered by low flows brought about by a combination of low precipitation and low groundwater levels. There is a minimal (<1 percent) to 2 percent conditional probability that natural Potomac flow will drop below 600 to 700 million gallons per day (MGD) at Little Falls through December 31, 2025. Source: [ICPRB](#)

Seasonal Drought Outlook

The U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook indicates that our region should be free of drought over the next three months. Source: [National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center](https://www.weather.gov/climate/prediction-center)

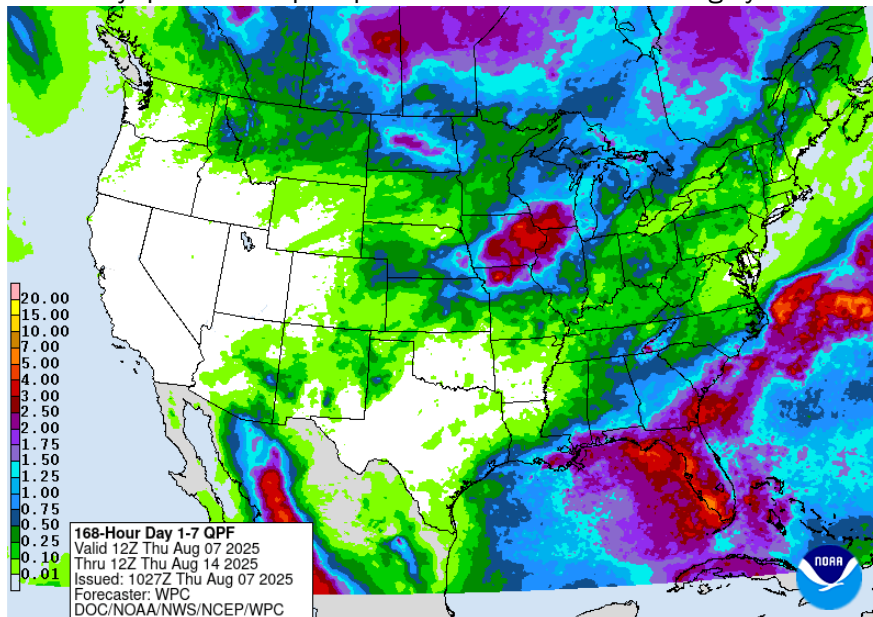
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for August 1 - October 31, 2025
Released July 31, 2025



Short Term Precipitation Outlook

The 7 Day quantitative precipitation forecast calls for roughly 0.01 inches.



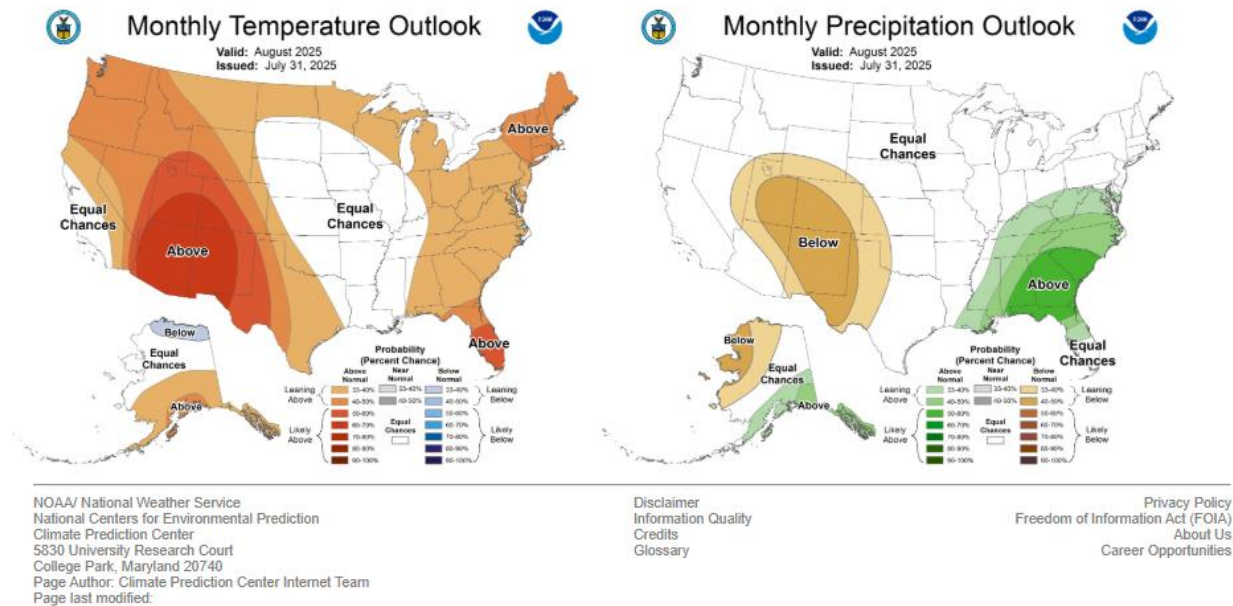
Source: [NOAA NWS Weather Prediction Center](https://www.weather.gov/climate/prediction-center)

U.S. Climate 30-Day Outlook –Temperature and Precipitation

Leaning towards above normal precipitation and temperatures over the next 30 days.

Updated OFFICIAL 30-Day Forecasts

Issued: July 31, 2025



Source: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/lead14/