



NOAA, National Weather Service Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center Briefing

Noon February 2, 2016

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Flood Potential Feb 3 to Feb 5

- **Make final preparations for minor to moderate flooding.**
- **Risk:** Minor to Moderate Flooding likely in portions of the Potomac, Juniata, Lower Susquehanna tributaries, Schuylkill, Passaic, and Raritan river basins.
- **Timing:** Best chance for flooding is Wednesday thru Friday.
- **Confidence:** High confidence in forecast. Minor to Moderate flooding is expected at 15 or more locations in the risk area. The severity of flooding at any given location will depend on the speed at which snow melts and how much rain falls.
- **Note:** This briefing is for river flooding. Poor drainage flooding from snowmelt, rainfall, and clogged drains is also possible during the period.

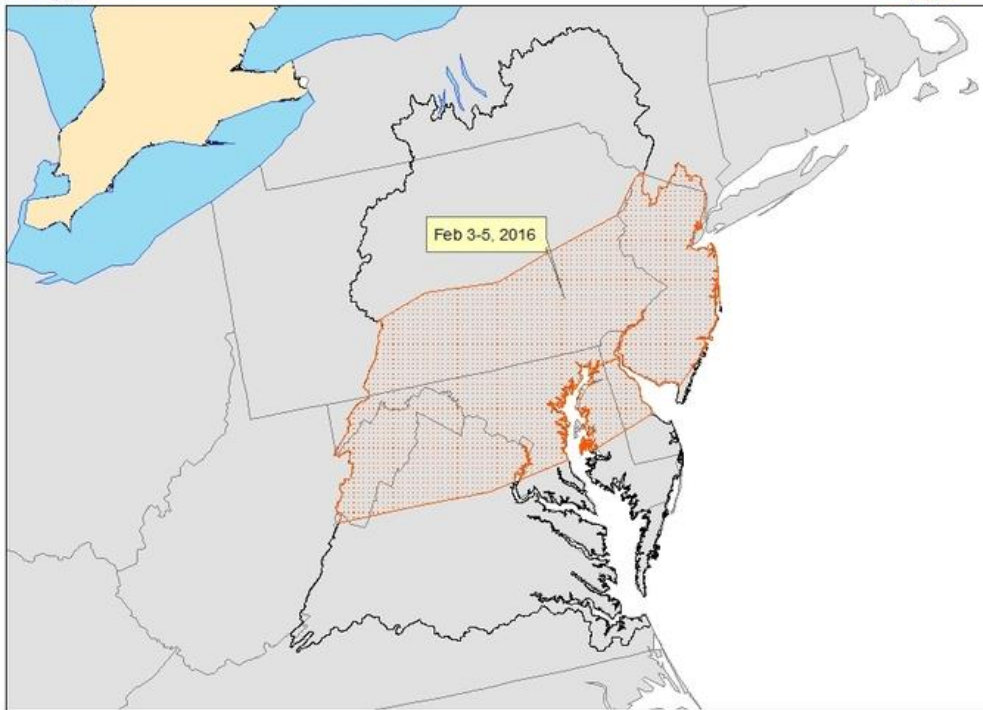
Flood Outlook Product



Significant River Flood Outlook


Valid: 2/2/2016 - 2/7/2016

Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center 2/2/2016 9:53:40 AM



 SIGNIFICANT RIVER FLOODING POSSIBLE.

 SIGNIFICANT RIVER FLOODING LIKELY.

 SIGNIFICANT RIVER FLOODING OCCURRING OR IS IMMINENT.

Significant River Flooding Impacts include:
Roads adversely affected. Residential, commercial, industrial, and/or agricultural areas affected. May require evacuation of people.

NOTE: Flash Flooding or Minor River Flooding will NOT be included in this outlook.

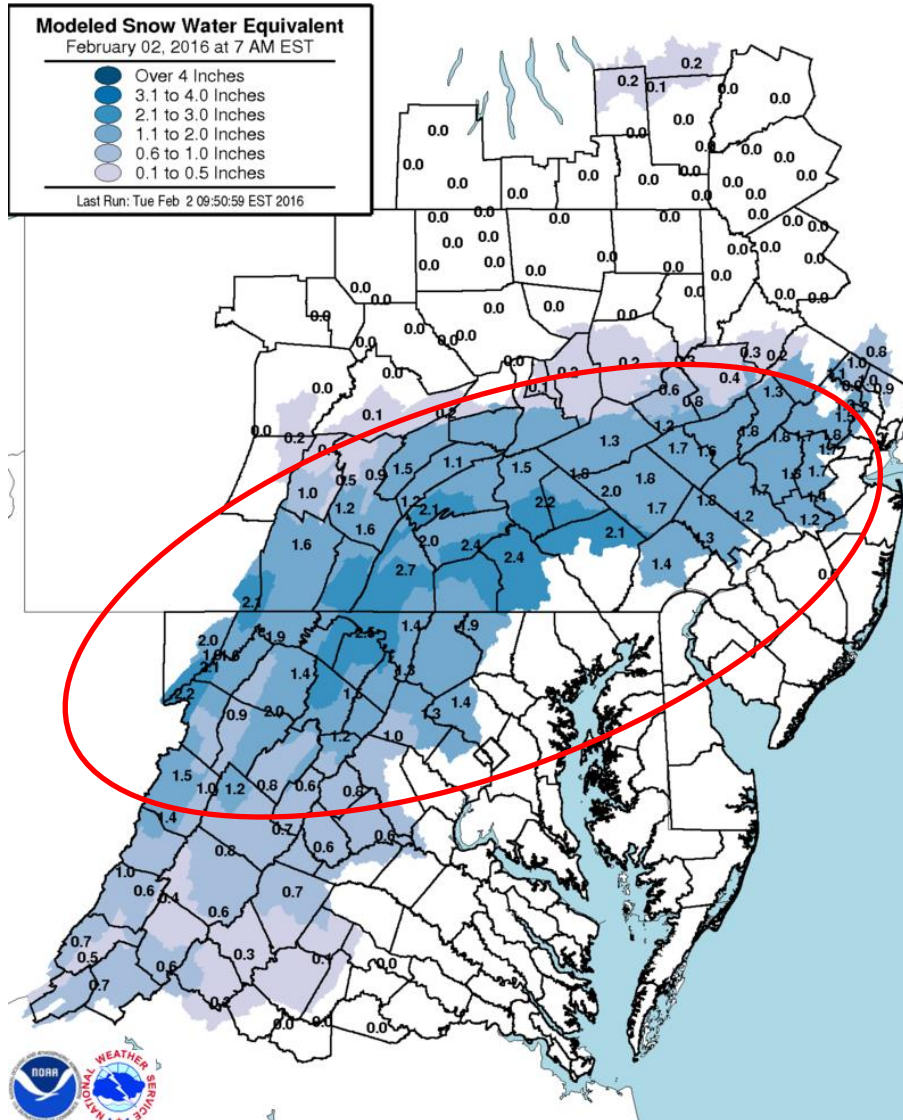
Severity: Moderate
Flooding is possible at multiple locations in the threat area.

Minor Flooding is likely at numerous locations in the threat area.

Where?: Threat area includes portions of the Potomac, Juniata, Lower Susquehanna tributaries, Schuylkill, Passaic, and Raritan river basins

When?: Wednesday thru Friday

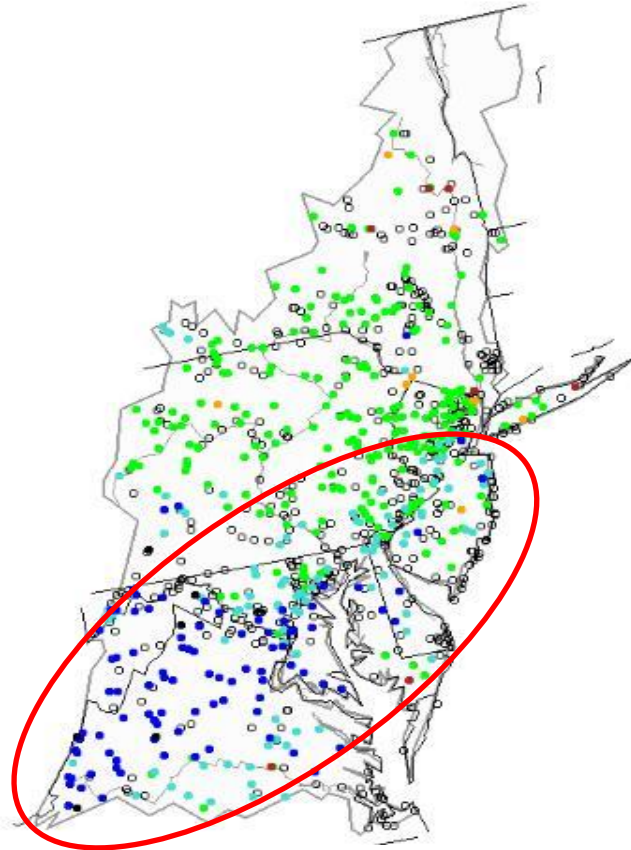
Water in Snowpack










In the threat area 1.5 to 2.7 inches of water is stored in the snowpack. Most of this snow will melt on Tuesday and Wednesday, saturating soils and contributing to river rises.

Current Streamflow Conditions

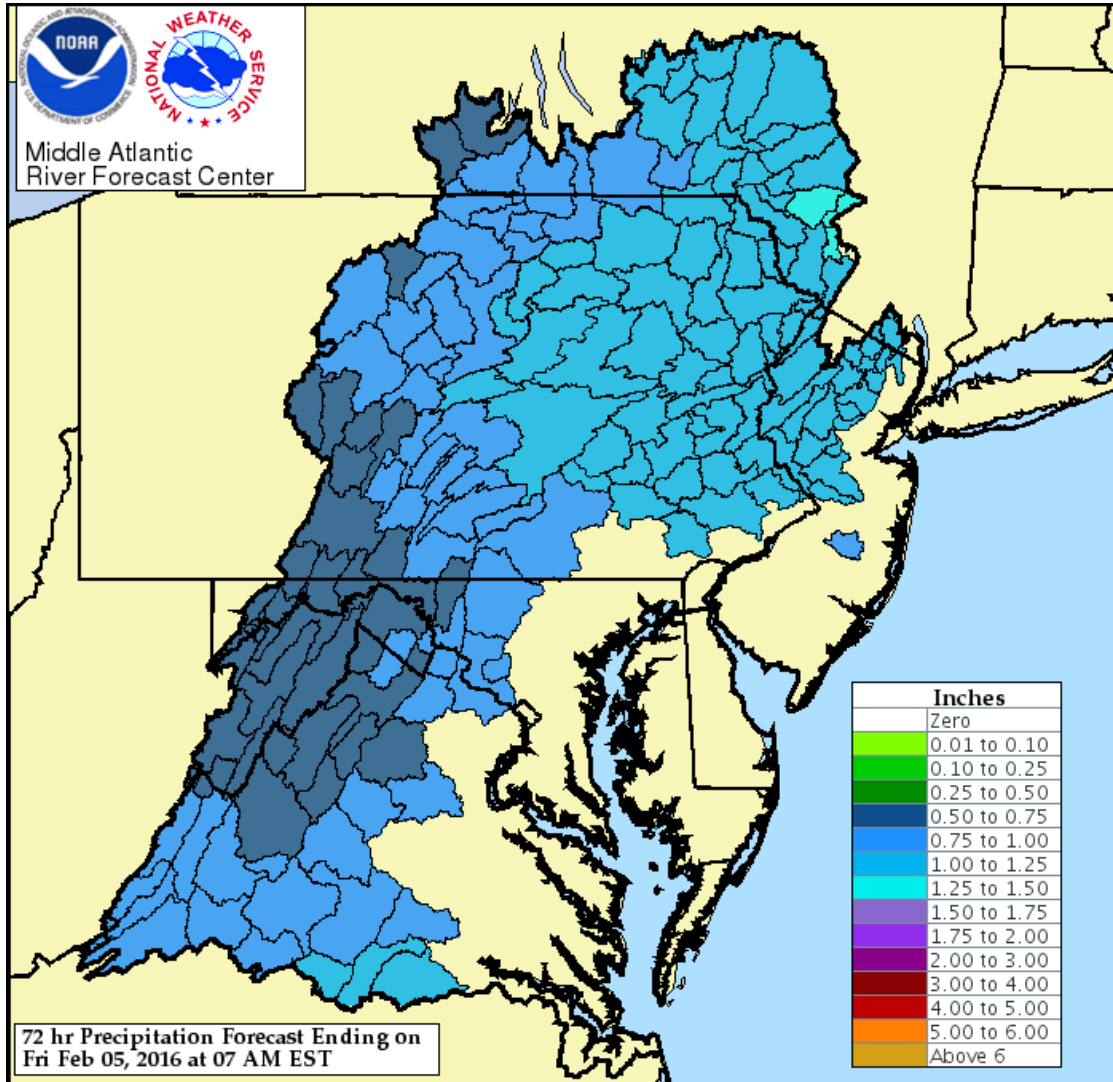
Tuesday, February 02, 2016 09:30ET



Streamflows are already running high across portions of West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and New Jersey.

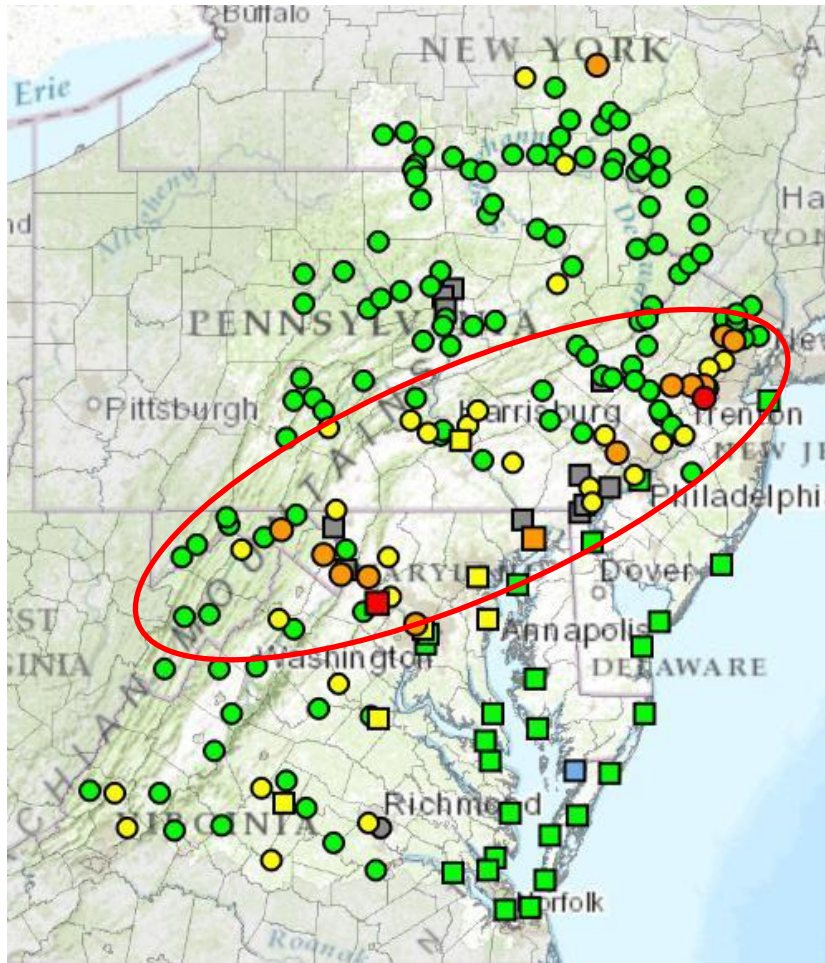
| Explanation - Percentile classes | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------------|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Low | <10 | 10-24 | 25-75 | 76-90 | >90 | High | Not-ranked |
| | Much below normal | Below normal | Normal | Above normal | Much above normal | | |

Rainfall Forecast

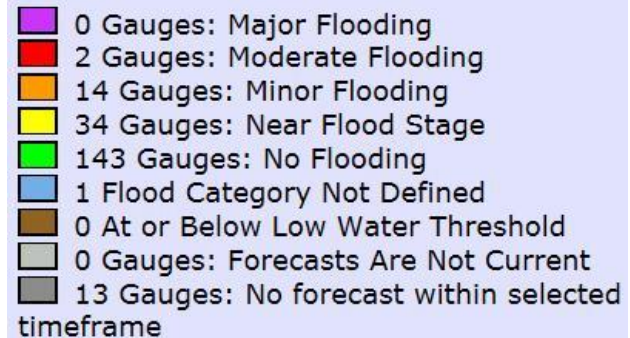


Total 72 hour Rainfall thru Friday morning. Most of this rain will fall from 7AM to 7PM on Wednesday. Rainfall totals of 0.5 to 1.25 inches are expected in most areas, but higher amounts are possible in some areas.

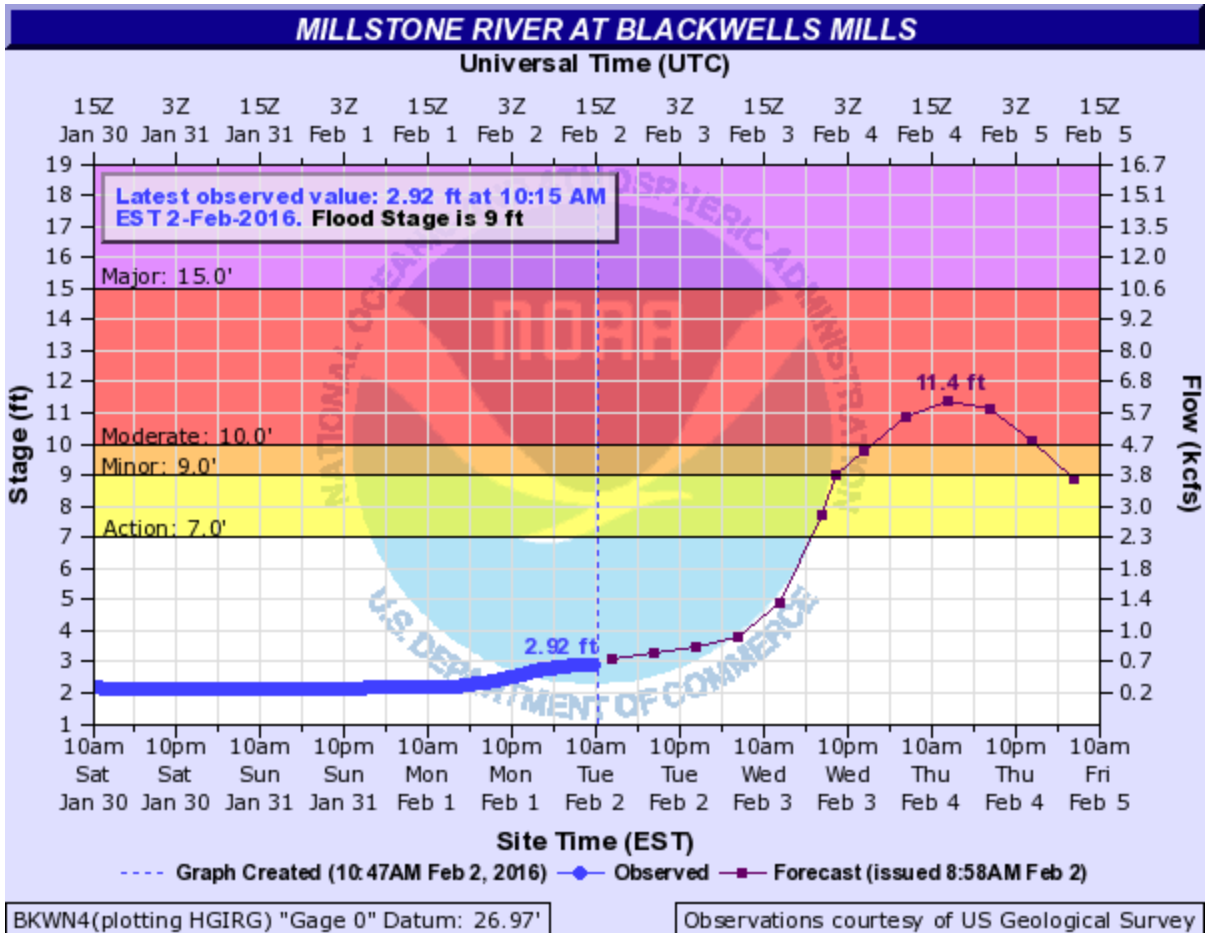
3 Day River Forecasts



River Forecasts indicate that many (15 or more) locations in the threat area will experience minor or moderate flooding. Moderate flooding is likely at a few locations such as Edwards Ferry, MD (Potomac) and Blackwells Mills, NJ (Millstone). Moderate flooding is possible at additional locations in the threat area, but this will depend on where the heaviest rain falls.



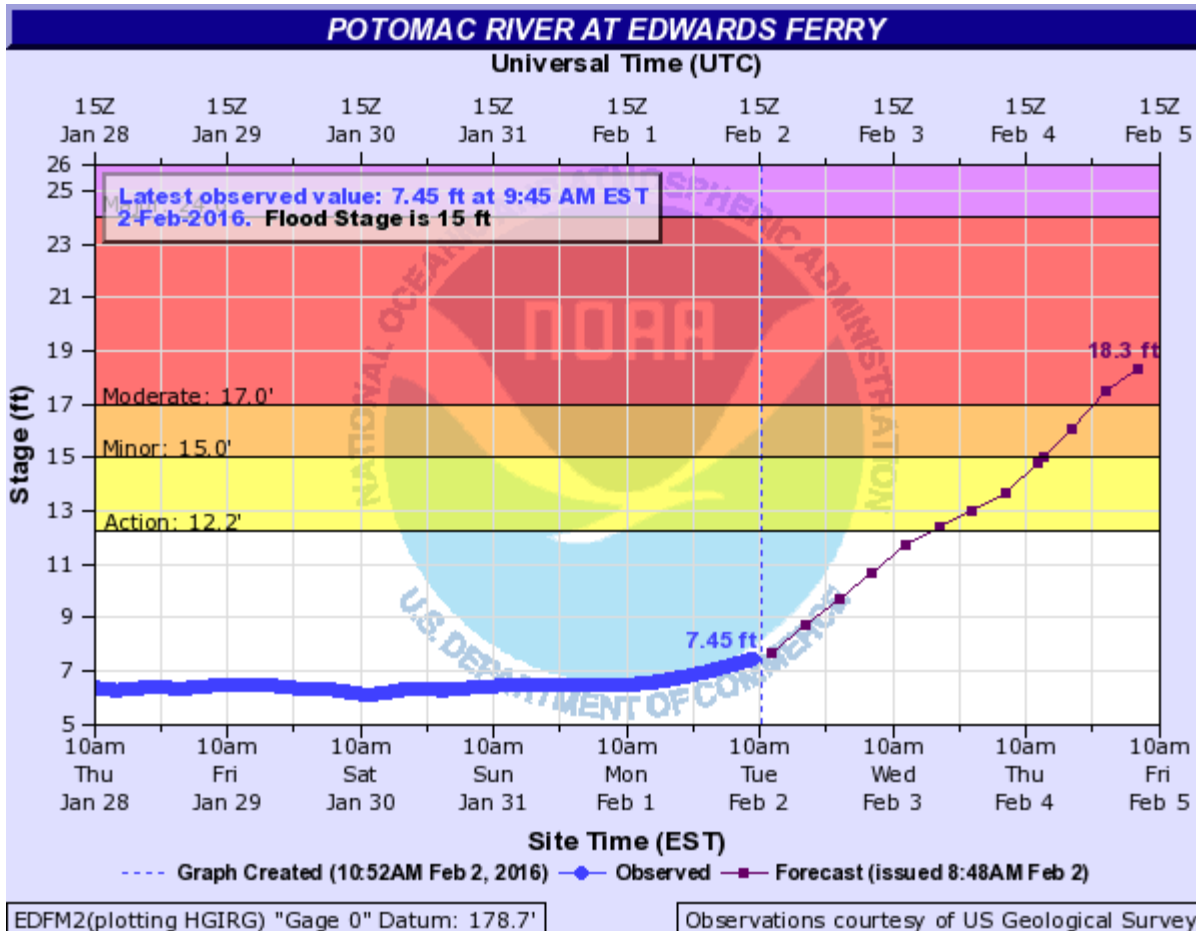
Millstone River at Blackwells Mills, NJ



The Millstone River is expected to reach its flood stage of 9 feet sometime during the afternoon or evening on Wednesday.

Moderate flooding is expected Wednesday night, but could begin as early as Wednesday evening.

Potomac River at Edwards Ferry, MD



The Potomac River at Edwards Ferry is expected to reach its flood stage of 15 feet on Wednesday night or Thursday morning .

Moderate flooding is expected beginning Thursday night, but could begin as early as Thursday afternoon

Need more info?

- Contact your local NWS Weather Forecast Office
 - Binghamton, NY <http://weather.gov/bgm>
 - Blacksburg, VA <http://weather.gov/rnk>
 - Mt Holly, NJ <http://weather.gov/phi>
 - State College, PA <http://weather.gov/ctp>
 - New York City, NY <http://weather.gov/okx>
 - Sterling, VA <http://weather.gov/lwx>
 - Wakefield, VA <http://weather.gov/akq>
- Email: peter.ahnert@noaa.gov

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Next MARFC Briefing

- **The next MARFC briefing will be issued Wednesday around Noon.**