



# NOAA, National Weather Service Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center Briefing

**Noon February 4, 2016**

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# Flood Threat Summary

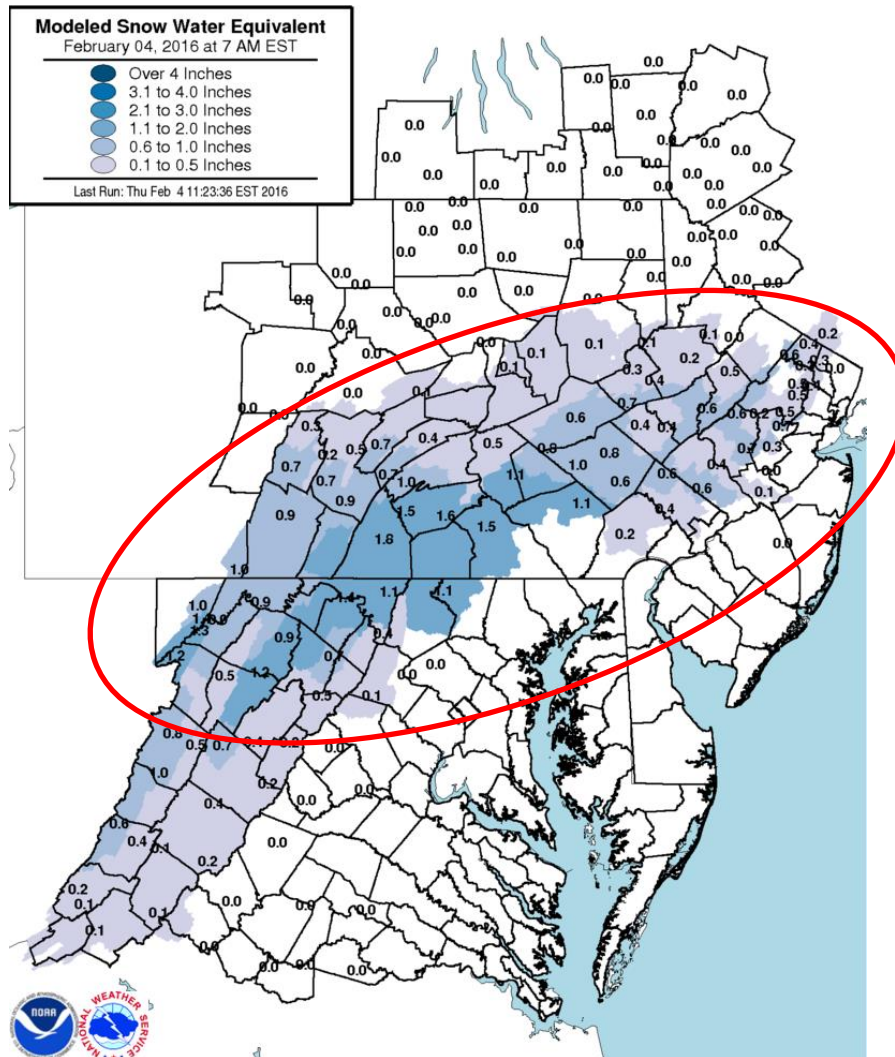
- Minor Flooding is occurring and **Moderate Flooding is predicted** for tonight on the Potomac river at Edwards Ferry, MD. Predicted crest between 17 and 18 feet.
- Minor Flooding is occurring on the Cacapon river near Great Cacapon, WV. The river is falling and will be below flood stage this evening.
- Minor Flooding is occurring on the Opequon creek near Martinsburg. The river is falling and will be below flood stage this afternoon.
- Minor Flooding expected Today and/or Thursday at several locations in the Potomac river basin. Locations that are rising and will likely see minor flooding include: Potomac river at Point of Rocks, MD; Monocacy river near Frederick, MD; and Shenandoah river at Millville, WV.
- Minor Flooding is possible on the James river at Richmond-Westham, VA on Friday. Predicted crest is 11.5 to 12.5 feet.
- Latest Forecast Updates: <http://www.weather.gov/marfc>

Minor to Moderate Flooding is expected Friday on the Potomac River at

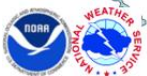
# Potential Impacts

- Rivers reaching **moderate flood stage**: Some flooding of structures and roads. Some evacuations may be necessary.
- River reaching **minor flood stage**: Minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat.

# Water in Snowpack

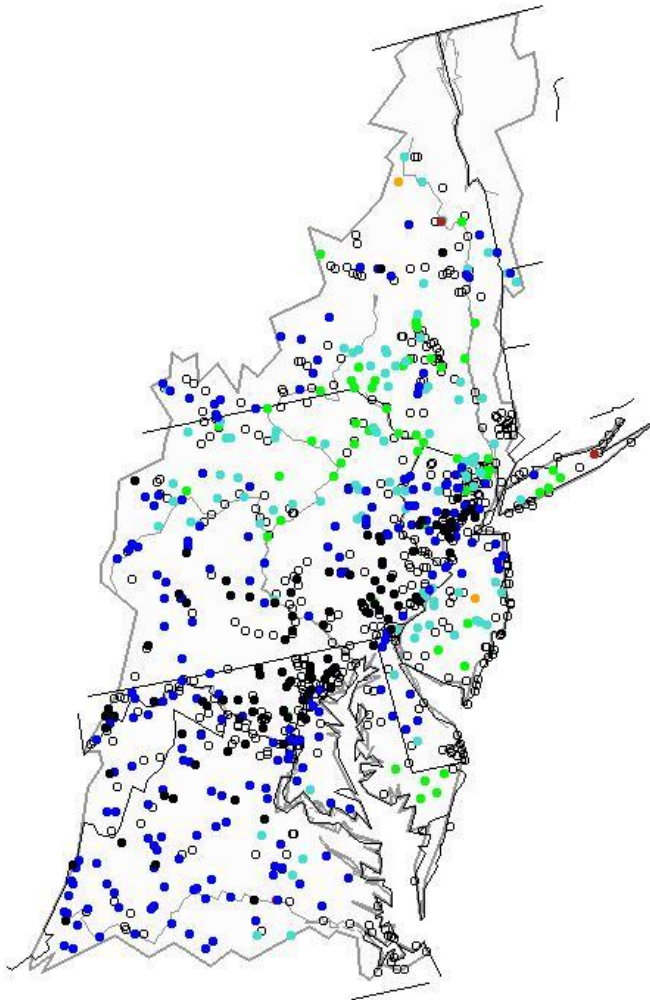


Extensive snowmelt occurred, especially in eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Virginia. However, cooler than expected temperatures and lower wind speeds yesterday resulted in less than expected snowmelt in the upper Potomac and lower Susquehanna river basins. This resulted in less runoff and lower river levels than expected.



# Current Streamflow Conditions

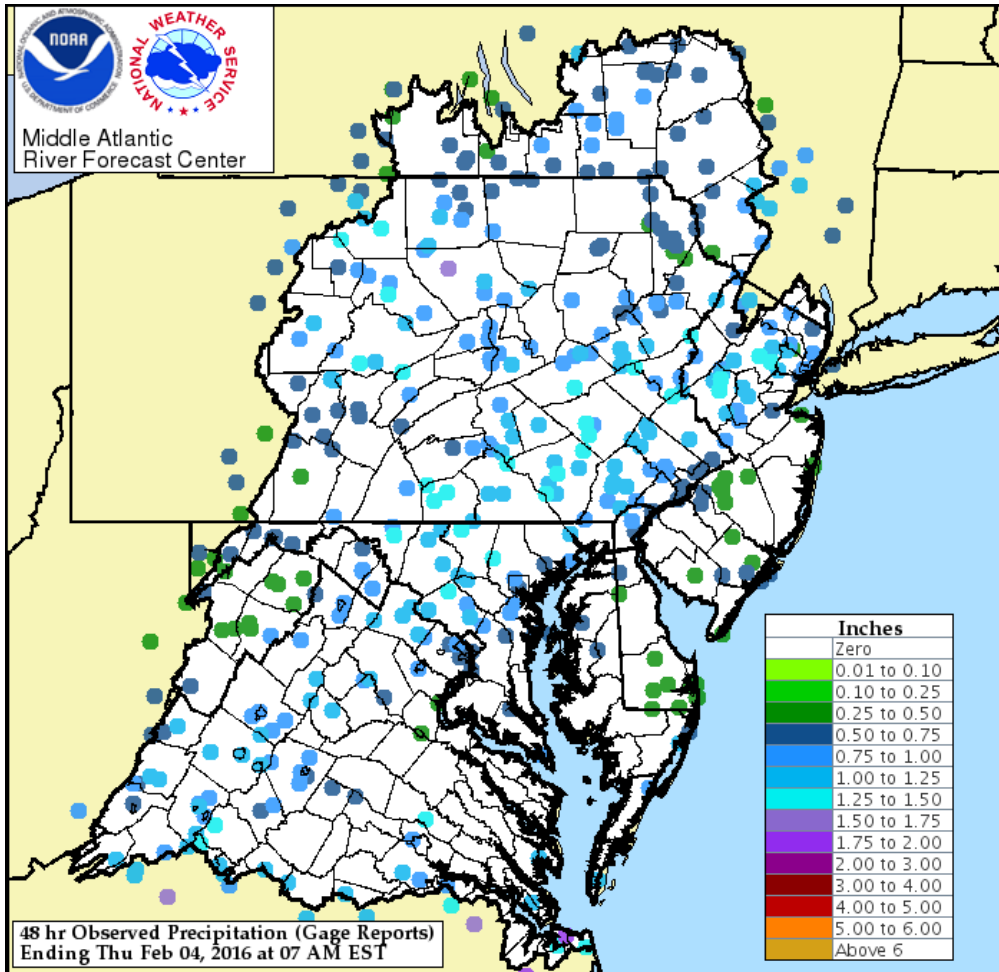
Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:30ET



Streamflows are well above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile across the threat area (black dots)

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		

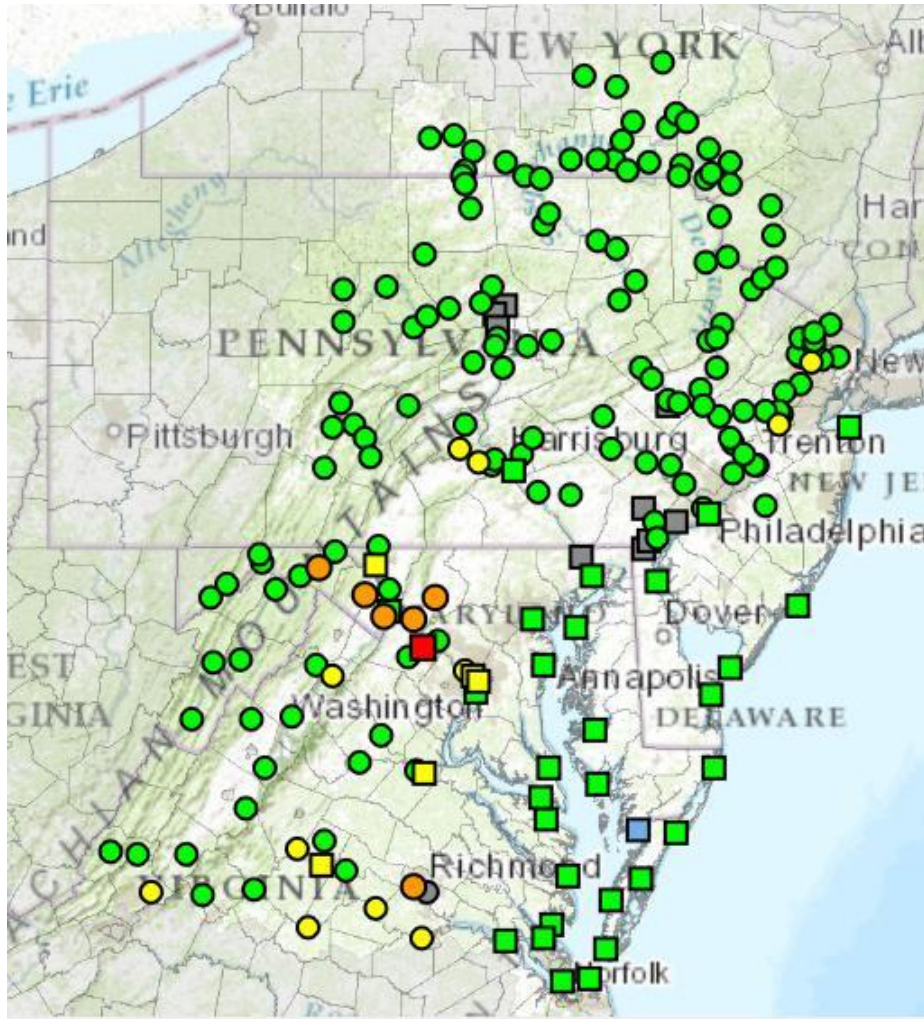
# Observed Rainfall



48 Hour Observed Rainfall. Rainfall was close to what was predicted, except for the upper Potomac where only 0.25 to 0.50 inches fell.



# 3 Day River Forecasts



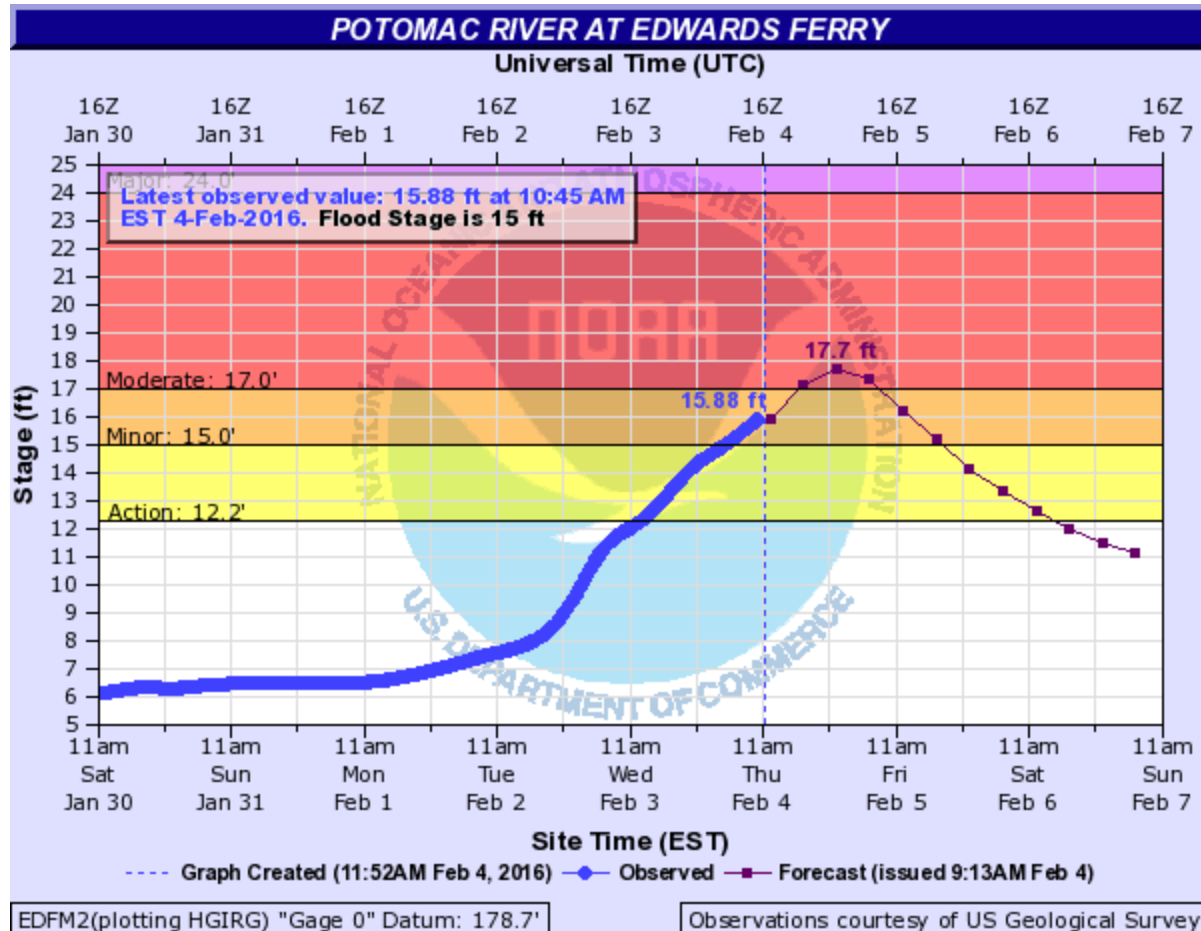
River Forecasts indicate that minor or moderate flooding is occurring or forecast to occur at 7 locations today through Friday. Moderate flooding is likely at Edwards Ferry, MD on the Potomac river.

207 total gauges

Show all locations in flood (7)

- 0 Gauges: Major Flooding
- 1 Gauges: Moderate Flooding
- 6 Gauges: Minor Flooding
- 16 Gauges: Near Flood Stage
- 172 Gauges: No Flooding
- 1 Flood Category Not Defined
- 0 At or Below Low Water Threshold
- 0 Gauges: Forecasts Are Not Current
- 11 Gauges: No forecast within selected timeframe

# Potomac River at Edwards Ferry, MD

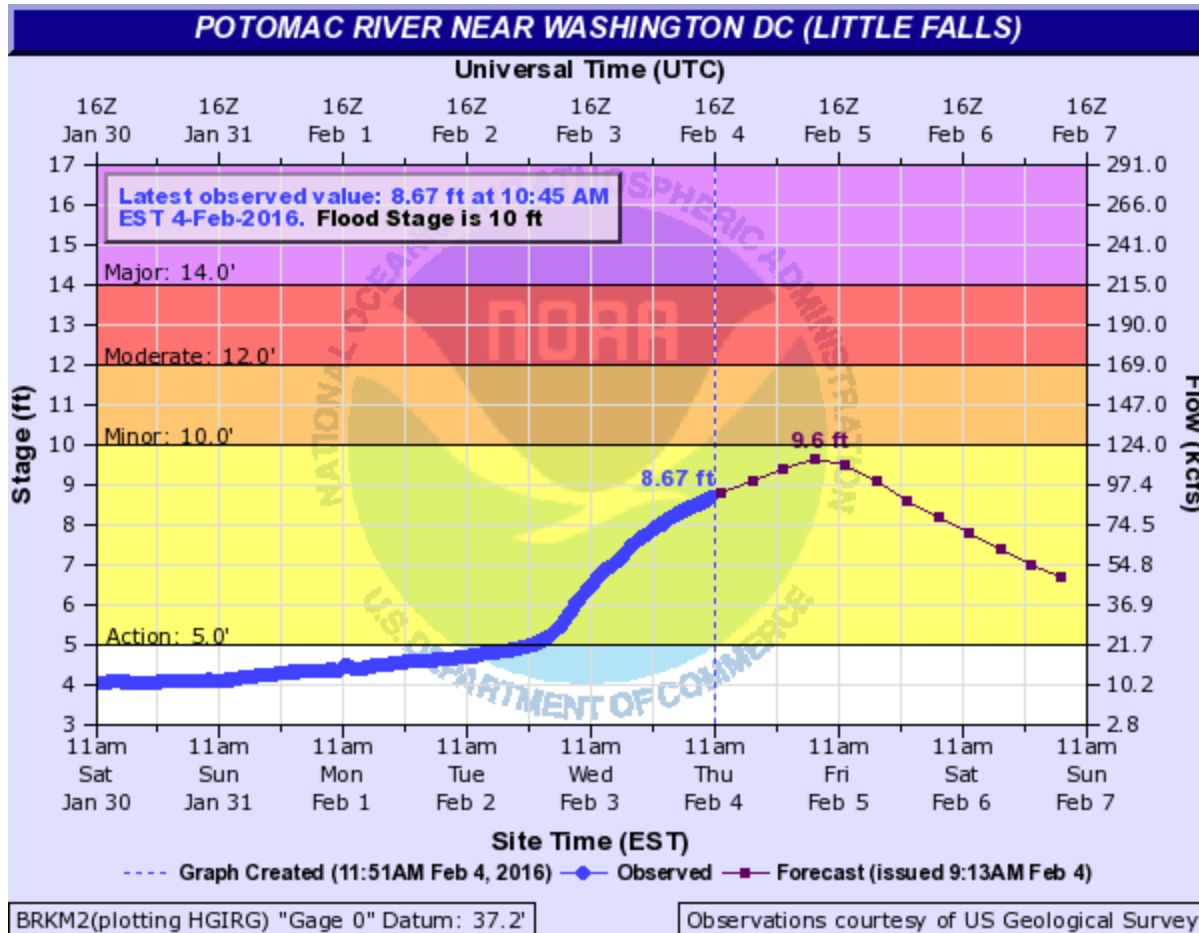


The Potomac River at Edwards Ferry is above its flood stage and is expected to reach its moderate flood level of 17 feet this evening (Thursday evening)

The river is expected to crest between 17 and 19 feet. Crest forecasts will be adjusted as needed today.



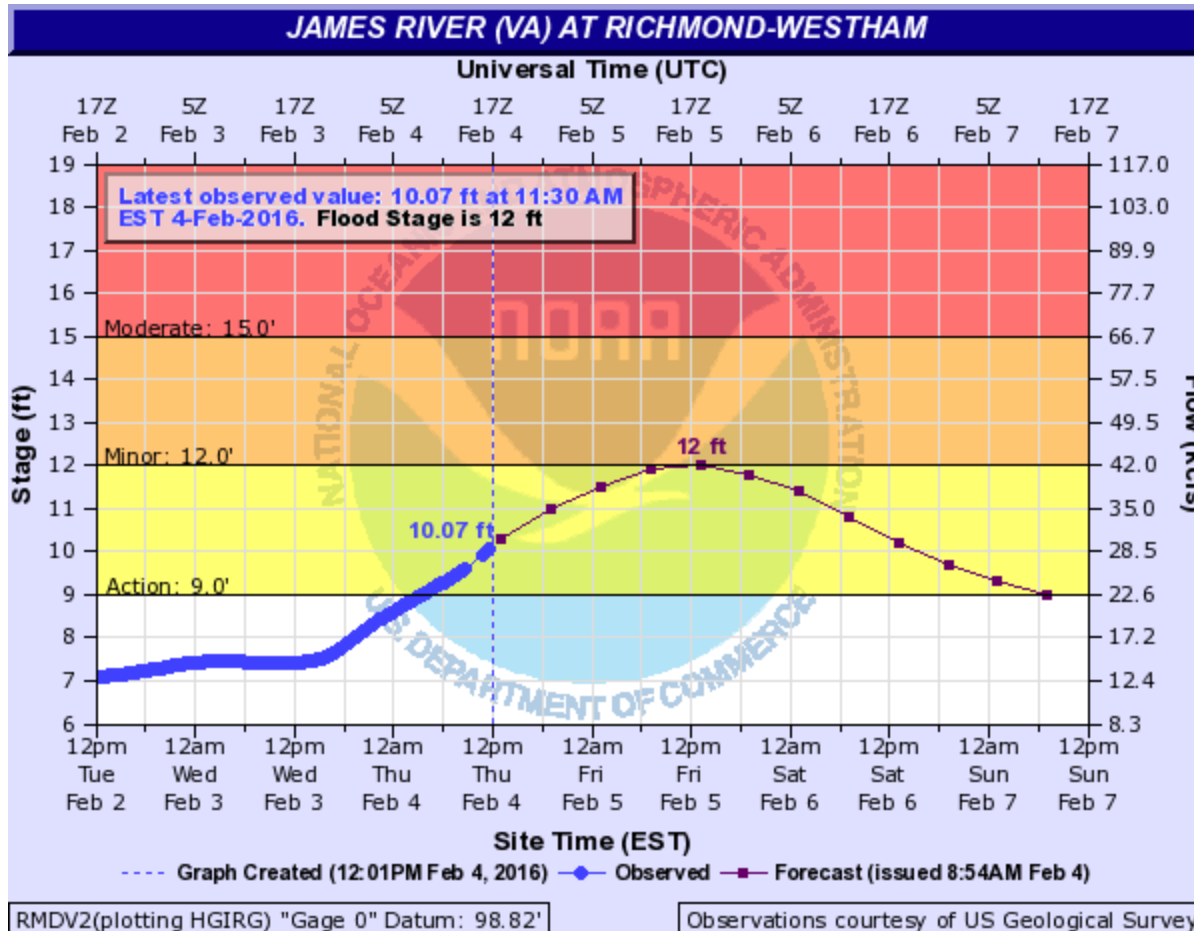
# Potomac River at Little Falls, MD



The Potomac River at Little Falls is expected to crest just below flood stage tomorrow morning.

The river is expected to crest between 9.1 feet and 10.1 feet on Friday. Crest forecasts will be adjusted as needed today.

# James River at Richmond-Westham, VA



The James River at Richmond-Westham will rise to right around flood stage on Friday.

The river is expected to crest between 11 feet and 13 feet on Friday. Crest forecasts will be adjusted as needed today.

# 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](mailto:peter.ahnert@noaa.gov)

# Find MARFC Online at:

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# Next MARFC Briefing

- **This will be the last briefing for this event.**

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