

Flood Event of 1/15/1995 - 1/18/1995

James

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Bent Creek	16.00	1/16/1995	17.57	76,400	Minor	James	James River	Nelson	Appomattox
Bremo Bluff	19.00	1/17/1995	27.50	84,200	Moderate	James	James River	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Buchanan	17.00	1/16/1995	22.70	64,800	Moderate	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt
Cartersville	20.00	1/17/1995	21.96	82,500	Minor	James	James River	Goochland	Cumberland
Holcomb Rock	22.00	1/16/1995	24.80	74,700	Moderate	James	James River	Bedford	Bedford
Lick Run	16.00	1/15/1995	19.26	35,400	Minor	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt
Palmyra	17.00	1/16/1995	19.24	13,500	Minor	James	Rivanna River	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Richmond	12.00	1/18/1995	16.42	81,800	Moderate	James	James River	Henrico	Independent City
Scottsville	20.00	1/16/1995	21.71	84,300	Minor	James	James River	Albemarle	Albermarle

Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Great Cacapon	9.00	1/16/1995	11.57	11,700	Minor	Potomac	Cacapon River	Morgan	Morgan
Martinsburg	10.00	1/16/1995	10.81	3,450	Minor	Potomac	Opequon Creek	Berkeley	Berkeley
Petersburg	10.00	1/15/1995	10.83	13,400	Minor	Potomac	South Branch Potomac River	Grant	Grant

Weather Summary

A strong southerly flow of tropical air ahead of a strengthening low brought higher than normal temperatures to the Mid-Atlantic region during the premature winter season. This low was strengthened due to a deep and powerful upper level trough over the Southeastern United States. Aided by a cold front created along the Western edge of the Appalachian Mountains, this cyclone set the stage for heavy rainfall and flooding across Eastern West Virginia and into the Potomac and James River Basins of Virginia. Although the Shenandoah Valley received substantial amounts of rainfall, flooding was more prone to the Potomac and James River Basins. Overall rainfall amounts ranged from three to seven inches while some areas such as Montebello Fish, Nelson County received over nine inches. The heaviest rainfall occurred during the morning hours of January 14th and lasted into the morning hours of January 15th. Other factors affecting the flood event could include a copious amount of rainfall mixed with little vegetation growth and dry soil. For example, December 1994 only had a total of 0.95 inches of rain. It is possible a lack of soil moisture content aided the flooding potential across these river basins.

Crest Statistics and Flood Information

First flood of 2 that occurred in Jan, 1995

First flood of 8 that occurred in 1995

Number of Floods at MARFC Forecast Points - 12

Number of Floods Cresting in Minor Range - 8

Number of Floods Cresting in Moderate Range - 4

Number of Floods Cresting in Major Range - 0

Number of Floods Cresting in Missing Range - 0