

Watershed MANAGEMENT



Drought Information Center

February 11, 1999

Shower activity produced less than 0.1 inch of precipitation in scattered areas across the northern quarter of the state during the past 24 hours.

In the Delaware River basin, stream flows are continuing to recede at all tributary and main stem gages. The Trenton gage is down from 13,200 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 12,600 cfs this morning. The Lackawaxen River at Hawley declined from 413 to 386 cfs. The Lehigh River at Bethlehem is down from 2860 to 2650 cfs. The Schuylkill River at Philadelphia declined from 3190 to 2910 cfs. Flows throughout the basin remain generally above normal, except in the Christina watershed where all gages recorded below normal flows this morning.

Stream flows in the Susquehanna River basin continue a gradual decline as well. Main stem Susquehanna gages below Towanda have all declined this morning, with Harrisburg flows down from 41,600 cfs yesterday to 38,300 cfs today. The Lackawanna River at Old Forge is down from 421 to 391 cfs. In the West Branch Susquehanna watershed, flows are generally declined as well, although a few gages in the upper reaches above Karthaus have increased. Flows at Lewisburg are up slightly as well, from 13,100 to 13,200 cfs. Juniata watershed flows have all receded, with Newport flows down from 3860 to 3420 cfs. Lower basin tributary flows are all down as well, as reflected by the Conestoga River at Conestoga, down from 477 to 435 cfs. Throughout the basin, flows remain well above normal, with only a few exceptions on small tributaries that remain below normal.

In the Ohio River basin, flows on the Allegheny River main stem have all continued to decline. Flows at Natrona are down from 35,900 to 35,100 cfs. With the exception of the French Creek watershed, Allegheny tributary flows continue to recede as well, with the Clarion River at Piney down from 3530 to 2570 and the Kiskiminetas River at Vandergrift down from 5720 to 5590 cfs. Monongahela and Beaver River watershed flows are also declining, with the Monongahela at Braddock down from 28,800 to 26,500 cfs and the Beaver at Beaver Falls down from 9510 to 7720 cfs. Ohio basin flows all remain well above normal.

Ground water levels were on the decline yesterday at all monitoring wells that are accessible by satellite.

The next three days are forecast to produce 0.1-0.5 inches of precipitation in the form of showers and flurries, with rain in the east tomorrow evening. The overall five-day forecast indicates a total of 0.25-1.0 inch, and the 5-10 day forecast adds 0.5 inch in the southeast to 2.0 inches in the northwest, with temperatures to remain at or above normal.

