

Watershed MANAGEMENT



Drought Information Center

January 10, 2000

From January 6 to 9 the only precipitation in Pennsylvania was about a tenth-inch total in both Forest and Clearfield Counties. During the past 24-hour period, light precipitation with average amounts approximating one-tenth of an inch can be found along a corridor about 25 miles wide extending from about Beaver to Susquehanna County.

In the Delaware River Basin, streams are showing a receding trend since Friday. The exception is Frankford Creek Basin that is holding about even. The mainstem Delaware River is down from 8,610 to 6,630 cfs. at Trenton. The Lackawaxen River down from 279 to 235 cfs. at Hawley. The Lehigh River is down from 1,710 to 1,550 cfs. at Bethlehem. The Schuylkill River is down from 1,940 to 1,620 cfs. at Philadelphia and the Brandywine Creek is down from 344 to 293 cfs. at Chadds Ford. About 70% of the stream gauges in the Delaware River Basin are at below normal flow for January 10.

Compared to January 7, most stream gauges in the Susquehanna River Basin are in the flow recession category. The exceptions are a flow enhancement trend for the lower reaches of the mainstem Susquehanna, and Fishing Creek Basin holding fairly even. The mainstem Susquehanna River is down from 19,000 to 10,800 cfs. at Towanda, down from 26,500 to 15,100 cfs. at Wilkes-Barre, and up from 22,800 to 28,700 cfs. at Harrisburg. The West Branch Susquehanna River is down from 5,590 to 4,290 cfs. at Lock Haven, down from 7,900 to 6,400 cfs. at Williamsport, and down from 8,840 to 7,510 cfs. at Lewisburg. The Juniata River is down from 2,070 to 1,750 cfs. at Newport and the Conestoga River is down slightly from 371 to 353 cfs. at Conestoga. About 55% of the stream gauges in the Susquehanna River Basin are at below normal flow for this date.

The Ohio River Basin shows only flow recessions for all major streams for the past three days. The Allegheny River is down from 39,900 to 27,500 cfs. at Natrona. The mainstem Ohio River is down from 50,000 to 32,600 cfs. at Sewickley. The Kiskiminetas River is down from 1,680 to 1,550 cfs. at Vandergrift. The Monongahela River is down from 8,780 to 4,390 cfs. at Braddock and the Beaver River is down from 6,960 to 4,910 cfs. at Beaver Falls. About 60% of the stream gauges in the Ohio River Basin are at above normal flow for today's date.

Since January 7, 27 counties with monitoring wells show water level rises for nine counties and drops for 18. Increases range from 0.01 to 0.48 ft. with an average rise of 0.19 ft. Decreases range from 0.01 to 2.88 ft. (Potter County) with an average fall of 0.41 ft.

Between one and 1.5 inches total precipitation is forecast for all of Pennsylvania over the next five days. For the period January 15 to 20, an average of 0.5 to one inches can be expected for most the

Commonwealth, with somewhat higher amounts likely for the northern tier counties. Temperatures for the next ten days are expected to be close to normal.