

November 14, 2007

Over the past 7 days, western Pa received slightly above normal precipitation + 0.5 inch in several counties; eastern Pa slightly below normal to -0.7 inch in several counties. The monthly trend for the entire state at least normal to slightly above average with a handful of counties seeing moderately above normal to 2.0 + inches.

Rainfall, which occurred over the past 3 days, caused instantaneous flows to rise to above normal across the northwestern portion of the state. Across the remaining parts of the state flows range from near normal to below normal. Most gages across the state are now dropping. Rainfall was varied in intensity with the northwestern portion of the state receiving the most, and therefore the flows rose and dropped accordingly with some flows not even reaching normal daily flows. The Susquehanna River Basin is reflecting the worst conditions for streamflow based on the 30-day county average plots and the instantaneous flow gages.

Six county wells have moved into a drought "watch" indicator (Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Elk, Forest, Jefferson and Venango) and one improvement moving from a drought indicator of "emergency" to "warning" (Schuylkill).

The 7-day forecast indicates 1.0 to 2.0 inches of precipitation across the state with the northeast edging to 2.0, which would be normal to slightly above normal respectively. The 8-14 day forecast indicates 1.5 to 3.0 inches of precipitation increasing southerly.

The Drought Task Force is meeting on 11/16/07 to discuss current conditions. The Commonwealth remains in a drought watch status for 53 counties and a drought warning status for Clinton County.