

FIELD LOG –

Weeks of Aug. 5 and Aug. 12

A significant rain event the week of Aug. 5 that hit the upper mainstem of the Susquehanna River across the northern tier of Pennsylvania and relevant areas of New York State has significantly increased flow and turbidity. Because flows have remained stable on the West Branch Susquehanna River, the Juniata River and other lower mainstem tributaries; the lower mainstem of the Susquehanna River did not experience a significant flow increase, but was unable to avoid a significant turbidity increase. This has caused the department to once again postpone the benthic algae sampling on the lower mainstem:

- Stable flows on the West Branch Susquehanna River the Juniata River and the Allegheny River (out-of-basin control) have allowed department Biologists to complete benthic algal sampling at these locations.
- A second round of sediment sampling was completed at four out-of-basin control locations (Allegheny River at Franklin, Connoquenessing Creek at Zelienople, Youghiogheny River at Sutersville, and Delaware River at Morrisville) in addition to six sites on the Susquehanna and Juniata

rivers

- Passive samplers were also deployed across the state. Passive samplers will allow the department to measure levels of hormones, emerging contaminants, and other endocrine disrupting compounds. The passive samplers will collect data for approximately 30 days before they are retrieved.
- Routine water quality transect data continues to be collected at established locations.
- Benthic macroinvertebrate sampling is scheduled for large river sites in the coming weeks.