

FIELD LOG — Weeks of March 4 and March 11

Initiated portions of the 2013 SUSQUEHANNA RIVER SAMPLING PLAN:

- Susquehanna River flows remained too high to deploy continuous data monitors and algae substrates.
- Continuous data loggers used to collect continuous dissolved oxygen, temperature, ppt, and specific conductance were deployed in small, warm, and nutrient rich streams in the south-east part of the state. The data loggers will remain in the streams for several weeks. The data will be used to characterize the dissolved oxygen and ppt patterns of nutrient enriched streams. The patterns can then be compared to the patterns collected by the data loggers in the Susquehanna and Juniata Rivers once the data loggers get deployed in the river.
- DEP began assisting staff at the USGS

Northern Appalachian Research Laboratory with an experiment involving nutrients, sediment, and their effect on stream periphyton. The study will explore the link between the nutritional content of the algae and its effect on the food chain and the resultant nutritional impacts on the smallmouth bass. The study will also correlate water quality nutrient levels with the nutrient quality of the algae.

- USGS and SRBC began monthly pesticide sampling at three fixed monitoring sites on the Susquehanna, and one each on the Juniata and Delaware Rivers. This is in addition to the regular chemical samples collected monthly at these sites. Additional samples will be collected during some storm events to characterize runoff from nonpoint sources. Each sample will be analyzed for 54 pesticides. Sampling will continue through 2013. The field sampling and analytical costs are paid by DEP.