

**SUMMARY OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS
IN THE
UPPER DELAWARE RIVER BASIN
December 2005**

Prepared by the
Office of the Delaware River Master
Milford, Pennsylvania

Adjusted streamflow in the upper Delaware River Basin during December was in the normal range. The maximum daily mean discharge of 21,600 cfs was recorded on December 1. The minimum daily mean discharge was 3,400 cfs on December 15.

The observed monthly mean streamflow of the Delaware River at Montague, N.J. during December was 7,188 cfs, which is 145 percent of median. The flow at Montague, adjusted for diversions from the basin and change in storage in the major reservoirs, was 9,393 cfs, or 152 percent of median (water years 1971-2000).

On the basis of a 5-station average, precipitation during December was 2.64 inches, which is 77 percent of the 64-year average. The maximum daily-average precipitation during the month was 0.81 inches on December 16. Precipitation in the upper Delaware River Basin during the past 12 months was 6.27 inches more than the long-term average. Precipitation during December was 0.77 inches less than the long-term average for the month.

Combined storage January 1, 2006 in Pepacton, Cannonsville, and Neversink Reservoirs was 91 percent of capacity above the point of maximum depletion. The combined storage of 248 billion gallons was 35 billion gallons more than that of one month ago and 23 billion gallons less than that of one year ago. Median storage on the first day of January in 38 years of record is 193 billion gallons.

As part of a statewide network, the USGS operates 12 observation wells in the Pennsylvania part of the Delaware River Basin. Mean water levels during December were above average in 8 of the wells. Water levels in 11 of the wells were above November 2005 levels, and water levels in 11 of the wells were below December 2004 levels.

HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS IN THE UPPER DELAWARE RIVER BASIN

Compiled by the Office of the Delaware River Master, Milford, Pa.

(Preliminary data - subject to revision)

PRECIPITATION, IN INCHES

	Dec. 1940 to Dec. 2004		January 2005 to December 2005					
	Average		Actual		Percent of average		Excess (+) or deficit (-)	
	Amount	Cumulative	Amount	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative
Jan.	2.97	43.54	5.96	49.81	201	114	+2.99	+6.27
Feb.	2.62	40.57	2.03	43.85	77	108	-.59	+3.28
Mar.	3.34	37.95	4.66	41.82	140	110	+1.32	+3.87
Apr.	3.72	34.61	5.78	37.16	155	107	+2.06	+2.55
May	4.22	30.89	1.52	31.38	36	102	-2.70	+.49
June	4.01	26.67	*3.25	29.86	81	112	-.76	+3.19
July	4.07	22.66	2.92	26.61	72	117	-1.15	+3.95
Aug.	3.89	18.59	3.59	23.69	92	127	-.30	+5.10
Sept.	4.08	14.70	1.72	20.10	42	137	-2.36	+5.40
Oct.	3.42	10.62	11.83	18.38	346	173	+8.41	+7.76
Nov.	3.79	7.20	3.91	6.55	103	91	+.12	-.65
Dec.	3.41	3.41	2.64	2.64	77	77	-.77	-.77

Note: Amount shown in cumulative columns is total from month shown to present.

* Revised since last month.

STREAMFLOW, IN CFS
DELAWARE RIVER AT MONTAGUE, N.J.

Month	1940-2004			2005 Monthly mean	Percent of median
	Maximum	Median	Minimum		
December (observed)	18,830 (1996)	4,943	1,665 (1998)	7,188	145
December (adjusted)	20,880 (1973)	6,735	1,624 (1998)	9,393	139
January (observed)	15,600 (1996)	4,960	1,318 (1981)		
January (adjusted)	21,330 (1996)	5,874	1,064 (1981)		