

**SUMMARY OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS
IN THE
UPPER DELAWARE RIVER BASIN
October 2008**

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

Adjusted streamflow in the upper Delaware River Basin during October was in the normal range. The maximum daily mean discharge of 12,100 cfs was recorded on October 29. The minimum daily mean discharge was 1,650 cfs on October 5.

The observed monthly mean streamflow of the Delaware River at Montague, N.J. during October was 3,116 cfs, which is 128 percent of median. The flow at Montague, adjusted for diversions from the basin and change in storage in the major reservoirs, was 3,648 cfs, or 141 percent of median (water years 1971-2000).

On the basis of an 11-station average, precipitation during October was 4.44 inches, which is 123 percent of the 67-year average. The maximum daily-average precipitation during the month was 2.16 inches on October 26. Precipitation in the upper Delaware River Basin during the past 12 months was 6.99 inches more than the long-term average. Precipitation during October was 0.83 inches more than the long-term average for the month.

Combined storage November 1, 2008 in Pepacton, Cannonsville, and Neversink Reservoirs was 70 percent of capacity above the point of maximum depletion. The combined storage of 189 billion gallons was nearly 7 billion gallons less than that of one month ago and 12 billion gallons more than that of one year ago. Median combined storage on the first day of November in 41 years of record is 165 billion gallons.

As part of statewide networks, the USGS operates ground-water observation wells in the Pennsylvania and New Jersey parts of the Delaware River Basin. Mean water levels during October were below average in 17 of 20 observation wells. Water levels in 14 of the wells were below September 2008 levels, and water levels in 12 of the wells were below October 2007 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 Oct. 2007		November 2007 to October 2008					
	Average		Actual		Percent of average		Excess (+) or deficit (-)	
	Amount	Cumulative	Amount	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative
Nov.	3.81	43.84	4.31	50.83	113	116	+0.50	+6.99
Dec.	3.38	40.03	5.33	46.52	158	116	+1.95	+6.49
Jan.	3.06	36.65	2.15	41.19	70	112	-0.91	+4.54
Feb.	2.60	33.59	6.30	39.04	242	116	+3.70	+5.45
Mar.	3.33	30.99	6.52	32.74	196	106	+3.19	+1.75
Apr.	3.78	27.66	3.22	26.22	85	95	-0.56	-1.44
May	4.15	23.88	*2.80	23.00	67	96	-1.35	-0.88
June	4.10	19.73	3.23	20.20	79	102	-0.87	+0.47
July	4.07	15.63	5.48	16.97	135	109	+1.41	+1.34
Aug.	3.91	11.56	2.24	11.49	57	99	-1.67	-0.07
Sept.	4.04	7.65	4.81	9.25	119	121	+0.77	+1.60
Oct.	3.61	3.61	4.44	4.44	123	123	+0.83	+0.83

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	1940-2007			2008 Monthly mean	Percent of median
	Maximum	Median	Minimum		
October (observed)	15,690 (1955)	2,438	807 (1941)	3,116	128
October (adjusted)	18,570 (1955)	2,351	322 (1964)	3,648	155
November (observed)	13,010 (2003)	4,764	995 (1964)		
November (adjusted)	16,160 (1972)	6,359	390 (1964)		