

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

February 2003

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

Adjusted streamflow in the upper Delaware River Basin during February was in the normal range. The maximum daily mean discharge of 7,000 cfs occurred on February 25 and 26. The minimum daily mean discharge was 3,600 cfs on February 2 and 3.

The observed monthly mean streamflow of the Delaware River at Montague, N.J. during February was 4,579 cfs, which is 84 percent of median. The flow at Montague, adjusted for diversions from the basin and change in storage in the major reservoirs was 4,772 cfs, or 74 percent of median (water years 1961-90).

On the basis of a 5-station average, precipitation during February was 2.59 inches, which is 98 percent of the 62-year average. The maximum daily-average precipitation during the month was 0.78 inches on February 18. Precipitation in the upper Delaware River Basin during the past 12 months was 5.74 inches more than the long-term average. Precipitation during February was 0.04 inches less than the long-term average for the month.

Combined storage March 1, 2003 in Pepacton, Cannonsville, and Neversink Reservoirs was 88 percent of capacity above the point of maximum depletion. The combined storage of 238 billion gallons was 4 billion gallons less than that of one month ago and 131 billion gallons more than that of one year ago. Median storage on the first day of March in 35 years of record is 221 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 February were below average in 10 of the wells. Water levels in 11 of the wells were below January 2003 levels, and water levels in 11 wells were above February 2002 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 Feb. 2002		March 2002 to February 2003					
	Average		Actual		Percent of average		Excess (+) or deficit (-)	
	Amount	Cumulative	Amount	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative
Mar.	3.35	43.09	3.59	48.83	107	113	+0.24	+5.74
Apr.	3.73	39.74	3.89	45.24	104	114	+0.16	+5.50
May	4.19	36.01	5.94	41.35	142	115	+1.75	+5.34
June	3.96	31.82	5.74	35.41	145	111	+1.78	+3.59
July	4.07	27.86	1.32	29.67	32	106	-2.75	+1.81
Aug.	3.83	23.79	3.31	28.35	86	119	-0.52	+4.56
Sept.	3.86	19.96	*5.40	25.04	140	125	+1.54	+5.08
Oct.	3.35	16.10	6.31	19.64	188	122	+2.96	+3.54
Nov.	3.79	12.75	3.68	13.33	97	105	-0.11	+0.58
Dec.	3.35	8.96	4.68	9.65	140	108	+1.33	+0.69
Jan.	2.98	5.61	2.38	4.97	80	89	-0.60	-0.64
Feb.	2.63	2.63	2.59	2.59	98	98	-0.04	-0.04

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	1940-2001			2003 Monthly mean	Percent of median
	Maximum	Median	Minimum		
February (observed)	15,120 (1976)	5,468	1,748 (1980)	4,579	84
February (adjusted)	20,330 (1981)	5,613	1,373 (1980)	4,772	85
March (observed)	24,480 (1945)	9,152	3,191 (1981)		
March (adjusted)	25,910 (1945)	11,110	4,428 (1981)		