

**SUMMARY OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS
IN THE
UPPER DELAWARE RIVER BASIN
March 2006**

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

Adjusted streamflow in the upper Delaware River Basin during March was deficient. The maximum daily mean discharge of 5,370 cfs was recorded on March 15. The minimum daily mean discharge was 2,470 cfs on March 31.

The observed monthly mean streamflow of the Delaware River at Montague, N.J. during March was 3,381 cfs, which is 37 percent of median. The flow at Montague, adjusted for diversions from the basin and change in storage in the major reservoirs, was 3,928 cfs, or 35 percent of median (water years 1971-2000).

On the basis of a 5-station average, precipitation during March was 1.29 inches, which is 38 percent of the 65-year average. The maximum daily-average precipitation during the month was 0.45 inches on March 14. Precipitation in the upper Delaware River Basin during the past 12 months was 1.17 inches more than the long-term average. Precipitation during March was 2.07 inches less than the long-term average for the month.

Combined storage April 1, 2006 in Pepacton, Cannonsville, and Neversink Reservoirs was 95 percent of capacity above the point of maximum depletion. The combined storage of 258 billion gallons was 9 billion gallons less than that of one month ago and 20 billion gallons less than that of one year ago. Median storage on the first day of April in 38 years of record is 258 billion gallons. Cannonsville Reservoir spilled 9.4 billion gallons in March.

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 March were below average in 7 of the wells. Water levels in all of the wells were below February 2006 levels, and water levels in all of the wells were below March 2005 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 Mar. 2005		April 2005 to March 2006					
	Average		Actual		Percent of average		Excess (+) or deficit (-)	
	Amount	Cumulative	Amount	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative
Apr.	3.72	43.60	5.78	44.77	155	103	+2.06	+1.17
May	4.22	39.88	1.52	38.99	36	98	-2.70	-.89
June	4.01	35.66	3.25	37.47	81	105	-.76	+1.81
July	4.07	31.65	2.97	34.22	73	108	-1.10	+2.57
Aug.	3.89	27.58	3.57	31.25	92	113	-.32	+3.67
Sept.	4.08	23.69	1.72	27.68	42	117	-2.36	+3.99
Oct.	3.42	19.61	11.83	25.96	346	132	+8.41	+6.35
Nov.	3.79	16.19	3.91	14.13	103	87	+1.12	-2.06
Dec.	3.41	12.40	2.64	10.22	77	82	-.77	-2.18
Jan.	3.02	8.99	4.90	7.58	162	84	+1.88	-1.41
Feb.	2.61	5.97	1.39	2.68	53	45	-1.22	-3.29
Mar.	3.36	3.36	1.29	1.29	38	38	-2.07	-2.07

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

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

Month	1940-2004			2006 Monthly mean	Percent of median
	Maximum	Median	Minimum		
March (observed)	24,480 (1945)	9,135	3,191 (1981)	3,381	37
March (adjusted)	25,910 (1945)	11,000	4,428 (1981)	3,928	36
April (observed)	31,560 (1940)	11,130	3,322 (1985)		
April (adjusted)	33,010 (1940)	13,780	3,847 (1946)		