SUMMARY OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS IN THE UPPER DELAWARE RIVER BASIN August 2008

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

Adjusted streamflow in the upper Delaware River Basin during August was in the normal range. The maximum daily mean discharge of 3,030 cfs was recorded on August 1. The minimum daily mean discharge was 1,720 cfs on August 29.

The observed monthly mean streamflow of the Delaware River at Montague, N.J. during August was 2,237 cfs, which is 106 percent of median. The flow at Montague, adjusted for diversions from the basin and change in storage in the major reservoirs, was 1,756 cfs, or 111 percent of median (water years 1971-2000).

On the basis of an 11-station average, precipitation during August was 2.24 inches, which is 57 percent of the 67-year average. The maximum daily-average precipitation during the month was 0.77 inches on August 6. Precipitation in the upper Delaware River Basin during the past 12 months was 6.83 inches more than the long-term average. Precipitation during August was 1.67 inches less than the long-term average for the month.

Combined storage September 1, 2008 in Pepacton, Cannonsville, and Neversink Reservoirs was 79 percent of capacity above the point of maximum depletion. The combined storage of 215 billion gallons was 25 billion gallons less than that of one month ago and 24 billion gallons more than that of one year ago. Median combined storage on the first day of September in 41 years of record is 202 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 August were below average in 19 of 20 observation wells. Water levels in all of the wells were below July 2008 levels, and water levels in 18 of the wells were below August 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 Aug. 2007		September 2007 to August 2008						
	Average		Actual		Percent of average		Excess (+) or deficit (-)		
	Amount	Cumulative	Amount	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative	By month	Cumulative	
Sept.	4.06	43.81	2.88	50.64	71	116	-1.18	+6.83	
Oct.	3.56	39.75	6.82	47.76	192	120	+3.26	+8.01	
Nov.	3.81	36.19	4.31	40.94	113	113	+.50	+4.75	
Dec.	3.38	32.38	5.33	36.63	158	113	+1.95	+4.25	
Jan.	3.06	29.00	2.15	31.30	70	108	91	+2.30	
Feb.	2.60	25.94	*6.30	29.15	242	112	+3.70	+3.21	
Mar.	3.33	23.34	6.12	22.85	184	98	+2.79	49	
Apr.	3.78	20.01	3.10	16.73	82	84	68	-3.28	
May	4.15	16.23	2.68	13.63	65	84	-1.47	-2.60	
June	4.10	12.08	3.23	10.95	79	91	87	-1.13	
July	4.07	7.98	5.48	7.72	135	97	+1.41	26	
Aug.	3.91	3.91	2.24	2.24	57	57	-1.67	-1.67	

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

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

		1940-2007	2008	Percent of	
Month	Maximum Median		Minimum	Monthly mean	median
August (observed)	14,230 (1955)	2,112	715 (1954)	2,237	106
August (adjusted)	17,410 (1945)	1,463	364 (1964)	1,756	120
September (observed)	17,200 (2004)	2,016	892 (1941)		
September (adjusted)	18,310 (2004)	1,510	324 (1964)		

^{*} Revised since last month.