

November 7, 2007

Over the past 7-days, little precipitation fell leaving western Pa showing deficits approximately 0.5 inch while eastern counties (east of the Juniata and Susquehanna) showing greater deficits up to approximately 1.0 inch. The 90-day departures for precipitation are slightly below normal to normal with a handful of counties (Clinton, Elk, Jefferson and McKean) at approximately 50% below normal.

A slight increase of instantaneous flows occurred across the western portion of the state following the slight precipitation received last week. Across the remaining parts of the state, streamflows range from near normal to below normal. Most gages across the state are now dropping. The central and northern portion of the Susquehanna River Basin and parts of the Ohio Basin are reflecting the worst conditions for streamflow based upon 30-day averages with a mix of watch, warning and emergency conditions as reflected by the streamflow indicators.

A moderate improvement has been seen in the groundwater well levels over the past two weeks. Almost a dozen county indicators have improved with two counties returning to normal (Snyder and Northumberland) as reflected by the groundwater indicators.

The 7-day forecast predicts precipitation for western Pa between 0.25-0.50 inches; eastern Pa expecting 0.1-0.25 inches; which is well below average and extremely below average respectively. The 8-14 day forecast predicts the southwest and southeast corners of the state 0.5 -1.0 inches with the balance of the state at 1.0 - 1.5 inches. Overall, this would be less than normal rainfall, continuing the trend of the past week.

While conditions have improved somewhat over the past several weeks, streams and groundwater levels continue to show stress. Conditions will continue to be monitored closely. The Commonwealth remains in a drought watch status for 53 counties and a drought warning status for Clinton County.