

November 21, 2007

Over the previous 7 days, precipitation has been somewhat above average across the state; counties ranging from 0.5 - 2.0 inches above normal. The monthly trend indicates the entire state somewhat above normal to slightly above average with counties ranging from 1.0 - 2.5 inches above normal. While the shorter term precipitation departures are showing slightly above normal, the 90-day precipitation departure is showing the central portion of the state experiencing the greatest deficits, ranging from 2.0 to 3.0 inches.

The recent rainfall and snowfall has continued the improving trend in instantaneous flows and 30-day average flows across the state. Most gages have now begun to recede to near normal and below normal flows, however, the low flows are not near the recent lows of past weeks and months. Rainfall and snowfall was varied in intensity across the state and the gages responded accordingly. The Susquehanna River Basin is reflecting the worst conditions for streamflow based on the 30-day county average plots and the instantaneous flow gages.

A moderate improvement has been seen in the groundwater well levels over the past several weeks. A dozen county indicators have improved with seven counties returning to normal and five counties moving from warning to watch as reflected by the groundwater indicators.

The 7-day forecast predicts 1.0 to 2.0 inches of precipitation across the state with the northwest and southeast edging to 2.0 which would be normal to somewhat above normal. The 8-14 day forecast predicts a dry 0.1 inches in the southeast and increasing to 1.0 inches the further one radiates from the southeast.

The Commonwealth remains in a drought watch status for 53 counties and a drought warning status for Clinton County.