

Weekly Drought Report December 14, 2010

Precipitation

The state received mixed amounts of precipitation over the past 7-days. The eastern portion and a small pocket on the western edge of the state received generally normal to above normal quantities, about 1 to 1.5 inches. The remainder of the state received somewhat below normal amounts, less than 0.5 inches.

All county 90- day precipitation indicators remain in green indicating normal or above conditions.

Surface Water

A review of instantaneous streamflows indicates that flows remain above normal except for the extreme southern portion of the Ohio River Basin. Instantaneous flows are decreasing at this time after the rainfall event that occurred over the weekend.

The 30-day moving average streamflow values are all at Normal status. A cursory review of the gage plots indicate that the 30-day average flows continue to rise across the state moving them further into the Normal range of the curves for this time of year.

Groundwater

All monitoring well indicators remain at "Normal" except Fayette County's.

Precipitation forecast

The 7-day forecast indicates 0.5 to 1 inches of precipitation for most of the state. The 8-14 day forecast indicates 2.0 to 2.5 inches of precipitation for the state.

Summary

As was reported last week, recovery from the drought appears to be sustained at this time and lifting the drought watch for the 21 counties in the western portion of the state is recommended. Following discussion of current conditions, a recommendation to lift the drought watch will be presented to the Drought Task Force for consideration and concurrence at the Dec. 16, 2010 10:00 am meeting.