



RESERVOIR OPERATION AND SYSTEM STATUS FOR MAY 2009

HIGHLIGHTS – The Ohio River at Cairo began the month at a stage of 34.58 feet. The Cairo stage crested at 51.06 feet on the 13th of the month. However, by the end of the month Cairo receded to 35.35 feet. Flood stage at Cairo is 40 feet. A flood control operation was initiated on the 4th and was terminated on the 28th.

WEATHER – Precipitation departures varied across the Ohio River basin with drier than normal conditions in eastern Indiana, central Ohio and western Pennsylvania. Wetter than normal conditions occurred in the rest of the basin. Precipitation departures ranged from 1.46 inches below normal at Columbus, OH to 3.62 inches above normal at Charleston, WV. Major rainfall events were common, especially south of the Ohio River. The heaviest rainfall events were from the 1st through the 4th, the 8th through the 10th, and the 13th through the 16th. The precipitation became lighter and more showery towards the end of the month.

Temperatures averaged above normal in the Ohio River basin. Temperature departures ranged from 0.5 degrees above normal at Cincinnati, OH and Nashville, TN to 1.9 degrees above normal at Charleston, WV.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION – MAY 2009

STATION	TEMPERATURE		PRECIPITATION	
	OBSERVED DEGREES F	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	OBSERVED INCHES	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL
Pittsburgh, PA	61.2	+1.2	3.83	+0.03
Charleston, WV	64.3	+1.9	7.92	+3.62
Columbus, OH	63.5	+0.9	2.42	-1.46
Cincinnati, OH	64.2	+0.5	3.74	-0.85
Louisville, KY	66.8	+1.0	4.59	-0.29
Indianapolis, IN	63.6	+1.0	6.69	+2.33
Evansville, IN	66.2	+0.6	6.47	+1.46
Nashville, TN	67.6	+0.5	8.45	+3.38

STREAMFLOW – The monthly average flows in May ranged from a low of 108% of normal at Pittsburgh, PA to a high of 164% of normal at Paducah, KY. Daily flows ranged from a low of 30% of normal at Pittsburgh, PA to a high of 308% of normal also at Pittsburgh, PA. The following table presents the flow data summary for the Ohio River Index Stations:

FLOW DATA – MAY 2009

STATION	AVERAGE MONTHLY FLOW	PERCENT LONG-TERM NORMAL		
		MONTHLY	DAILY	
	CUBIC FEET/SECOND			HIGH
Pittsburgh, PA	41,000	108	308	30
Huntington, WV	113,000	122	285	37

Cincinnati, OH	145,000	118	255	43
Louisville, KY	180,000	128	274	39
Evansville, IN	215,000	128	260	40
Paducah, KY	532,000	164	232	89

RESERVOIRS – May began with 2.4% utilization of the total system flood control storage and ended the month at 3.1%. System-wide augmentation storage availability began the month at 98.9% and was at 99.2% by the end of the month.

The following table depicts storage change by tributary reservoir subsystem for May:

CHANGE IN STORAGE TRIBUTARY-RESERVOIR SUBSYSTEM	(ACRE-FEET)
Allegheny-Monongahela-Beaver	+39,900
Muskingum-Little Kanawha-Hocking-Kanawha-Guyandotte	-33,200
Twelvepole-Big Sandy-Little Sandy-Scioto	+12,200
Little Miami-Licking-Mill Creek-Great Miami	+8,400
Kentucky-Salt-Green-Wabash	+132,800
Cumberland	-30,900
TOTAL	+129,200

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