



RESERVOIR OPERATION AND SYSTEM STATUS FOR MARCH 2012

HIGHLIGHTS – The Ohio River at Cairo began the month at a stage of 24.40 feet. Cairo stage was at 28.04 feet at the end of the month. Flood stage at Cairo is 40 feet.

WEATHER – This March was the warmest March on record for almost all of the Ohio Valley as monthly average temperatures were more than 10 degrees Fahrenheit above normal at all of the major stations tracked in this report. Conditions were warmer than what would be considered normal during April at all of the stations. Temperature departures in the basin ranged from 10.7 degrees above normal at Charleston, WV to 14.4 degrees above normal at Indianapolis, IN. March started with a severe weather outbreak, resulting in widespread tornado damage on the 2nd. A light snowfall followed from the 4th into the 5th, with additional rain from the 8th into the 9th. However, precipitation was scattered and made of showers and thunderstorms after the 10th due to the much warmer weather pattern. Precipitation departures in the basin ranged from 1.73 inches below normal at Evansville IN to 2.05 inches above normal at Louisville, KY.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION – MARCH 2012

STATION	TEMPERATURE		PRECIPITATION	
	OBSERVED DEGREES F	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	OBSERVED INCHES	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL
Pittsburgh, PA	51.5R	+11.9	3.29	+0.34
Charleston, WV	56.5	+10.7	3.37	-0.54
Columbus, OH	53.8R	+11.9	4.92	+1.90
Cincinnati, OH	55.3R	+11.7	2.86	-1.10
Louisville, KY	59.6R	+11.8	6.22	+2.05

Indianapolis, IN	56.6R	+14.4	4.14	+0.58
Evansville, IN	59.4R	+13.4	2.51	-1.73
Nashville, TN	61.1R	+11.1	3.11	-1.00

R – Record High Average Temperature

STREAMFLOW – The monthly average flows ranged from a low of 80% of normal at Pittsburgh, PA to a high of 91% of normal at Louisville, KY.

Daily flows ranged from a low of 44% of normal at Pittsburgh, PA to a high of 206 % of normal also at Pittsburgh, PA.

The following table presents the flow data summary for the Ohio River Index Stations:

FLOW DATA – MARCH 2012

STATION	AVERAGE MONTHLY FLOW CUBIC FEET/SECOND	PERCENT LONG-TERM NORMAL		
		MONTHLY	DAILY	
			HIGH	LOW
Pittsburgh, PA	54,000	80	206	44
Huntington, WV	144,000	87	181	46
Cincinnati, OH	190,000	89	164	48
Louisville, KY	228,000	91	150	50
Evansville, IN	248,000	83	125	52
Paducah, KY	422,000	81	127	47

RESERVOIRS – March began with 2.8 % utilization of the total system flood control storage and ended the month at 3.3%. System-wide augmentation storage availability began the month at 96.6% and was 96.7 % by the end of the month.

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

CHANGE IN STORAGE	(ACRE-FEET)
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TRIBUTARY-RESERVOIR SUBSYSTEM	
Allegheny-Monongahela-Beaver	+324,400
Muskingum-Little Kanawha-Hocking-Kanawha-Guyandotte	+70,100
Twelvepole-Big Sandy-Little Sandy-Scioto	+15,000
Little Miami-Licking-Mill Creek-Great Miami	+14,700
Kentucky-Salt-Green-Wabash	+135,800
Cumberland	+368,800
TOTAL	+928,500

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