

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Intrepreting stream flow numbers

Re: Intrepreting stream flow numbers

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2014/3/13 10:52:34

URL:

Example of Blue Marsh dam, both the incoming water and outgoing water. Shows how a typical flood control dam adjusts outflow to rain events.

They keep the outflow reasonably low during peak flow to prevent flooding downstream.

As soon as the incoming streams drop, they boost the output WAY up to try and get rid of that water in time for the 2nd event.

As soon as it hits, they lower the outflow again to prevent flooding downstream. This time even lower, as back to back events put more flooding risk downstream. The worse it is, the lower the tailwaters will be while areas downstream are struggling with high water.

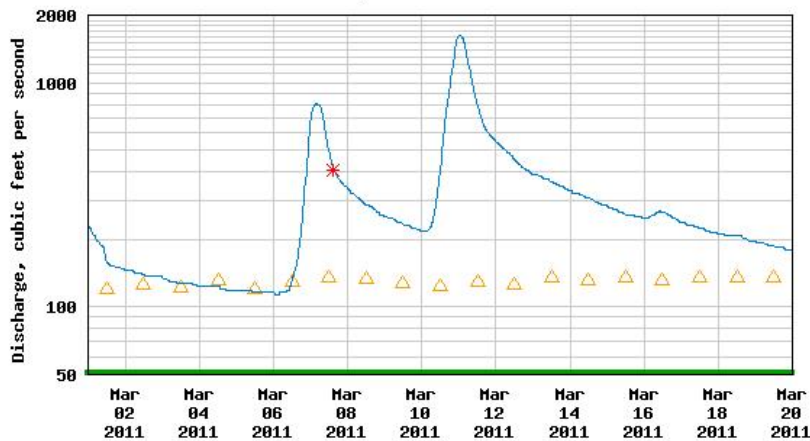
Once flooding concerns subside they bring the outflow back up, WAY up, and keep it there for a long time. This is to get rid of all the excess water from the two events combined, and be ready should another come. The worse it is, the longer the high water will last afterwards.

Attach file:



Above Dam.JPG (37.52 KB)

USGS 01470779 Tulpehocken Creek near Bernville, PA





below dam.JPG (37.11 KB)

USGS 01470960 Tulpehocken Cr at Blue Marsh Dansite near Reading

