



**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TROPICAL STORM IAN RAINS HELP INCREASE NEW JERSEY RESERVOIR  
LEVELS BUT DROUGHT WATCH STATUS CONTINUES**

**TRENTON** – The remnants of Tropical Storm Ian have drenched New Jersey for the last several days. Rainfall totals range from 6 inches to 8 inches in southern New Jersey and from 1 inch to two inches across most of the north. This precipitation has resulted in increased stream flow, more water in reservoirs and improved groundwater levels. While not sufficient to erase the summer’s precipitation deficit, the recent rain has been a good start.

At this time the statewide drought watch declaration remains in place. The rainfall will take several days to be fully reflected in the state’s drought indicators. Department staff will re-evaluate conditions early next week and if the need for changes becomes apparent, that recommendation will be made at that time. It should be noted that while most of the rain fell in southern New Jersey, most key reservoirs are in northern New Jersey and, therefore, they may need additional precipitation to recover long-term averages.

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