

Susquehanna River
Weather and Stream-Flow
Conditions
in
2005

Weather Conditions in 2005: Temperature

“Third warmest summer in history”

National Weather Service
Public Information Statement
January 1, 2006

PRECIPITATION TOTALS:

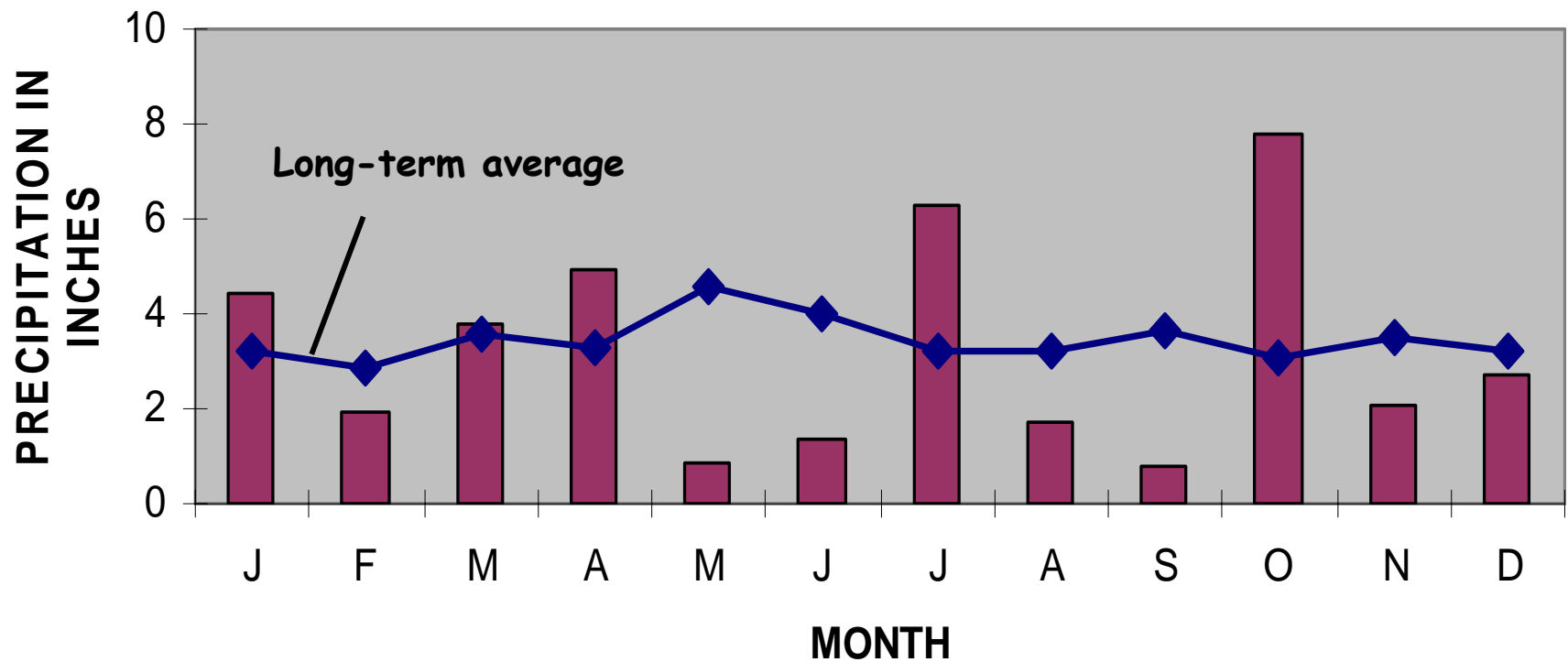
2003 - 54.7 inches (2nd wettest year in history)

2004 - 53.3 inches (4th wettest year in history)

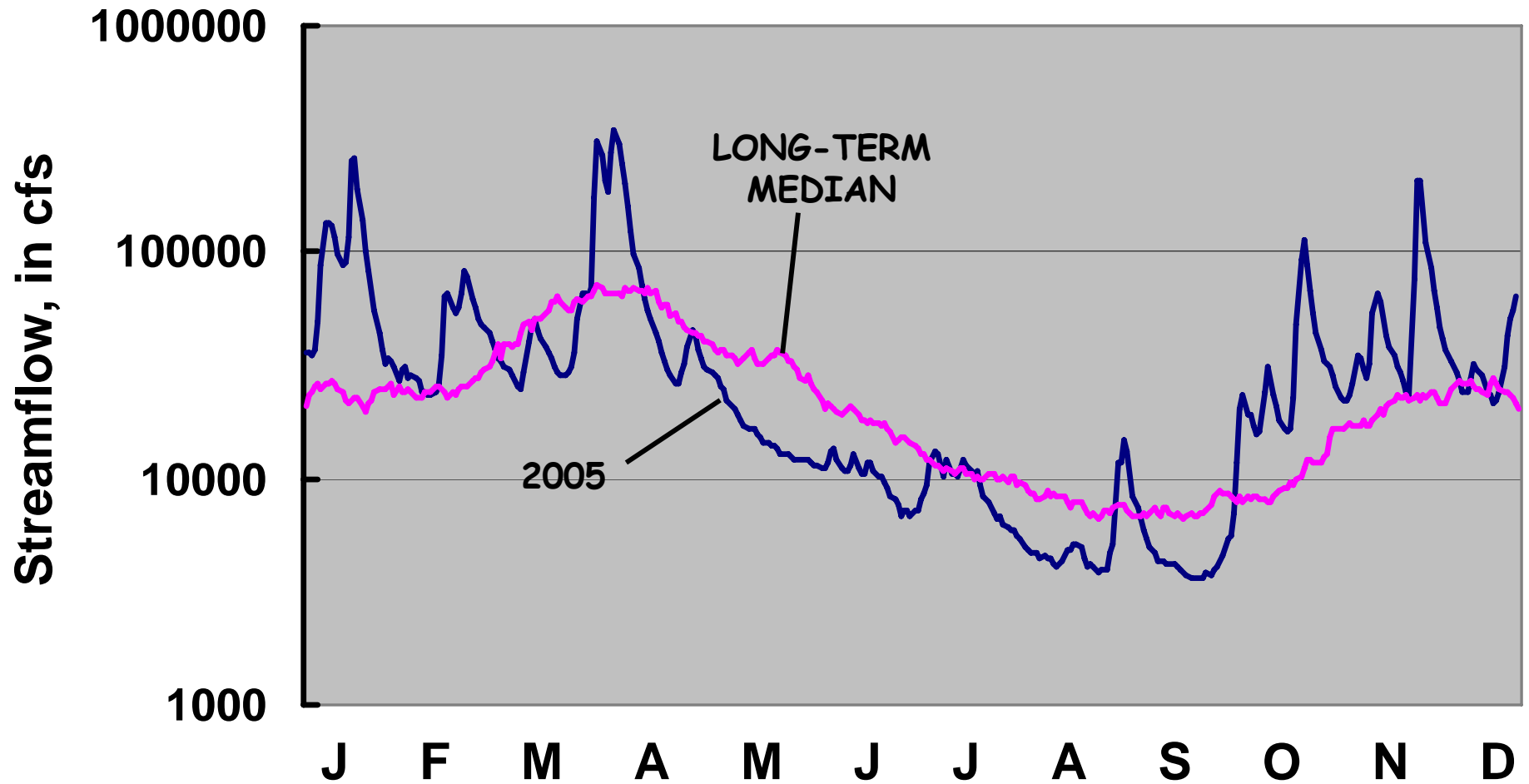
2005 - 38.8 inches (2.7 inches below normal)

(Normal precip for Harrisburg is about 41.5 inches)

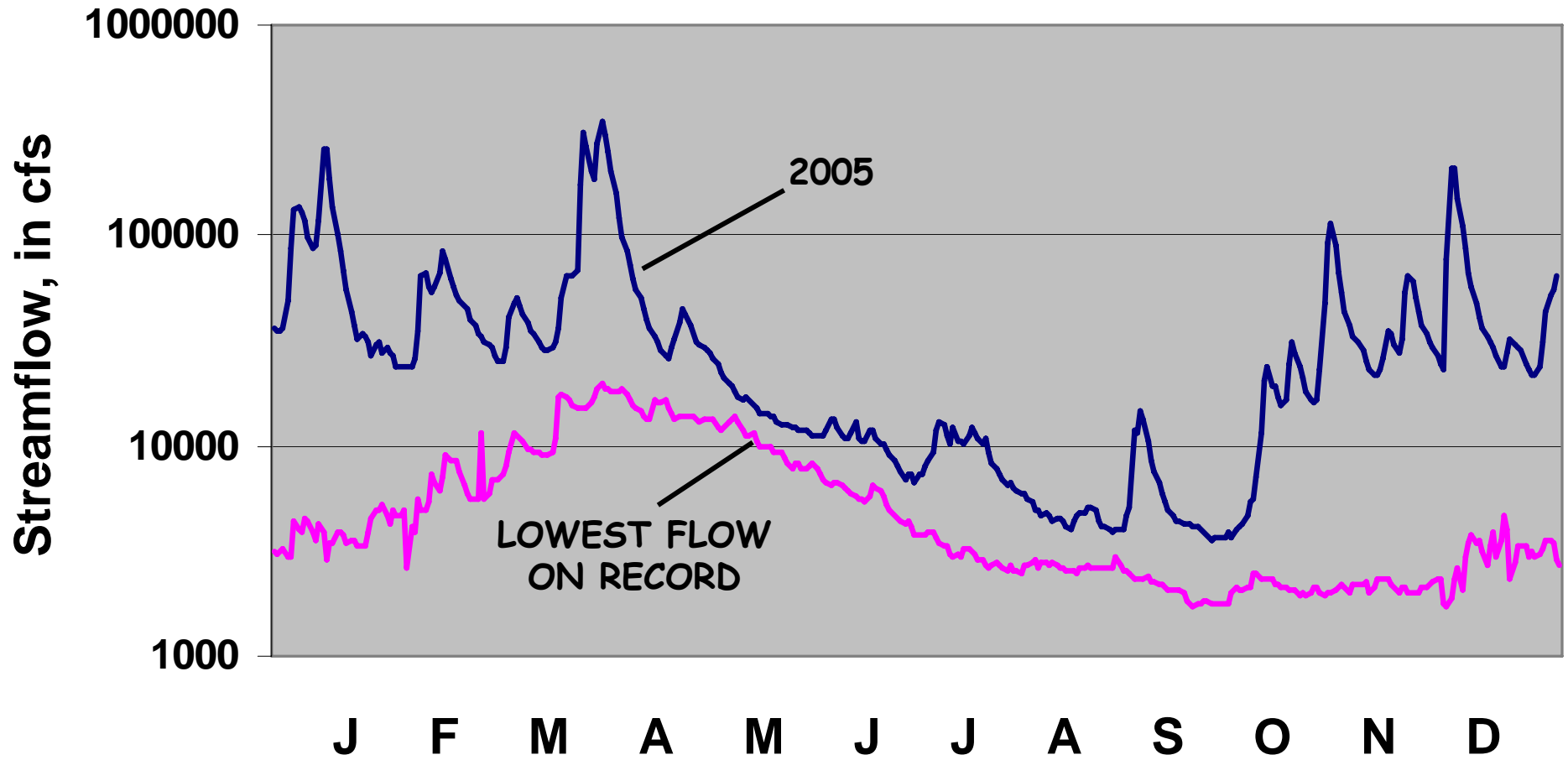
PRECIPITATION AT HARRISBURG -- 2005



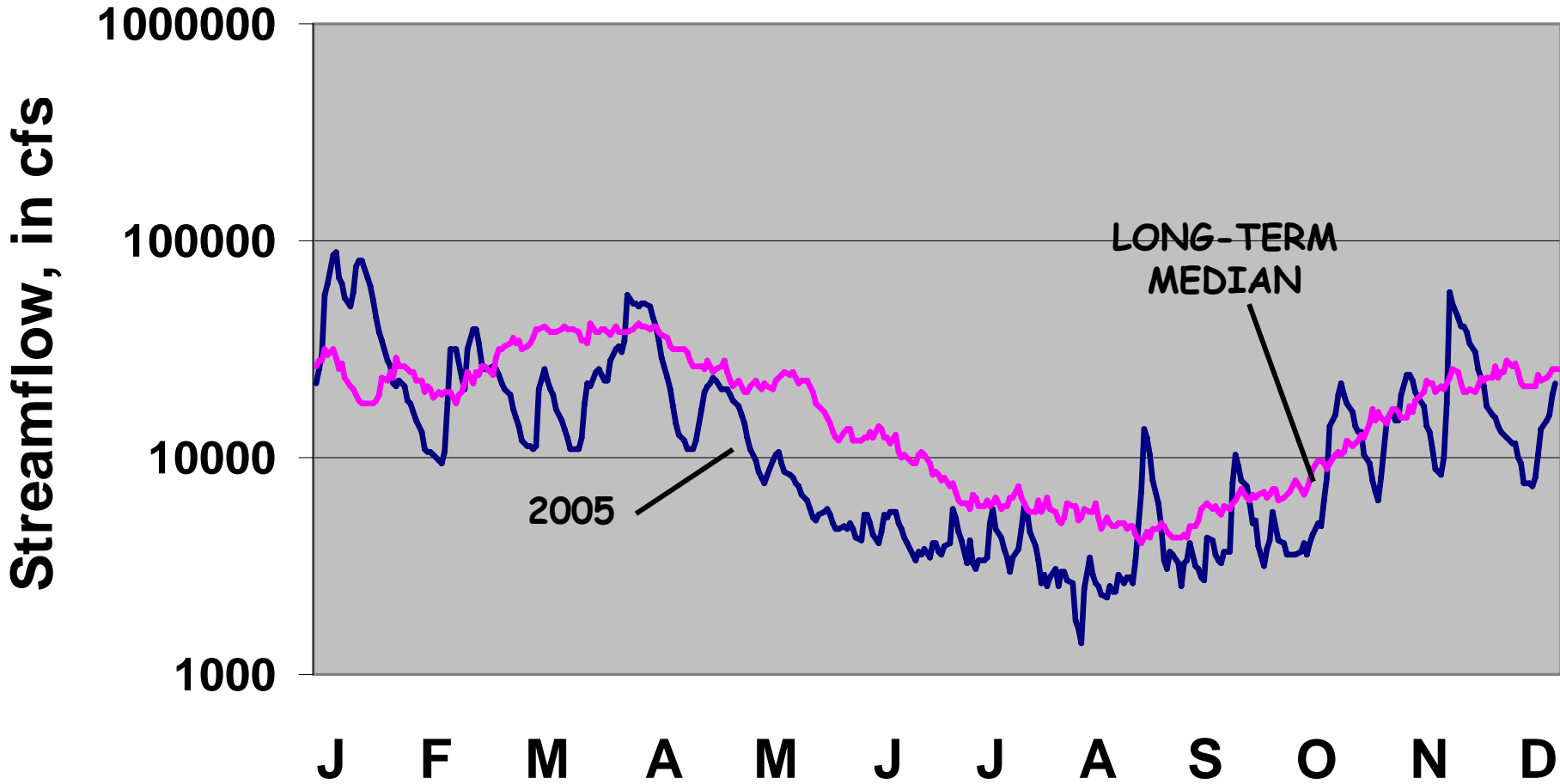
Susquehanna River at Harrisburg



Susquehanna River at Harrisburg



Allegheny River at Kittanning



Conclusions

- 2005 was hot and dry.
- Stream flows in 2005 were low.
- Environmental conditions were stressful for SMB.
- Microhabitats may have been especially stressful.
- Environmental conditions likely contributed to columnaris disease.

but ...

Conclusions

- Flows in 2005 were not record-level low flows.
- Similar environmental conditions occurred in the Allegheny River Basin and the Delaware River Basin, with little or no diseased fish.

So ...

Conclusions

Environmental conditions likely played a major role in young-of-the-year smallmouth bass mortality in the Susquehanna River in 2005, but there may be other contributing influences.