

Climate Change Subgroup

- Members:

- Gabriel Mahon (NJDEP – DWQ)
- Nick Procopio (NJDEP – Office of Science)
- Peter DeMeo (NJDEP – DLUR)
- Elizabeth Semple (NJDEP – Office of the Deputy Commissioner)
- Peter Blair (Clean Ocean Action)
- Jennifer Coffey (ANJEC)
- Elise Eggert-Crowe (Meliora Design)
- Jay Kruse (ESE Consultants)

Updating the WQDS

- Selection of the WQDS dates back to late 70's early 80's
- Selection was based on a storm event that could provide settling for pollutants
- Selection of 1.25" was not specifically driven by the idea of 90% of storm events being less than 1.25"
- Ultimately, climate change does not affect the reasons 1.25" of total rainfall was selected as the WQDS

Questions to the SAB

1. Are the intensities of rain events in NJ trending in any direction (more intense or less intense on average)? Is this expected to change in the future?
2. Are the number of days with rain events increasing, decreasing, or staying the same? Is this expected to change in the future?
3. With the data available, can we estimate what the total rainfall depth of the 1, 2, 10, and 100-year 24 hour rainfall will be in the future? (5-10 years, 10-20 years, 20-30 years, etc.)

Questions to the SAB (cont.)

4. We are often using NOAA Atlas 14 Volume 2 to determine rainfall depths for various storm events. This was finalized in 2006 and uses data extending back (for some stations) 110 years. Is there a better source of more current rainfall estimations for NJ or can one be created with the data already available?
5. Regarding the groundwater recharge requirement in the Stormwater Management rules, is there sufficient evidence to suggest that NJDEP should increase the groundwater recharge requirement due to increased likelihood of future droughts? Is this applicable statewide or only to certain areas?