

# Pre-Proposal Meeting: **Phase 2 of DRBC's Water Resources Resilience Plan**

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March 26, 2026



**Delaware River Basin Commission**

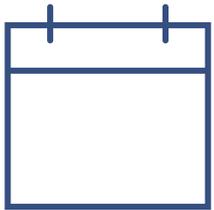
DELAWARE • NEW JERSEY  
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



# Introduce DRBC and the WRRP



## Review scope of work



## Schedule and selection



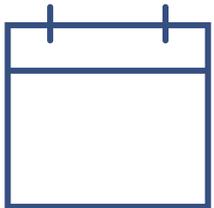
## Open Q+A



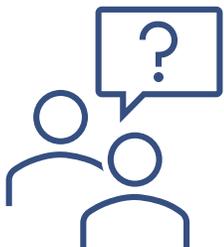
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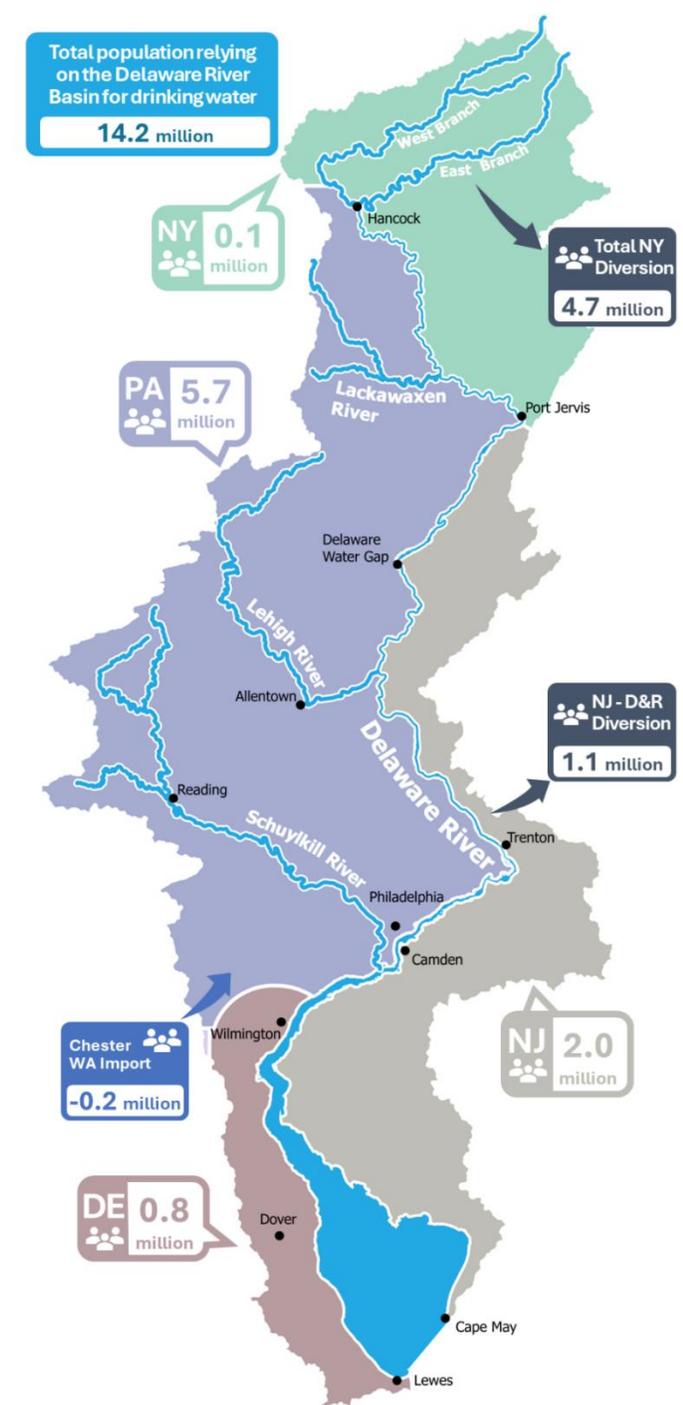
# The Delaware River

- 13,500 mi<sup>2</sup> watershed with parts of NY, PA, NJ, and DE
- Free-flowing mainstem is 330 miles long and tidal to Trenton, NJ



# The Delaware River meets our needs.

- Drinking water for >14 million people in four states
- >\$21 billion in economic value
- Cooling for thermoelectric and nuclear power generation
- Recreation
- Habitat to endangered species
- Commercial navigation



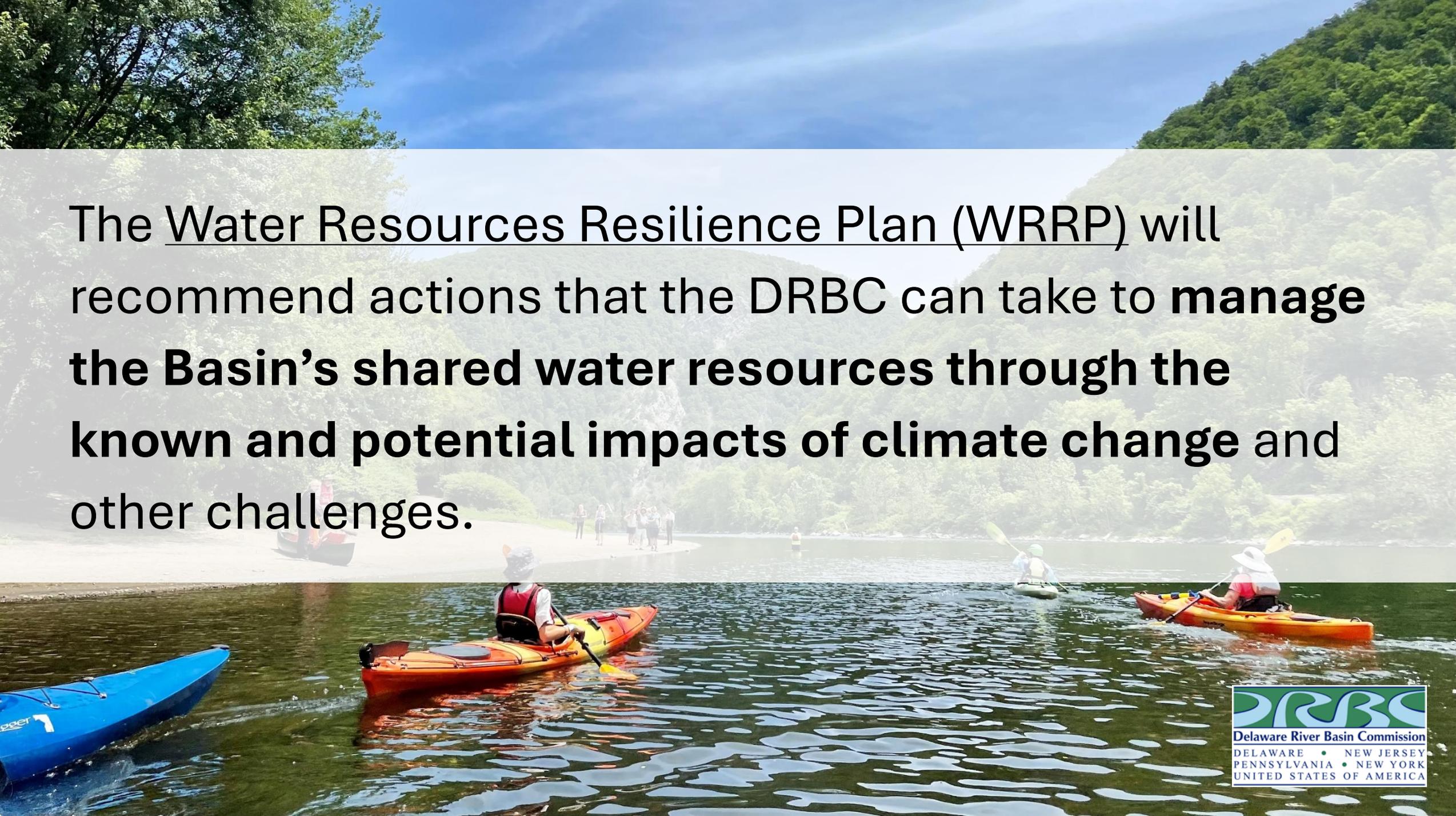
The DRBC has been managing, protecting, and improving the water resources of the Delaware River Basin since 1961.

DRBC's work includes:

- Water supply planning
- Allocation of surface and groundwater
- Water quality assessment and regulation
- Drought management
- Flood loss reduction
- Public engagement



*White House ceremonial signing of the Delaware River Basin Compact, Nov. 2, 1961.*

A scenic view of a river with kayakers and a forested hillside in the background. The river is calm, reflecting the sky and the surrounding greenery. Several kayakers are visible, some in the foreground and others further down the river. The background shows a steep, forested hillside under a blue sky with some clouds. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box in the center of the image.

The Water Resources Resilience Plan (WRRP) will recommend actions that the DRBC can take to **manage the Basin's shared water resources through the known and potential impacts of climate change and other challenges.**

# The WRRP will focus on protecting and managing **three Basin-wide water resource assets**



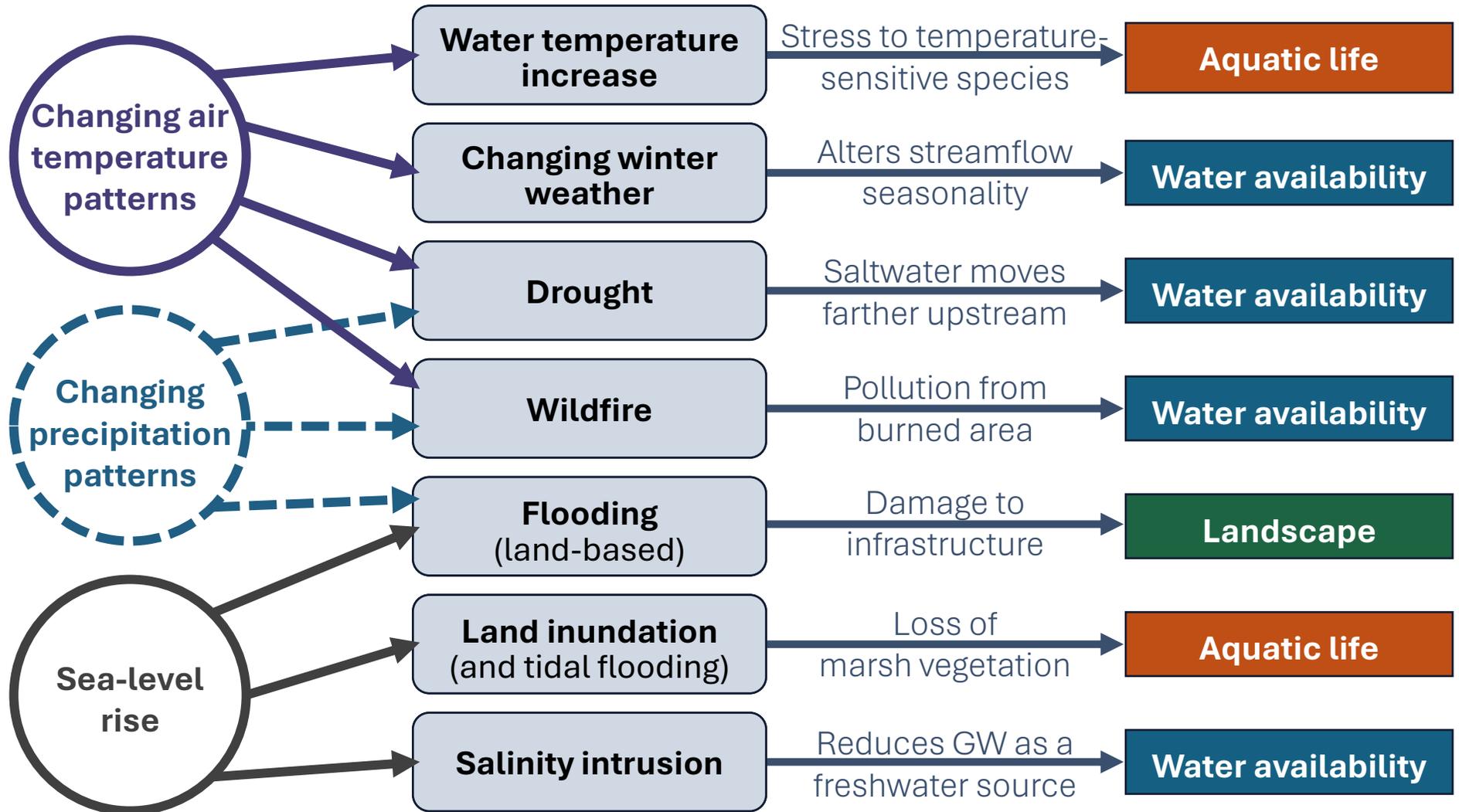
<b>WATER AVAILABILITY</b>	Water supply (streamflow, groundwater, reservoirs) and water quality
<b>AQUATIC LIFE</b>	All species that live in and/or rely on water bodies in the Basin and their habitat
<b>LANDSCAPE</b>	Water-adjacent land and infrastructure that supports quality of life and recreation

- This list reflects stakeholder input: What we **collectively value** about water resources in the Basin
- Each water resource asset includes many **inter-connected components**

CLIMATE CHANGE DRIVERS

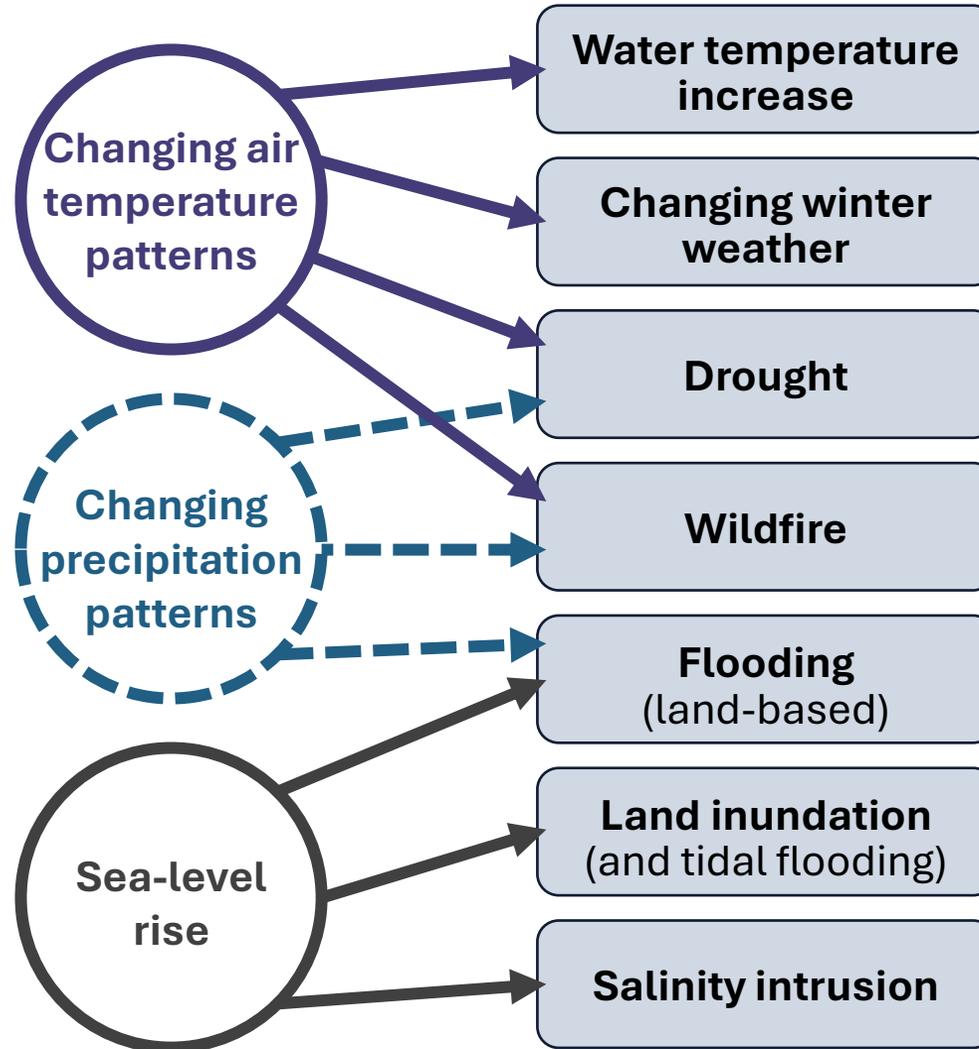
HAZARDS TO WATER RESOURCES

EXAMPLE CONSEQUENCES TO WATER RESOURCE ASSETS



## CLIMATE CHANGE DRIVERS

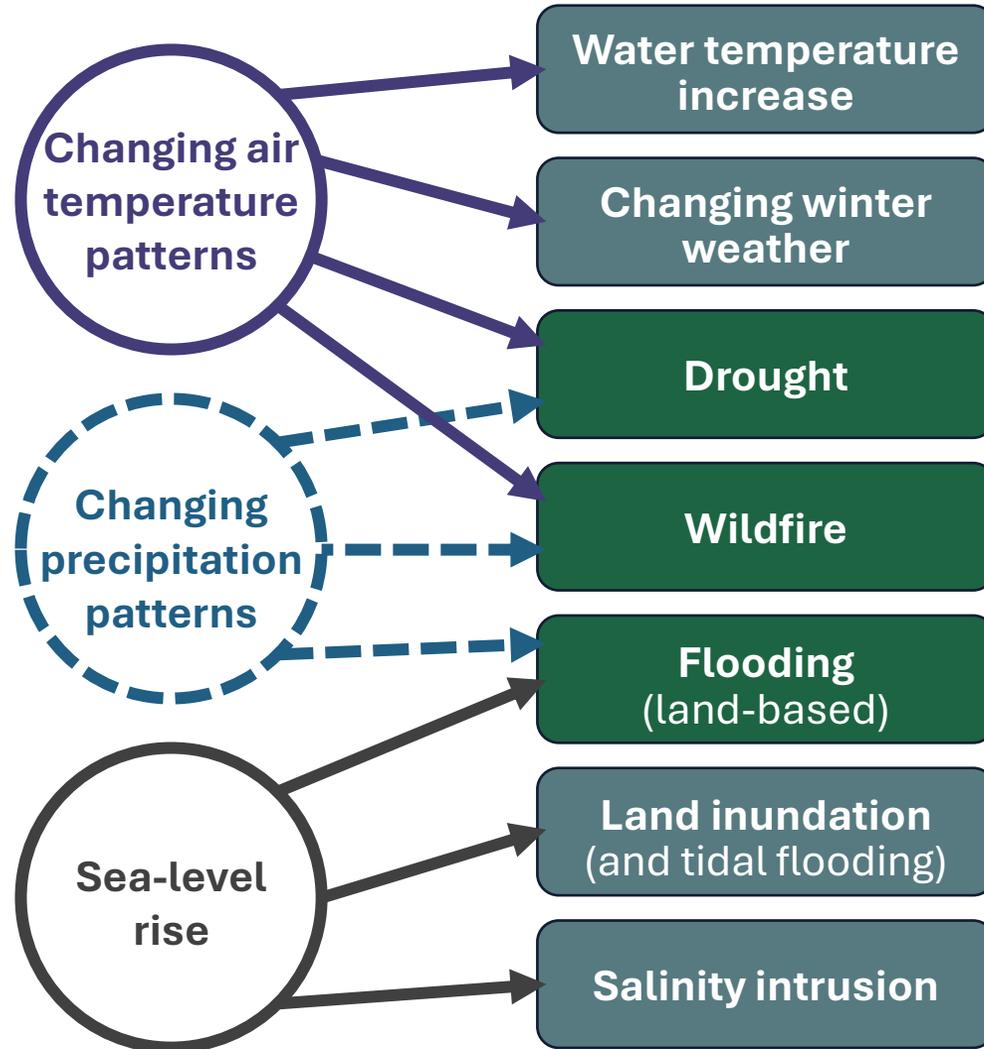
## HAZARDS TO WATER RESOURCES



- This list aligns with specific climate concerns that stakeholders raised.
- We will also consider compounding effects of multiple simultaneous hazards.
- Phase 2 will include the compound impacts of these hazards with changing land use

## CLIMATE CHANGE DRIVERS

## HAZARDS TO WATER RESOURCES



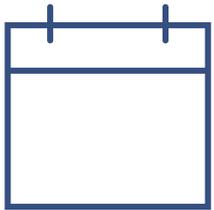
- **Episodic** hazards: Occasional, potentially catastrophic events
- **Incremental** hazards: Ongoing, continuous change



# Introduce DRBC and the WRRP



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## Schedule and selection



## Open Q+A

**Scenario  
Planning**



**Task 1.  
Vulnerability  
Assessment**



**Task 2.  
Gap Analysis**



**Task 3.  
Recommended  
Actions and  
Activities**

## Scenario Planning

### Task 1. Vulnerability Assessment

### Task 2. Gap Analysis

### Task 3. Recommended Actions and Activities

#### ■ Planning horizons

- Episodic hazards (55-year evaluation period)
  - Historical: 1950–2005
  - Future: 1945–2100
- Incremental hazards (30-year evaluation period)
  - Historical: 1985–2005
  - Near-term: 2060 (2030–2060)
  - End-century: 2100 (2070–2100)

#### ■ Scenarios

- Moderate emissions: SSP2-4.5
- High emissions: SSP3-7.0

#### ■ Data

- Use currently available data for Phase 2
- CMIP-6 data for all hazards except wildfire (CMIP-5)

## Scenario Planning

### Task 1. Vulnerability Assessment

### Task 2. Gap Analysis

### Task 3. Recommended Actions and Activities

- WRRP, Basin-wide perspective: **How and where is each water resource asset most vulnerable?**
  - Traditional vulnerability assessment: Given thousands of unique assets, which are most vulnerable?
- Steps to complete for each water resource asset
  1. **Which hazards apply** to this water resource asset?
  2. **Quantify the expected changes to this asset** for each planning horizon and scenario, including compound effects of multiple hazards.
    - Ex: In 2060, with SSP2-4.5, we expect X to Y meters of SLR.
  3. **Characterize the impacts of those expected changes:** What does this mean for this water resource asset?

## Scenario Planning

### Task 1. Vulnerability Assessment

### Task 2. Gap Analysis

### Task 3. Recommended Actions and Activities

#### Steps to complete for each water resource asset

- 1. Choose goal outcome(s) for this water resource asset.**
- 2. Define a strategic pathway:** What approaches can we used to advance toward this goal?
  - Knowledge: What additional info would help?
  - Action: What can we do?
  - Equity: How can we ensure that all water users are protected?
- 3. Identify any gaps that exist in the strategic pathway.** Review what DRBC and partners are already doing to move toward these goal(s).

## Scenario Planning

### Task 1. Vulnerability Assessment

### Task 2. Gap Analysis

### Task 3. Recommended Actions and Activities

- How can DRBC contribute to closing these gaps?
  - Prioritize among specific actions identified in the gap analysis.
  - Evaluate: Impact, urgency, reach, stakeholder relevance, feasibility, synergy, and adaptivity.
- Identify where partners are better poised to step in.

Scenario  
Planning

Task 1.  
Vulnerability  
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Task 2.  
Gap Analysis

Task 3.  
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## Task 4. Deliverables (Meetings, Presentations, and Reports)

- Collaborate with an internal team of ~5 DRBC staff.
- **DRBC staff expected to complete ~half of the work comprising Tasks 1–3.**
- Help present to and answer questions from the Advisory Committee on Climate Change (ACCC).
- Assist with generation of reports documenting methodology, results, and recommendations.

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## (Optional) Task 5. Stakeholder Engagement

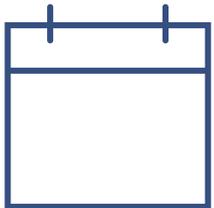
- DRBC will be conducting stakeholder engagement throughout Phase 2.
  - Planning and designing outreach events
  - Staffing and/or note-taking at outreach events (virtually or in person)
  - Analyzing and compiling stakeholder input
- Bidders with relevant experience are encouraged to describe their qualifications, but **not** in the proposed scope of services or budget.



# Introduce DRBC and the WRRP



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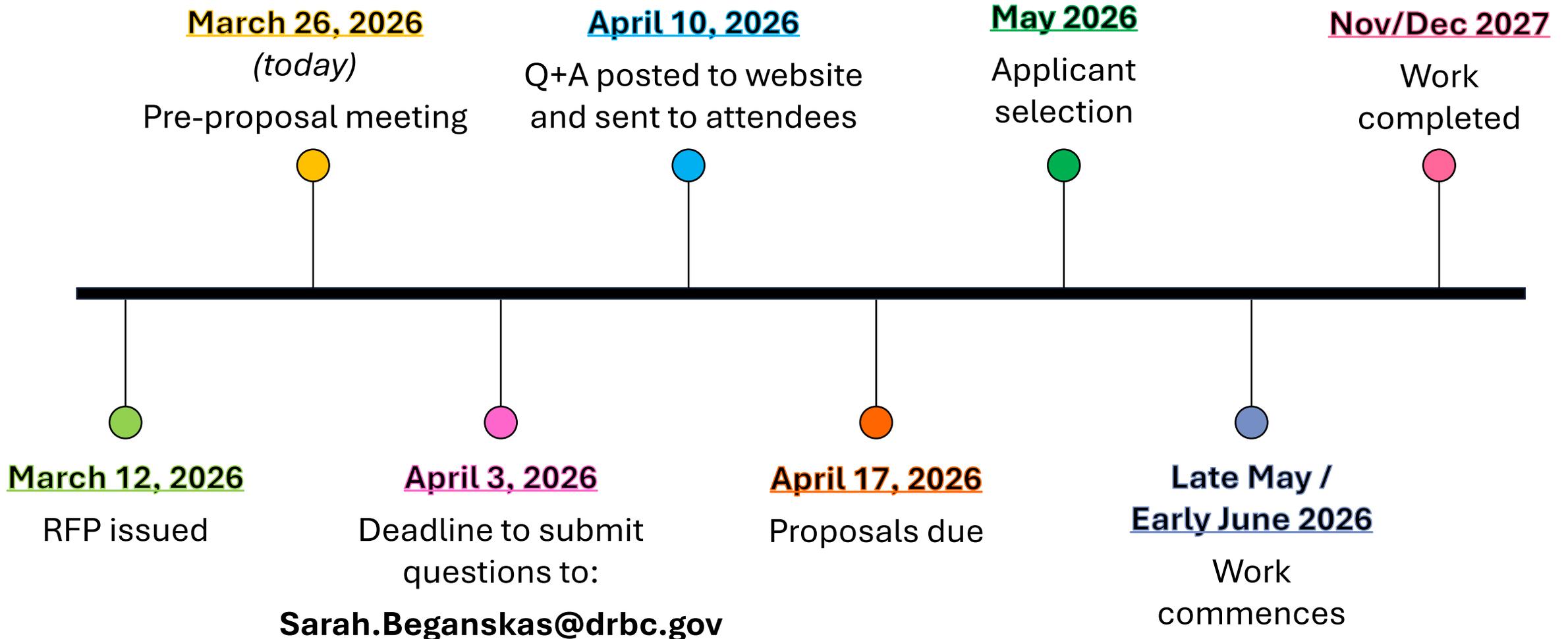


## Schedule and selection



## Open Q+A

# Anticipated schedule



# What makes a successful bidder?



## 1. **Consultant Qualifications (30%)**

*Experience with climate resilience planning, especially relating to water resources*

## 2. **Project Proposal (30%)**

*Understanding of project scope; technical and collaborative approach*

## 3. **Cost Proposal (20%)** – to be submitted **separately as a hard copy**

*Estimated budget, including estimated hours, hourly rates, and cost per task*

## 4. **Proposed Schedule (20%)**

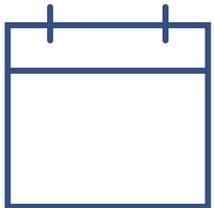
*Approach to complete the tasks within 18 months*



# Introduce DRBC and the WRRP



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## Schedule and selection



## Open Q+A

# Thank you!

## What questions do you have?

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### KEY INFORMATION

**April 3** – Questions due to [sarah.beganskas@drbc.gov](mailto:sarah.beganskas@drbc.gov)

**April 10** – Q+A posted and e-mailed to today's attendees

**April 17** – Project Proposals (PDF) due to [DRBC.Proposals@drbc.gov](mailto:DRBC.Proposals@drbc.gov)

Send hard copy only of Cost Proposal (received by 4/17) to:

Elba Deck, Director of Finance and Administration

Delaware River Basin Commission

25 Cosey Road

West Trenton, NJ 08628-0360

