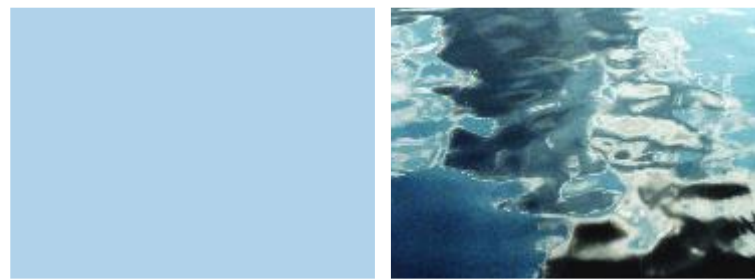


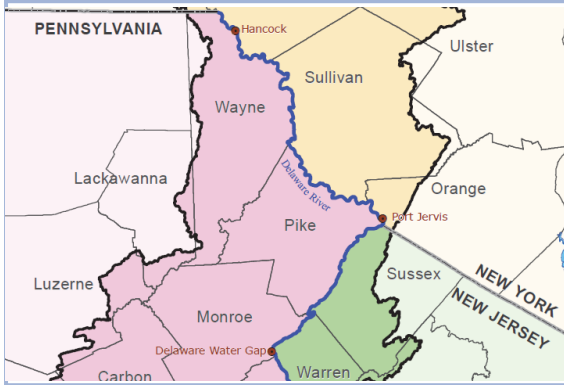
Balancing Water Resources in the Delaware River Basin



Steve Tambini, P.E.
Executive Director

October 23, 2024
NJAFM Annual Conference





The Setting



The History



The Plans

The Basin state Governors and the USACE NAD Commander are the Commissioners of the DRBC.



New York Governor, Kathy Hochul,
DRBC Chair



Delaware Governor, John Carney,
DRBC Vice Chair



North Atlantic Division Commander
US Army Corps of Engineers, BG John Lloyd



Pennsylvania Governor, Josh Shapiro



New Jersey Governor, Phil Murphy



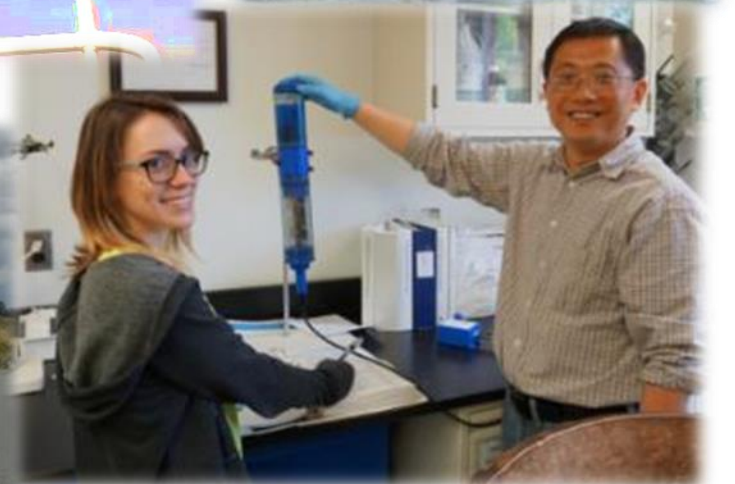
The Delaware River Basin Compact is both an agreement and federal and state law



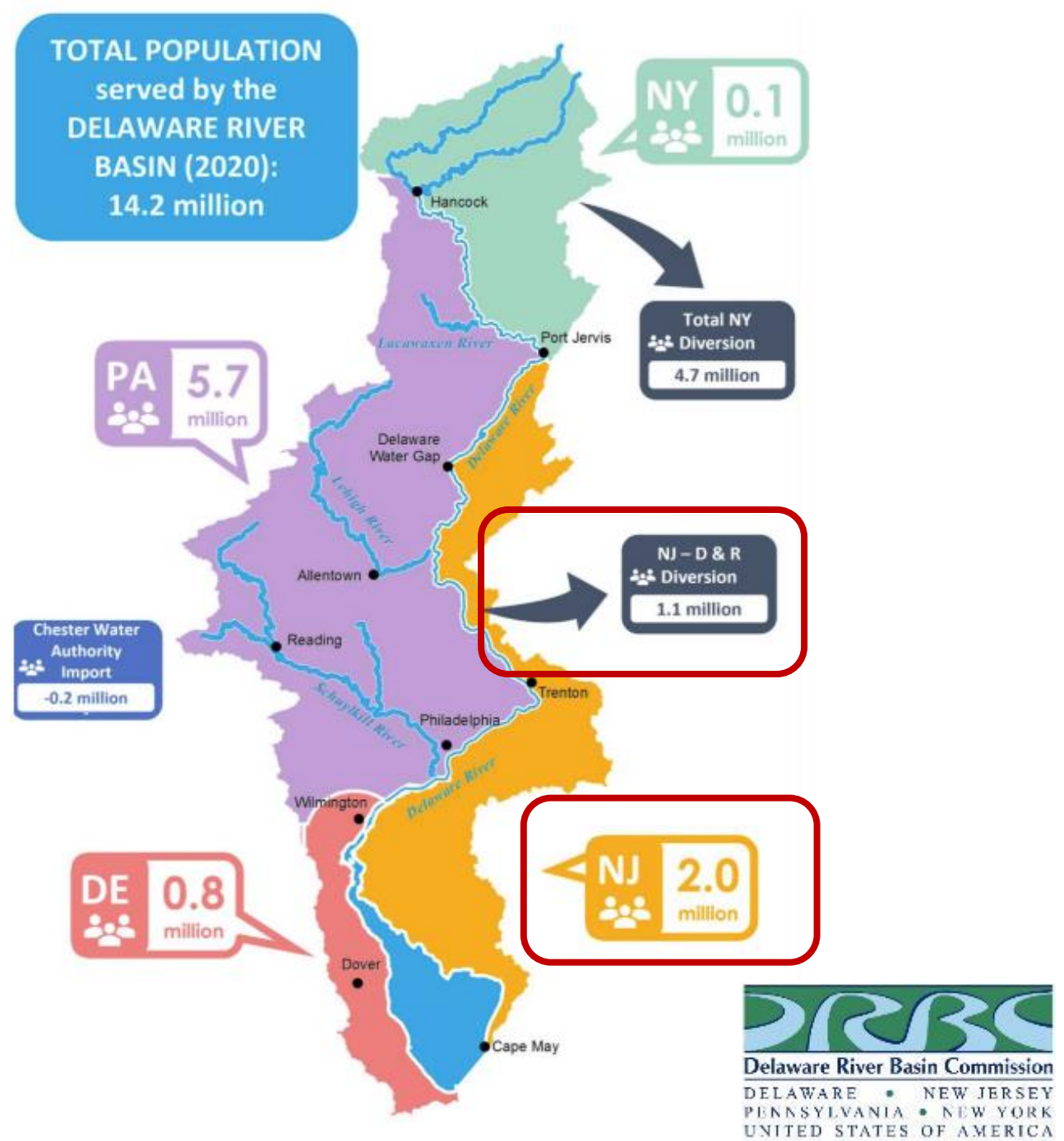
“Management and control of water resources under a Comprehensive Plan will bring benefits in service of the public welfare.”

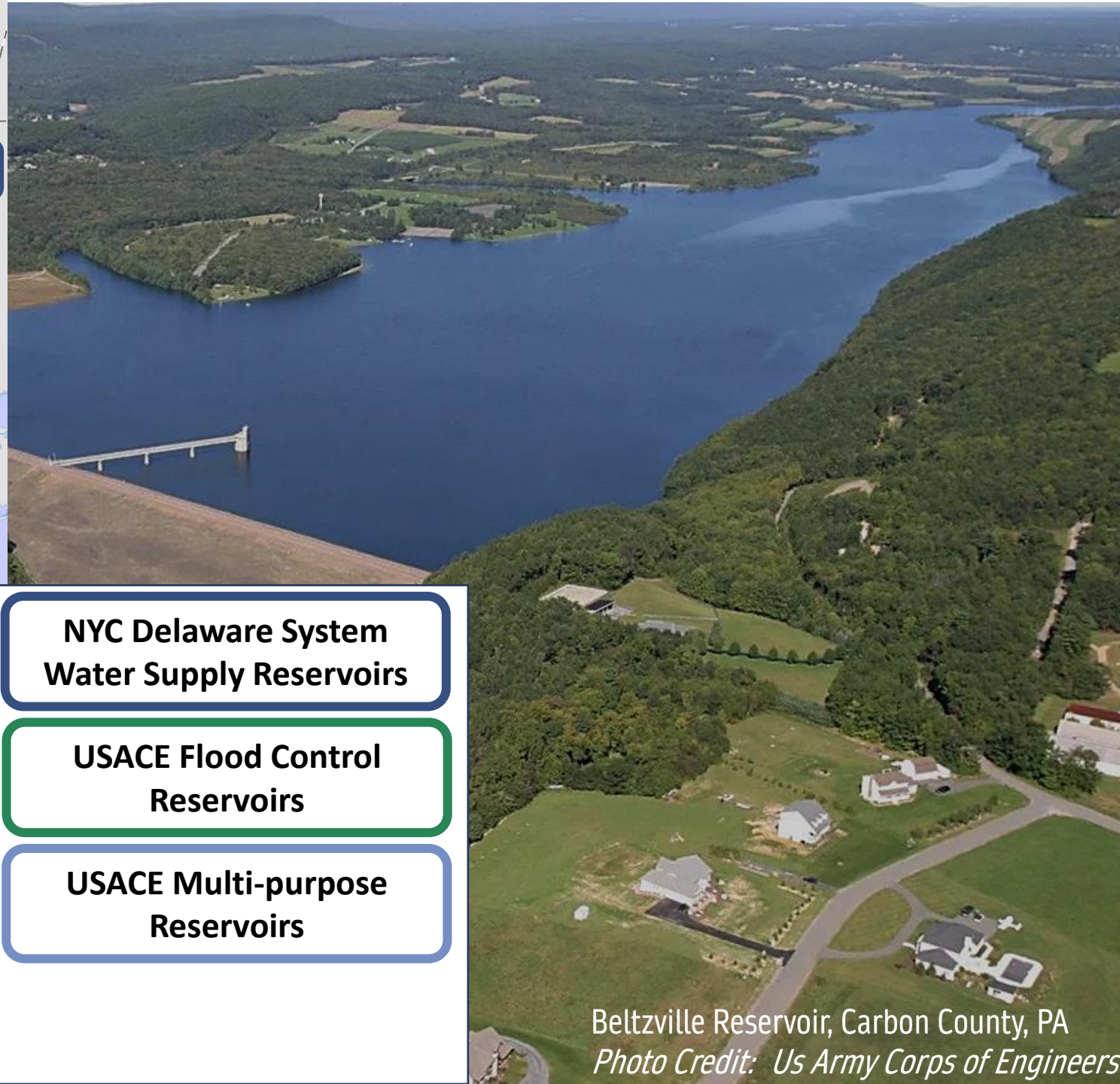
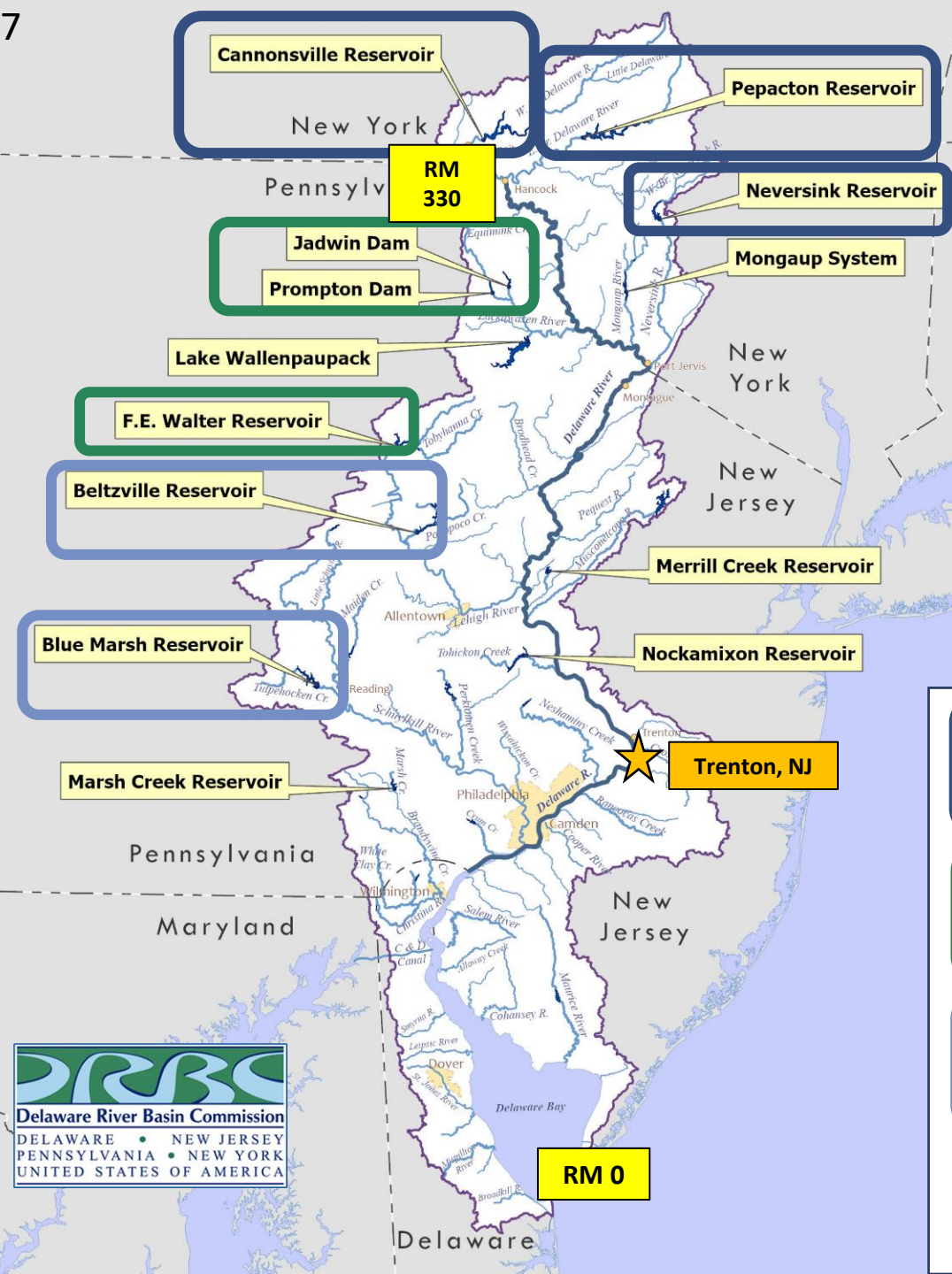
DRBC has limited staff and budget.

- Professional planners, engineers and scientists
- 40 budgeted staff (8% vacancy rate)
- FY2025 budget = \$9.0 million
- Located in West Trenton, NJ, since 1974



DRBC manages, protects and improves the Basin's water resources for the benefit of over 14 million people in four states.





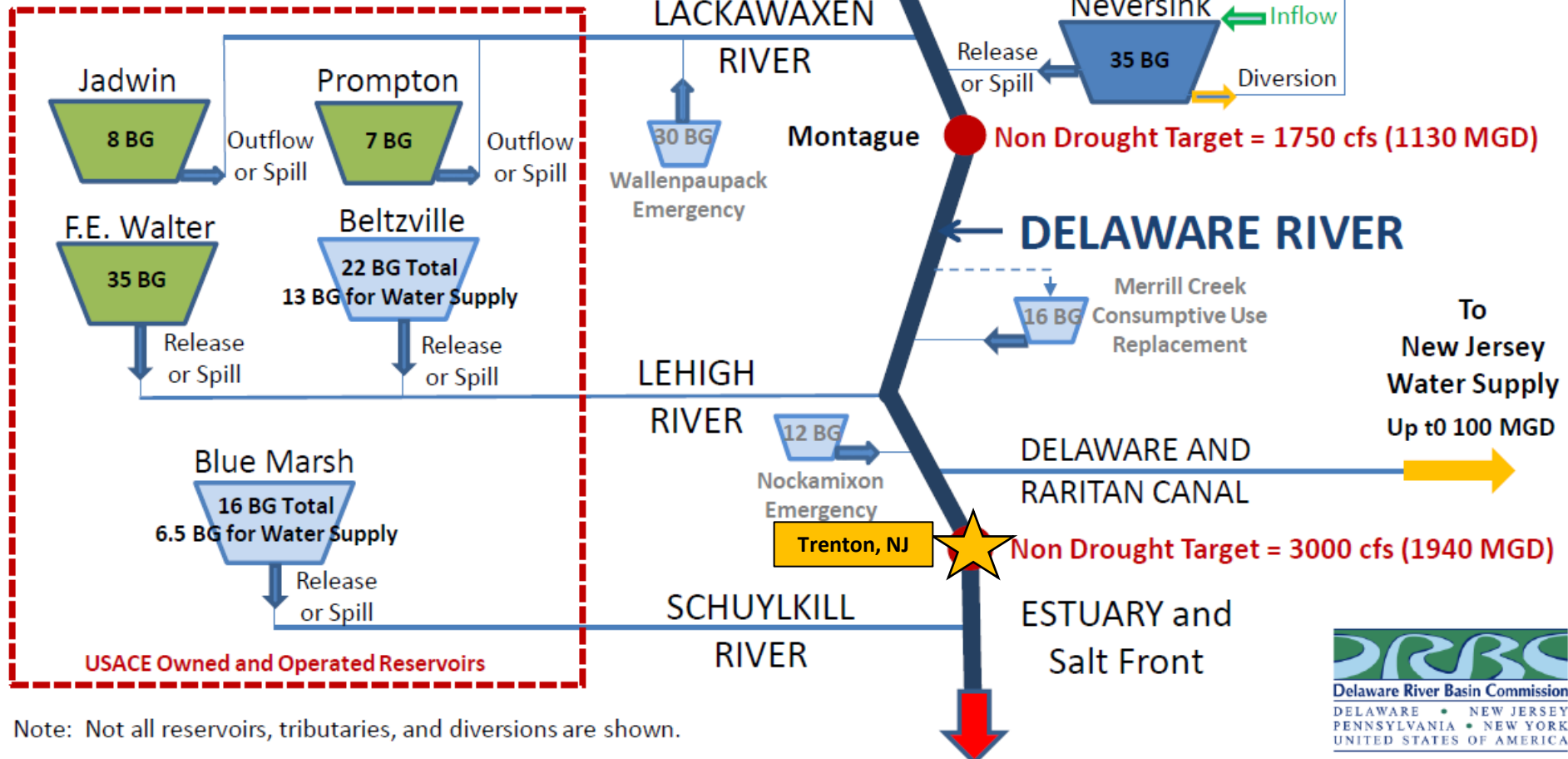
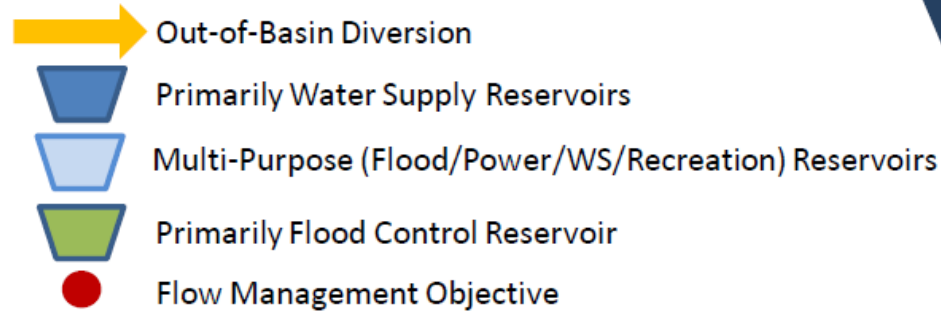
**NYC Delaware System
Water Supply Reservoirs**

**USACE Flood Control
Reservoirs**

**USACE Multi-purpose
Reservoirs**

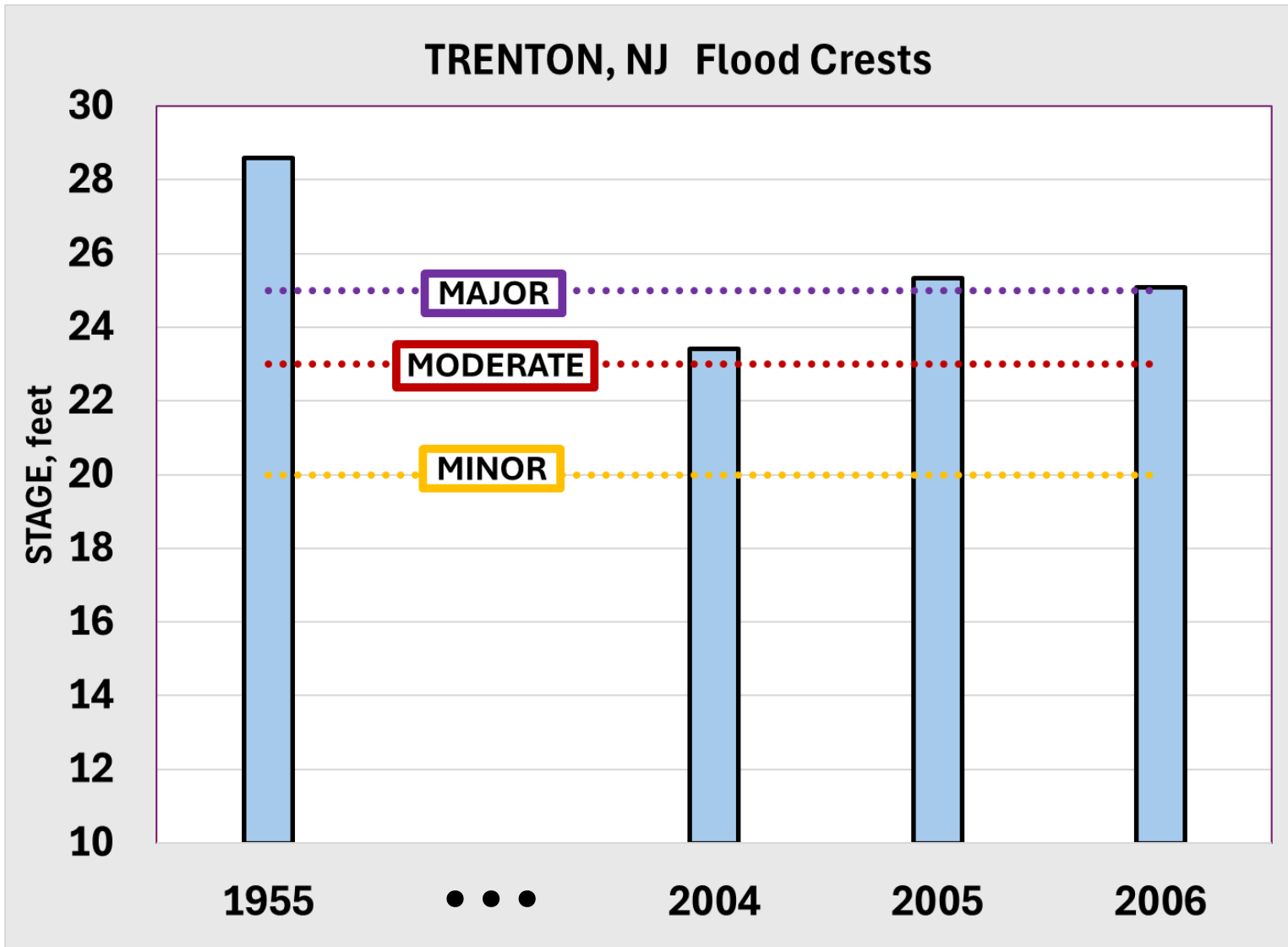
Beltzville Reservoir, Carbon County, PA
Photo Credit: Us Army Corps of Engineers

Water Management Schematic for the Delaware River Basin



Note: Not all reservoirs, tributaries, and diversions are shown.

The main stem Delaware River has been subjected to significant flooding events.



Yardley, PA, June 2006

The 2007 Interstate Task Force recommended several actions related to:

- Reservoir operations
- Structural and non-structural measures
- Flood warning
- Flood mapping
- Flood regulations
- Stormwater management



DELAWARE RIVER BASIN
INTERSTATE FLOOD MITIGATION
TASK FORCE
ACTION AGENDA

JULY 2007

Did the NYC water supply reservoirs significantly contribute to the downstream flooding in 2004, 2005 or 2006?

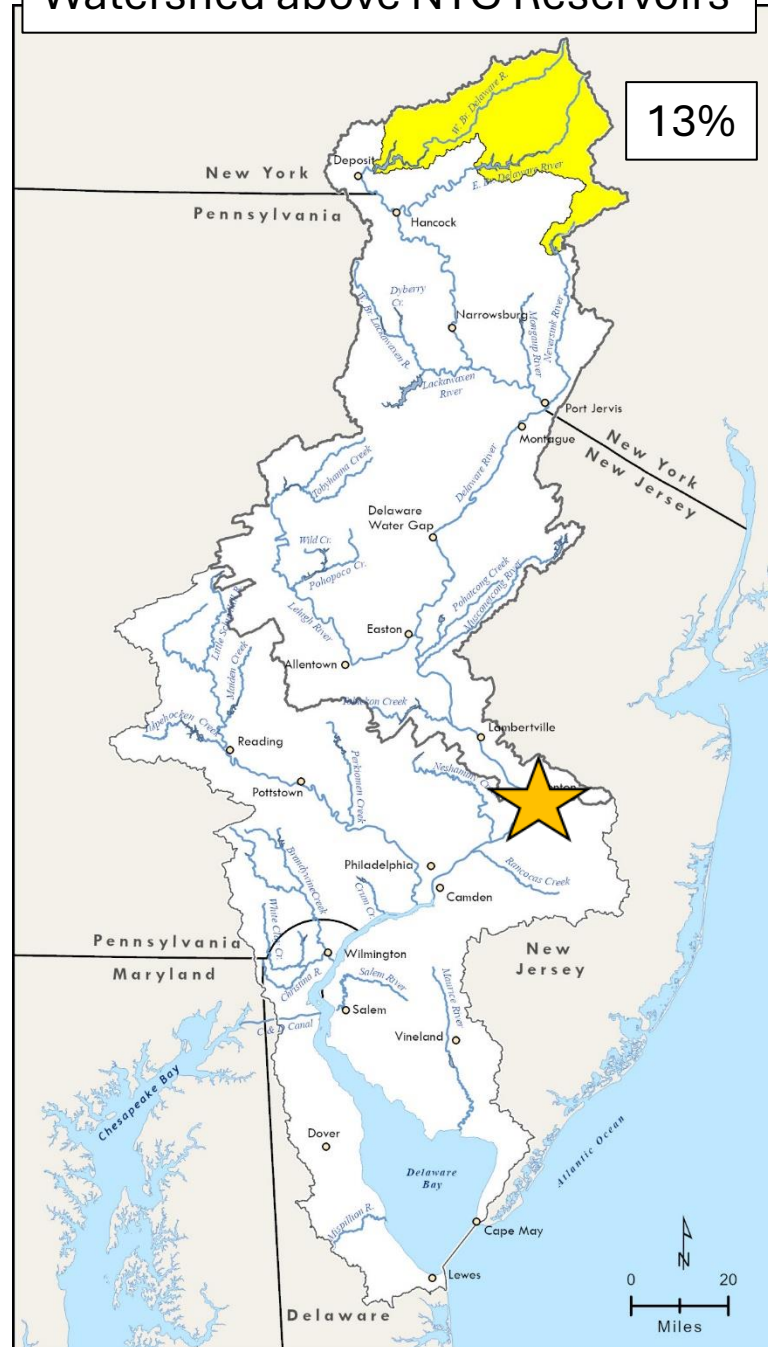


*Cannonsville Reservoir
NYC Department of Environmental Protection*

Watershed above Trenton

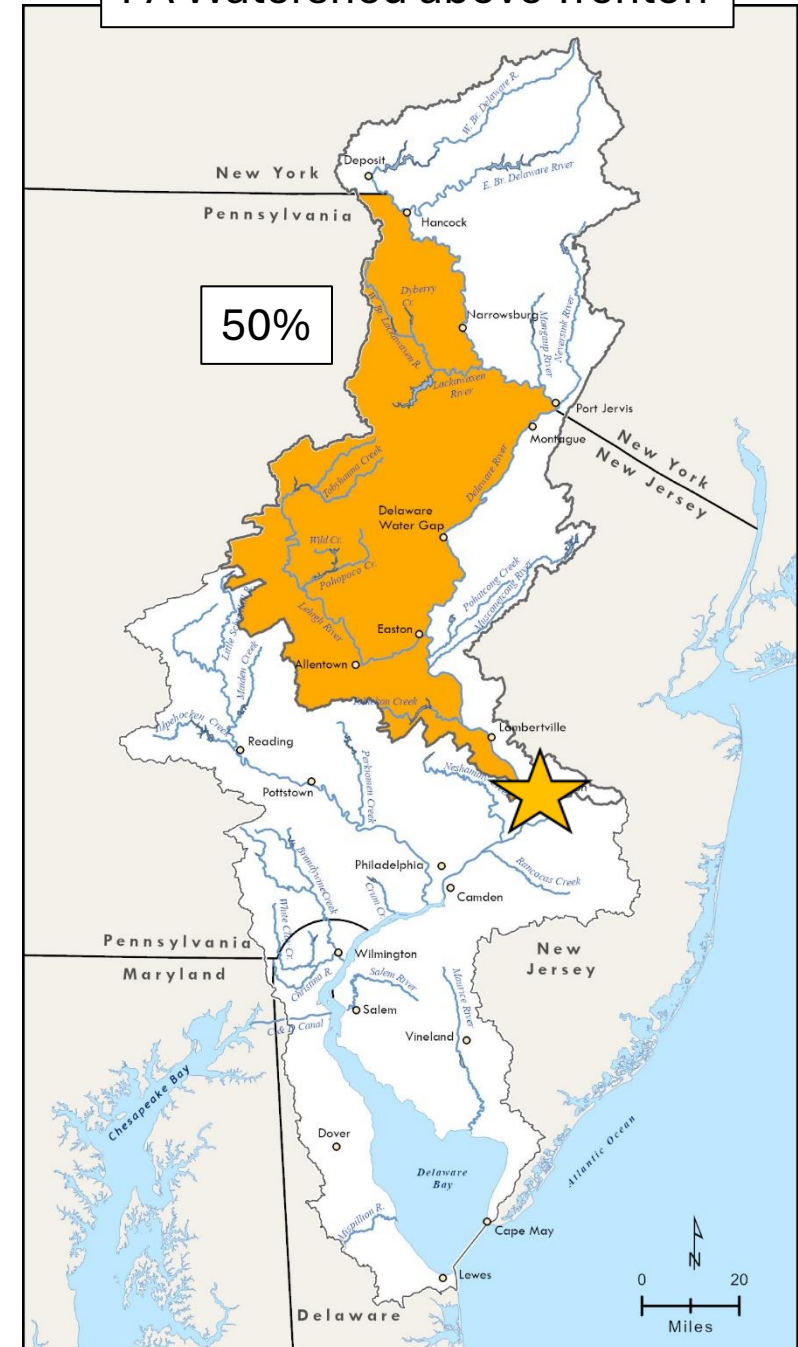


Watershed above NYC Reservoirs



13%

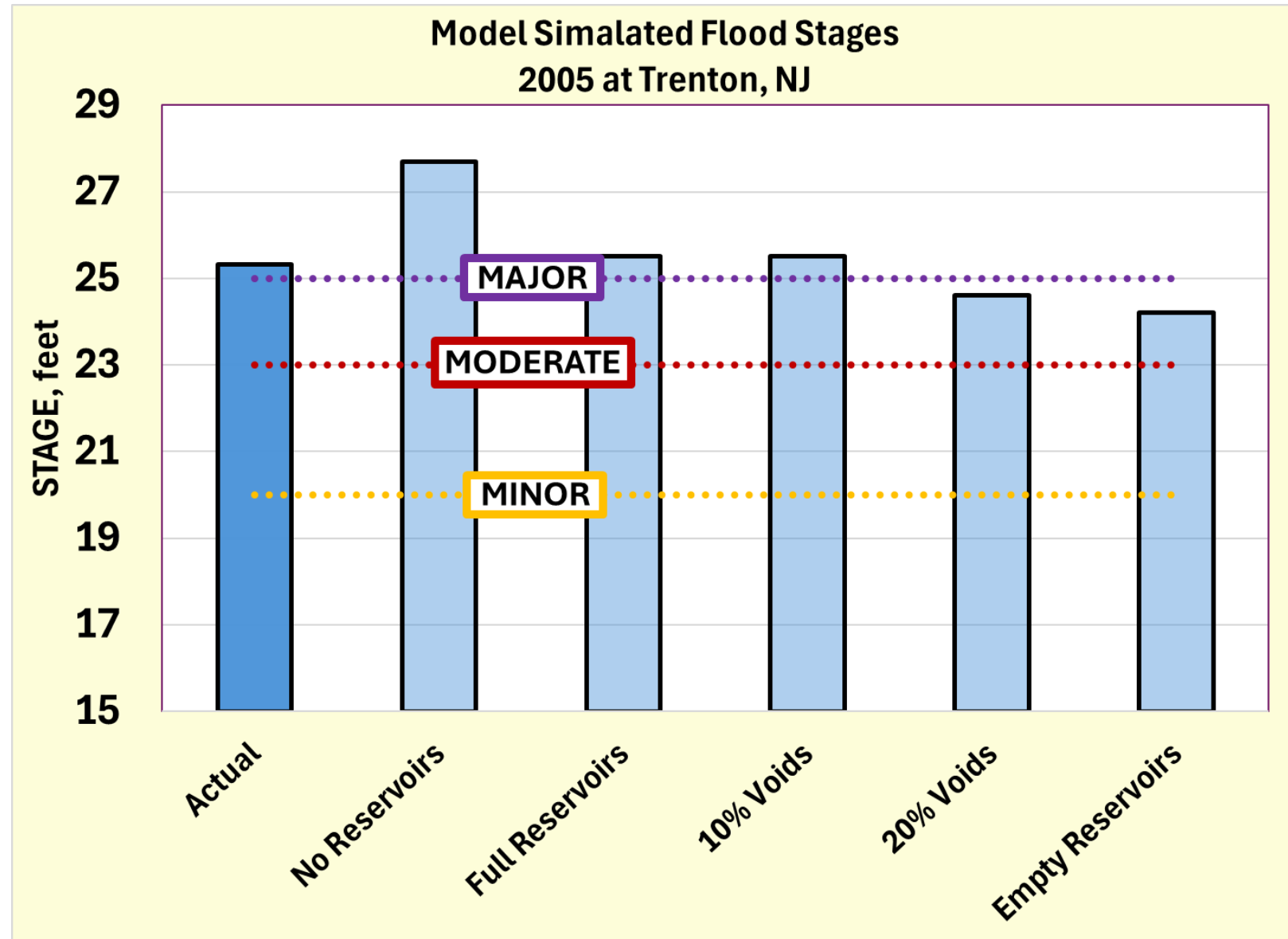
PA Watershed above Trenton



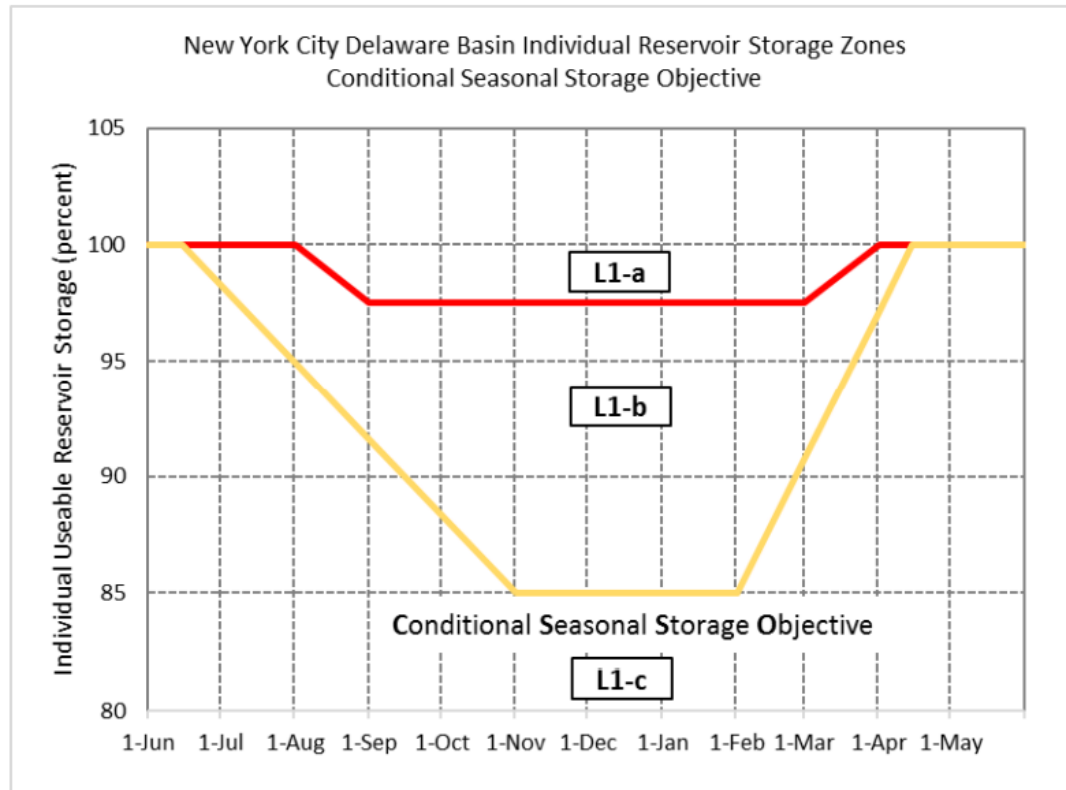
50%

DRBC model results indicate that:

- Pervasive flooding would have occurred regardless of the storage conditions in the reservoirs before the event.
- Water supply reservoirs did not cause the flooding.
- Year-round voids would impact the safe yield of the NYC system.



Regardless, NYCDEP (and the parties to the 1954 Supreme Court Decree) now provide seasonal voids in NYC Reservoirs



* L1-a releases are only in effect from June 15th to April 15th.

*“NYC shall endeavor, to the maximum extent possible without impacting water supply reliability, to ...[create] a high probability of **maintaining fifteen (15) percent void spaces each year between November 1 through the following February 1 to help mitigate flooding events**”*

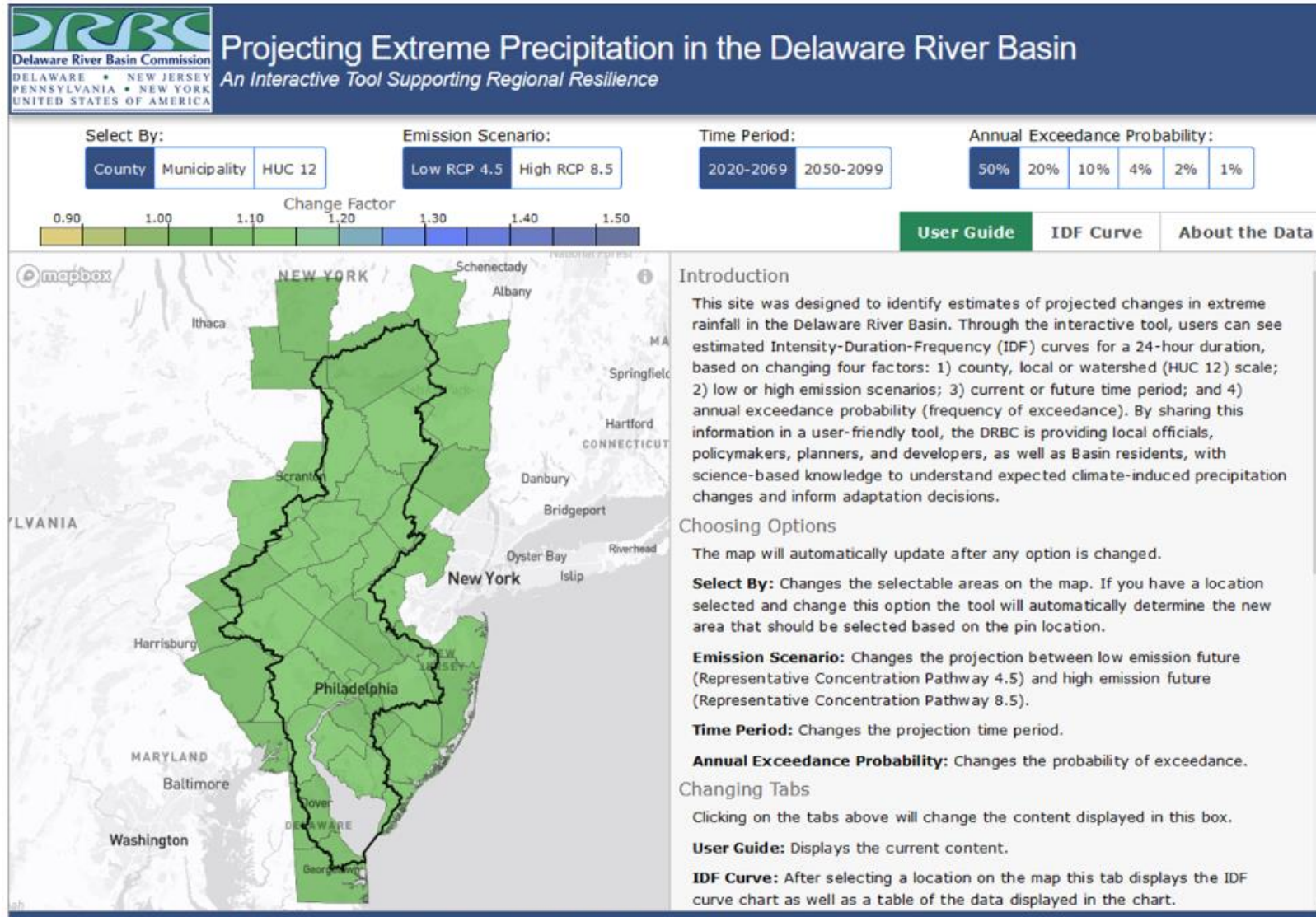
-2017 Flexible Flow Management Program

The Delaware River Basin Compact is both an agreement and federal and state law



*“In general, the purposes of this Compact are to promote interstate comity; **to remove causes of present and future controversy**; ... to encourage and provide for the planning, conservation, utilization, development, management and control of the water resources of the basin;*

Extreme rainfall events are increasing throughout the Delaware River Basin due to climate change.





For more information,
visit www.drbc.gov



Photo credits:

Slide 2: Easton Phillipsburg Bridge, Delaware River Joint Toll
Bridge Commission

Slide 7: Beltzville Reservoir by US Army Corps of Engineers

Slide 11. Cannonsville Reservoir by NYCDEP



All other photos by DRBC

