

STATE WATER PLAN ASSISTANCE: A Screening Tool for Assessing Pennsylvania Water Resources

Cooperator:
Pennsylvania Department of
Environmental Protection

Pennsylvania Water Resources Planning Act (Act 220)

- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) is the lead agency
- Tasks include:
 - Update State Water Plan within 5 years and updates every 5 years thereafter
 - Assess surface and groundwater resources
 - Assess existing and projected water use
 - Identify critical water planning areas
 - Create critical area resource plans





Screening Tool Objectives

- Develop a screening tool to evaluate statewide surface- and ground-water resources on a watershed basis
- Provide PaDEP managers with the interactive capability to generate and evaluate what-if scenarios of planned or requested water uses.







Screening Tool Capabilities

The Screening Tool helps to answer:

- How much surface and ground water do we have?
- How much do we use?
- What is the difference between what we have and what we use?
- How much water is available?
- Where is water use exceeding availability?
- Where is water use getting close to availability?







Screening Tool Capabilities

Surface Water "Availability"

- Determined by streamflow statistics and net water use within a basin
 - Simplified water budget:

Surface water availability = streamflow statistic – withdrawals + discharges

7-Day, 10-Year low-flow statistic determined from regional

regression equations





Screening Tool Development

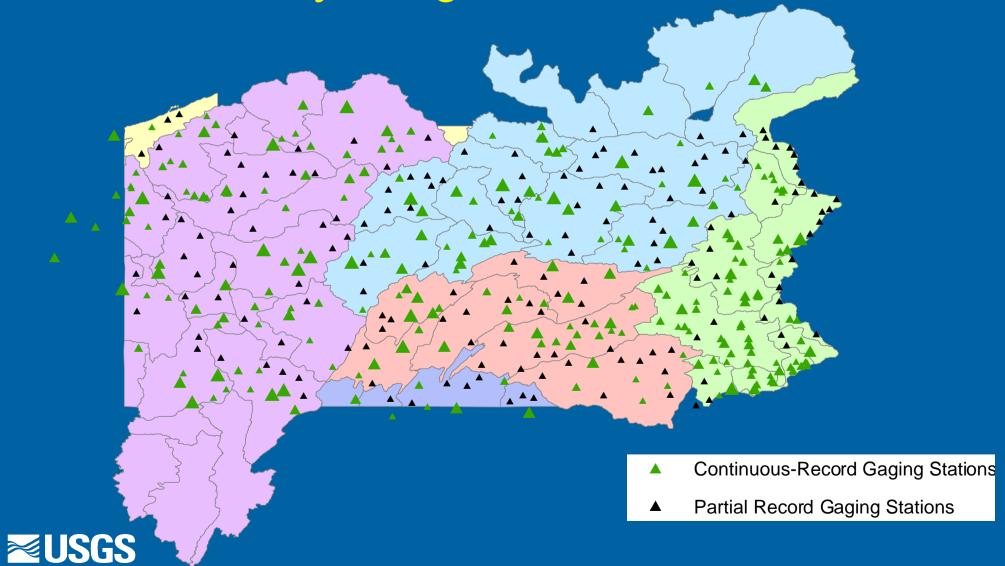
3 Major Components:

- Hydrologic, statistical, and water-use data
 - Development of regression equations
 - Compilation of water use data
- Spatial data elements for geographic analysis
 - GIS data preparation
- User system to access the water-planning information
 - Desktop application
 - Web application





Screening Tool Development: Hydrologic Data



Screening Tool Development: Water-Use Data



Includes all registered surface-water and ground water withdrawals and returns

Categories include public supply, industrial, mining, irrigation, and wastewater treatment facilities

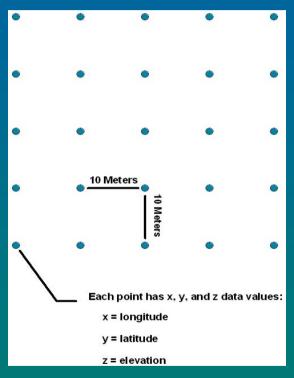




Screening Tool Development: Spatial Data Analysis

GIS data preparation

- Started from 30-meter national elevation dataset
- Through GIS processing, developed 10-meter hydrologically enforced digital elevation model



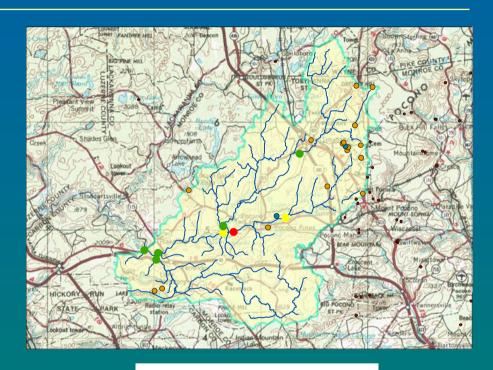
10-meter elevation grid





Screening Tool Development: User System

- Provide flow statistics, wateruse totals, and water availability at pour points
- Approximate statewide total of 10,000+ pour points
- Pour Points will be colored to indicate water availability
- PaDEP managers will be able to edit water use at pour points



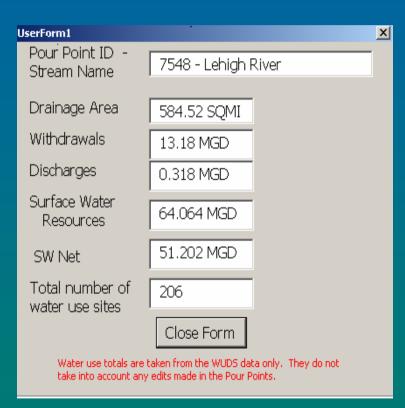
Surface-Water Availability 7Q10 Statistic

- Normal
- Potentially Stressed
- Stressed





Screening Tool Development: User System



Show Basin tool



Edit Pour Point tool





Save and Recall Scenarios

x
OK
Cancel





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