

## Storage Study Scope of Work FFMP2017 Study

This document provides a Scope of Work for the Storage Study that was identified in the 2017 Flexible Flow Management Program (FFMP2017). It is meant to provide additional details on what will be evaluated as part of this study, but it does not limit any part of the FFMP2017 agreement.

### Introduction

FFMP2017 is a two-part, ten-year agreement, which builds on the experience gained over 10 years of similar flow management programs. As part of FFMP2017, the Decree Parties agreed to study and investigate specific aspects of the FFMP2017 to assess their effectiveness, impacts, benefits under current and future stressors, and evaluate alternatives for achieving the program's goals and objectives.

The identification of three studies to be undertaken by the Decree Parties and a list of items to be considered in those studies are outlined in Sections IV.2 and IV.3 of FFMP2017. These three studies include: 1) detaching releases from the New York City Delaware Reservoirs from the position of the salt front during drought emergency; 2) increasing New Jersey's Diversion during all drought conditions; and 3) increasing available storage by the optimization of existing storage or development of new storage. These three studies will be evaluated in relation to estuary salinity, aquatic and fishery resources, water-supply availability for multiple purposes, flood mitigation, and projections of future sea level rise as well as topics identified in Section IV.6. In addition, Sections IV.4 and IV.5 identify two more studies to be completed, the Balancing Adjustment Procedure study and the Method of Calculating the Excess Release Quantity (ERQ) that will also be used to inform future flow management decisions. As noted in Section IV.6(a), the studies shall consider coordination with plans and programs of the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC).

### Purpose

The purpose of this Storage Study is to explore the potential increase in effective available storage for use in the Lower Basin through development of new storage in the Basin. The Decree Parties acknowledge that the results of the DRBC's recently completed [Evaluation of Additional Storage in the Delaware River Basin](#) (2023) will provide valuable information to address many of the goals of this storage study and, as such, the DRBC study results will be used to the maximum extent possible. The Decree Parties understand that DRBC may pursue additional follow-up studies to evaluate recommendations for additional storage in the Basin and will utilize applicable future DRBC studies to the maximum extent possible.

The resulting analyses and conclusions from this study, the Synthesis Study described in the 2023 Amendment to FFMP2017, and the other relevant FFMP2017 studies will be used to inform development of subsequent flow management proposals and programs. Optimization of existing storage as identified in the FFMP2017 will also be addressed in the Synthesis Study.

## Scope of Work

The following actions will be required to complete the Storage Study Tasks:

1. **Inventory storage opportunities:** Completed by DRBC. Refer to: [Evaluation of Additional Storage in the Delaware River Basin](#) and consider other potential storage opportunities for increased storage for the Lower Basin.
2. **Prioritize potential storage opportunities:** Partially completed in DRBC's Phase I Storage Study and is ongoing in Phase 2 and further DRBC studies.
3. **Report** Refer to DRBC final reports.

This Storage Study will not:

1. Consider storage options that would require a dam on the mainstem Delaware River.
2. Consider storage options being evaluated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with respect to its ongoing re-evaluation study of the F.E. Walter Reservoir in the Lehigh River (PA) Basin. The results of this work will be considered, if available, in the Synthesis Study.
3. Consider any options that involve the method of calculating or modifying the ERQ as defined in FFMP2017. These options will be addressed in the Excess Release Quantity Study and the Synthesis Study.

## Tasks

**Task 1 - Develop inventory of existing and potential new storage in the basin. This task is being completed by DRBC.**

**Deliverables:** DRBC's Storage Studies.

**Task 2 - Evaluate and prioritize storage options.**

This task has been partially fulfilled by DRBC in the Phase I report and will be refined and further evaluated in future DRBC studies.

**Deliverables:** DRBC's Storage Studies.

**Task 3 - Reporting**

The Decree Parties will incorporate the findings of the DRBC Storage studies into the Synthesis Study as necessary.

## Public Input

As identified in FFMP2017, there will be opportunities for interested stakeholders to receive study updates and provide comments to the Decree Parties. The venue for public update and input will be the DRBC Regulated Flow Advisory Committee (RFAC) meetings.

## Study Modification

The Decree Parties acknowledge that additional items that are not covered in this scope may arise that are deemed critical for successful completion of the study by one or more of the Parties. If such a

situation arises, the Decree Parties may modify this scope and associated outline to ensure that all critical information is obtained.