

Presented to an advisory committee of the DRBC on April 5, 2016. Contents should not be published or re-posted in whole or in part without the permission of the author(s) or the committee. Opinions herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the DRBC or the Commissioners. The accuracy of data, calculations and interpretations are the sole responsibility of the presenter.

Delaware River Basin Commission
Regulated Flow Advisory Committee

“Fair Share 2016”

Presentation by
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April 5, 2016*

The FFMP is Becoming More Popular

- Delaware Watershed Conservation Coalition (Angling Organizations)
- UDR Tailwaters Coalition (Local Governments/Conservation Organizations)
- UDR Business Coalition (60-plus members)
- Upper Delaware Council
- Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed (Major Cons. Orgs. throughout watershed)
- America’s Great Waters Coalition (National Conservation Organizations)
- U.S. Congress (NY, NJ, PA, DE delegations)
- State Legislatures
- National Conservation Organizations (Trout Unlimited, American Rivers, TNC)
- Outdoor Recreational Interests
- Resorts and Lodges
- The Media

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2016 Fair Share Requests

Delaware Watershed Conservation Coalition

1. Increased Transparency – Public Hearing and a 45 day public comment period on draft plan
2. Exercise the “Flexibility” Muscle -Immediate adoption of 3 “Interim Procedures”
 - a) Thermal Relief Program
 - b) Gradual ramp-down procedure for directed releases
 - c) Spread out directed releases from all NYC Delaware reservoirs
3. Calculate the IERQ using most recent 5 years of NYC water consumption

Fair Share con't...

- 4) Increase baseline conservation releases (Croton system back on line should eliminate the disproportionate reliance on the Delaware system for NYC water supply)
- 5) When system disruptions occur, ensure equitable usage of all reservoirs by the end of the water year
- 6) Incorporate any necessary FFMP changes based on new USGS Endangered Species study

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The FFMP – Can it be a Tool that Supports Comprehensive Watershed Protection?

- Almost every major watershed in the country has a restoration/protection plan and/or program (Chesapeake Bay, Everglades, Great Lakes, Puget Sound, Miss. River, etc.)
- The Delaware River does not have a comprehensive plan with multi-state and multi-stakeholder engagement and no federally authorized program addressing the entire watershed
- The FFMP impacts the entire Delaware watershed from the headwaters in NY State to the Delaware Bay
- The FFMP requires engagement of all Delaware River watershed states (and NYC)

Why Isn't it Working this Way?

- Watershed protection requires a unified vision shared by all stakeholders
- Watershed protection requires collaboration and compromise among all stakeholders
- Watershed protection isn't about "you don't get yours if I don't get mine"
- Watershed protection requires peace, not war

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