

3

TECHNICAL REPORT FOR THE ESTUARY AND BASIN

Water Quantity

Chapter 3 authors

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Presented by

Sarah Beganskas, PhD

PDE Science Summit

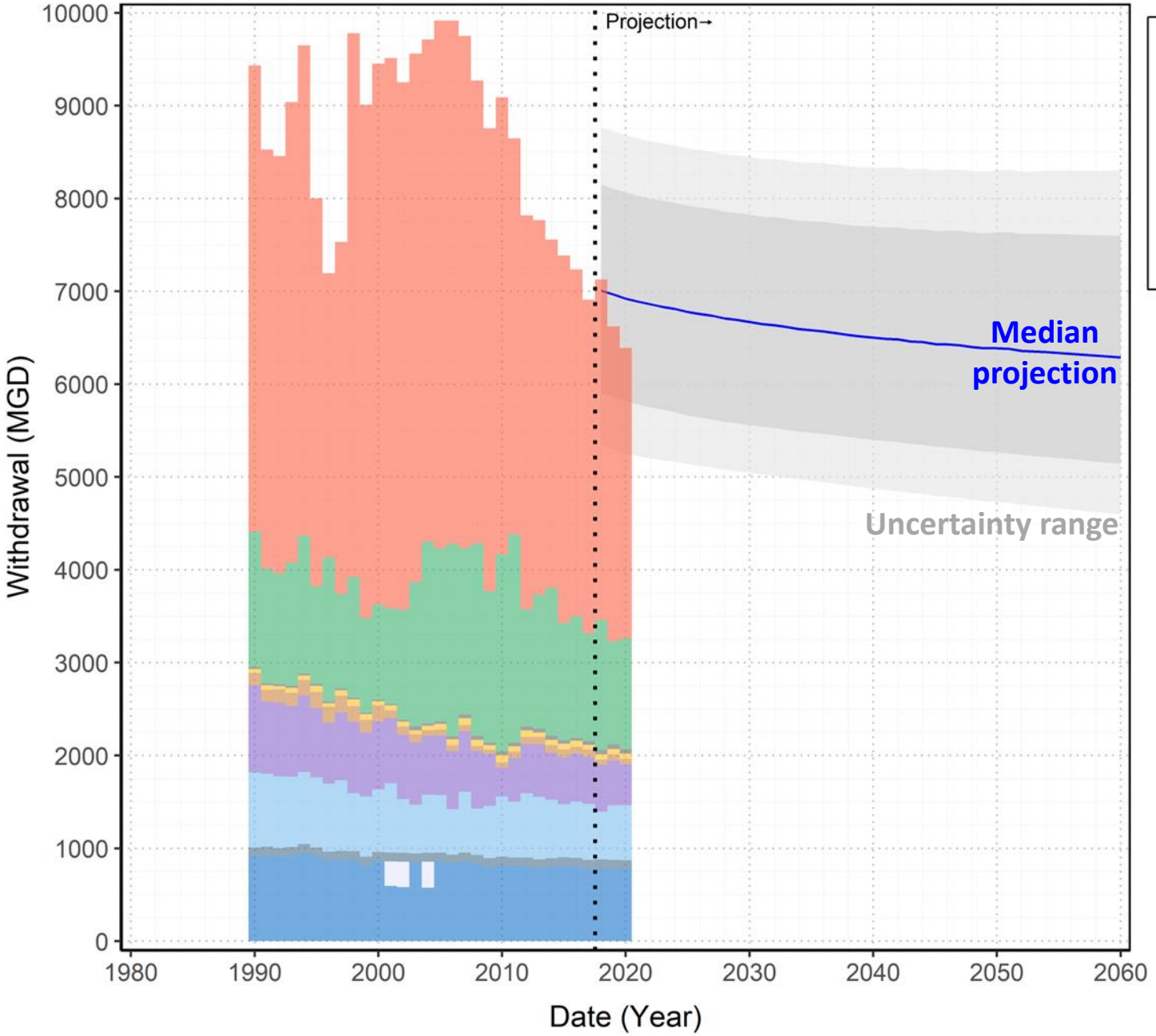
January 30, 2023



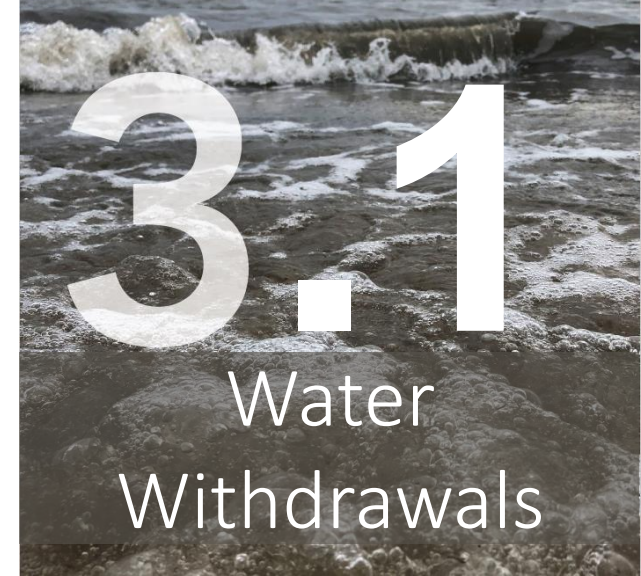
Delaware River Basin Commission

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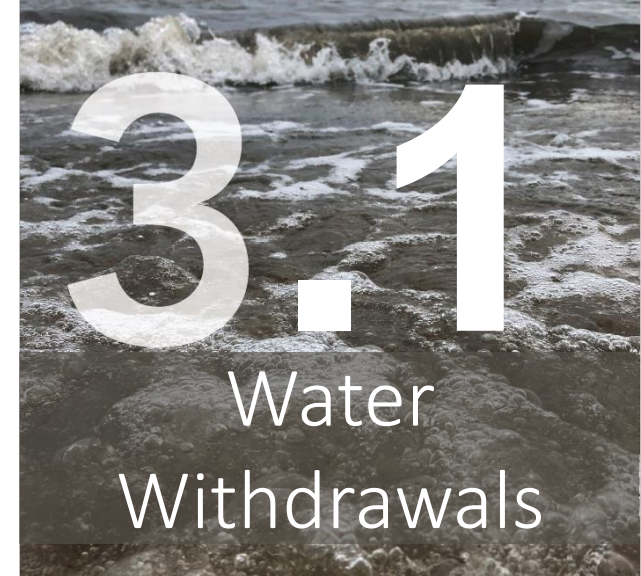
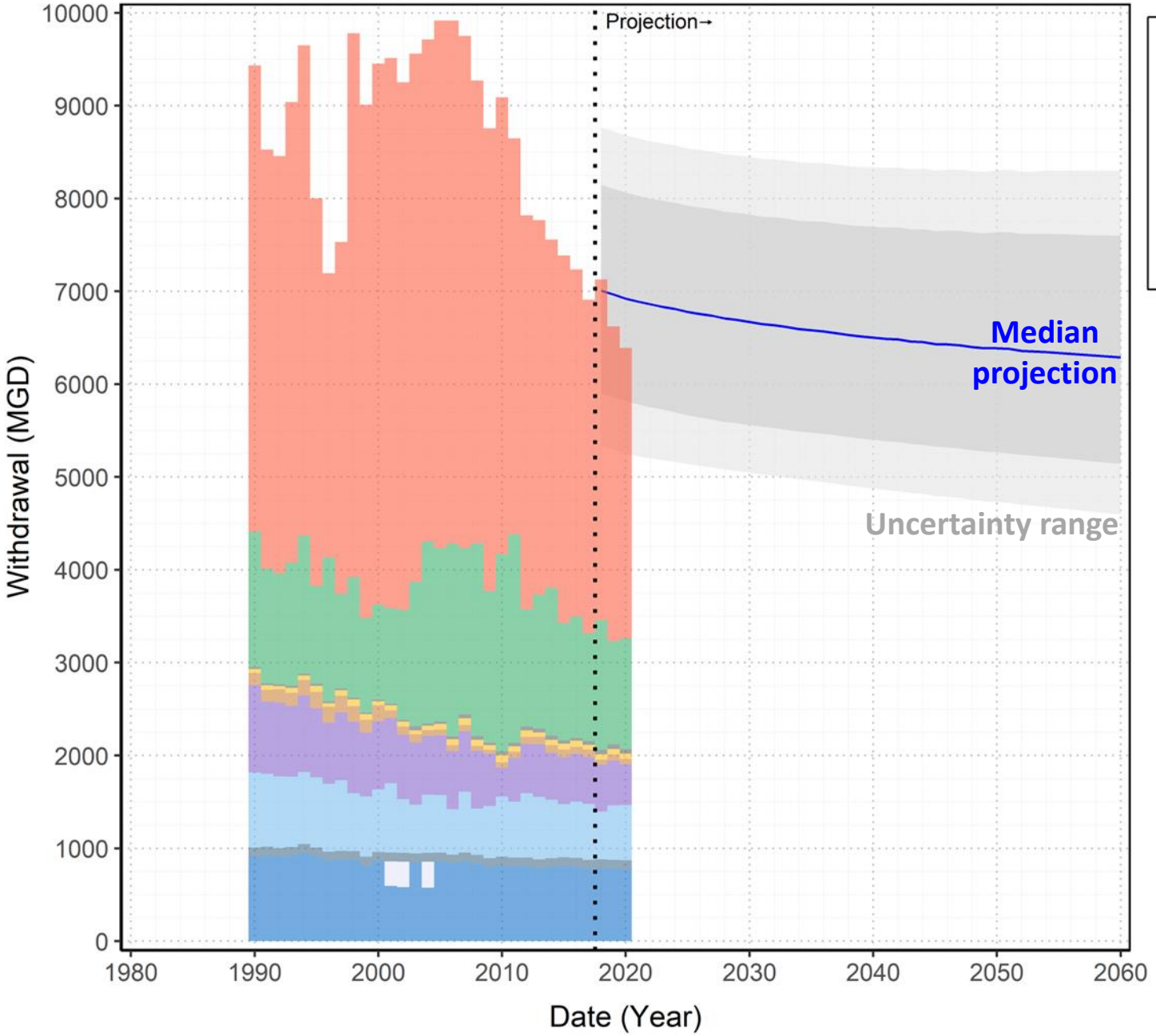
Historical and projected water withdrawals from the Delaware River Basin



- Reported Data**
- Thermoelectric Power
 - Hydroelectric Power
 - Other
 - Irrigation
 - Mining
 - Industrial
 - Out-of-Basin Diversion
 - Self-Supplied Domestic
 - Public Water Supply (missing)
 - Public Water Supply

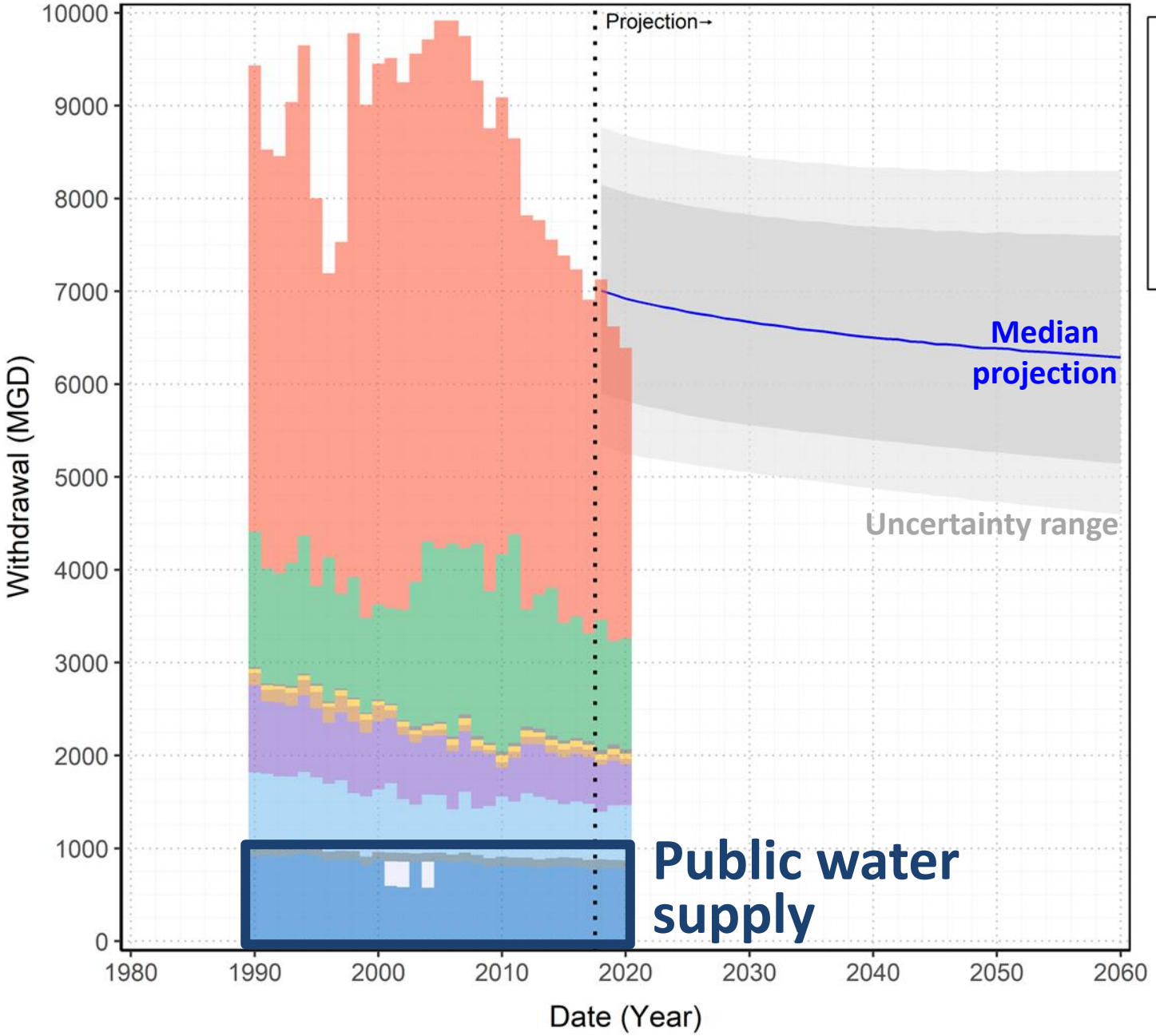
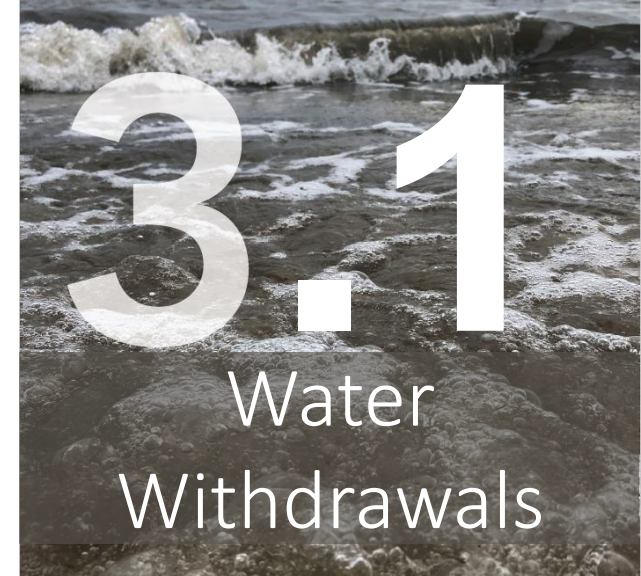


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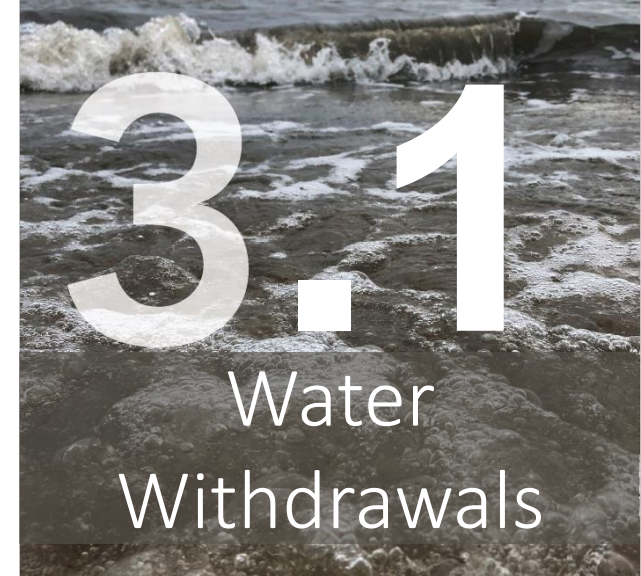
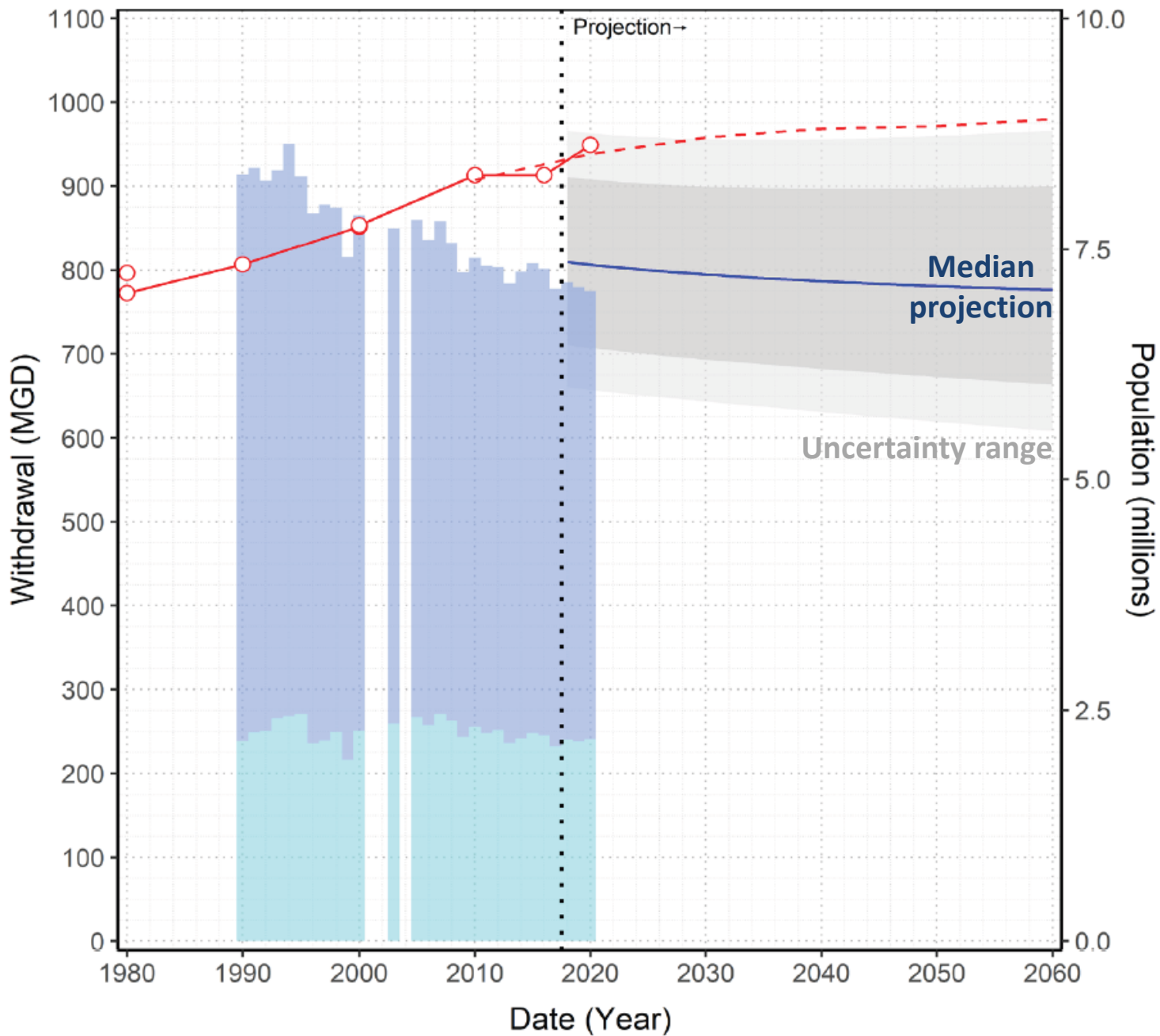
Peak withdrawals have already occurred: total withdrawals have decreased by ~3 BGD since mid-2000s

Historical and projected water withdrawals from the Delaware River Basin

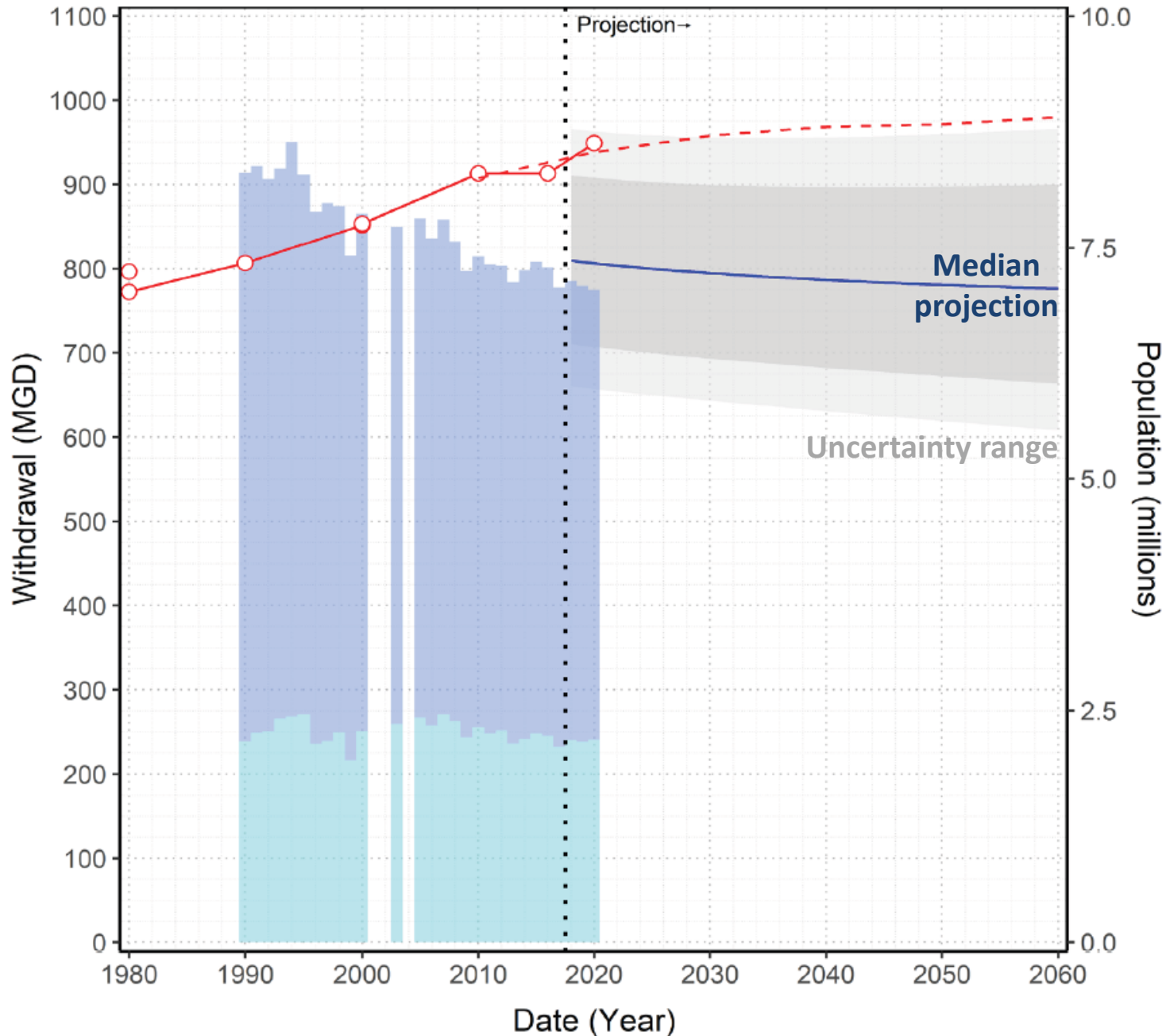


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Public water supply withdrawals from the Delaware River Basin with comparison to the in-Basin population



Public water supply withdrawals from the Delaware River Basin with comparison to the in-Basin population

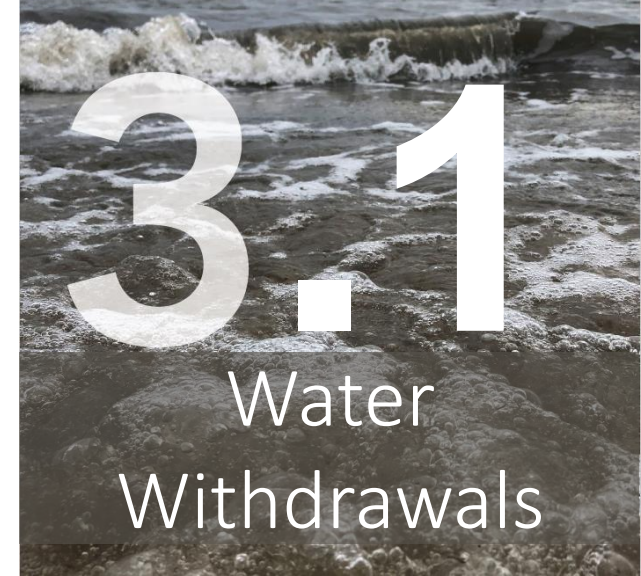


Population Category

- Historic Estimate
- Projection

Water Designation

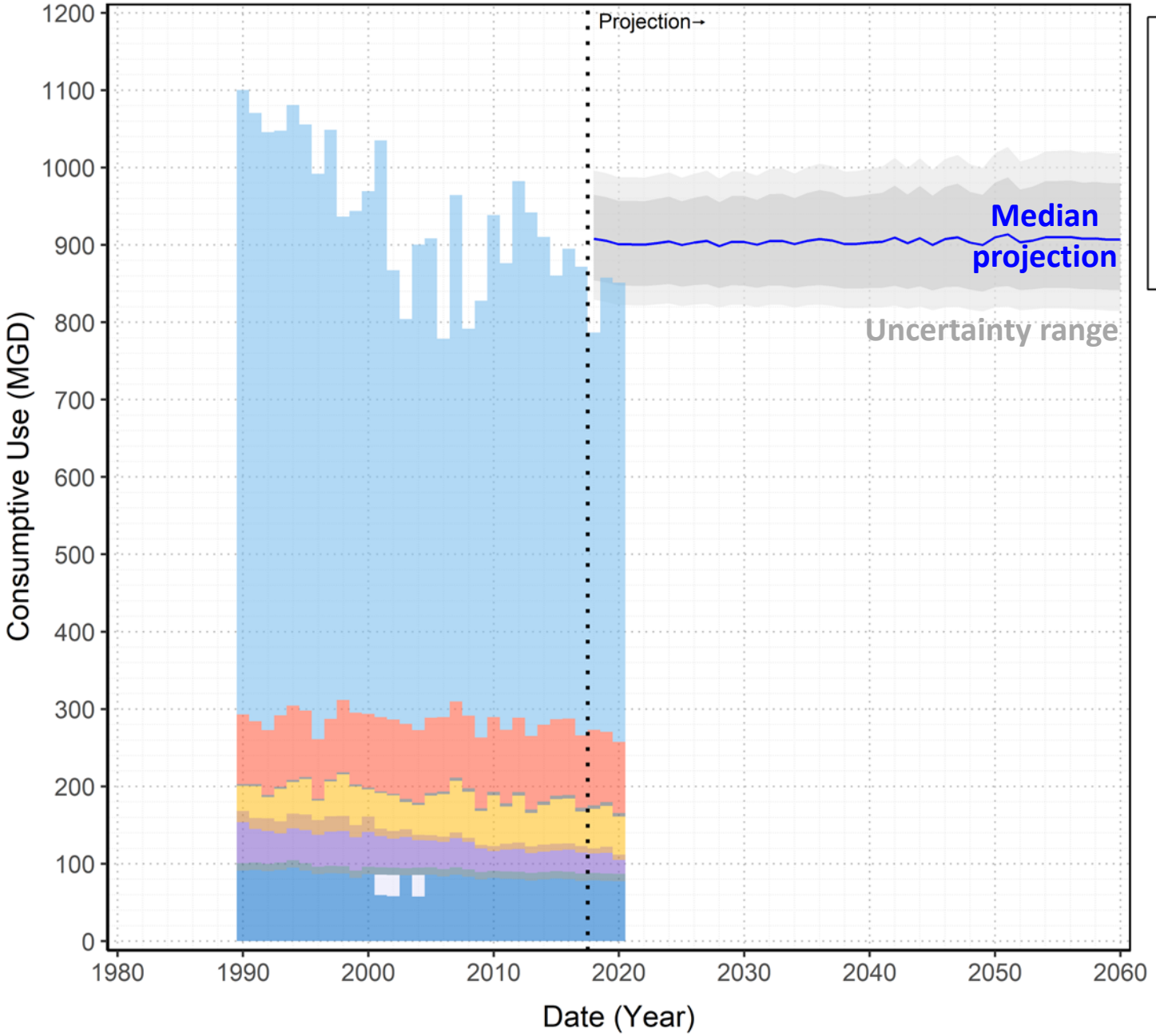
- GW
- SW



Public Water Supply withdrawals have **decreased despite growing population:**

- Infrastructure leak repairs
- End-of-pipe water conservation
- etc.

Historical and projected consumptive water use in the Delaware River Basin

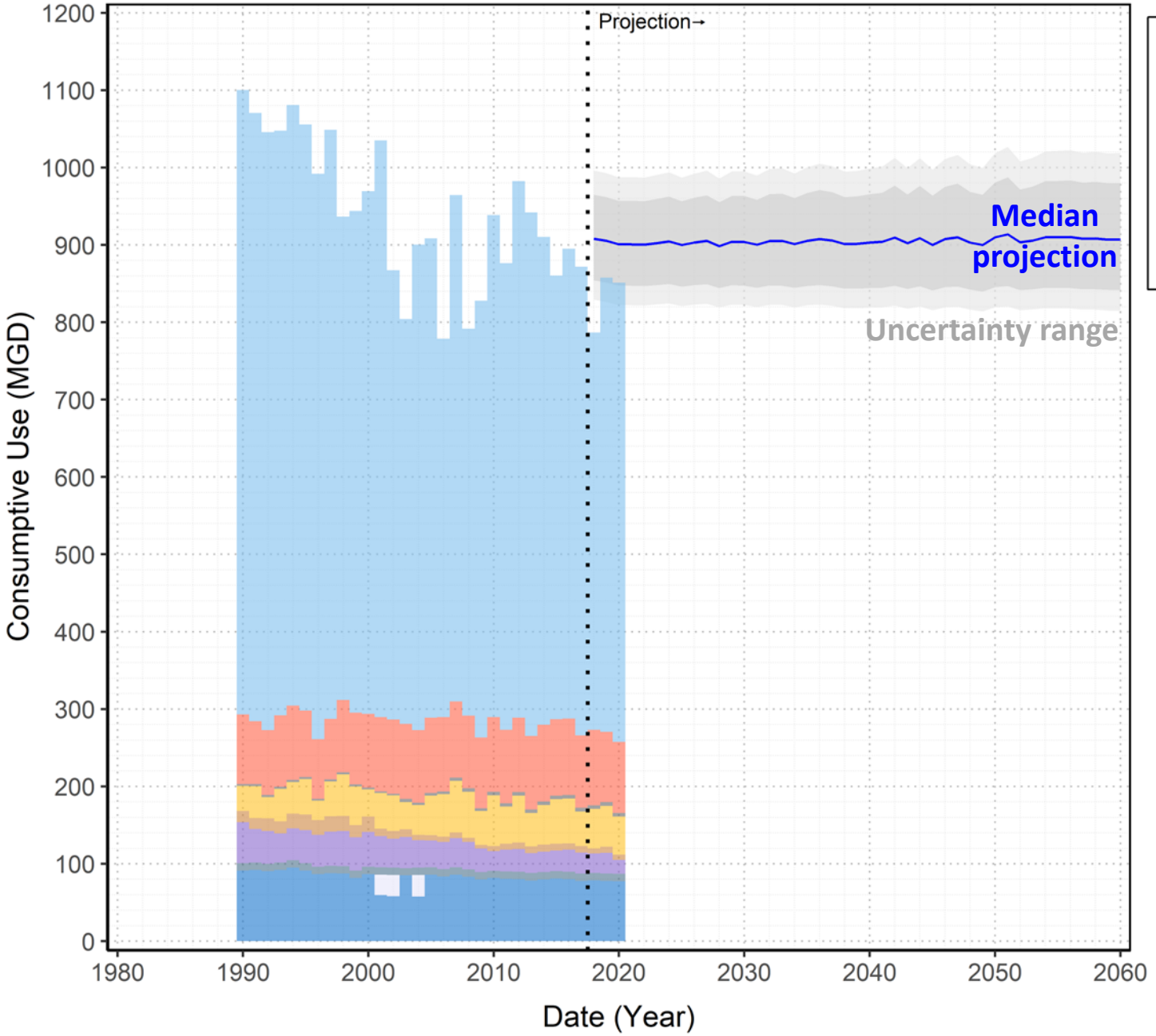


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Consumptive use: **water that is not ultimately returned**

Historical and projected consumptive water use in the Delaware River Basin



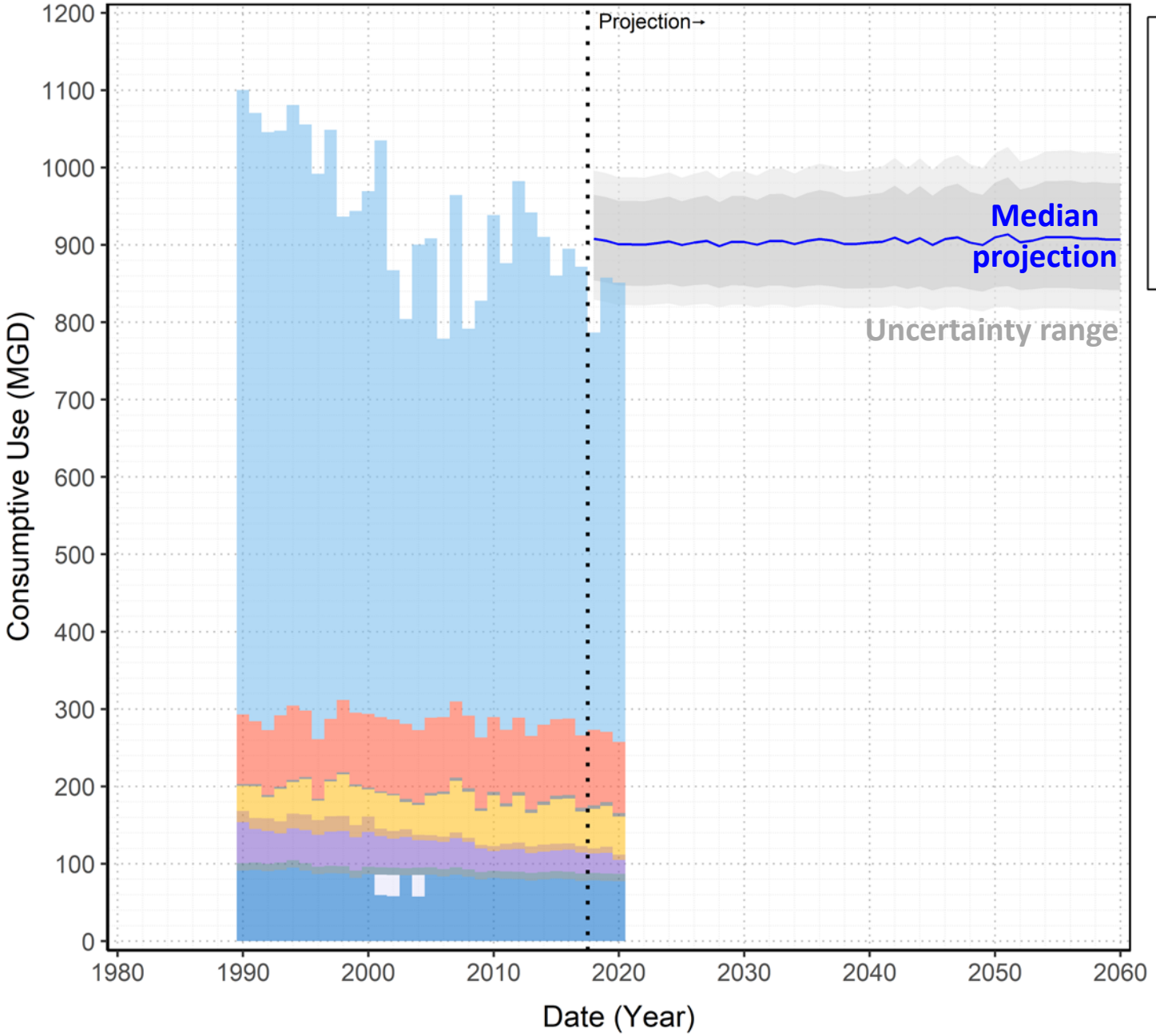
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Largest source of consumptive use is **out-of-basin diversions**

Historical and projected consumptive water use in the Delaware River Basin

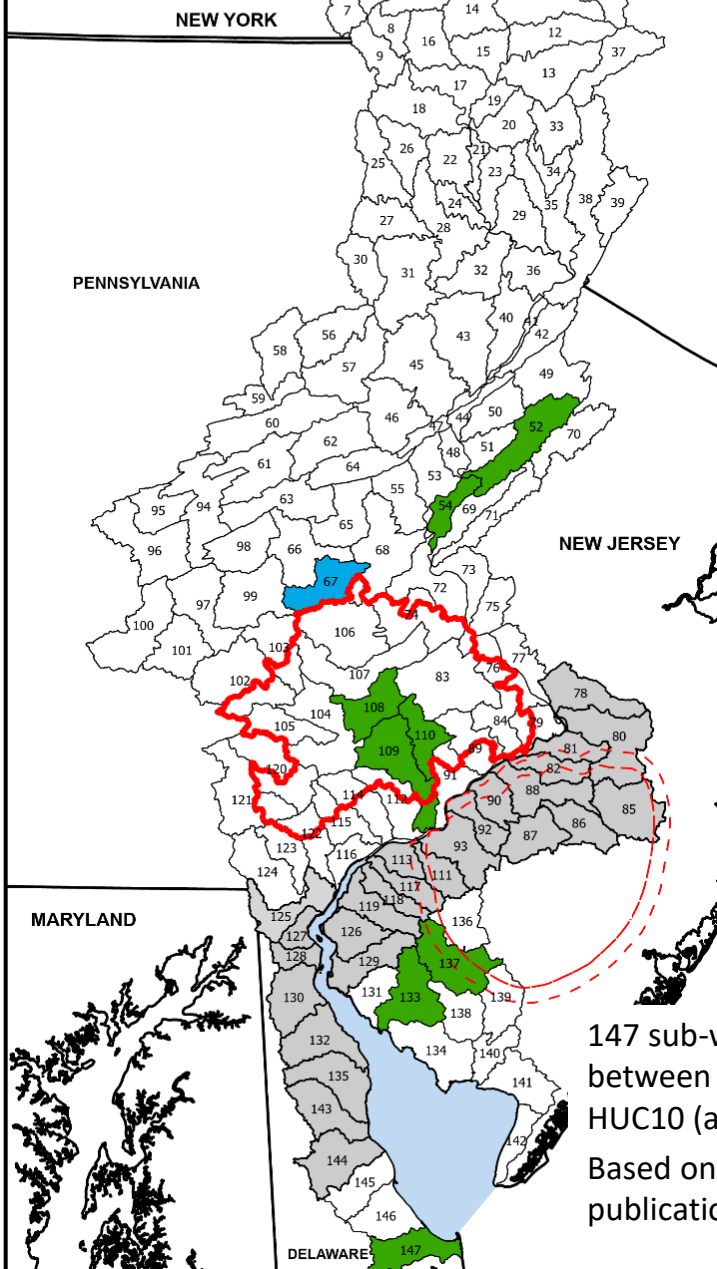


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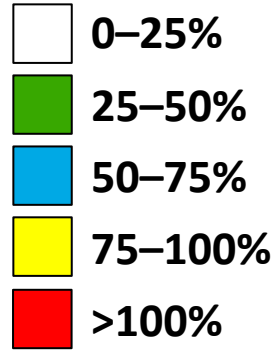
Largest source of consumptive use is **out-of-basin diversions**

Consumptive use is **projected to remain constant**
(~900 MGD)

2020 25-yr baseflow



Percent of Available Groundwater Withdrawn



147 sub-watersheds (avg 87.4 mi²),
between HUC12 (avg 40mi²) and
HUC10 (avg 227 mi²)
Based on a 2006 USGS/DRBC
publication.



3.3

Groundwater
Availability

2020 25-yr baseflow

NEW YORK

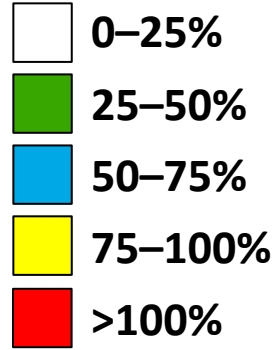
PENNSYLVANIA

NEW JERSEY

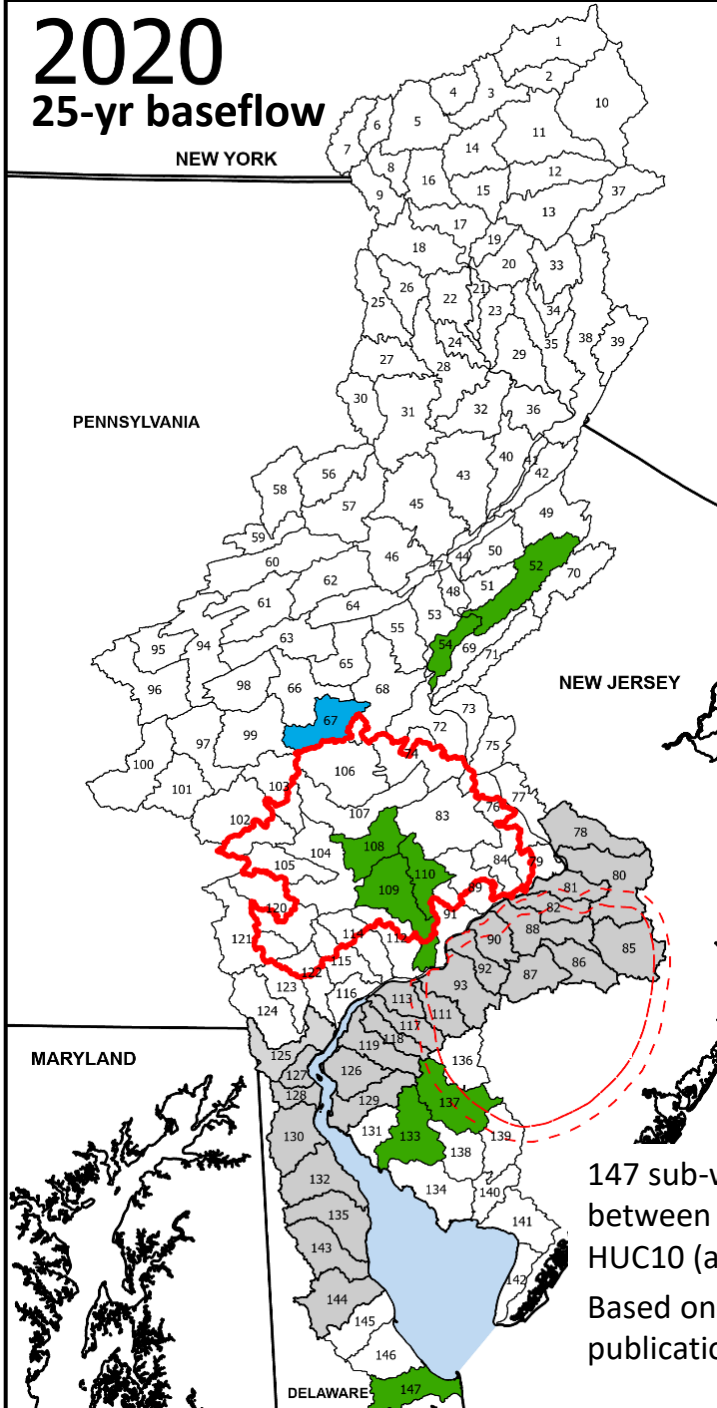
MARYLAND

DELAWARE

Percent of Available Groundwater Withdrawn



Screening tool not
applied to areas that
rely heavily on
confined aquifers

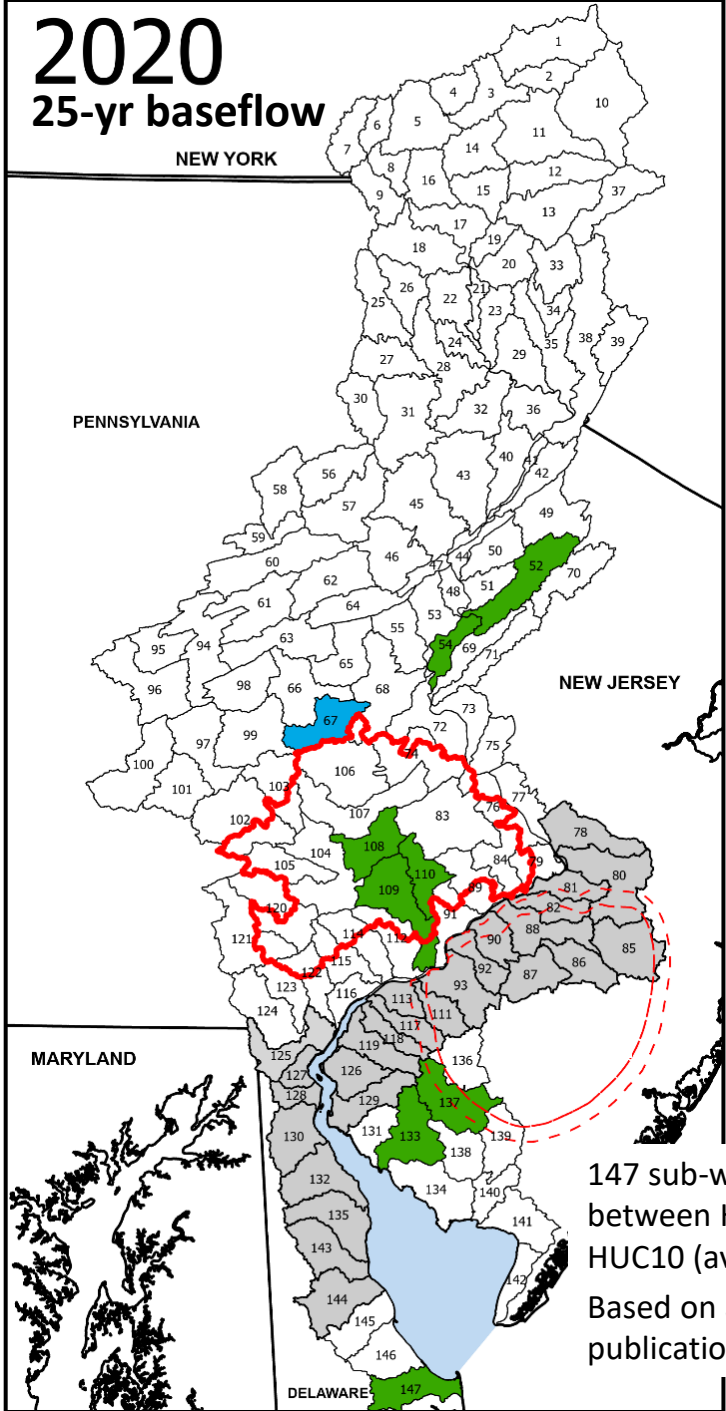


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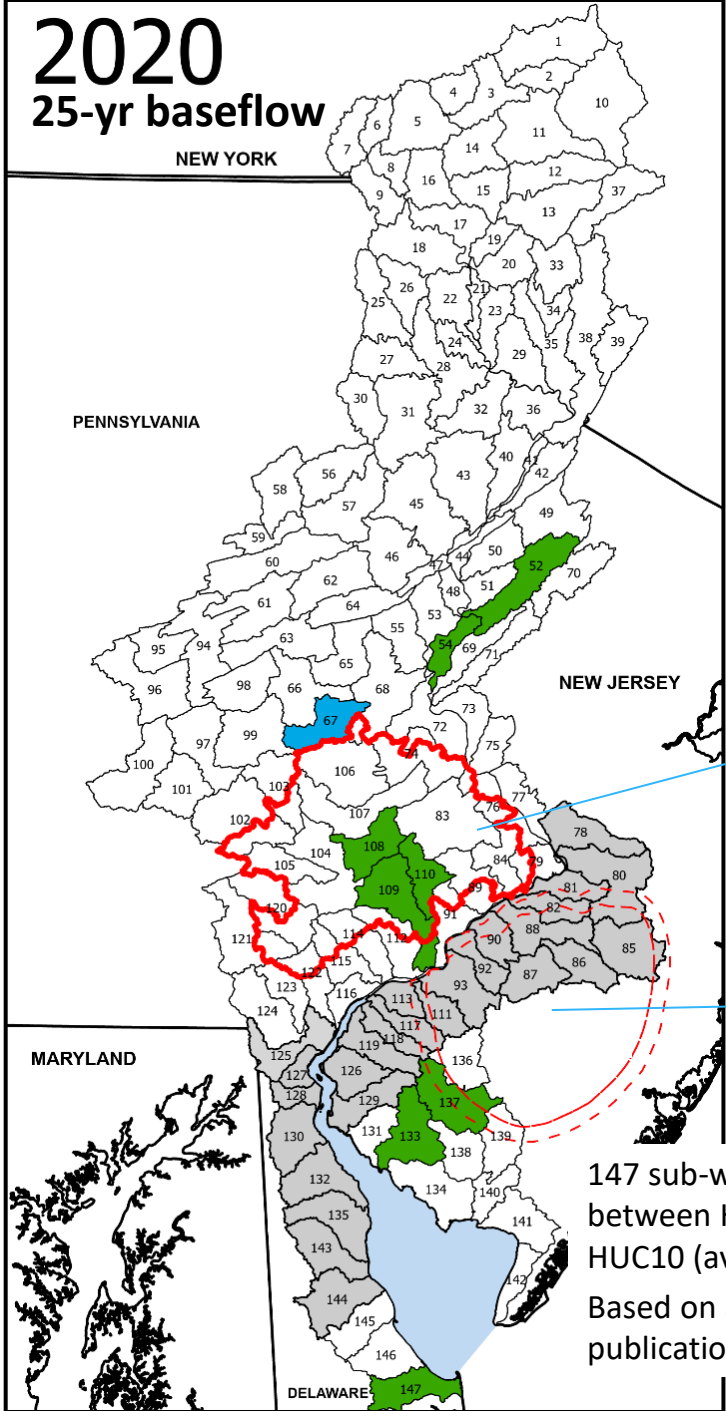
- 0–25%
- 25–50%
- 50–75%
- 75–100%
- >100%

Screening tool not applied to areas that rely heavily on confined aquifers

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Groundwater use across most of the basin is sustainable and is projected to remain sustainable through 2060.



2020
25-yr baseflow

NEW YORK

PENNSYLVANIA

NEW JERSEY

MARYLAND

DELAWARE

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- 25–50%
- 50–75%
- 75–100%
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Screening tool not applied to areas that rely heavily on confined aquifers

Southeastern Pennsylvania Groundwater Protected Area

New Jersey Critical Area No. 2

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Based on a 2006 USGS/DRBC publication.



Groundwater use across most of the basin is sustainable and is projected to remain sustainable through 2060.

Net groundwater withdrawals have decreased over the past two decades.

The Salt Front (SF) location represents the **transition from salt water to fresh water.**

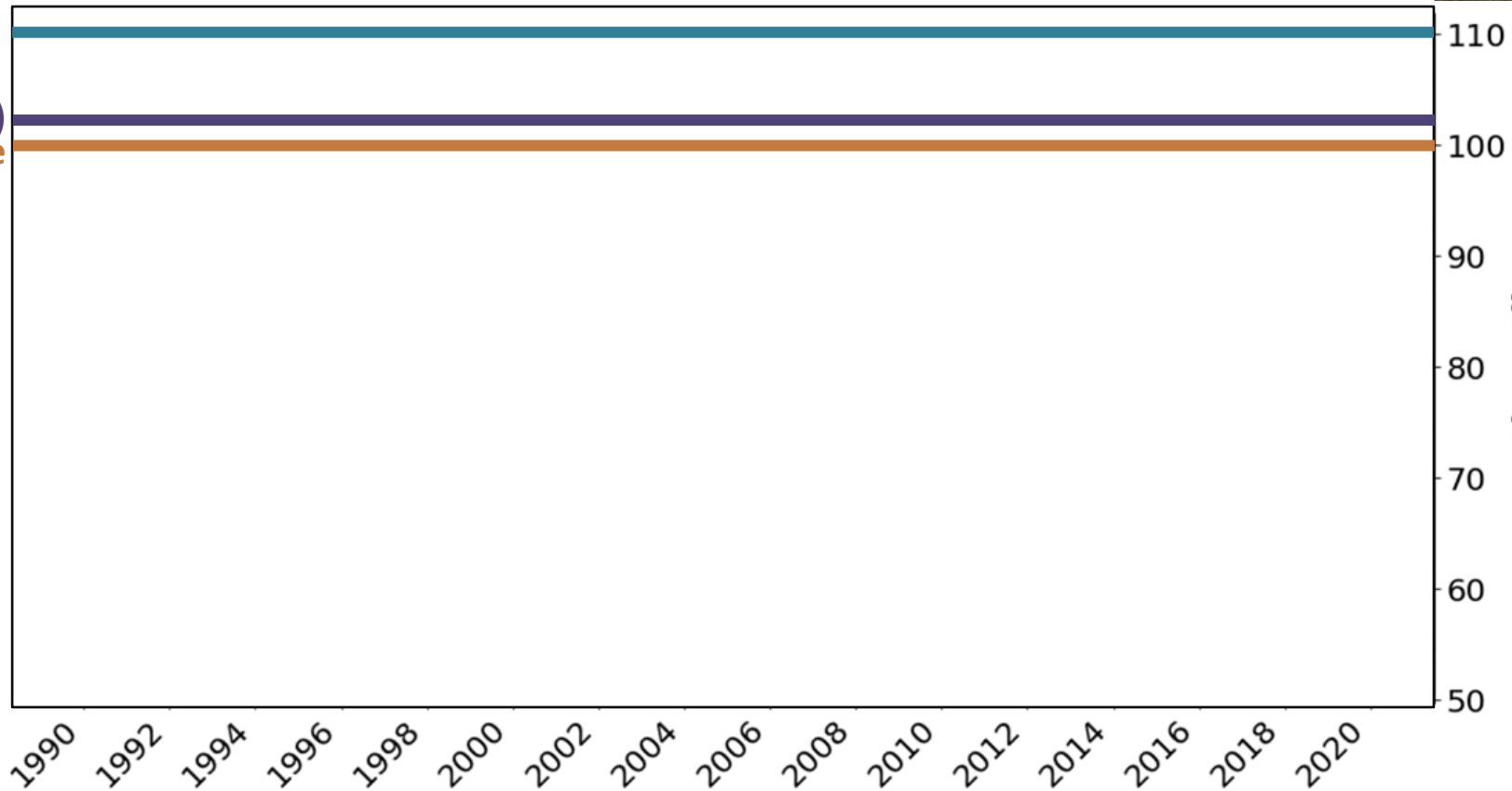


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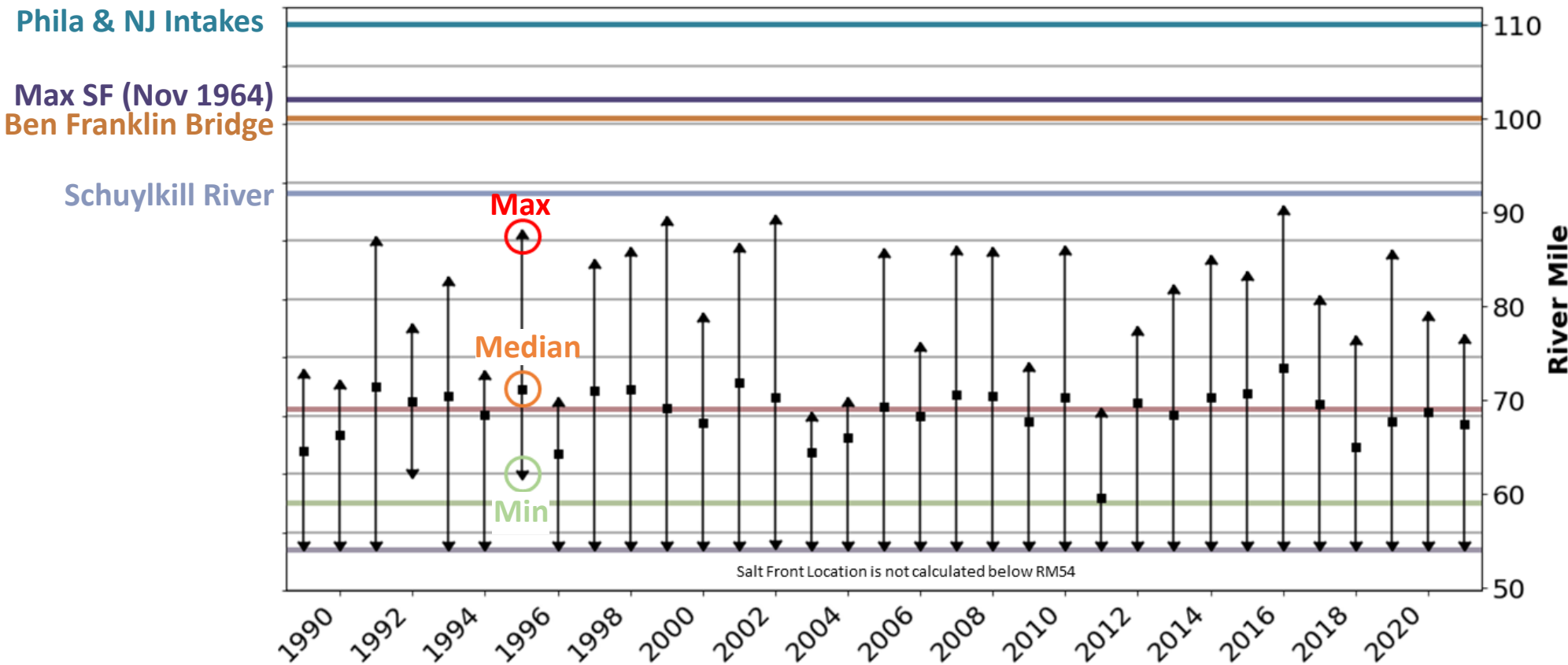


Phila & NJ Drinking Water Intakes at RM 110

Max SF (Nov 1964)
Ben Franklin Bridge



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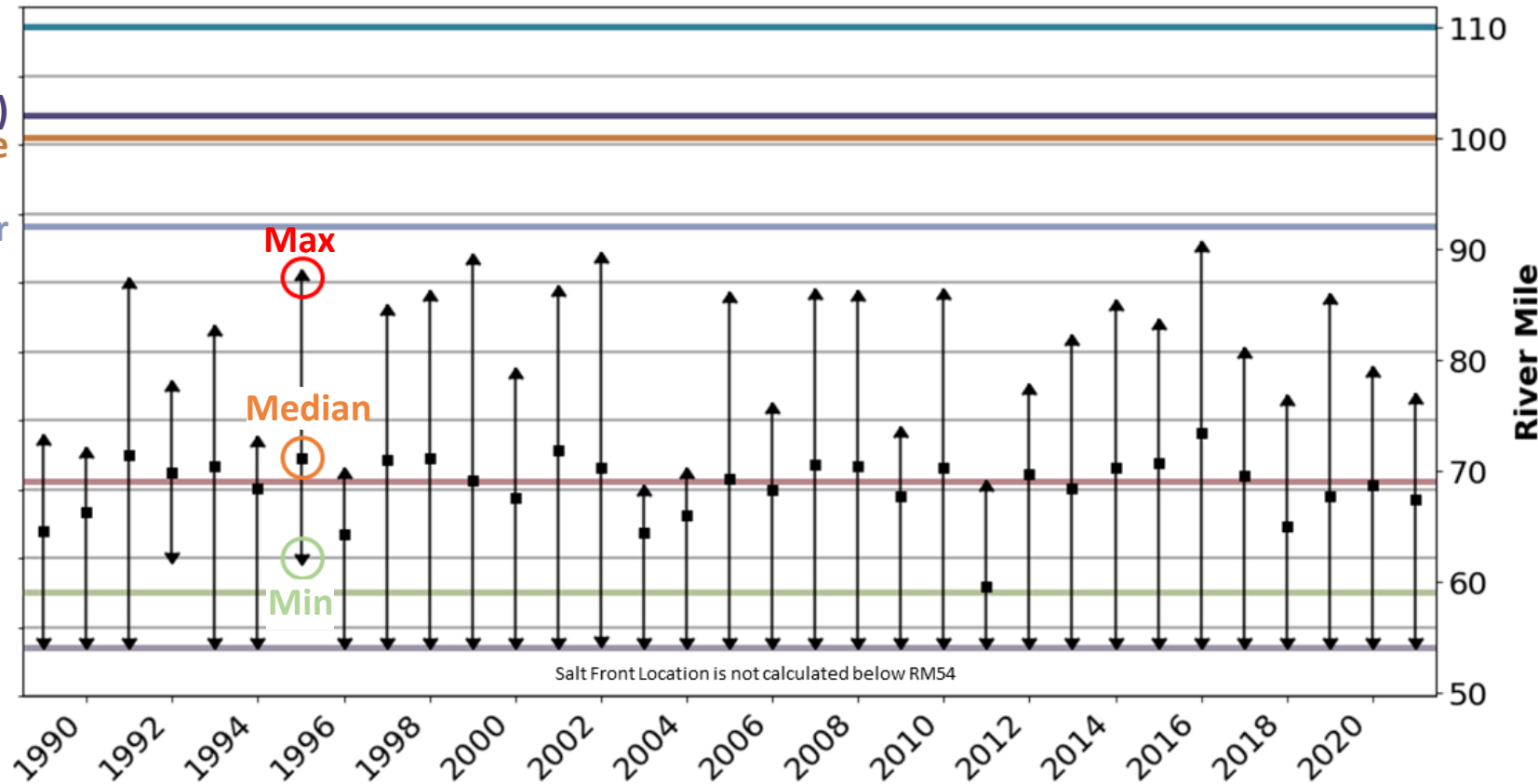
Flow management strategies **have successfully protected drinking water intakes** from salinity intrusion.



Phila & NJ Intakes

Max SF (Nov 1964)
Ben Franklin Bridge

Schuylkill River





3

TECHNICAL REPORT FOR THE ESTUARY AND BASIN

Water Quantity

Several billion gallons are withdrawn each day from the Delaware River Basin for a variety of uses.

It is essential that we continue monitoring and planning to ensure that **future demand can be met sustainably.**



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