RIM & NTN: Publication Timeline for New Load and Trend Results

January 22, 2024

Objective: To discuss the timeline for publishing updated RIM & NTN loads and trends.

<u>Most Recent Products:</u>

- NTN loads and trends through water year 2020 were released in January 2023.
- RIM loads and trends through water year 2022 were released in June 2023.
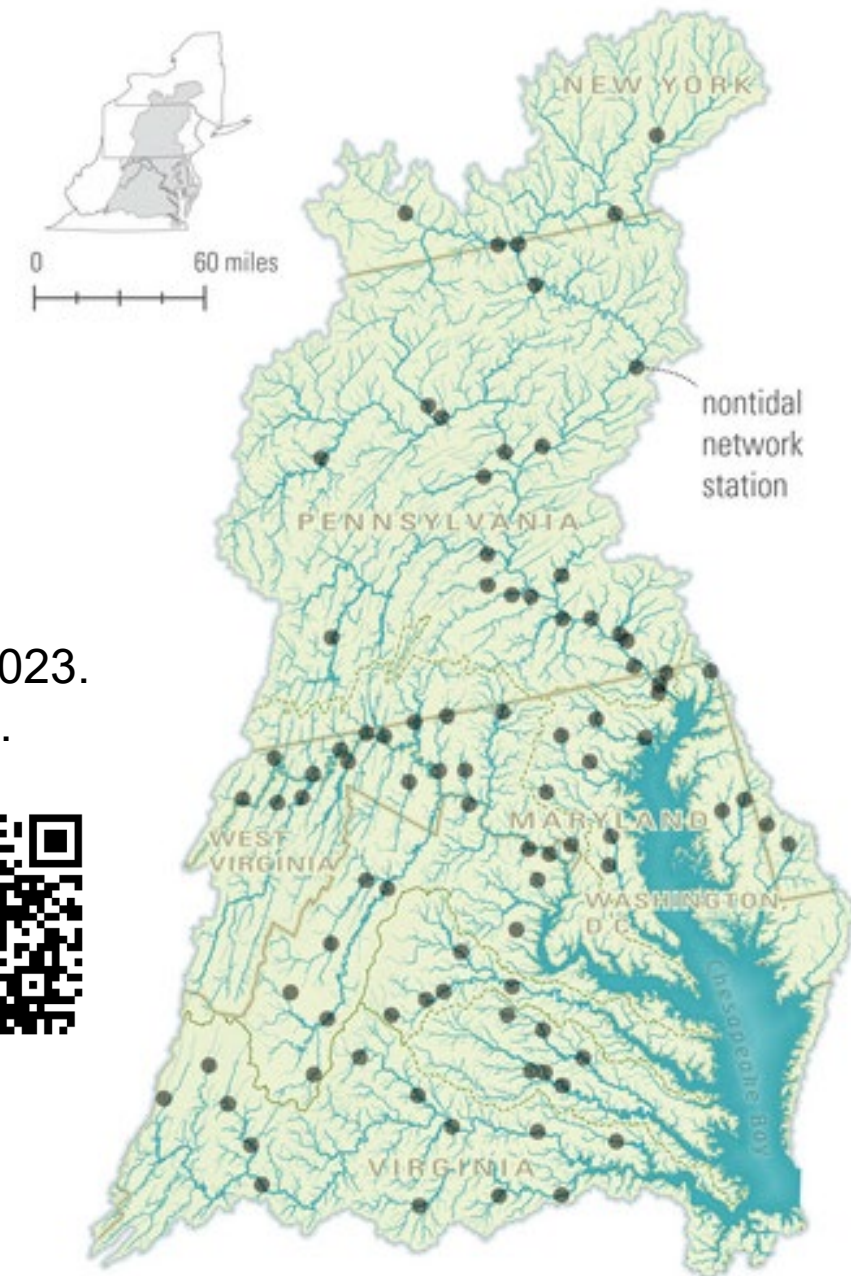
<u>Load and Trend Information is Published Online:</u>

usgs.gov/centers/chesapeake-bay-activities/science/chesapeake-bay-water-quality-loads-and-trends

<u>Typical Schedule for Publishing Results:</u>

- NTN loads and trends are updated every other year.
- RIM loads and trends are updated annually.

nontidal network station

NEW YORK

PENNSYLVANIA

WEST VIRGINIA

MARYLAND

WASHINGTON D.C.

VIRGINIA

0   60 miles

We are currently building a dataset of historical water-quality results

Why?

NTN loads and trends are computed from nutrient and sediment data collected by multiple partner agencies since 1985. These data, representing hundreds of thousands of values, are reassembled during each NTN update. In FY23, the NTN team began an effort to create a verifiable dataset of all NTN sample values.

This new dataset:

1. Will be used to compute all future NTN updates, with additional years of data appended to the dataset.
2. Will ensure that consistent, reproducible, and verifiable data are used for all NTN updates.
3. Will be described by a new USGS report that describes the methods used to assemble the dataset.

Where are we in the process?

USGS is leading the compilation of this dataset and the associated report. We are currently comparing how the new dataset compares to data used previously to compute NTN loads and trends. We expect this dataset to be available for NTN use in FY24.

How does this affect upcoming plans?

Under our typical publication schedule, the next NTN load and trend update would be through water year 2022. However, the next NTN update won't begin until this historical dataset is completed. *Therefore, the next NTN publication will include water year 2023 data and will be published towards the end of FY24 / early FY25.*

NTN & RIM Product Timeline

WY23 RIM: May 2024 **WY23 NTN: September 2024**

							FY24							FY25		
Oct	**Nov**	**Dec**	**Jan**	**Feb**	**Mar**	**Apr**	**May**	**Jun**	**Jul**	**Aug**	**Sep**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**

Prepare database of historical water-quality data

Publish historical water-quality data release and report

Finalize WY23 RIM data with USGS colleagues

Prep WY23 RIM data

Compute WY23 RIM L&Ts

Publish WY23 RIM L&Ts

Analysis & Communication of RIM L&Ts

Finalize WY23 NTN data with project partners

Prep WY23 NTN data

Compute WY23 NTN L&Ts

Publish WY23 NTN L&Ts

Analysis & Communication

USGS
science for a changing world

Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.