# Recommendations for Phase 6-PQUAL Nitrogen Sensitivity

Modeling Quarterly Review Meeting January 28, 2015

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## Objectives

- To estimate sensitivity to nutrient inputs in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed using multiple watershed models
- To review and implement sensitivities in the phase 6 version of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed model
- To decide on Phase 6-PQUAL nitrogen sensitivities

<sup>\*</sup> The input-output relationship or the effect of changes in nutrient inputs on nutrient export is referred to in this analysis as sensitivity.

## Sensitivities to total nitrogen inputs

- Following STAC recommendations, nutrient sensitivities from multiple models i.e. APEX, SPARROW, and P532-AGCHEM models were identified.
- The multiple models sensitivities represent the relationship between nutrient predicted yields and input loads for cropland.
- Other models sensitivities are not contradictory to p532

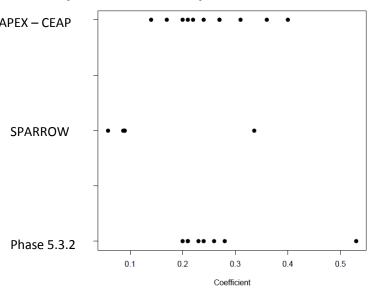


0.3

Coefficient

Sensitivity to fertilizer TN inputs

#### Sensitivity to manure TN inputs



1. APEX – CEAP: Ratio between output and input (No-practice, 2006, and 2011 scenarios including all input sources in cropland areas)

0.5

2. SPARROW: source specific coefficient (Various studies in the Chesapeake bay and Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic regions) \*

0.4

3. Phase 5.3.2: Ratio between input and output, slope of multivariate regression, and slope between output and input (14 scenarios, hwm, hom, lwm, alf, and hyw) \* Preston and Brakebill (1999), Ator et al. (2011), Moore et al. (2011), and Preston et al. (2011).

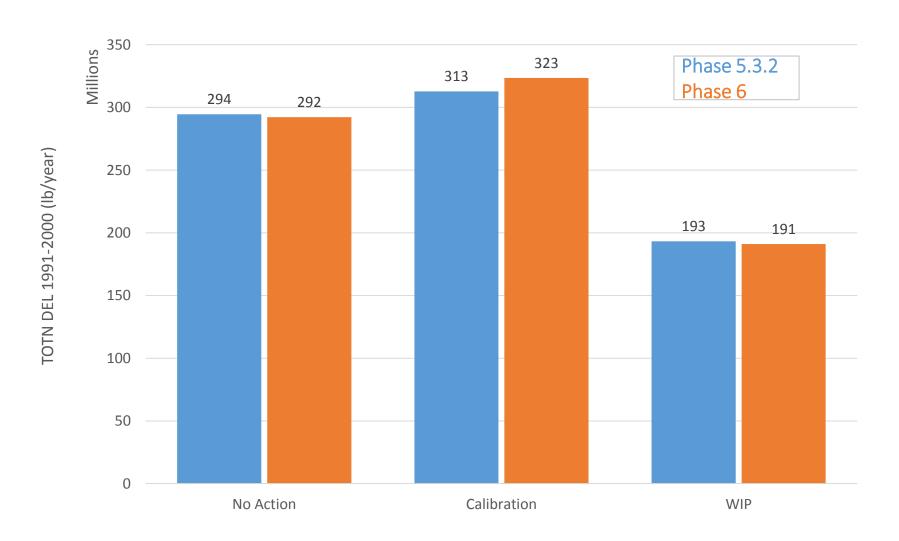
## Sensitivity implementation on phase 6

- P532-AGCHEM sensitivities answer the correct question: what is the slope of the line at a normal loading rate
  - CEAP and Sparrow only have average Output/Input slope
- P532-AGCHEM sensitivities are available on fine scale so that we can look at spatial differences
  - Sparrow single coefficient for CB watershed
  - CEAP is not available at a fine scale
- P532-AGCHEM sensitivities are available for different species of nutrients
  - Sparrow TN and TP only
  - CEAP species are not available

## Sensitivity implementation on phase 6

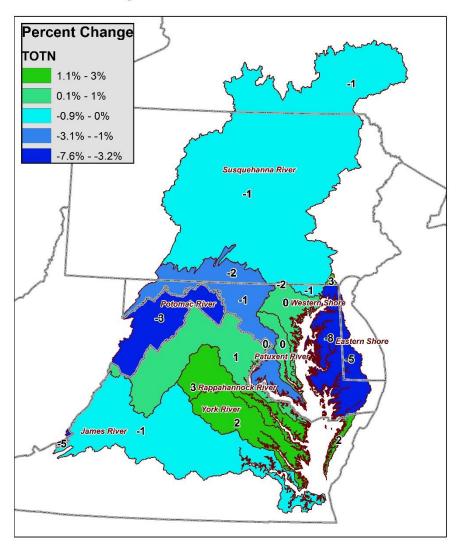
- Sparrow and CEAP models support the use of P532-AGCHEM sensitivities
- Phase 532-AGCHEM DIN and organic nitrogen sensitivities were implemented in phase 6.
- Spatial differences in sensitivity were found for forest only

## Sensitivity implementation on phase 6



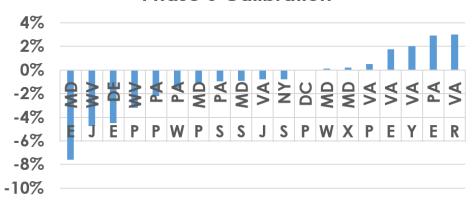
## Phase 6 Prototype EOF Total Nitrogen Calibration

#### Percent Change between Phase 5 and Phase 6 Calibration



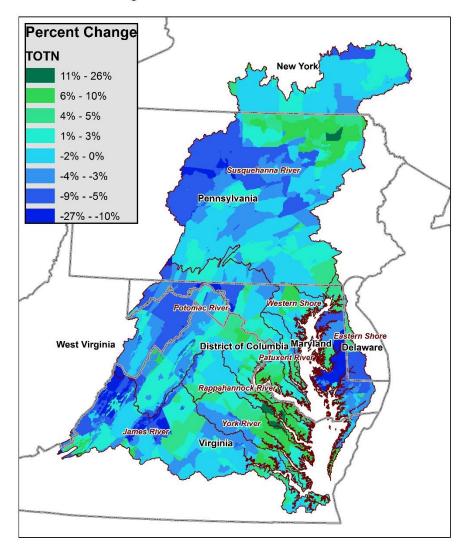
$$\%Change = \frac{Calib\ EOF\ _{Phase\ 6}}{Calib\ EOF\ _{Phase\ 5}} - 1$$

#### % Change between Phase 5 and Phase 6 Calibration



## Phase 6 Prototype EOF Total Nitrogen Calibration

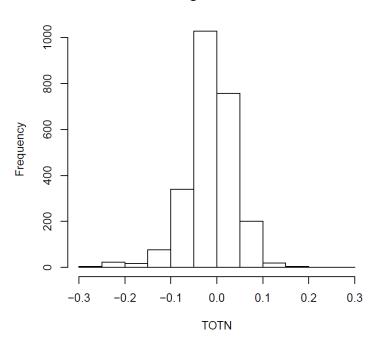
#### Percent Change between Phase 5 and Phase 6 Calibration



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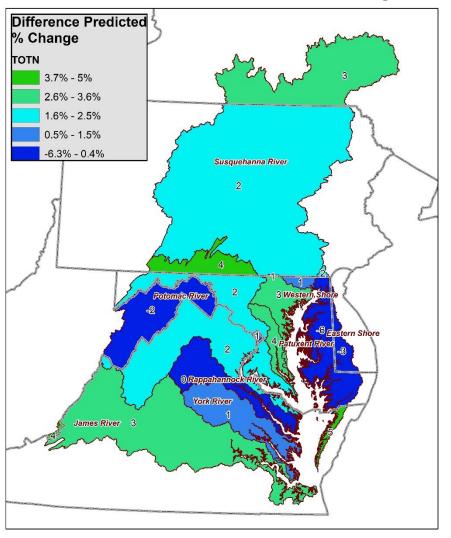
~95% of land-river segments showed a percent change between ±10%

#### **Histogram of TOTN**



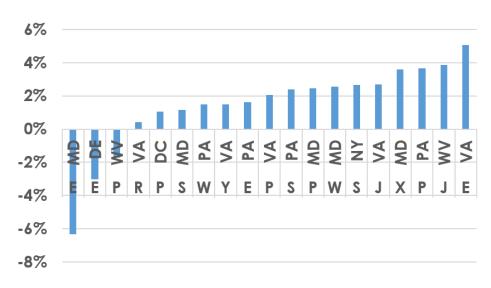
#### Phase 6 Prototype EOF Scenario Simulation

#### Difference in Predicted % Change



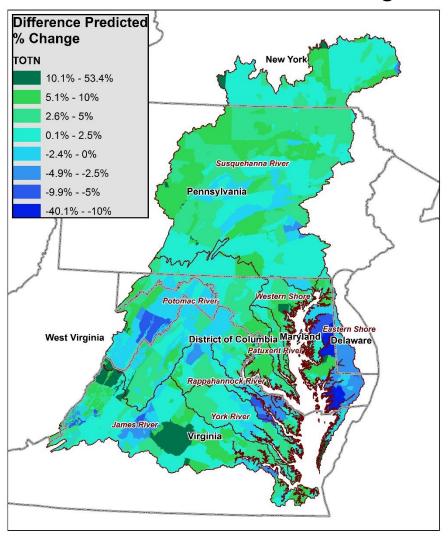
% Change Phase 6 - % Change Phase 5

$$\left(\frac{(Scenario-Calib)_{p6}}{Calib_{p6}} - \frac{(Scenario-Calib)_{p5}}{Calib_{p5}}\right)\%$$



#### Phase 6 Prototype EOF Scenario Simulation

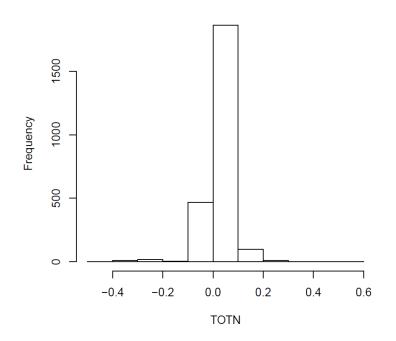
#### Difference in Predicted % Change



% Change <sub>Phase 6</sub> – % Change <sub>Phase 5</sub>

$$\left(\frac{(Scenario-Calib)_{p6}}{Calib_{p6}} - \frac{(Scenario-Calib)_{p5}}{Calib_{p5}}\right)\%$$

~95% of land-river segments showed a percent change between ±10%



# Decide on Phase 6 nitrogen sensitivities

- Phase 532-AGCHEM sensitivities are more extensive and robust than other models due to the lack of data available for management scenarios.
- The recommendation is to adopt the Phase 5.3.2 AGCHEM nitrogen sensitivities.
- Please review both the Phase 5.3.2 AGCHEM and multiple model sensitivity analyses to make a decision on Nitrogen sensitivities.

https://archive.chesapeakebay.net/Modeling/phase5/Phase532/ Sensitivity /