

Webinar II: Salt intrusion into the Delaware River

Time: 28 September 2023 (1:00 – 2.30 pm, EDT)



Join the zoom meeting at <https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/93590423734>

Moderator: Robert Chant (Rutgers University)

Panelists:

- **Salme Cook**, Research Oceanographer, U.S. Geological Survey
- **Molly Hesson**, President, Sage Services LLC
- **Namsoo Suk**, Director of Science and Water Quality Management, Delaware River Basin Commission
- **Dave Bushek**, Director of Haskin Shellfish Research Lab, Rutgers University

	<p>Dr. Salme Cook. Research Oceanographer at the USGS Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center. Her research focuses on combining numerical models and oceanographic observational data sets to better understand hydrodynamics of coastal and estuarine systems. Recently she has used numerical simulations and deep learning models to study the salinity dynamics in Delaware Bay.</p>
	<p>Dr. Molly Hesson is President of Sage Services LLC, a certified Women Business Enterprise (WBE) specializing in environmental science, policy and engineering consulting. Among their primary clients is the Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) Office of watersheds, planning and Research units. Recently she has worked with PWD in validating PWD’s Delaware Estuary Salinity model.</p>
	<p>Dr. Namsoo Suk is the director of science and water quality management for the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC). His responsibilities include leading DRBC science and technical teams to develop and maintain hydrodynamic and water quality models; develop and implement allocations for conventional and toxic pollutants; conduct and coordinate monitoring and assessment activities; develop and update the Commission’s water quality standards; and collaborate with the regulatory, stakeholder, and other scientific communities to meet the Commission’s clean and healthy water resource goals.</p>

	<p>Dr. Dave Bushek is the Director of Rutgers University’s Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory. His research concerns host-parasite interactions in bivalve molluscs and the ecological importance of bivalves both of which are strongly controlled by the Delaware Bay’s salinity. The importance of the supply of fresh water to oyster health in the Delaware Bay led to Dr. Bushek’s predecessor Thurlow C. Nelson’s 1931 testimony to the US Supreme court on the impact of the fresh diversions to New York City on oyster health in the Bay.</p>
	<p>Dr. Robert Chant is a Professor at the Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University. His research focuses on the physics of estuarine and coastal systems, specifically on processes related to stratification, mixing and dispersion.</p>

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
 When: Sep 28, 2023 01:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
 Topic: Delaware River Webinar

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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Virtual Panel Series Announcement

Salt Contamination of Water Supplies in Tidal Rivers



Access to clean and safe drinking water is critical to public health and economic prosperity. About 70% of U.S. drinking water supply comes from surface waters, including the tidal fresh regions of estuaries. Drought, sea level rise, watershed and port & harbor engineering, and changes in land-use are increasingly threatening such water supplies in coastal regions due to increasing risk of salinization. The risk extends to water extraction from the coastal zone for thermoelectric power, irrigation, and industrial production.

A series of virtual panels will be held between [June 2023](#) and [August 2024](#). We will discuss and review case studies of saltwater intrusion and salinization of freshwater in tidal rivers in the U.S. and around the world. An interdisciplinary team of researchers and stakeholders will be brought together to assess the risks of salt contamination of water supplies in tidal rivers, synthesize the current understanding and identify knowledge gaps. This exploratory investigation is timely and globally relevant as water infrastructure around the world is under threat from climate change, salinization, and local anthropogenic pressures. A better understanding of climatic and other anthropogenic effects on the water supplies will be valuable for bolstering the resilience of water infrastructure and protecting public health. If you are interested, please register at <https://www.umces.edu/salt-contamination-of-water-supplies-in-tidal-rivers>. **Questions can be directed to Ming Li at mingli@umces.edu**

Organizing Committee: Ming Li, Sujay Kaushal, Alfonso Mejia, Robert Chant, David Ralston.

