

New Jersey Probable Maximum Precipitation Tool

Instructions and Application in ArcGIS Pro

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Project number: 60629640

December 05, 2024



Quality information

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Revision History

Revision	Revision date	Details	Authorized	Name	Position
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Introduction

This document summarizes the step-by-step instruction to use the New Jersey Probable Maximum Precipitation Tool (NJPMP Tool) in the ESRI's ArcGIS Pro® interface. The tool has been developed by Applied Weather Associates (AWA) in association with AECOM for New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). This tool will help engineers, hydrologist, and dam safety professional to determine the watershed specific probable maximum precipitation estimates to use for watershed hydrologic studies for New Jersey watersheds. The tool is a Python based script compatible with ArcMap, Arc Catalog or ArcGISPro software from ESRI. The tool provides precipitation estimates on grided and tabular format for user provided watershed or area of interest. The standard output includes the average PMP depths over the provided area with temporary distributed accumulations.

Step 1: Download NJPMP Tool.

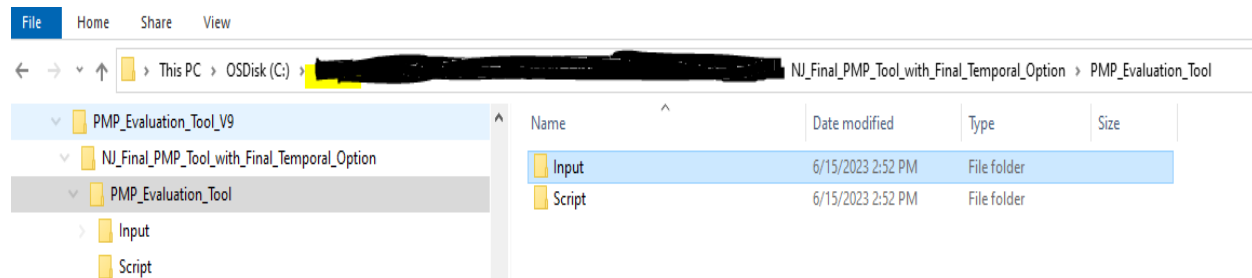
Go to NJDEP's Dam Safety website <https://dep.nj.gov/wlm/drec/dam-safety/> and click on the NJPMP Tool Download link and save the zip file to your local computer. (Must be save on Local Drive)



NJ_Final_PMP_Tool_with_Final_Temporal_Option

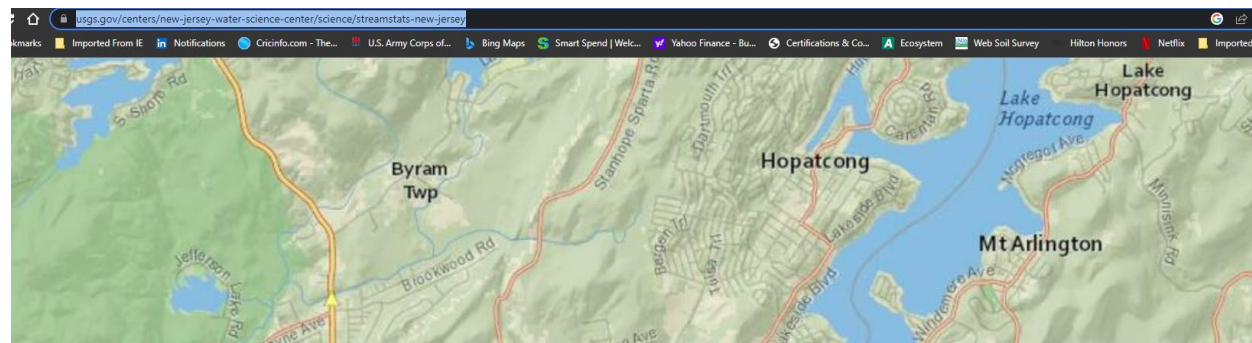
Step 2: Extract the Tool Files

Right Click on the downloaded NJPMP tool zip file & click extract all. The resulting folder would be named as PMP_Evaluation_Tool with default contents of two folders named Input & Script. View the contents of the extracted folder below:



Step 3: Obtain Area of Interest

The NJPMP Tool support the PMP calculations for a distinct watershed (Dams, Rivers at selected Points of interest) or geographic regions (Town, County, or district level boundaries) based on input area of the interest. For watershed boundaries, user can provide their own delineations, one available from prior studies or use service generated watershed such as USGS StreamStats. This document will use StreamStats generated watershed as an example. In order to get a watershed for your area of interest please go to New Jersey StreamStats website at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/new-jersey-water-science-center/science/streamstats-new-jersey> and click on the StreamStats Web tool.



Overview Science Data Publications Web Tools Partners

StreamStats is a web application (Web Tool) for water-resources planning and engineering purposes. The map-based user interface can be used to delineate drainage areas for user-selected sites on streams, generate basin characteristics and estimate flow statistics for the selected sites. Users also can select the locations of USGS data-collection stations, shown as triangles on the StreamStats map, to get flow statistics and other station-specific information.

[StreamStats Web Tool](#)

Contacts

Thomas Suro

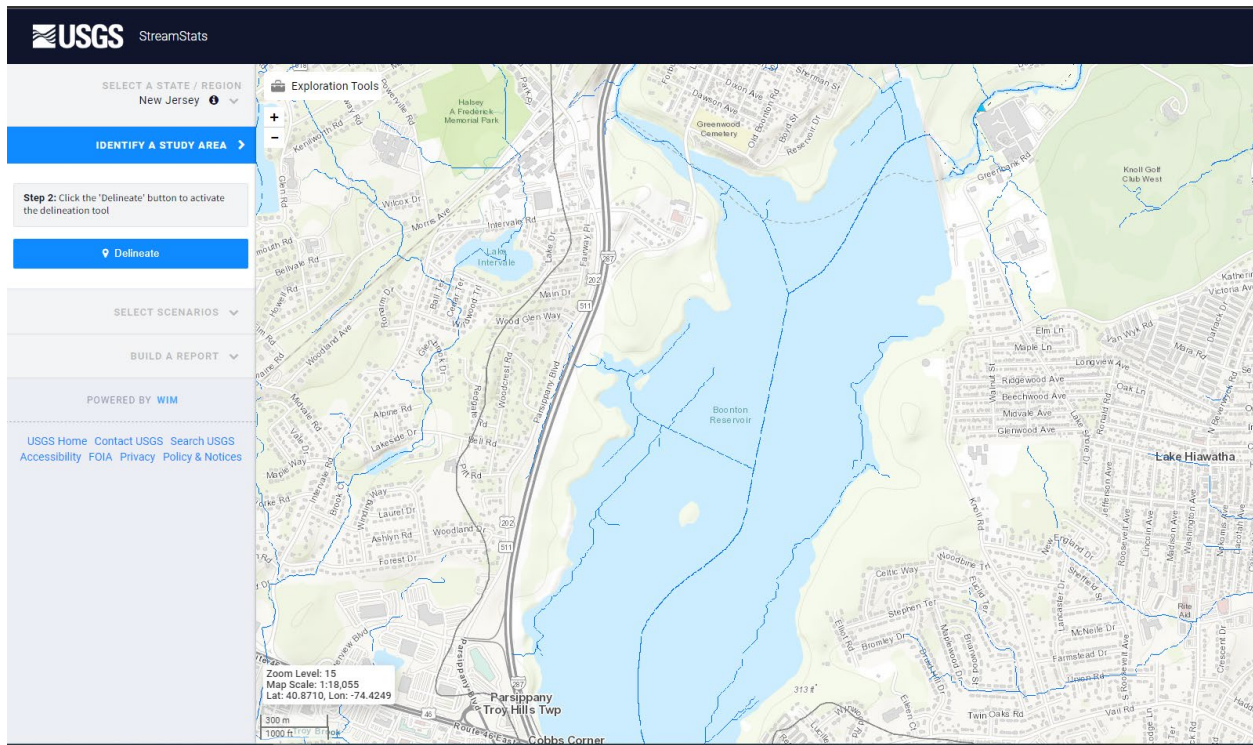
Hydrologist / Surface Water Specialist

New Jersey Water Science Center

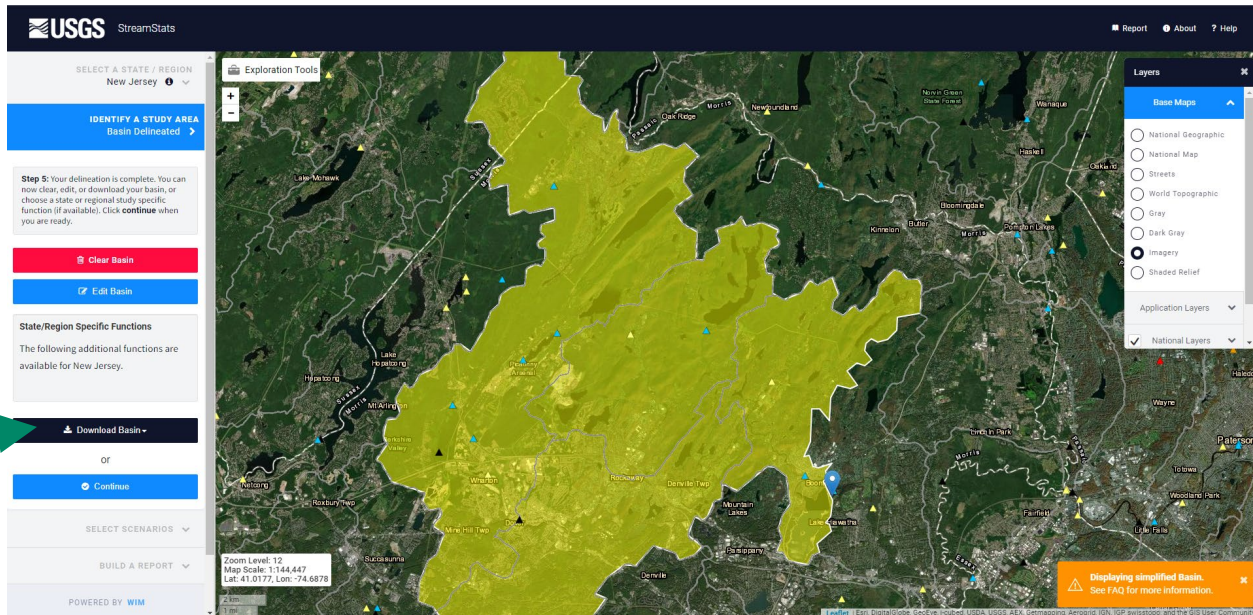
Email: tsuro@usgs.gov

Phone: 609-771-3968

For example, Boonton Reservoir in Morris County, NJ is selected at Point of Interest below:



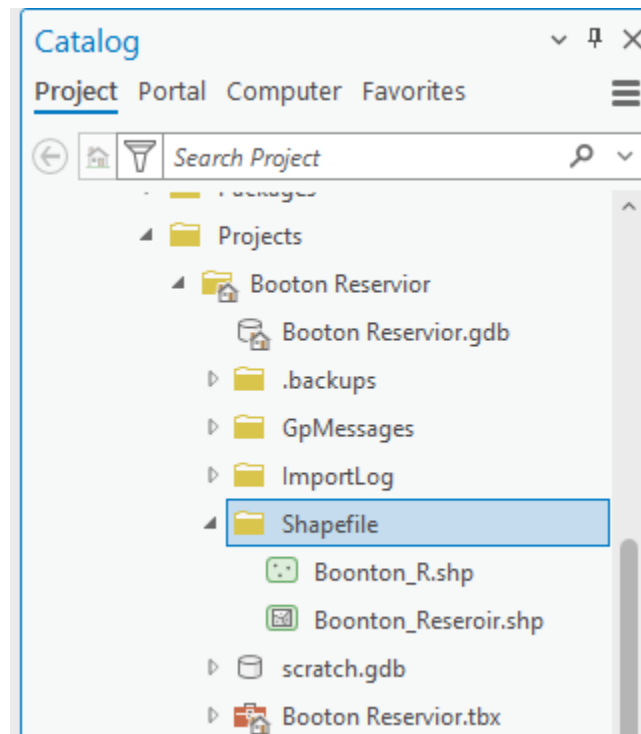
Using StreamStats Delineation option the watershed for this Dam can be delineated as shown below:



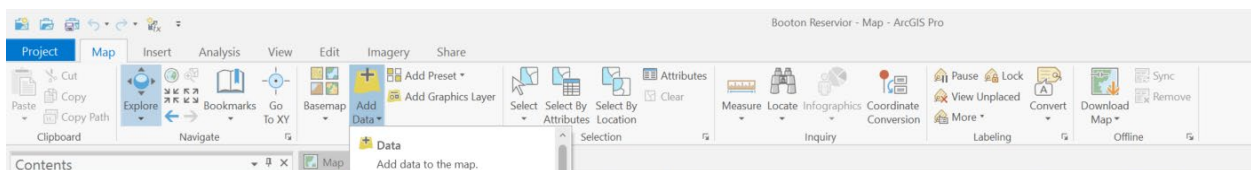
The delineated basin can be downloaded as the shapefile for use for NJPMP Tool input data for PMP depth determination for this watershed.

Step 4: Setting Up ArcGISPro

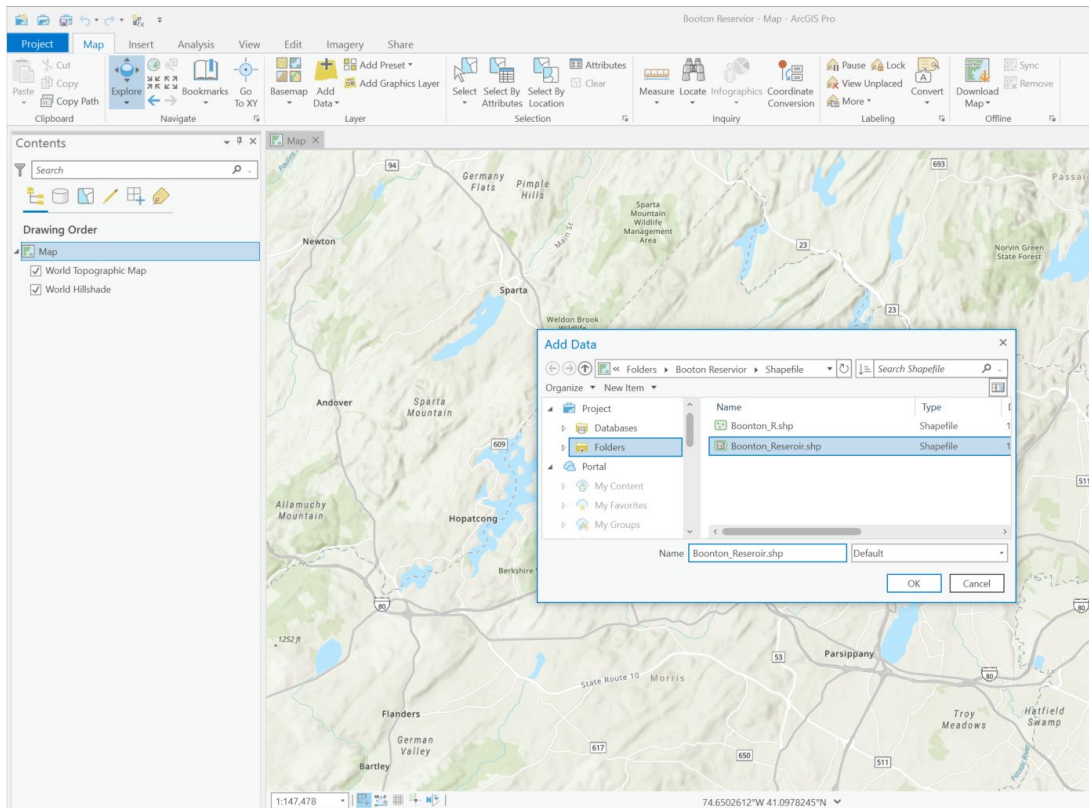
After the watershed delineation shapefile was downloaded it can be renamed in ArcCatalog® from its default name globalwatershed.shp from USGS Download site to the name of the watershed or POI you are analyzing.



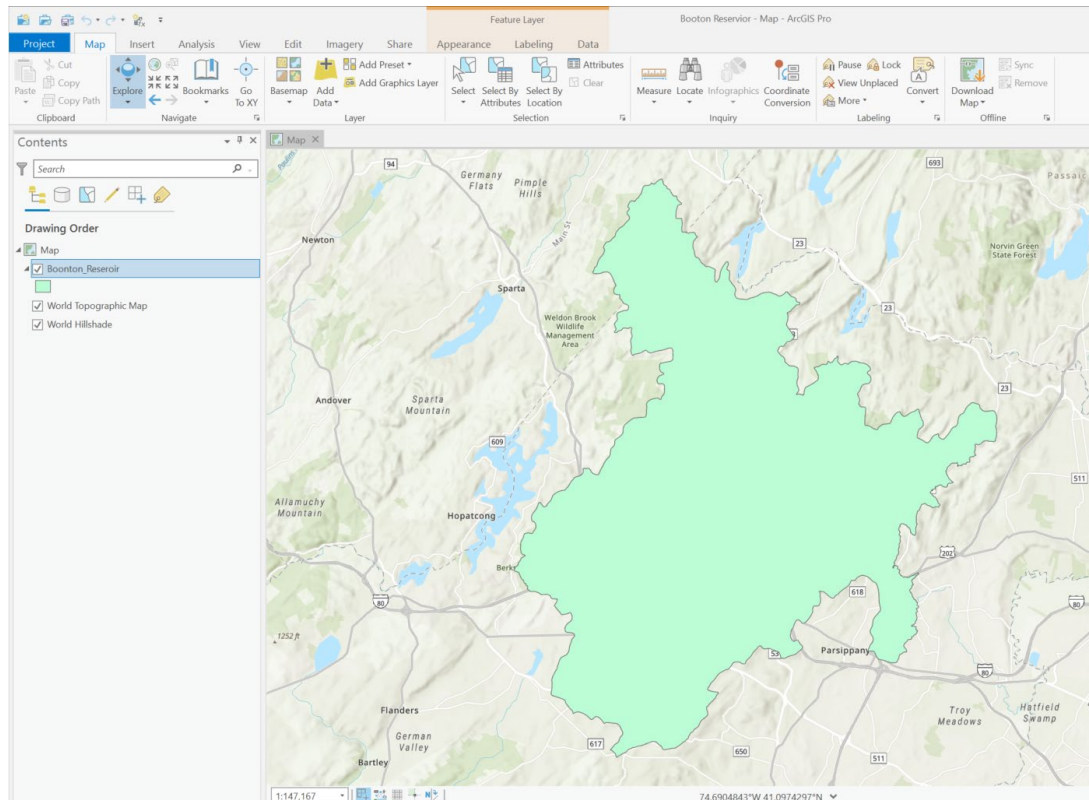
Use Add data to add watershed:



Navigate to the location where the watershed boundary file is located and add the shapefile:

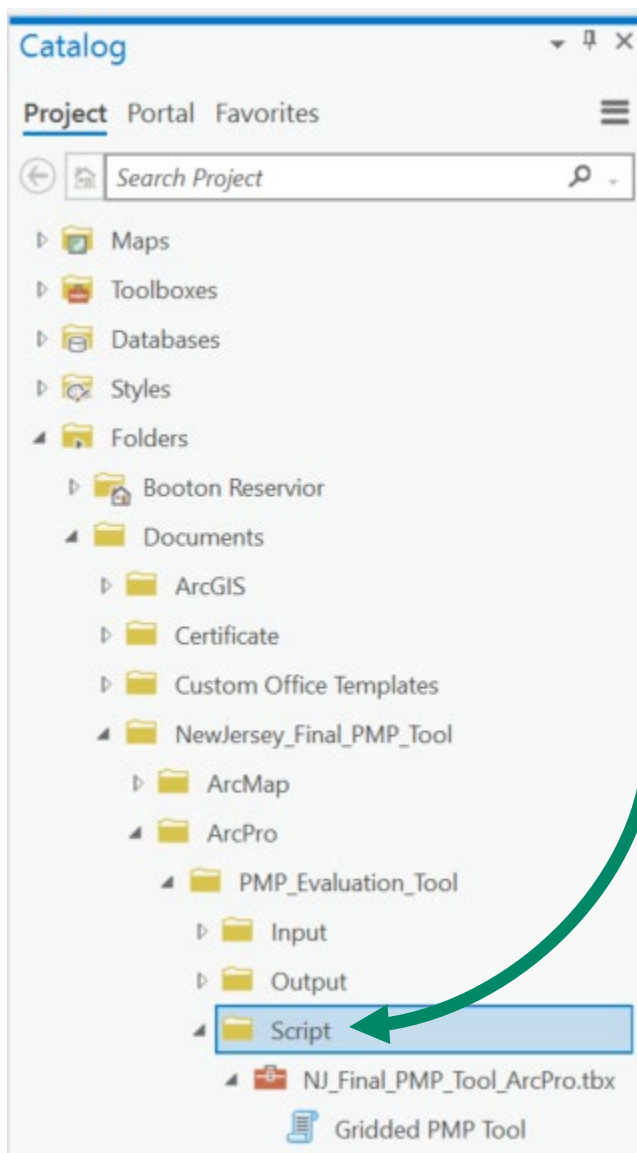


The watershed boundary shall look similar to below in your map.:



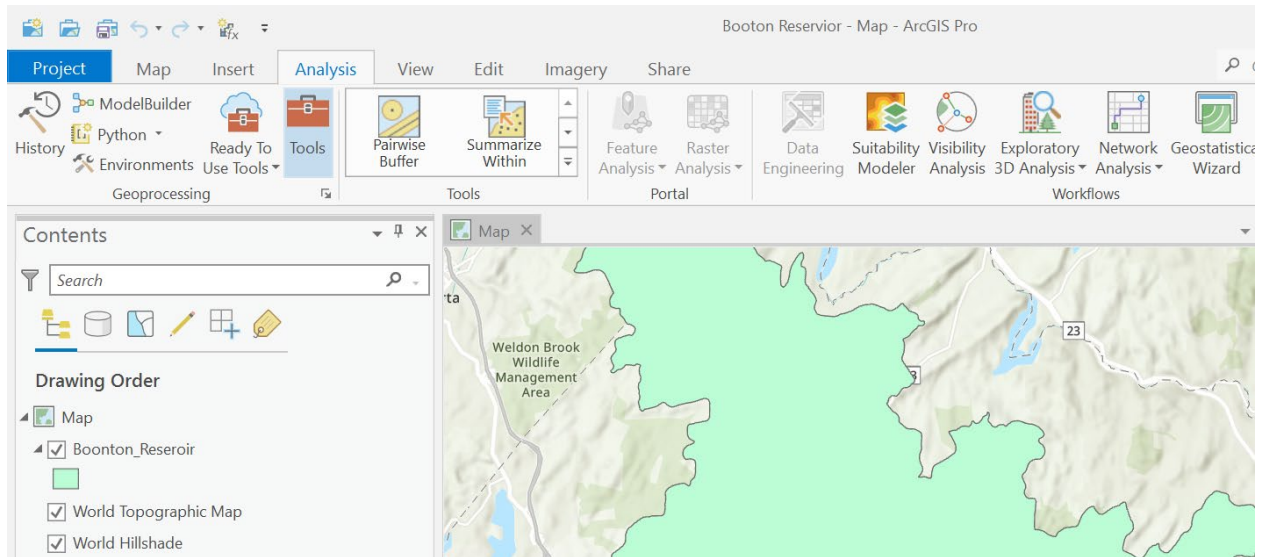
Step 5: Locating & Calling the NJPMP Tool from ArcMap Interface

Use the ArcCatalog® window in the ArcMap *.mxd to navigate to the Python Script for the NJPMP Tool (Gridded PMP Tool) on your local drive:

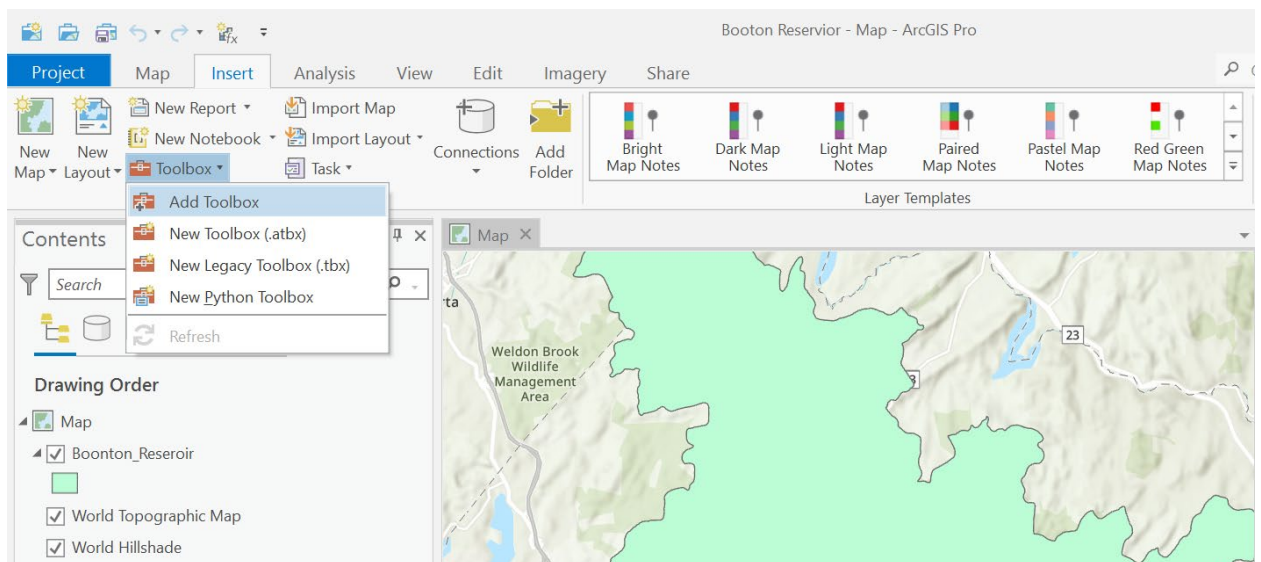


OR

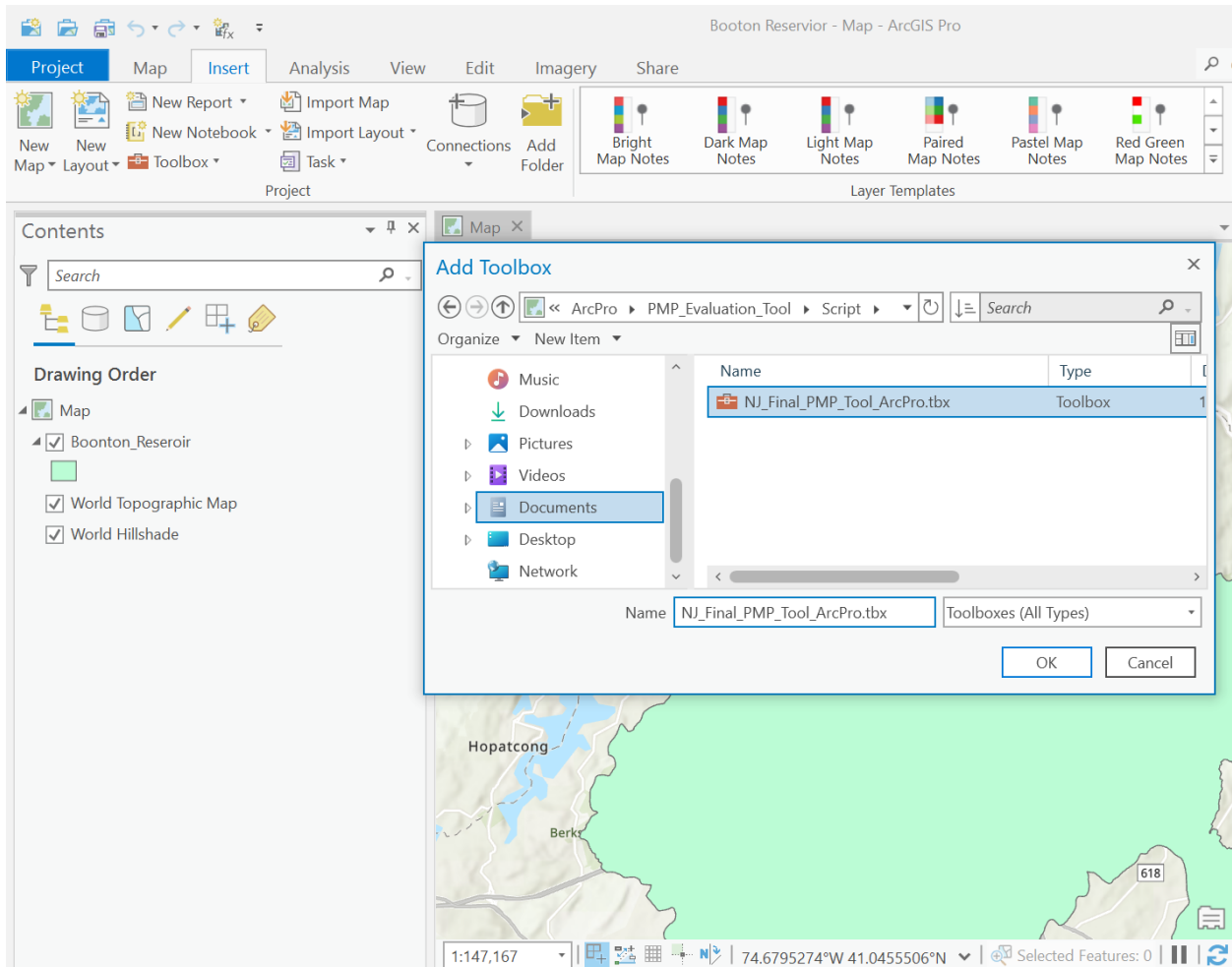
Alternatively, you can add NJPMP Tool to the ArcToolbox® tool library for your ArcGIS Pro by clicking on Tools icon on your ArcGIS Pro.



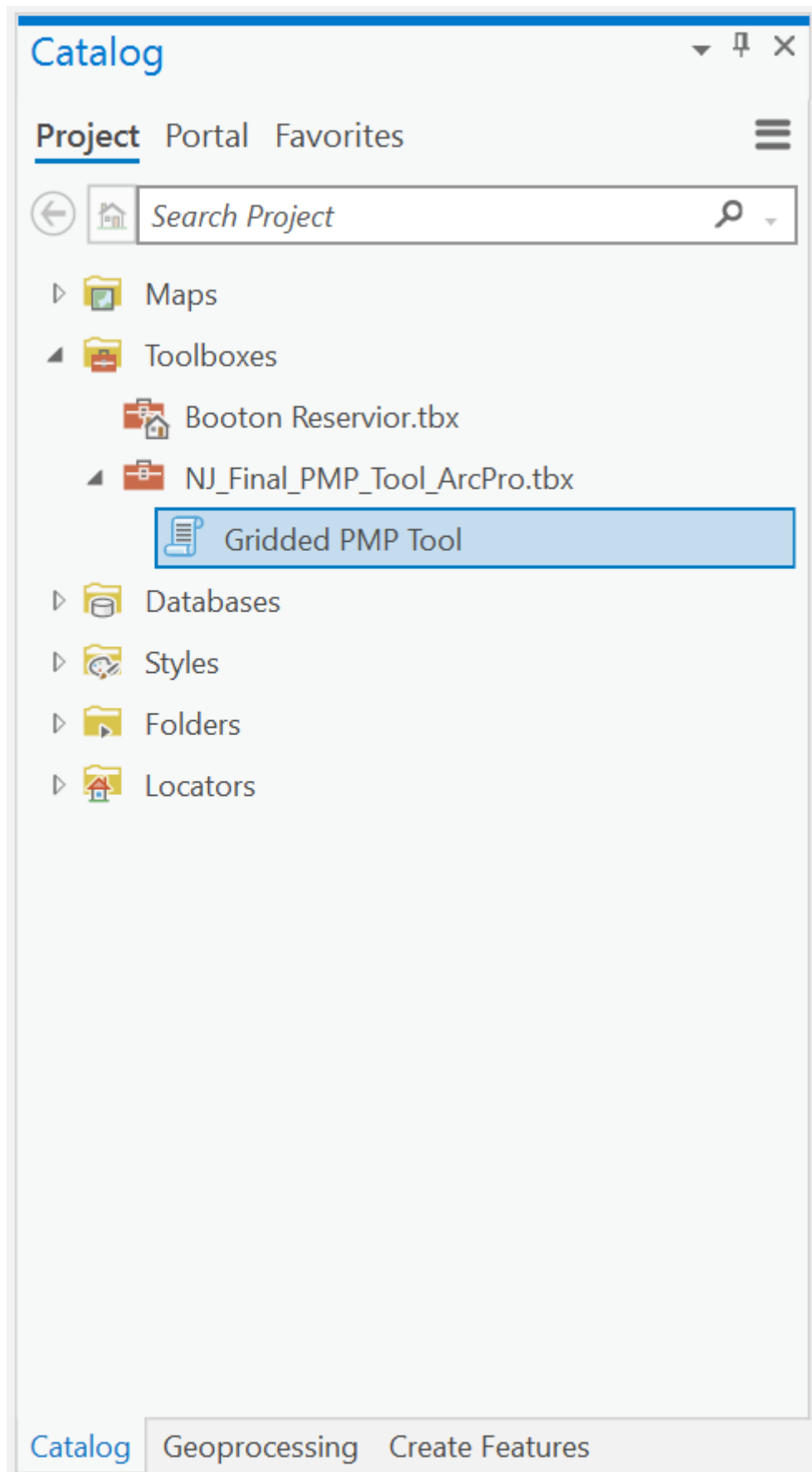
Click on Tools and then click on Add Toolbox as shown below:



Navigate to the location where NJPMP tool is saved on your local drive and click to add NJ_Final_PMP_Tool.tbx



The ArcToolboxes will have NJPMP Tool along with other tools available as below:



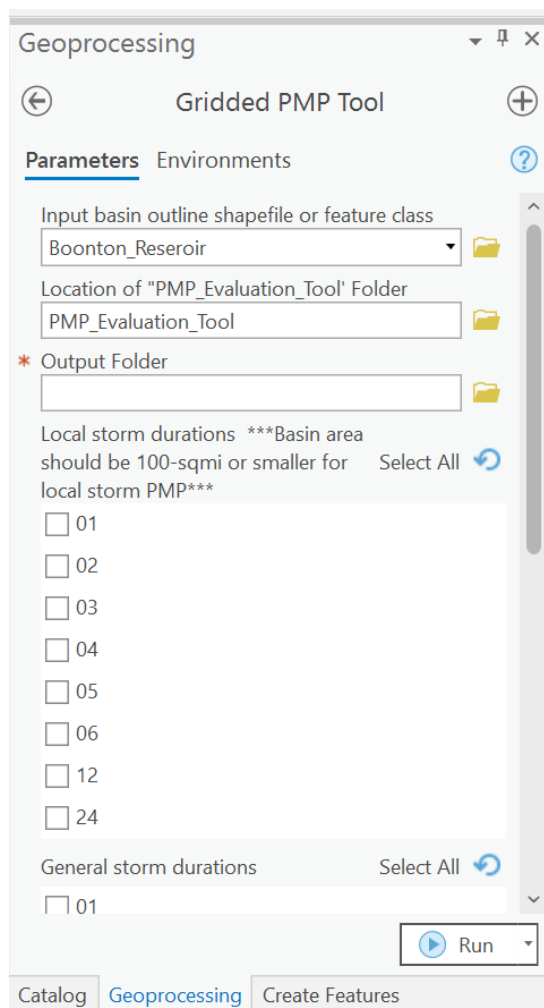
Note: Both methods will provide access to NJPMP Tool script needed to run this analysis. The ArcCatalog will require user to navigate to the file location each time tool intended to be used whereas adding it to ArcGIS Pro tool library on your computer makes it available as toolset without navigating to folder each time use is anticipated.

Reminder: Please **save your map** at this stage as it's ready to process the NJPMP data.

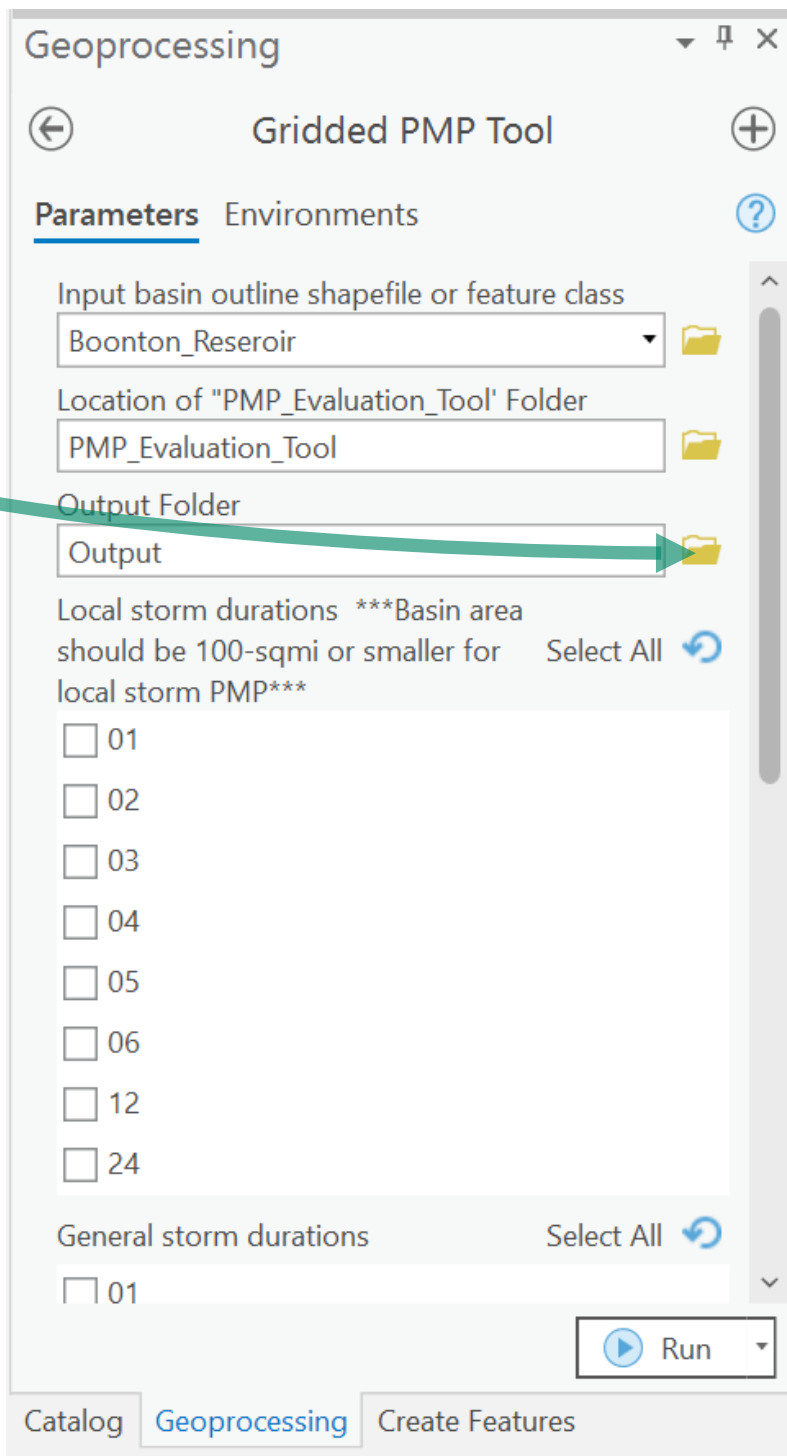
Step 6: Running NJPMP Tool in ArcMap

Navigate to NJPMP Tool location on your map or hard drive and double click on the Gridded PMP Tool Script to start the tool. The processing window will appear as shown below. From the dropdown list for input basin or shape file select the basin shapefile you wish to analyze (For our case selecting Boonton Reservoir)

Note: Check the location of "PMP_Evaluation_Tool" Folder, it should be the same location as in Step # 2, where the NJPMP tool files were extracted.

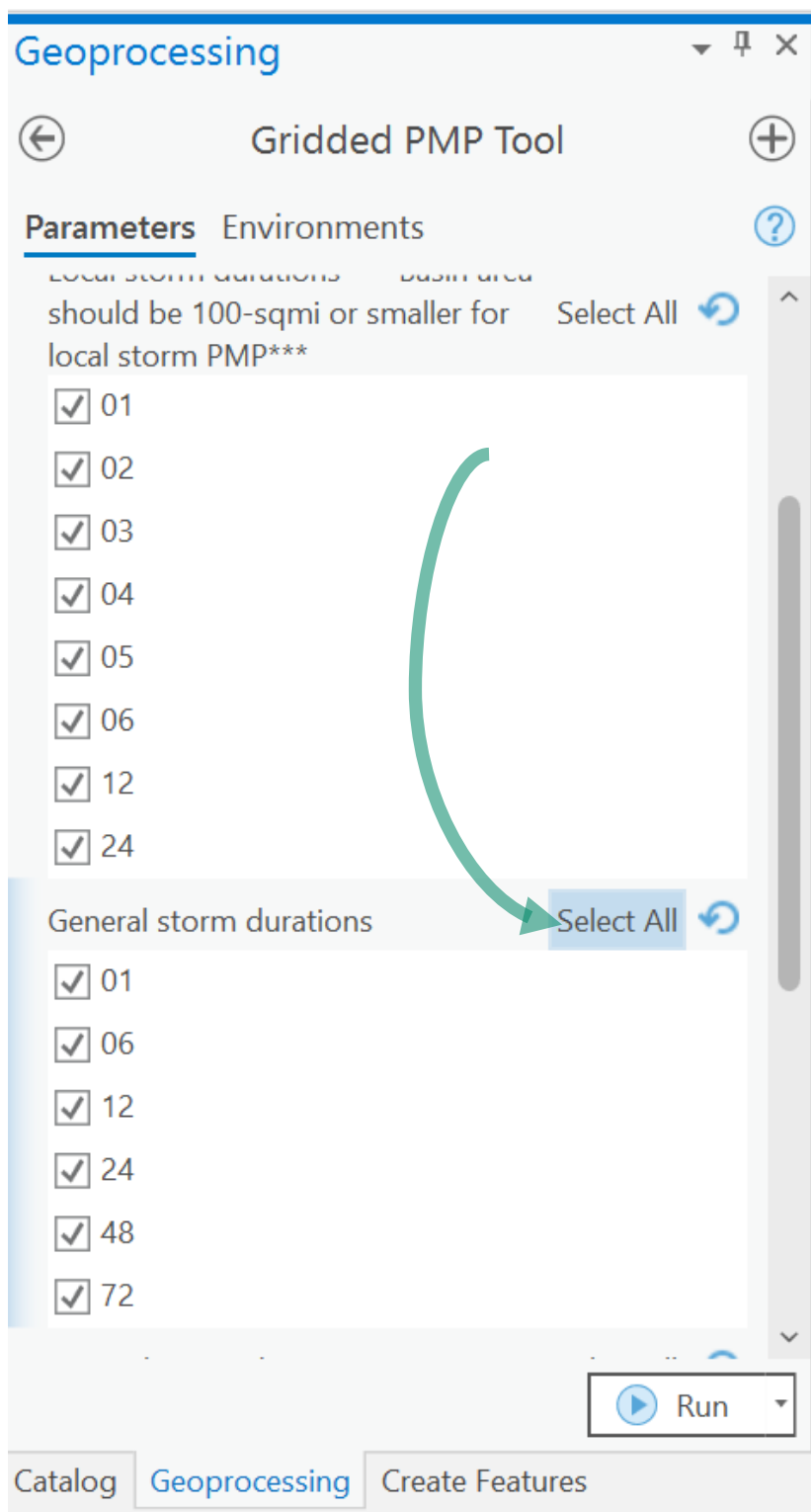


Using the folder icon on the Output Folder Line navigate to the desired location on your drive to save the output data from NJPMP Tool processing, for this example it is navigated to Boonton_Reservoir Folder see below:



The screenshot shows the 'Geoprocessing' window with the 'Gridded PMP Tool' selected. The 'Parameters' tab is active. The 'Output Folder' field is highlighted with a green arrow pointing to a folder icon, indicating the selection of the Boonton_Reservoir folder. The 'Input basin outline shapefile or feature class' is set to 'Boonton_Reservoir'. The 'Location of "PMP_Evaluation_Tool" Folder' is set to 'PMP_Evaluation_Tool'. The 'Output Folder' is set to 'Output'. The 'Local storm durations' section is expanded, showing a list of durations: 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 12, and 24. The 'General storm durations' section is also expanded, showing a list of durations: 01. The 'Run' button is visible at the bottom right.

Select all Local, General, and Tropical storm durations, from 1 hour to 24 hours for computations for NJ watershed irrespective of the drainage area of the basin.



Note: The NJPMP distributions are recommended based on the overall contributing watershed size at point of interest e.g., local storm application in hydrologic modeling is limited to drainage areas less than 100 square miles.

Scroll down within tool interface and check the boxes shown below. (Note that NJDEP requires determination of temporal distribution for development of rainfall/runoff model)

Geoprocessing

←

Gridded PMP Tool

+

Parameters

Environments

?

Input basin outline shapefile or feature class

Boonton_Reseroir

Location of "PMP_Evaluation_Tool" Folder

PMP_Evaluation_Tool

Output Folder

Output

☒ Use basin area size for areal average

☒ Apply weighted average to border grid cells

☐ Include sub-basin averages

☒ Include depth-duration chart output

☒ Apply temporal distributions

Distributions

Recommended

▶ Run

Catalog

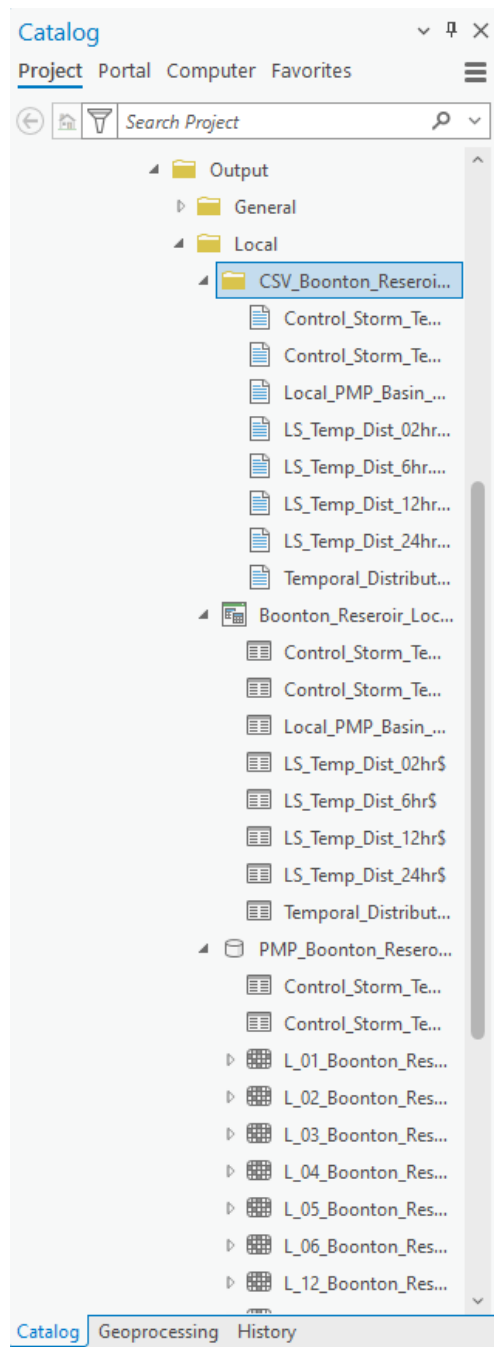
Geoprocessing

Create Features

Step 7: Geoprocessing of NJPMP Data:

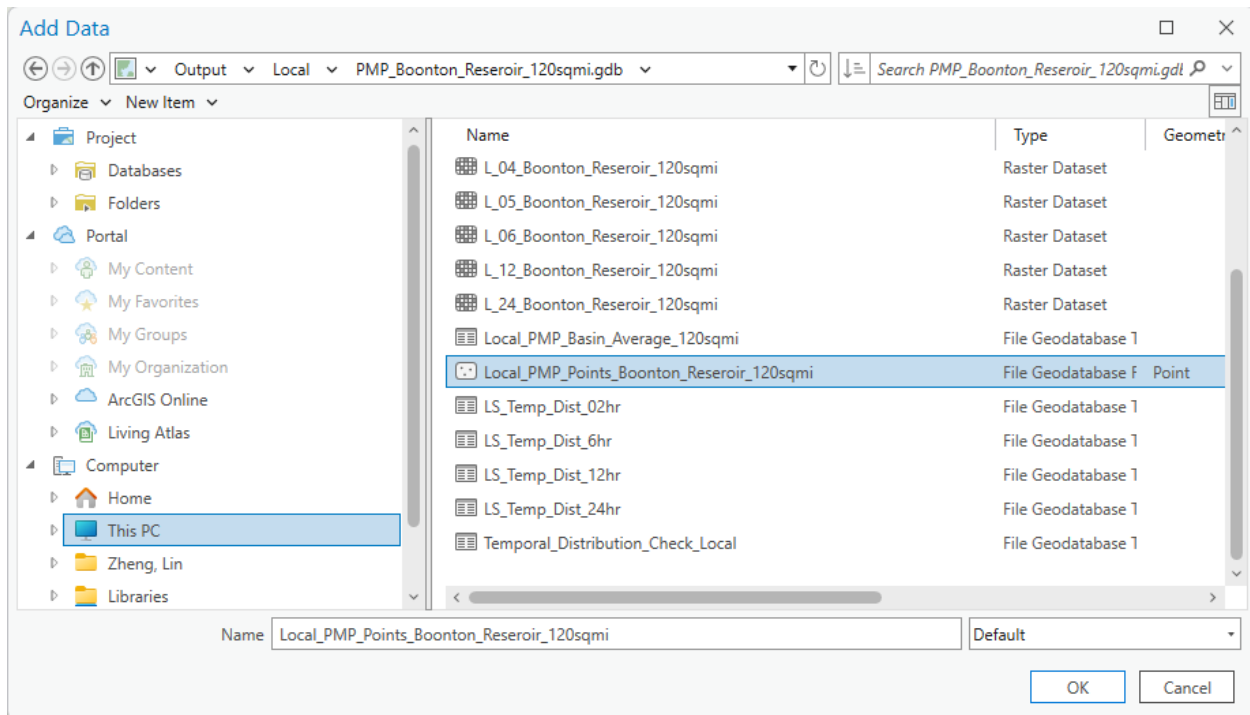
Click Ok on the dialog box and NJPMP Tool will compute the PMP depths and durations applicable to the selected watershed. This process is based on the transposition of the historic storms in the selected watershed based on the location of the watershed and proximity of the storms to selected watershed. The tool then calculate the maximum precipitation depth for the selected storm durations from the dialog box.)

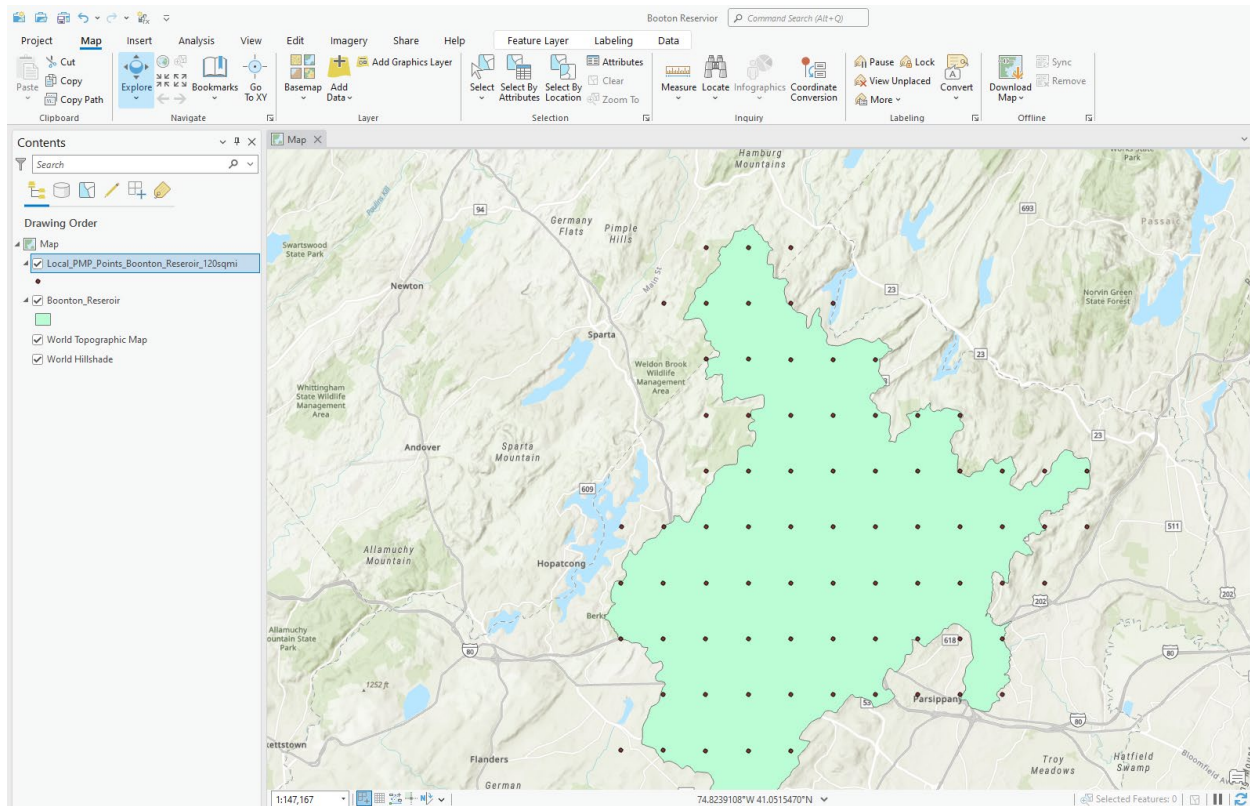
After the NJPMP Tool completes the computations, the results can be viewed from ArcCatalog (GIS Data) and through Windows File Explorer (Non-GIS Data).



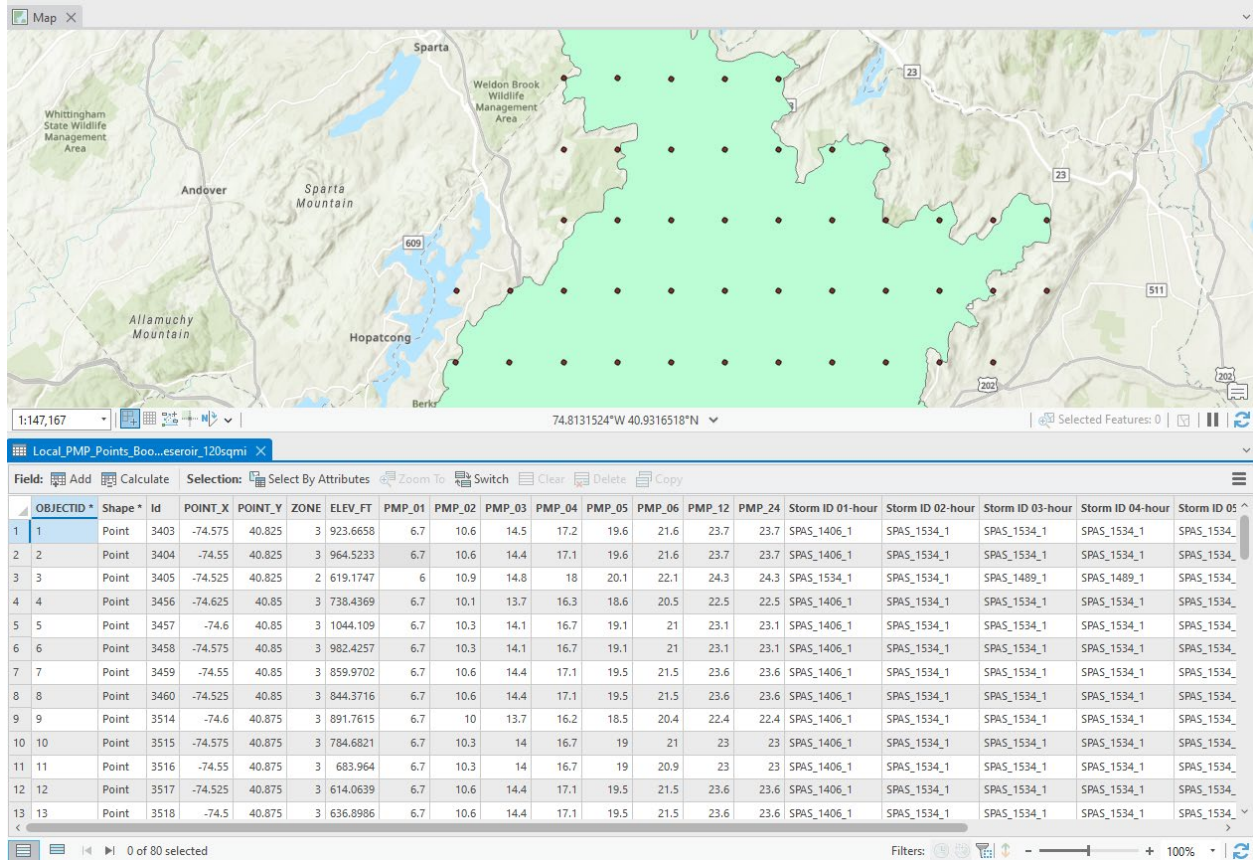
Step 8: Viewing Derived Spatial NJPMP Data for Watershed

Navigate to ArcCatalog or Add Data option on ArcGIS Pro and navigate to the output folders containing results of GeoProcessing data from NJPMP Tool. To view output data points used for the basin add **Local_PMP_Points_Boonton_Reservoir_120sqmi** featureclass from the output Geodatabase as shown below to review the PMP Depth at selected points within the watershed as shown below.

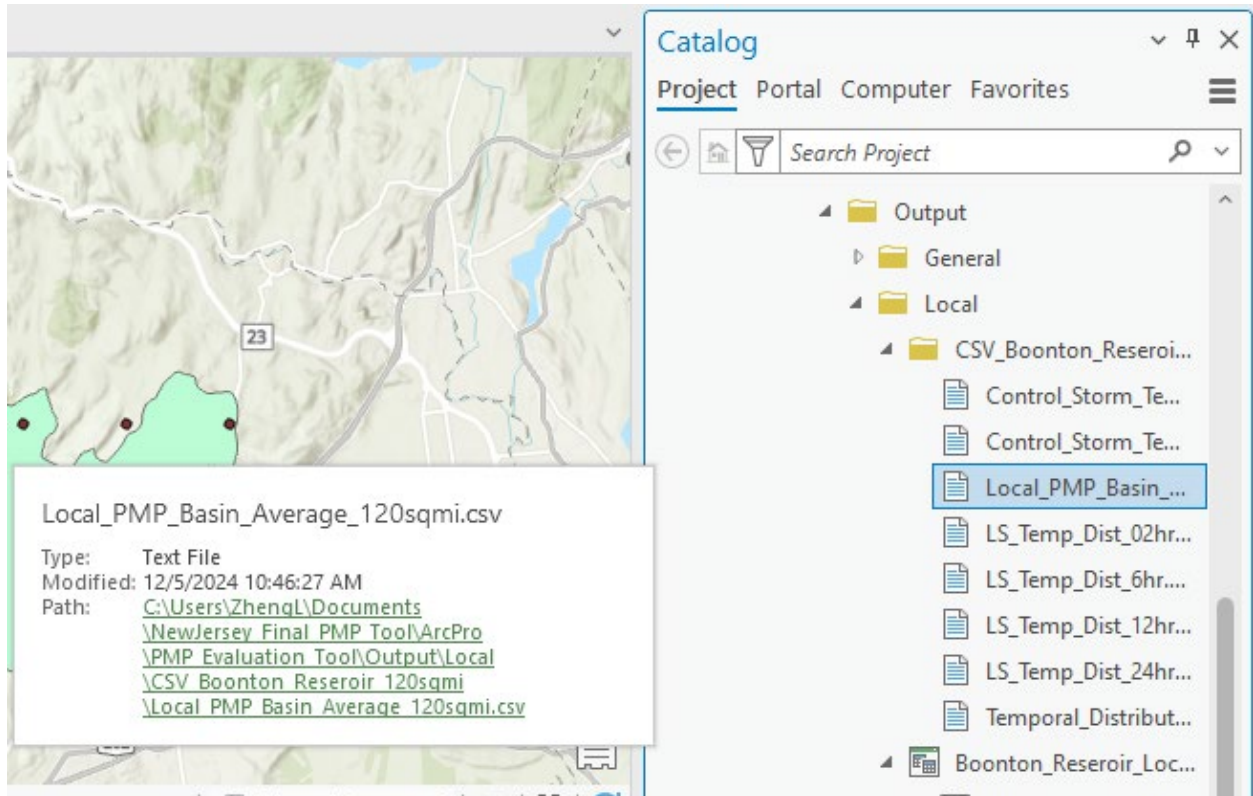


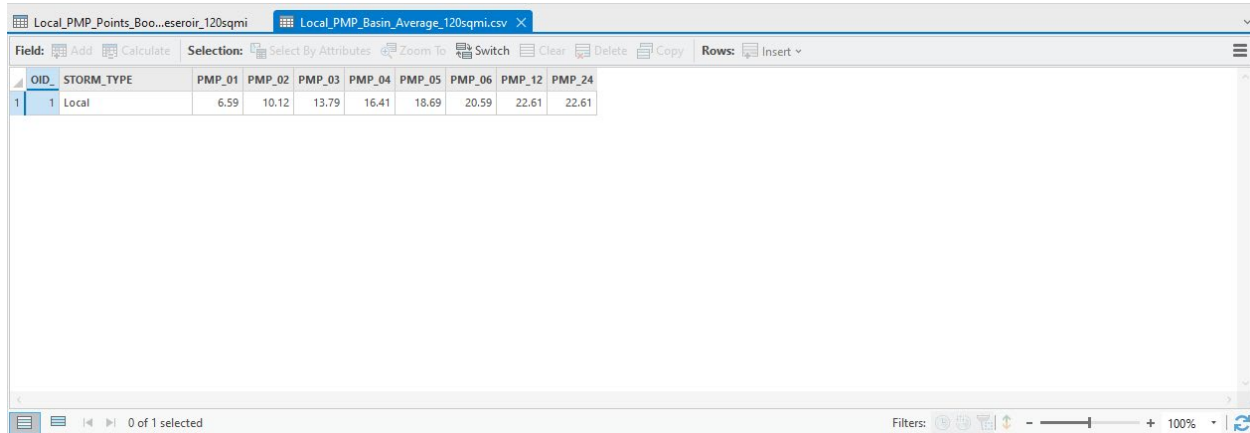


The Attribute table of the database will contain information at each point including lat/long elevation and controlling storm for each recurrence intervals. (Note: at same point different durations may have different control storms.



The Average Basin PMP average can be viewed as follows:



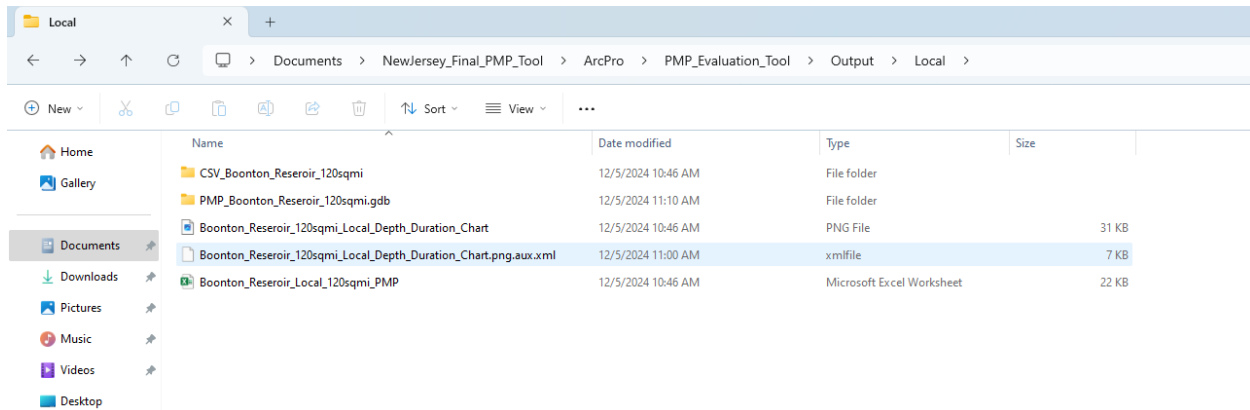


The screenshot shows a CSV file viewer with two tabs: 'Local_PMP_Points_Boo...eseroir_120sqmi' and 'Local_PMP_Basin_Average_120sqmi.csv'. The active tab displays a table with precipitation data for various PMP points. The table has columns for 'OID', 'STORM_TYPE', and PMP values for points 01 through 24. The first row shows data for 'Local' with PMP values ranging from 6.59 to 22.61. The status bar at the bottom indicates '0 of 1 selected' and 'Filters'.

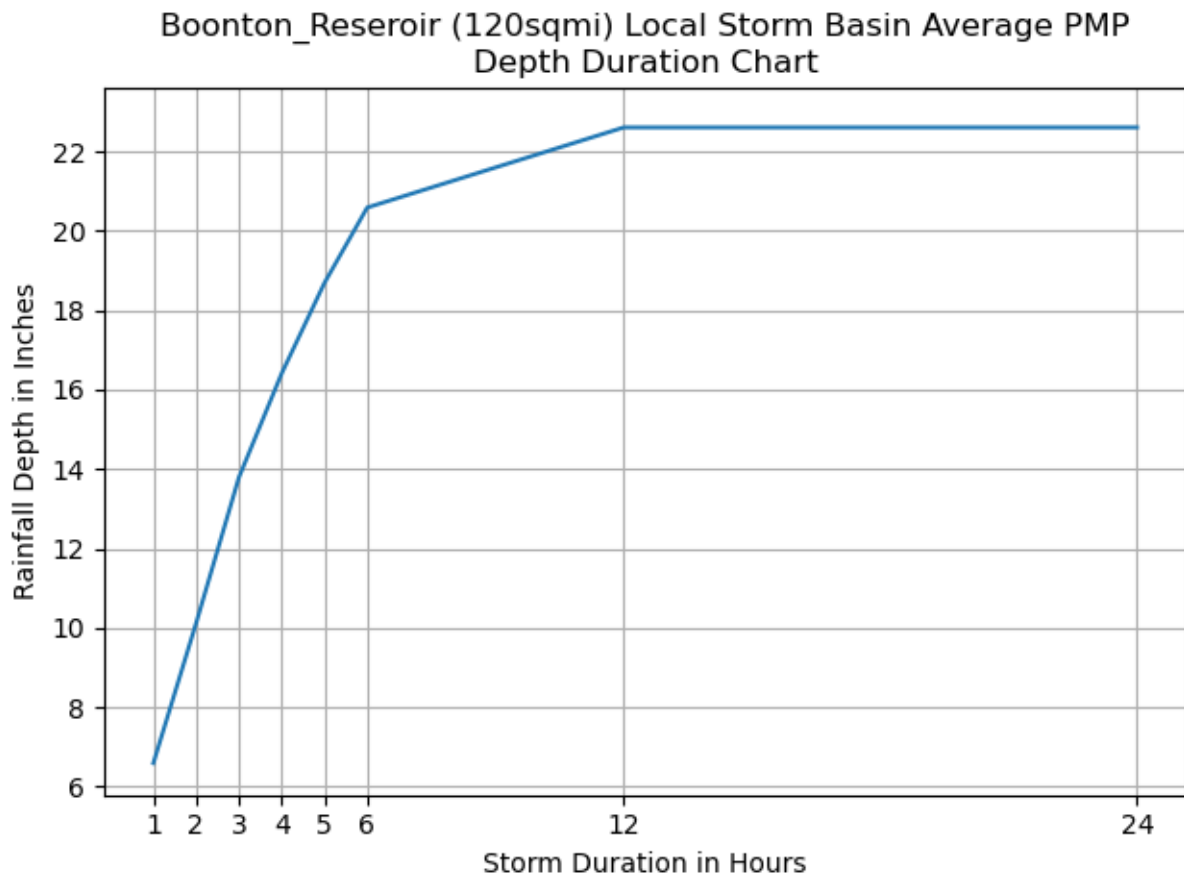
OID	STORM_TYPE	PMP_01	PMP_02	PMP_03	PMP_04	PMP_05	PMP_06	PMP_12	PMP_24
1	Local	6.59	10.12	13.79	16.41	18.69	20.59	22.61	22.61

Step 9: Viewing Non-Spatial Data of NJPMP (CSV Files Tables)

The Non-spatial data for NJPMP Tool can be viewed through windows explorer and Microsoft Excel.



The Depth-Duration Chart:




*.CSV Files to import in Excel:

CSV_Boonton_Reseroir_120sqm x +

Documents > NewJersey_Final_PMP_Tool > ArcPro > PMP_Evaluation_Tool > Output > Local > CSV_Boonton_Reseroir_120sqm

New	Sort	View	...
Home	Name	Date modified	Type
Gallery			Size
Documents	Control_Storm_Temp_Dist_06	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Microsoft Excel Comma Separat...
Downloads	Control_Storm_Temp_Dist_12	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Microsoft Excel Comma Separat...
Pictures	Local_PMP_Basin_Average_120sqmi	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Microsoft Excel Comma Separat...
Music	LS_Temp_Dist_02hr	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Microsoft Excel Comma Separat...
Videos	LS_Temp_Dist_6hr	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Microsoft Excel Comma Separat...
Desktop	LS_Temp_Dist_12hr	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Microsoft Excel Comma Separat...
	LS_Temp_Dist_24hr	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Microsoft Excel Comma Separat...
	schema	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Configuration settings
	Temporal_Distribution_Check_Local	12/5/2024 10:46 AM	Microsoft Excel Comma Separat...

The recommended recommended PMP storms and temporal distributions for NJ PMP Tool are as follows:

Local Storm*	General Storm	Tropical Storm
2-hour local storm synthetic 6-hour local storm 10th-percentile 12-hour local storm 10th-percentile 24-hour local storm 10th-percentile 6-hour local controlling Storm 12-hour local controlling Storm 	24-hour general storm 10th-percentile 12-hour general controlling storm	24-hour tropical storm 10th-percentile 12-hour tropical controlling storm

*Local storm application in hydrologic modeling is limited to drainage areas less than 100 square miles.

Step 10: Review & Use Temporal Distribution in Model

Now you can derive the necessary distribution such as LS_Temporal_Distribution_02hr into your HEC-HMS or other hydrologic model's meteorological model for simulations.

AutoSave ☐ Off

LS_Temporal_Distributions_02hr

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Help ProjectWise

Cut Copy Paste Format Painter

Clipboard

Calibri 11 A⁺ A⁻

B I U Font Color Background Color

Font

Alignment

POSSIBLE DATA LOSS Some features might be lost if you save this workbook in the comma-delimited (.csv) format. To pres

L10

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	OID	TIMESTEP	MINUTE	LS_2HR_DISTRIBUTION					
2	-1	1	5	0.2375					
3	-1	2	10	0.475					
4	-1	3	15	0.7125					
5	-1	4	20	0.95					
6	-1	5	25	1.1875					
7	-1	6	30	1.425					
8	-1	7	35	2.15306					
9	-1	8	40	2.93894					
10	-1	9	45	3.80034					
11	-1	10	50	4.8647					
12	-1	11	55	6.36684					
13	-1	12	60	8.20882					
14	-1	13	65	9.4549					
15	-1	14	70	10.39418					
16	-1	15	75	11.20956					
17	-1	16	80	11.97184					
18	-1	17	85	12.64326					
19	-1	18	90	13.22264					
20	-1	19	95	13.46014					
21	-1	20	100	13.69764					
22	-1	21	105	13.93514					
23	-1	22	110	14.17264					
24	-1	23	115	14.41014					
25	-1	24	120	14.64764					
26									

Reference:

PADEP: INSTRUCTIONS - Using the PA PMP TOOL in ArcGIS_Reference PA.pdf

NJDEP/AWS: Probable Maximum Precipitation Study For New Jersey Final Report

AECOM: NJPMP tool Additional Analyses Memo 07-07-22

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