USGS SPARROW Decision Support System

Total nitrogen and total phosphorus SPARROW (SPAtially Referenced Regression On Watershed attributes) models have been developed for the southeastern U.S. to explain spatial patterns in monitored nutrient loads in relation to human activities and natural processes. Water resource managers can access these models through an online decision support system to:

- Map predictions of nutrient conditions and sources;
- Track the sources and quantities of nutrients transported to downstream lakes and estuaries;
- Identify which sources and which stream catchments contribute the largest amounts of nutrients to downstream waterbodies; and
- Evaluate alternative nutrient reduction scenarios and develop science-based estimates of how changes in nutrient sources affect the transport of nutrients to downstream waterbodies.

The presentation will demonstrate how the online tool can be used to assess nutrient conditions and sources in Alabama waterbodies, such as Mobile Bay and Lake Martin.
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