L-THIA Uncertainty

Like any model, L-THIA's uncertainty is dependent upon the uncertainty in its model inputs.

L-THIA utilizes the USDA's SSURGO soil surveys, MRLC's National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD), and 30 years of observed precipitation data to estimate run-off volume. A misclassification of hydrologic soil group by SSURGO, or land cover by NLCD will obviously misrepresent runoff for a given area. Furthermore, L-THIA is dependent upon the reliability of the curve number method. Though curve numbers are a relatively simple approach to simulating runoff, they are widely utilized in hydrological modeling.

L-THIA's estimates of pollution runoff are a product of published pollutant concentrations and curve number derived runoff. Therefore these estimates are subject to the same uncertainty as the runoff described above, in addition to the uncertainty in the concentration values.

Click here to learn more about how:

- <u>L-THIA works</u>
- its limitations
- its use of pollutant concentrations