TRUE ELEMENTS Water Intelligence Event Summary July 21,2026 • Issue 003

TrueQi™ portal — NOAA SLOSH Category 1 surge scenario across New York Harbor.

NEW YORK CITY · ALL FIVE BOROUGHS

New York City Flood Event

Compound Coastal, Tidal & Urban Flood Assessment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On July 21, 2026, eight public-data layers were examined across all five New York City boroughs from the July 18th event. The event occurred within New York City's broader compound tidal–surge–rainfall risk environment, but the strongest signal on July 18 was coastal and tidal—not heavy local rainfall or river-stage exceedance. Local rainfall was generally 0.1–0.5 inches, and NWS river forecast gauges remained below action stage.

TrueQi™, supported by Argus™, found the clearest convergence in NOAA STOFS-3D-Atlantic model output showing 1.9–2.5 meters of water-level disturbance across the Hudson, East, Harlem, and Arthur Kill waterways; multi-borough coastal exposure; low flash-flood thresholds in Brooklyn and Queens; and a later Above Normal streamflow signal on July 21.

KEY FINDINGS

DOMINANT SIGNAL

1.9–2.5 meters · Harbor-wide model disturbance

STOFS-3D-Atlantic showed the same highest displayed tier across four major waterways

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RIVER-STAGE CONTRAST

Below Action Stage · Steady trends

NYC-area NWS gauges did not show a conventional river-stage flood condition

RAINFALL & FLASH-FLOOD CONTEXT

0.1–0.5 inches locally · 1.0–1.5 in/hr FFG in Brooklyn and Queens

Rainfall was modest, but low urban thresholds leave little margin if a stronger cell shifts east

ASSESSMENT STATUS

Dominant coastal and tidal flood threat

Confidence is highest in the mechanism; exact local inundation requires observed confirmation

TRUSTED PUBLIC DATA

NOAA USGS NWS FEMA

TrueQi™
Multi-source data synthesis

Argus™
Environmental pattern analysis

Operational Understanding
From raw data to actionable insight

Better Environmental Decisions

WHY THIS MATTERS

Compound Flood Risk

New York City faces compound tidal–surge–rainfall risk when high tides, surge, rain, and limited drainage overlap. On July 18, however, the strongest evidence pointed to coastal and tidal pressure; local rainfall was modest. The mechanism is supported, but modeled water levels and neighborhood impacts require observed confirmation.

OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT

Event Assessment · July 18, 2026

STOFS-3D-Atlantic modeled 1.9–2.5 meters across four harbor waterways. Coastal layers showed overlapping exposure; Brooklyn and Queens had low flash-flood thresholds. July 21 streamflow was Above Normal.

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OPERATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

TrueQi™ integrated eight evidence layers; Argus™ supported comparison. The coastal/tidal mechanism is well supported; observed water levels, neighborhood inundation, and exact impacts require confirmation.

FULL REPORT

For a copy of the full report of this event, use the QR code or link to our Intelligence Series Page where you will find all of our event summaries and reports.

LINK: *https://trueelements.com/intelligence-series*

ABOUT TRUE ELEMENTS

Water Intelligence Platform

True Elements' TrueQi™ structures Water Intelligence synthesis. Argus™ supports evidence organization, comparison, and analytical discipline. Together they preserve observations, distinguish forecasts and scenarios, test convergence, surface operational questions, and make limitations explicit.

CONTACT US

Connect with True Elements about Water Intelligence.

Website: trueelements.com

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