

**Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee**  
**Quarterly Meeting Summary**  
**May 8-9, 2003**  
**Radisson Hotel Annapolis, Annapolis, MD**

**May 8, 2003**

**Attendance:**

Members/Alternates: Mary Beth Adams, Don Boesch, Denise Breitburg, Rob Brumbaugh, Ted Graham, Tom Grizzard, Kirk Havens, Carl Hershner, Bruce Hicks, Ed Houde, John Keene, Mike Kemp, Gerrit Knapp, Jonathan Kramer, Les Lanyon, Doug Lipton, Jim Lynch, Gary Matlock, Saied Mostaghimi, Catherine O'Riordan, Scott Phillips, Jonathan Phinney, Harry Pionke, Cliff Randall, Bill Rickards, Greg Ruiz, Larry Sanford, Kevin Sellner, Tom Simpson, Dick Weismiller

Guests: Sydney Army, Karl Blankenship, Maggie Kerchner, Bob Koroncai, Margaret McBride, Laura Pyzik, Nita Sylvester, Jake Vandevort

Staff: Melissa Bugg

**Call to Order**

Carl Hershner, STAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. After introducing members, guests, and staff, the December meeting minutes were approved. Also at this time, the May meeting agenda was approved.

**STAC Membership**

Carl Hershner informed the committee of the STAC Executive Board's recommendation to nominate Ed Houde, UMD/UMCES, and Dick Weismiller, UMD, to At-large membership positions. Ed Houde will occupy the membership position vacated by Don Boesch who has moved to a Governor Appointment to STAC, while Dick Weismiller will occupy the membership position left vacant after the resignation of Rob Hale, VIMS. Harry Pionke announced his resignation as this time and suggested that his alternate, Andrew Sharpley, USDA, would be an appropriate candidate to fill his position.

**Subcommittee Support Staff Presentations**

Kevin Sellner, CRC, introduced the two CRC Chesapeake Bay Program Subcommittee Support Staffers who updated STAC on the current activities of their committees, subcommittees, and workgroups. Laura Pyzik updated the committee on the activities of the Communications and Education Subcommittee, primarily focusing on the Education Workgroup. The workgroup is tasked with providing a meaningful Bay or stream outdoor experience for every school student before graduation from high school, starting with the class of 2005. They have estimated the amount of funding needed to meet this commitment and are actively searching for financial resources. In addition, the workgroup is developing a booklet, which will define what constitutes a meaningful Bay experience and will highlight model programs. Jake Vandevort updated the committee on the activities of the Implementation Committee (IC) and the Budget Steering

Committee (BSC). The Implementation Committee has decided to shift the focus of its meetings from informative agenda items, to agenda items that require action or discussion. Subcommittees have begun submitting semi-annual digests which update the IC on the activities of the subcommittee, progress towards meeting C2K goals, and issues which need to be addressed by the IC. These digests will be used to drive future IC agendas. Upcoming topics for the IC include involvement of the Headwater States, and revisiting the Keystone Commitment exercise. The Budget Steering Committee has received the FY03 budget, which exceeded the committee's expectations, and is now working on allocating the extra money. They are also formulating the FY04 budget, which saw an increase in the overall base budget. The BSC has decided to forgo the ranking process for activities budget requests and will be funding each subcommittee's top priority activity; subsequent subcommittee activities will be approved if funds are available.

### **STAC Shoreline Erosion Meeting Summary**

Larry Sanford, UMD/UMCES, gave an overview of the STAC Shoreline Erosion Meeting that was held January 2003 in response to the Chesapeake Bay Program's request for assistance during the nutrient and sediment allocation process. Larry Sanford and Scott Phillips, USGS, convened a one-day technical meeting comprised of scientists and managers from the Bay region to review model projections and their use in setting the nutrient and sediment allocations. The goals of the meeting were to evaluate uncertainties in the model projections being used to develop shoreline erosion allocations, suggest specific areas for future work to improve projections and reduce the uncertainties, discuss implications for the allocation process, and to produce a brief written summary of findings and recommendations. The recommendations developed by meeting participants were discussed. Copies of the meeting summary will be available on the STAC website.

### **Nutrient and Sediment Allocation Update**

Bob Koroncai, U.S. EPA, updated the committee on the new nutrient and sediment allocations. He noted that the information STAC provided after the Shoreline Erosion meeting was critical to this process. After reviewing the process behind developing new allocations for N, P, and sediment, Bob suggested four areas where STAC input could be used:

1. Improving the sediment model
2. Highlighting innovative approaches and researching Best Management Practices (BMPs).
3. Advanced input on allocation refinement scheduled for 2007
4. Helping to explain the response to these new allocations that is seen in the Bay

### **Rapid Response Workshops**

Scott Phillips, USGS, highlighted several of the benefits of "rapid response" workshops using the Shoreline Erosion meeting as an example of their effectiveness. The committee then discussed an idea presented by the Executive Board to reserve a portion of the workshop funding allocated to STAC each year, in order to be able to conduct more of these rapid response workshops when issues emerge. This would allow STAC to create a

tighter bond with the Chesapeake Bay Program and be seen as a resource for the Subcommittees as they deliberate over various issues. The membership noted that these workshops should not be conducted in the place of the annual RFP responsive and proactive workshops, but should be conducted in addition to our traditional workshop activities. They also stressed that a clear, well-defined question is needed in order to be able to develop a successful rapid response workshop.

**Action:** Carl Hershner, STAC Chair, will develop several guidelines that will be used to determine if a rapid response workshop is appropriate and to outline the scope and structure of these rapid response workshops.

### **Review of STAC Workshop Proposals**

The committee reviewed 2 Proactive and 3 Responsive workshop proposals that were submitted to STAC Staff in March. The results of these discussions are highlighted in the tables below.

#### *STAC Proactive Workshop Proposals*

##### **Ammonia Workshop**

Submitted By: Jim Lynch

Comments: Jim Lynch will prepare a report after the workshop for STAC to summarize the meeting and to tie the results of this large conference specifically to the Chesapeake Bay.

Proposed Funding: The Executive Board recommends \$5,000

Action: The committee approved the proposed funding for this workshop.

##### **Understanding the “Lag Times” Affecting the Improvement of Water Quality in the Chesapeake Bay**

Submitted By: Scott Phillips, Tom Simpson, Les Lanyon

Comments: The committee suggested using targeted invitations when soliciting participation for this workshop.

Proposed Funding: The Executive Board recommends \$5,000

Action: The committee approved the proposed funding for this workshop.

#### *STAC Responsive Workshop Proposals*

##### **Urban Stormwater Sediment: Sources, Impacts and Control**

Submitted By: Nutrient Subcommittee, with support from LGAC

(Collin Burrell, Karl Berger, Ted Graham, Tom Simpson)

Comments: The focus of the workshop will be more on management and technology transfer for local managers instead of focusing on the CBP to engage smaller jurisdictions not yet involved in this area.

Proposed Funding: The Executive Board recommends \$6,000-7,000

Action: The committee approved the proposed funding for this workshop.

**Quantifying the Environmental Benefits of Activities that Promote a Stewardship Ethic and Effect Behavior Change in Chesapeake Bay Watershed Residents**

Submitted By: Communications and Education Subcommittee

(Nita Sylvester, Chris Connor, Jennifer Caddick)

Comments: The committee discussed if STAC was the appropriate venue for such and activity and if they have expertise to support the proposal.

Proposed Funding: The Executive Board recommended that this proposal not be funded.

Action: Jonathan Kramer, MDSG, agreed to communicate with subcommittee members and help to identify potential experts and to see if there are alternate ways STAC can be of assistance to the subcommittee on related issues.

**Coupling Water Quality and Upper Trophic Level Modeling for Chesapeake Bay**

Submitted By: Modeling Subcommittee

(Lewis Linker, Arthur Butt)

Comments: Need to tone down the proposal, work with a smaller group. STAC should be involved in the selection of a steering committee. Need a more focused question in order to determine the appropriate STAC mechanism used to respond.

Proposed Funding: \$5,000

Action: The committee approved the proposed funding and identified several STAC participants including Saied Mostaghimi, VA Tech, Mike Kemp, UMD/UMCES, and Denise Breitberg, ANS. It was also suggested that Alasdair Beattie, CRC/NOAA, be included as a steering committee member.

**Scientific and Technical Needs Assessment**

Carl Hershner updated the committee on the status of the Scientific and Technical Needs document and the Priority Scientific and Technical Needs document. The Scientific and Technical Needs Document has been completed and distributed to the committee. A copy of the document will be posted on the STAC website. Committee members are encouraged to update the document periodically as STAC members see fit. The Priority Scientific and Technical Needs document is nearing completion and will be forwarded to the committee and posted on the STAC website as soon as it is available.

**Action:** Carl Hershner, STAC Chair, will forward the completed version of the Priority Scientific and Technical Needs document to STAC Staff for distribution and posting on the STAC website.

**FEP Advisory Panel Request for STAC Review**

Margaret McBride, NOAA/CBPO, formally requested a STAC review of the Fisheries Ecosystem Plan currently being developed by the Fisheries Ecosystem Plan Advisory Panel. The document will be available for review in 6-10 weeks. STAC agreed to conduct a review of this Plan.

**Action:** Carl Hershner, STAC Chair, will communicate with Margaret McBride, NOAA/CBPO, and interested STAC members regarding the review of the Fisheries Ecosystem Plan.

### ***Chesapeake Futures: Choices for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century***

Carl Hershner updated the committee on the STAC publication *Chesapeake Futures: Choices for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. The report has been in high demand due to the airing of the video on MPT and the recent press coverage of the report's findings. STAC staff has distributed the majority of the first 500 printed copies and has made an electronic version of the report available by chapter on the STAC website. The committee discussed getting additional hard copies of the report produced to continue distribution to local groups, libraries, and the state legislative offices. The membership also discussed having more condensed materials available to distribute instead of and along side of the report itself and discussed the possibility of distributing the report on CD. Carl Hershner discussed a follow up activity that would divide the subject matter of the report amongst the membership, charging each member with monitoring their particular section and submitting annual updates to the committee. After a period of 2-3 years, STAC would produce an "update" to the report based on the summary information.

<p><b>Action:</b> STAC members with recommendations for the continued distribution of <i>Chesapeake Futures: Choices for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</i> and information on potential funding opportunities for a second printing of the report should contact STAC Staff.</p>
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### **STAC Emerging Issues in the Chesapeake Bay**

Carl Hershner began a committee discussion to identify emerging issues in the Chesapeake Bay that the committee would like to address with the Chesapeake Bay Program Director and Associate Directors. The list of emerging issues was compiled by STAC Staff and is available in a separate document. STAC Members suggesting emerging issues were tasked with developing a one-page write up of the proposed issue. The write-ups will be collected and made available on the STAC website. In addition, STAC members were tasked with forwarding contact information of colleagues who may be willing to participate in STAC activities to STAC Staff to create a directory of expertise throughout the Bay region.

<p><b>Action:</b> STAC members should submit one-page Emerging Issue Papers and colleague contact information to STAC Staff by May 30, 2003.</p>
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**May 9, 2003**

**Attendance:**

Members/Alternates: Mary Beth Adams, Don Boesch, Denise Breitburg, Rob Brumbaugh, Ted Graham, Tom Grizzard, Kirk Havens, Carl Hershner, Bruce Hicks, Ed Houde, John Keene, Waldon Kerns, Ron Korcak, Les Lanyon, Doug Lipton, Jim Lynch, Gary Matlock, Catherine O’Riordan, Jonathan Phinney, Harry Pionke, Cliff Randall, Bill Rickards, Larry Sanford, Kevin Sellner, Tom Simpson, Dick Weismiller

Guests: Sydney Army, Rich Batiuk, Carin Bisland, Karl Blankenship, Rebecca Hanmer, Maggie Kerchner, Margaret McBride, Laura Pyzik, Jake Vandevort, Doug Wilson

Staff: Melissa Bugg

**Call to Order**

Carl Hershner, STAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. At this time the committee honored Waldon Kerns, VA Tech, for his prior service as STAC Chair.

**Emerging Issues in the Chesapeake Bay**

Rebecca Hanmer, Chesapeake Bay Program Director, Rich Batiuk and Carin Bisland, Chesapeake Bay Program Associate Directors, joined the STAC membership in the emerging issues discussion. After reviewing the list of emerging issues created by the STAC membership, Rebecca Hanmer, Carin Bisland, and Rich Batiuk reviewed a similar list that highlighted emerging issues from the Chesapeake Bay Program’s perspective. A discussion followed regarding these emerging issues and future actions that need to be taken to deal with these emerging issues and to meet the goals outlined in the *Chesapeake 2000* agreement. Some of these future actions include:

- Encourage innovative technologies
- Look 4-5 years into the future and begin planning now
- Need to do more than tell people that they have a problem – need to help obtain the resources needed to solve it
- Need a better way to monitor outcomes and successes
- Look not only at economic factors, but social factors as well
- Be sure we are all sending the same message
- Educate the public on how each individual can make a difference

**NCBO Coastal Predictions Center**

Doug Wilson, NOAA/CBPO, gave a presentation to the committee summarizing the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Coastal Predictions Center. The center will serve as a source of information, services, and products relevant to assessment and prediction of Chesapeake Bay regional environmental conditions. Its mission is to assemble, integrate, and report Chesapeake Bay environmental conditions and provide timely predictions of change for the public good. The Center will follow guidelines of the larger ocean observation system being developed by Ocean.US ([www.ocean.us](http://www.ocean.us)) This will be a user-driven Internet based system. Currently, the Coastal Prediction Center is looking for data to add

to the system that can be used by the larger community. Anyone interested in the Coastal Predictions Center or has feedback or data to share should contact Doug Wilson at [doug.wilson@noaa.gov](mailto:doug.wilson@noaa.gov).

**Future STAC Meetings**

Due to the postponement of the March STAC meeting until May, there will be no June STAC meeting. The next STAC meeting will be held on the originally scheduled dates of September 10-11, 2003.