



Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee  
March 25-26, 2008  
Doubletree Hotel, Annapolis, Maryland  
Quarterly Meeting Agenda

---

**March 25**

**9:30 Welcome and Call to Order**

**10:00 Call to Order.....Lipton**

- Welcome and introductions of members, staff, and guests
- Approval of December meeting minutes
- Announcements?

**10:15 Update on NOAA Chesapeake Bay Endeavors.....Robertson**

**Background:** At the June 2007 STAC quarterly meeting, Peyton Robertson, NBCO, updated STAC on NOAA Chesapeake Bay activities, which included highlights on the *Incorporating Ecological Forecasting into Environmental Education* workshop; the NCBO's Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy System; NCBO and NOAA Oxford Lab's Integrated Ecosystem Assessment; and the quarterly review of the Non-Native Oysters.

- Peyton will update the committee on NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office and NOAA Oxford Lab's current program activities and future plans.

**10:45 Oyster EIS Review.....O'Connell/ Mansfield**

**Background:** The EIS project team had discussed providing STAC and the ASMFC Interstate Shellfish Transport Committee an opportunity to review a pre-draft EIS; however, this will no longer be possible due to legal reasons pertaining to preferential treatment with pre-reviews. The team values the input from STAC and ASMFC ISTC, and developed an alternative strategy. The plan is to provide STAC and ASMFC ISTC technical briefings on the major models and assessments (reports will also be available) that support the pre-draft EIS, and to ask for review comments that will then be forwarded to the EIS project team and Oyster Advisory Panel for whom has the formal role in peer reviewing the pre-draft EIS.

The Draft EIS, it is scheduled to be released for public review in June 2008. There will be a series of public meetings in MD and VA, and will include a 60-day public comment period. Both STAC and ASMFC ISTC may want to meet and discuss their review comments on the Draft EIS.

- Tom O'Connell, MDDNR, and Mark Mansfield, Corps - Norfolk, will solicit to work with STAC and ASMFC ISTC to schedule a one-day technical briefing session between April 16 – 30; both committees' review report will be due no later than April 30th. A joint briefing with both STAC and ASMFC ISTC in the Annapolis/Baltimore

area will follow. Each Committee may additionally want to meet separately to discuss and complete their review report.

**11:15 CBP Monitoring Network Review.....Tango**

**Background:** During autumn 2007, CBP Director Jeff Lape charged the CBP and Budget Steering Committee (BSC) with developing a plan that provided for reallocating \$1-1.5 million of the existing CBP operating budget for discretionary funds. Reallocation of funding through disinvestments and reinvestments is occurring across the committee structure of the CBP. CBP Subcommittee Chairs have been asked to provide complementary external reviews of their programs examining other possible cost efficiencies that may be available. (*See briefing materials*)

- Peter Tango, CBP MASC Coordinator, will present a request for an external review of the CBP funded monitoring programs to obtain recommendations for program modifications involving streamlining and efficiencies for greater returns on their investments with respect to Bay Program objectives for monitoring.

**11:45 Chesapeake Bay Program Update.....Batiuk**

Rich Batiuk will update the committee on ongoing Chesapeake Bay Program activities, including the CBP reorganization.

**12:15 LUNCH**

**1: 15 CBP Phase V Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.....Shenk/Mostaghimi**

**Background:** The CBP has developed a refined simulation of the Chesapeake watershed, called the Chesapeake Bay Phase V Community Watershed Model, to better estimate and track nutrient and sediment loads. In 2005, STAC convened an expert team for initial review of the Phase V Model, which was used to help guide Phase V Model development. STAC accepted a proposal for a second review in September 2007. On January 23-25, a second expert panel was convened to review the model development to date, and provide guidance and recommendations for the application of Phase V to large scale regional problems such as Chesapeake Bay water quality standards, and to smaller scale watershed TMDL issues.

- Gary Shenk, CBP MASC, will provide an overview of the Chesapeake Bay Phase V Community Watershed Model, including highlights of its history, new features, current resources, and future plans.
- Saied Mostaghimi, Virginia Tech, will present a summary of the January 23-25 STAC Phase V Model Review and subsequent recommendations. (Please visit [www.chesapeake.org/stac/2ndPhaseVReportFinal.pdf](http://www.chesapeake.org/stac/2ndPhaseVReportFinal.pdf) to access the report).

**Objective:** To continue to monitor the use of the Phase V Model review recommendations.

**2:45 MAWP BMP Project: Implementation of Phase V Model**

**Recommendations**.....*Weammert*

**Background:** The Second Review of the Phase V Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model report recommends, “Procedures should be developed to simulate the dynamic nature of BMPs and the sensitivity of BMPs to extreme events.” As the contractors in charge of a BMP review project to develop BMP effectiveness estimates, the responsibility for developing these procedures is held by Tom Simpson and Sarah Weammert, Mid-Atlantic Water Program/University of Maryland. They agree that these procedures should be developed, but would like to discuss the recommendations and focus on the specifics of the request.

- Sarah Weammert and Tom Simpson will seek further guidance on what STAC intended by an effectiveness range and how the range will be used. They will also discuss some possible ramifications of assigning ranges to BMP effectiveness estimates.

**3:15 BREAK**

**3:30 FY08 Workshop Proposals (see briefing materials to review proposals)**

STAC reserves up to \$40,000 for funding responsive and proactive workshops each year. Proposals are submitted by STAC members and CBP subcommittees and are evaluated on their individual merit by the STAC membership. Each approved workshop must use their allocated money within their funded fiscal year (June 1 – May 31).

Following a brief overview of each workshop proposal, the STAC membership will evaluate the following workshop proposals:

- Evaluating Phosphorus Index Effectiveness within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed – *Sally Bradley, Nutrient Subcommittee Staff*
- An Economic Analysis of Agricultural Conservation Practices within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed - *Sally Bradley, Nutrient Subcommittee Staff*
- Development of Habitat Suitability Models for Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management in the Chesapeake Bay – *Denise Breitburg, SERC*

**4:45 Meeting Recessed**

**March 26**

**9:00 Maryland and Virginia Climate Change Commissions**.....*Boesch/Hershner*

**Background:** The Maryland and Virginia Climate Change Commissions were implemented by their respective governors in 2007. Each has made progress towards developing climate change action plans for their states.

- Don Boesch, UMCES, and Carl Hershner, VIMS, will provide updates on the activities of the Maryland and Virginia Climate Change Commissions.

**Objective:** To address the question: What role should the scientific community play in climate change issues?

**10:15 Workshop, Review, and Workgroup Updates:**

- Workshop: Thresholds and Non-Linear Trajectories in Recovery of Eutrophic Coastal Ecosystems -*Mike Kemp and Erica Goldman*
  - How should the scientific and management community respond to the workshop's recommendations?
- Workshop: Developing and Ecotrace Module for Mercury (Methylmercury) in the Chesapeake Bay Fisheries Ecosystem Model – *Cindy Gilmour*
- Workshop: Maximizing the Dual Benefits of Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant Processes: Reducing Nutrients and Emerging Contaminants –*Greg Allen*
- Workshop: Water Quality Trading: Issues in Uncertainty, Evaluation, and Verification – *Charlie Abdalla*
- CBP Land-use Model Review – *Chris Pyke*
- Susquehanna River Min. Flow Regimes Review – *Mike Kemp*
- Indicators Workgroup – *Denice Wardrop*
- Climate Change Workgroup – *Ray Najjar*

**11:30 Environmental Indices.....Williams**  
Michael Williams (UMCES / IAN) will give a presentation on a spatially-explicit index of Bay health and how this was used to develop a strategic implementation plan for the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund (\$50 million annually for restoration purposes).

**12:00 Chesapeake Bay Program CRC Staff Presentations.....Fagan**  
**Background:** The CRC Career Development Program is a three-year program in which participants work to support the activities of the Chesapeake Bay Program. During the program, CRC Staffers expand on their experiences within the field by engaging in a variety of professional development opportunities, from workshops and conferences to independent projects.

- Melissa Fagan, CRC will introduce two CRC Chesapeake Bay Program Subcommittee Staffers (Matt Robinson and Emma Andrews) to update STAC on their subcommittees' and workgroups' activities, and provide an overview of their future plans.

**12:30 LUNCH**

**1:30 Meeting Adjourned**