



STAC Retreat 2015

Enhancing Effectiveness



Thank you to retreat planning committee

- Kathy Boomer
- Natalie Gardner
- Lara Fowler
- Kirk Havens
- Bob Hirsch
- Tom Ihde
- Renee Kelly
- Kurt Stephenson
- Denice Wardrop

Retreat Goals

1. Learn from the past and enhance future effectiveness.
2. Meaningfully engage new STAC staff and members on big picture issues.
3. Raise critical scientific issues that are not currently being addressed.
Critical = Key to the success of Chesapeake Bay restoration.
4. Consider how we can best engage with Partnership, scientific community, and other stakeholders.

Desired Products

1. Deeper understanding of the Bay restoration issues and STAC capacities.
2. Develop some priorities for allocating STAC resources
3. Suggestions for quarterly meeting structure and topics
4. Suggestions for other approaches we might use to enhance Bay restoration effectiveness
5. An organizational structure for the mid-point assessments

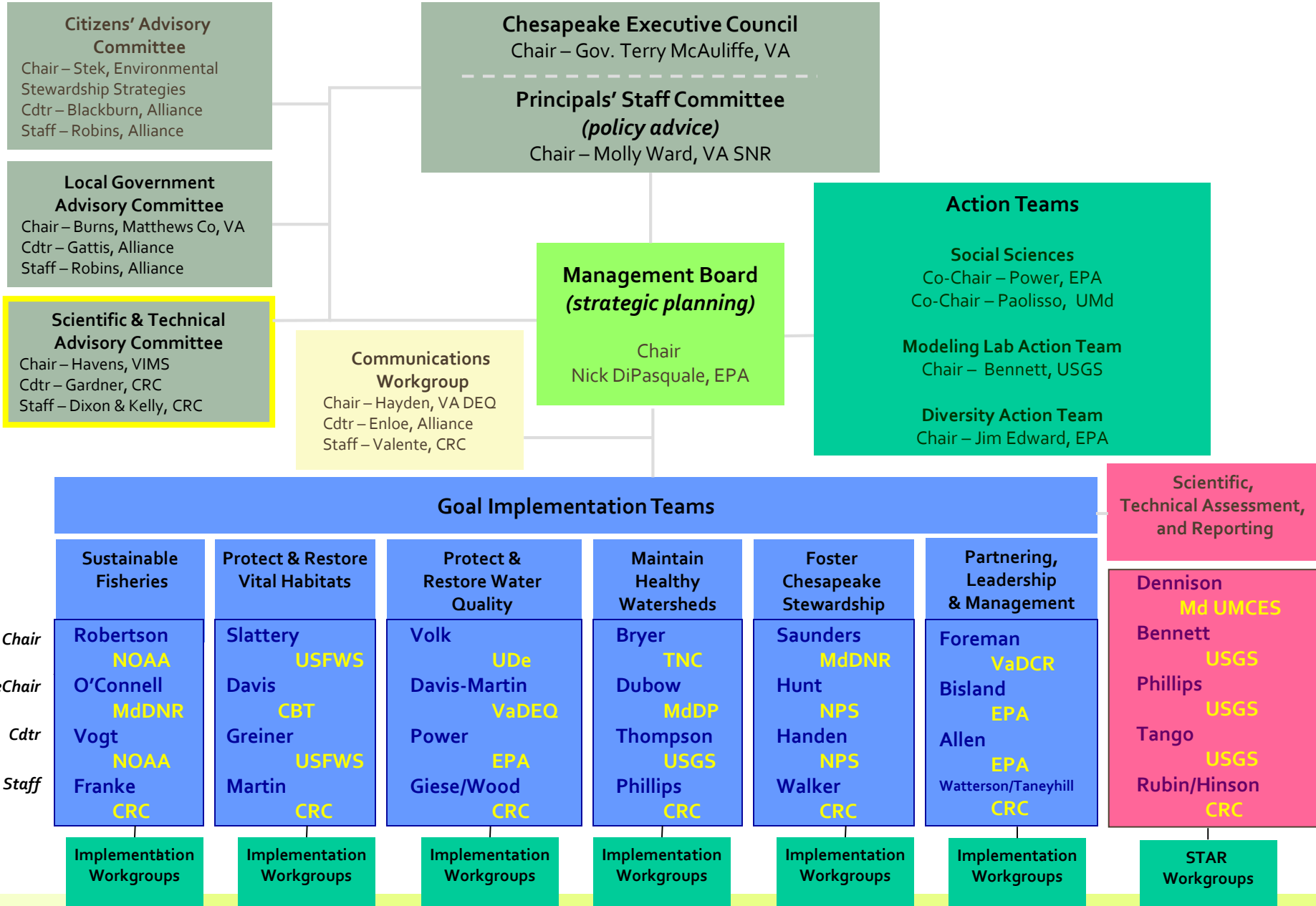


STAC in a
nutshell

STAC Mission

- The Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP) Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) provides scientific guidance and recommendations to the Chesapeake Bay Program management staffs to **ensure science-based restoration** of the bay and watershed.
- Through professional and academic contacts and organizational networks of its 35-38 members, STAC **ensures close cooperation** among and between the various research institutions and management agencies represented in the bay watershed.

CBP Organizational Structure and Leadership



What does STAC do for the CBP?

- STAC provides:
 - (1) technical workshops
 - (2) reports and position papers
 - (3) independent scientific reviews of CBP Programs and projects
 - (4) discussion groups
 - (5) connections between scientific community and the CBP

Workshops



Workshops are **Responsive** or **Proactive**:

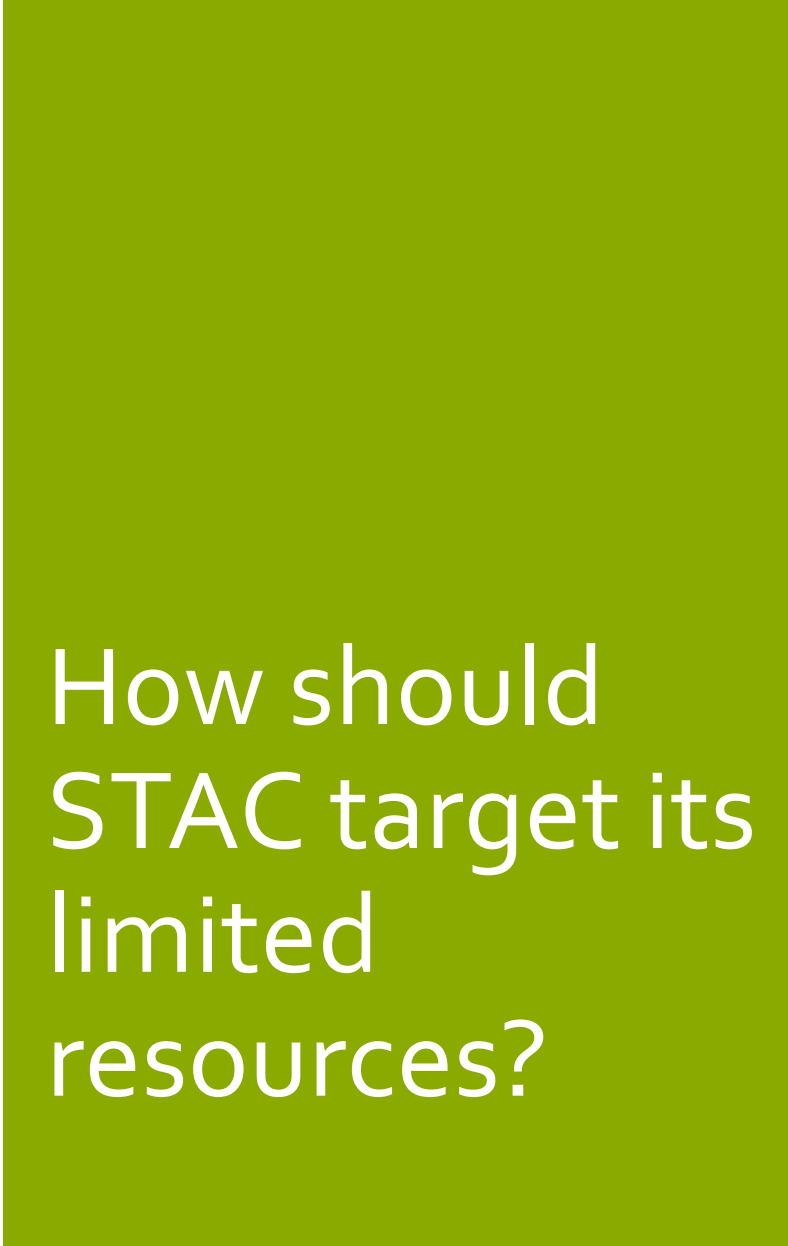
- **Responsive:** Requested by any member of the Chesapeake Bay Partnership
- **Proactive:** Requested by a STAC member or group of STAC members

What do others think STAC does?

GAO report (2005)

Topic: Reporting Progress

- The Bay Program has charged its Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) with assuring the scientific integrity of the data, indicators, and indices used in the program's publications.



How should
STAC target its
limited
resources?



Two key questions for targeting

1. Whose decisions can we best support?
2. Which decisions are having the greatest effect on the problem?

Choosing focus areas

(from 80000hours.org)

1. **Scale** – If we made more progress on this problem, by how much would the world become a better place?
2. **Tractability** – How easy is it to make progress on this problem?
3. **Neglectedness** – How many resources are already being dedicated to tackling this problem?
4. **Personal fit** – Given your skills, resources, knowledge, connections and passions, how likely are you to excel in this area?