



CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

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February 26, 2016

Lisa Wainger, Ph.D., Chair
Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
University of Maryland
2020 Horns Point Rd
Cambridge, MD 21613

RE: Request to STAC; Boat Wake Wave Impacts

Dear Dr. Wainger:

The Chesapeake Bay Commission (Commission) is grateful for the time you and Dr. Havens provided for our January meeting to discuss the work of the Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC). STAC's efforts to identify the defining science for emerging issues of concern and to guide policy development is of great importance to the Commission.

At our last meeting, the Commission discussed the potential impact of boating activity on shoreline erosion, sedimentation, and habitat loss. The Honorable Michael Sturla, a member of the Commission from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, offered his own personal observations of decreased water clarity during weekends and the potential correlation with increased boat activity. The Commission seeks a more thorough understanding of boat wake wave impacts on shoreline erosion and potential policy solutions.

The Commission, therefore, respectfully requests that STAC approve the attached draft technical review proposal, as prepared by Dr. Donna Bilkovic with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and Commission staff, to foster an improved understanding of this important matter. Please coordinate this effort and any questions with Ann F. Jennings, Virginia Director of the Commission at (804) 786-4849 or ajennings@chesbay.us.

Sincerely,

Thomas McLain Middleton
Senate of Maryland

Attachment

cc: Ann P. Swanson, Executive Director, Chesapeake Bay Commission
William Ball, Chesapeake Research Consortium, ballw@si.edu
Donna Bilkovic, VIMS, College of William and Mary, donnab@vims.edu