Wrap Up Discussion

Rich Batiuk

U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Proposed Next Steps Following the Workshop

- One to two page summary of key findings and recommendations
- Workshop report drafted by the Steering Committee
- Briefings for Water Quality Goal Implementation Team, Modeling Workgroup, Climate Change Workgroup, STAC

Proposed Next Steps Following the Workshop

- Follow up with participating climate researchers and ask them for their set of recommendations
- Convene a group of the climate researchers to reach agreement on:
  - Key variables
  - Suite of GCMs to apply
  - Downscaling techniques to apply
  - PET models to apply
  - Process to evaluate outputs of all of the above
  - Range of scenarios to run

Proposed Next Steps Following the Workshop

- Follow up with participating wetlands, subsidence, and sea level rise researchers and ask them for their set of recommendations
- Convene a group of the wetlands and sea level rise researchers to reach agreement on:
  - Sea level rise estimates to apply
  - How to best go about simulating the effect of SLR on wetlands
  - Range of SLR scenarios to run

Proposed Next Steps Following the Workshop

- CBPO Modeling Team and CBP Climate Change Coordinator draft up proposed climate change assessment framework based on workshop proceedings

- CBP Modeling Workgroup and CBP Climate Change Workgroup briefed on proposed draft climate change assessment framework w/request for feedback and ultimately approval to share with STAC peer review panel

Proposed Next Steps Following the Workshop

- CBPO staff will work with the CBP Modeling Workgroup and Climate Change Workgroup on the STAC climate change peer review panel charge and review questions

- STAC convenes the Climate Change Peer Review Panel in the summer 2016 to evaluate the Partnership's climate change assessment framework and plans for incorporating consideration of climate change

Building Consensus of the Workshop Participants

- Think of 2025 in term of 40 year period from the mid-1980s through 2025—base it on past trends, short and long term
- General agreement for focusing on a 2050 timeframe for simulation to provide management community the long view
- Use multiple global climate models—up to 10 was recommended
- Recommendation for selecting an existing system to access GCMs, downscaled scenario data

Building Consensus of the Workshop Participants (Con’t)

- Use multiple scenarios covering a wide range of projected emissions
- Apply several downscaling techniques
- Apply several PET models
- Consider applying the LASSO tools in selecting suite of GCMs
- We need to follow both paradigms to developing scenarios and working towards decision as presented by Chris Weaver

Building Consensus of the Workshop Participants (Con’t)

- We need to evaluate a range of future conditions, not just one
- We have strong confidence in continued warming trends (there is year to year variability, but strong trends)
- Less confident of increases in the intensity of precipitation (even more variability, significant trend annually, but not in all seasons)
- Higher confidence in projecting changes in temperature, sea level rise

Building Consensus of the Workshop Participants (Con't)

- Questions exist about our current ability to fully simulate the effects of climate change in the 2025 timeframe given its only 9 years away and climate change models are structured to look further out and at much larger scales

- We are not ready to describe the influence of climate change and adjust the loads for the jurisdictions' Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans given the current state of our understanding of key climate change parameters—precipitation levels.

Building Consensus of the Workshop Participants (Con't)

- We can provide insights into the future and what we should be doing now and into the future to manage for the unavoidable.
- Focus on preparing for the post 2025 timeframe now in the jurisdictions' development of their Phase III watershed implementation plans and their selections of BMPs to be implemented and load responsibility of their different source sectors.

Questions for the Workshop Participants

- Is there utility in using the LASSO tool presented by Phil Morefield in selection of the GCMs and access to existing projections data?
- Could we agreed on the utility of an integrated source of climate change projection simulation data that all seven jurisdictions could draw from as well as use these same data for applications from a partnership perspective?
- Agreement on the need to build the capacity within the Partnership for ensuring ready access to data, scenario outputs, indicators and be able to continue to further evaluate, learn, adapt?