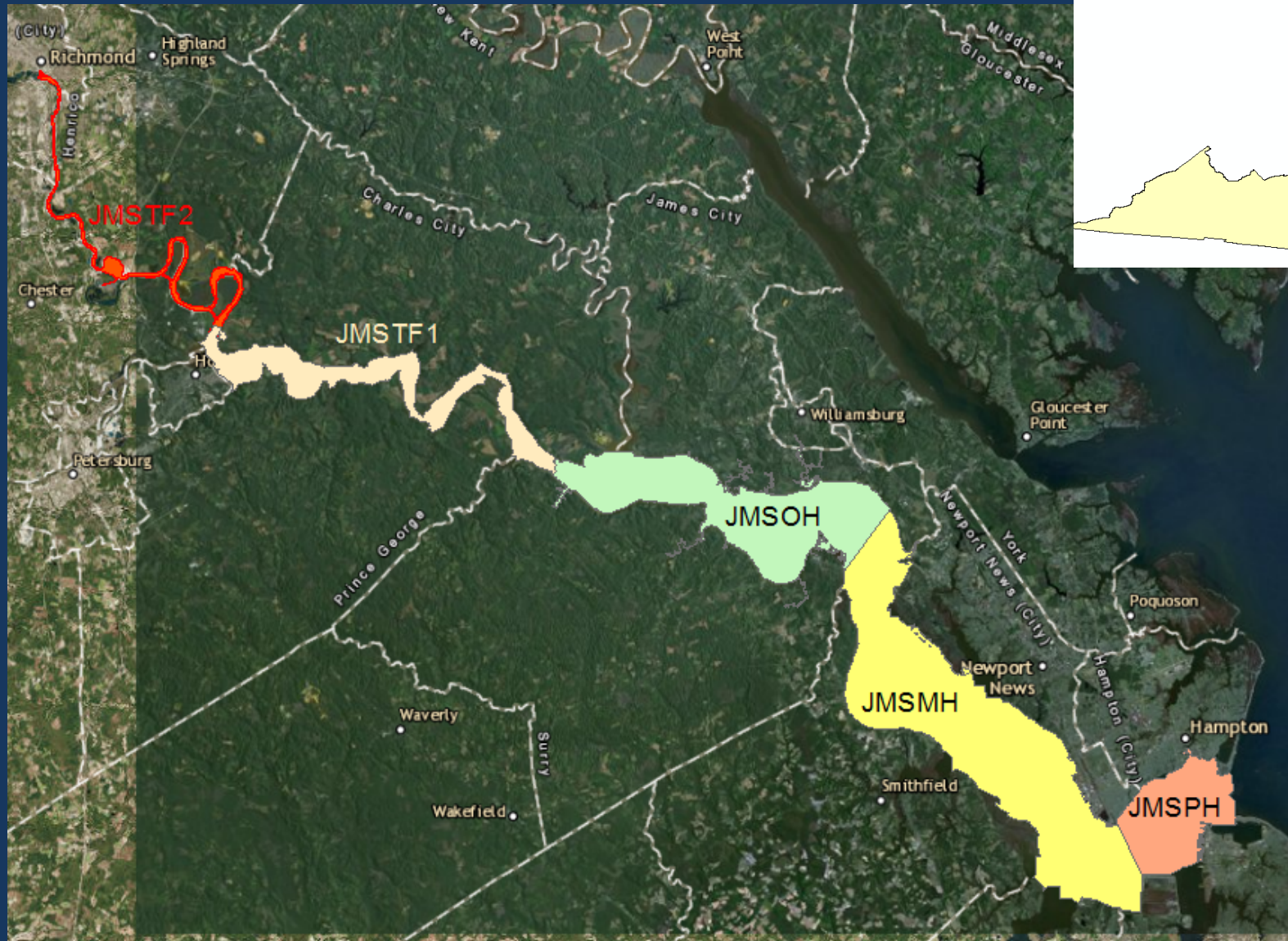


# **Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership Response to James River Chlorophyll a Criteria Scientific Independent Peer Review**

Rich Batiuk

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Associate Director for Science, Analysis and Implementation





The five segments of the tidal James River where chlorophyll-*a* criteria apply

# History of James River Chlorophyll a Standards

- 1998: EPA over-listing James River as impaired water body
- 2003: EPA publishing Chesapeake Bay criteria, designated uses on behalf of seven jurisdictions
- 2006: VA DEQ promulgating Chesapeake Bay water quality criteria and uses into their water quality standards regulations
- 2010: Chesapeake Bay TMDL published
- 2012: Virginia initiates James River chlorophyll a criteria re-evaluation
- 2015: Partnership requests STAC sponsored peer review
- 2017: Partnership Midpoint Assessment

# Peer Review Panel Key Comments

- Mixes policy decisions with scientific analyses
- Concerned about baseline approach protecting aquatic life
- Lacks overarching description relating timescales with adverse effects
- Clear connection between assessment methodology and criteria derivation with focus on data aggregation
- Relationship between measure of central tendency and frequency of extreme observations



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