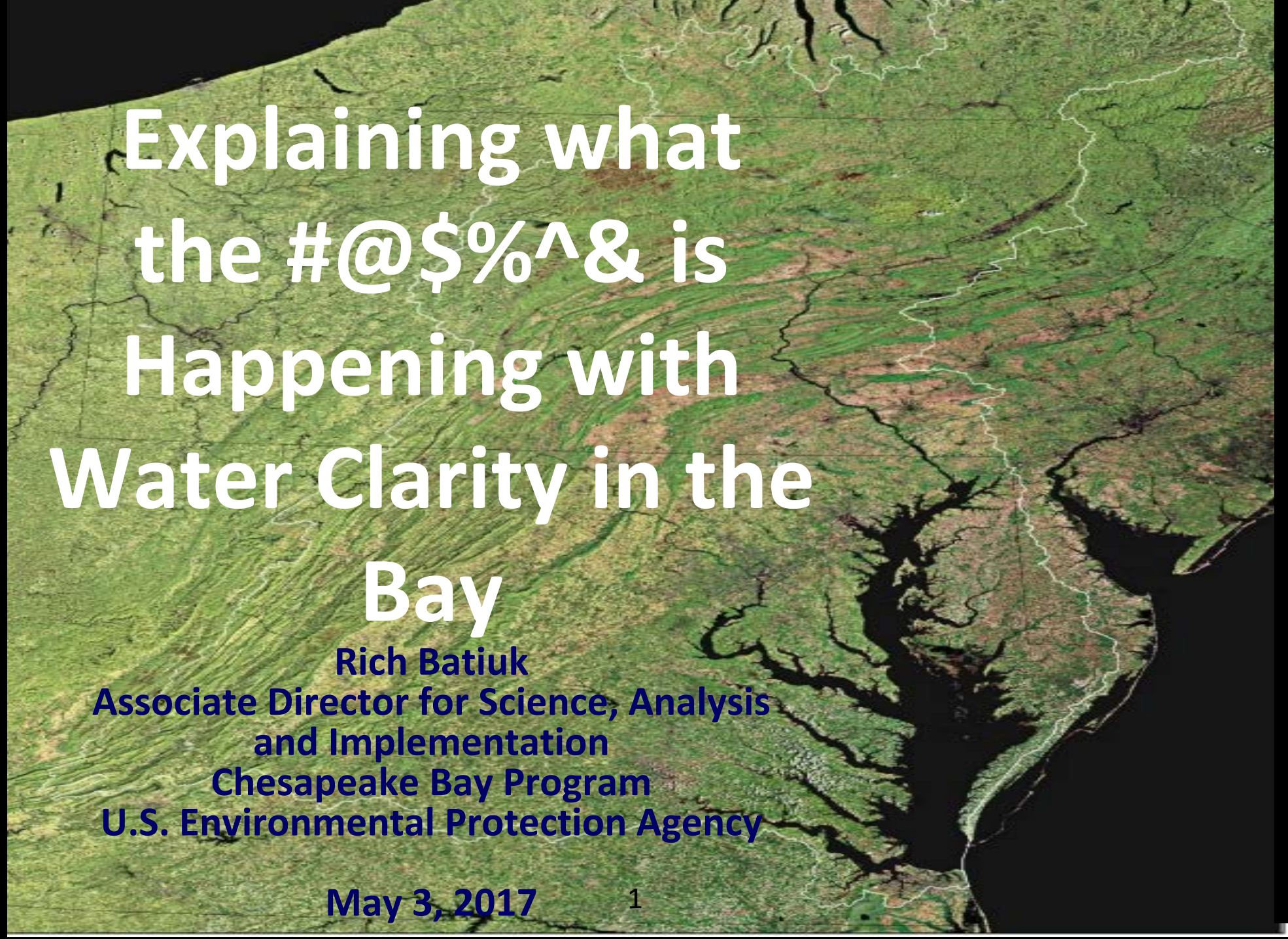

Explaining what the #@$%^& is Happening with Water Clarity in the Bay

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Why are we witnessing declining trends or no trends in water clarity against the backdrop of decades of BMP implementation and dramatic reductions in wastewater and atmospheric deposition loads?

What has happened in the past decade that has lead to the widespread increases in water clarity particularly in the mainstem Bay?

Can we quantitatively connect the dots to tell the upland➡stream➡river➡Bay➡clarity story?

Tidal shoreline➡clarity story?

Resuspension➡clarity story?

Can we forge strong, quantifiable relationships between long term SAV distribution and abundance trends and observed trends in water clarity at the local, regional and baywide scale?

Are we ready to tell Bay and watershed management that they need to re-think the relationships between sediment loads, nutrient loads and water clarity?

Should we be taking a different path towards reducing the real “sources” contributing to reduced water clarity conditions?

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