



Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP)  
Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)  
Quarterly Meeting – December 6-7, 2022  
**Webinar Meeting - [December Meeting Page](#)**  
**[Register for Zoom Meeting](#)**

**\*\*Exact Times Are Subject to Change\*\***

**Tuesday, December 6th**

**9:30 am**      **Call to Order, STAC Business, Announcements** — *Kathy Boomer (STAC Chair – FFAR)*

- Introductions
- Approval Requests
  - September 2022 Quarterly Meeting minutes
  - November Executive Board Meeting minutes
  - Consent Agenda
- November 2022 [Management Board Quarterly Progress Meeting](#) Highlights
- Member Announcements and Updates
  - CESR update
- Approve STAC Workshop Request for Proposals (RFP) for FY23  
Funding available for June 1, 2023 – May 31, 2024.

**10:20 am**      **Recap of STAC September 2022 Quarterly Meeting** — *Kathy Boomer (FFAR)*  
The STAC September quarterly meeting took place in Havre de Grace, MD and focused on the theme of wetland restoration central to CBP restoration goals. Meeting materials can be found on the [meeting webpage](#).

**10:30 am**      **CAST-21 Update and Decision** — *Gary Shenk (USGS)*  
Gary Shenk will update STAC on CAST-21. The Principals Staff Committee has agreed to recalibrate the TMDL goal line and address unaccounted loads after 2025. The PSC also agreed to address fertilizer and other data issues. The Management Board and Water Quality GIT are working out the details.

**10:50 am**      **20-minute Break**

**11:10 am**      **Report from the Plastics Pollution Action Team** — *Kelly Somers, PPAT Chair (EPA)*  
The Plastic Pollution Action Team (PPAT) was formed at the directive of the CBP Management Board and was charged with analyzing how the CBP partnership might reduce the presence and impacts of plastic pollution on the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. Specifically, they were asked to develop a preliminary ecological risk assessment model, a size classification document, and a science strategy. PPAT Chair, Kelly Somers (EPA), will report on their progress and initial findings.

**11:45 am**      **Briefing on the FY22 STAC Workshop and Resulting Report, "Rising Watershed and Bay Water Temperatures: Ecological Implications and Management Responses"**  
— *Rich Batiuk (USEPA Retired; CoastWise Partners)*  
Rich Batiuk will present on findings from the FY22 workshop and provide a basic overview of comments received/edits made during the report review process. After the briefing, STAC membership will vote to approve the report. More information on [Day 1](#) and [Day 2](#) can be found on the STAC website.

- 12:30 pm**      **Lunch**
- 1:30 pm**      **Report out on the Local Government Forum: Integrating Resilience into Local Planning**— *Jennifer Starr, LGAC Coordinator (Alliance)*  
The Local Government Forum is a problem-solving-strategic planning event hosted by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in collaboration with the Local Government Advisory Committee to the Chesapeake Executive Council and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Through facilitated group discussion, participants identify issues that hinder or help advance local implementation of watershed protection and restoration initiatives. Findings and recommendations, developed during the forum, are documented and next steps are identified.
- 2:00 pm**      **Science Needs of the Chesapeake Bay Program: Clean Water Cohort**  
— *Breck Sullivan (USGS), Outcome Leads*  
The Clean Water Cohort consists of the Toxic Contaminant Policy and Prevention Outcome, Toxic Contaminant Research Outcome, Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring Outcome, and WIP 2025 Outcome. The Cohort identifies factors influencing science during the Strategy Review System and updates their science needs as part of the Strategic Science and Research Framework. The CBP Science Needs Database can be found [here](#) and details on each outcome are listed and linked [here](#).
- 2:40 pm**      **20-minute Break**
- 3:00 pm**      **How Can STAC Best Demonstrate and Encourage an Adaptive Management Process for the post-2025 CBP Partnership and/or SSRF?** — *STAC Staff (CRC)*  
STAC Staff will provide a review of the Clean Water Act's (CWA) formalized adaptive management process for policy and learning. Focusing on a figure generated from the STAC Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response (CESR) report and considering recent single, double, triple loop learning discussions, STAC will briefly evaluate opportunities for greater management effort effectiveness and ways to expand adaptive management within this framework.
- 3:15 pm**      **CAC Findings on Equitable Access to Grants** — *Julie Lawson (CAC Chair)*  
The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) held a panel on equitable access to grants at the September 2022 CAC quarterly meeting. The committee has compiled a table of barriers and potential solutions and highlighted some takeaway impressions in a cover memo. An overall finding from the report is that many of the existing Chesapeake Bay grants may not be effective in meeting the Chesapeake Bay Program's goals for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ).
- 3:45 pm**      **Day 1 Wrap-up**
- 4:00 pm**      **Recess**

### **Wednesday, December 7th**

- 9:00 am**      **Introduction to Meeting Theme, Environmental Flows** — *Kathy Boomer (FFAR)*  
Enhance climate resiliency (flood/drought risk), water quality, and aquatic habitat management throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

- Facilitate a CBP-wide understanding of the environmental flows concept and its relevance to stream, river, and estuary management
- Identify/evaluate existing tools and opportunities for innovative model development that evaluate flood/drought risks and environmental flow requirements to inform management decisions (e.g., manage risk from episodic weather events)

**9:15 am**      ***Panel: Introducing and Exploring the Environmental Flows Concept and River Corridor Management and Its Relevance to CBP Management***

Panel discussion facilitated by Boomer and followed by a Q&A session. Panelists include: [Kelly Maloney](#) (USGS); [Ben Hayes](#) (STAC, Bucknell University); and [Andrew Mueller](#) (USNA).

**10:00 am**      ***Panel: Exploring How Humans Have Changed Environmental Flows, Associated Impacts, and Our Capacity to Mitigate those Changes***

Panel discussion facilitated by Boomer and followed by a Q&A session. Panelists include: [Daren Carlisle](#) (USGS); [John Balay](#) (SRBC); and [Nathanial Hitt](#) (USGS).

**10:45 am**      **15-minute Break**

**11:00 am**      ***Panel: Potential Recommendations for CBP: Current and developing tools for environmental flows management***

Panel discussion facilitated by Boomer and followed by Q&A session. Panelists include: [Julie Zimmerman](#) (TNC); [Gopal Bhatt](#) (PSU); and [Eric Smith](#) (STAC, VT).

**11:45 am**      **Group Discussion**

Discussion lead by Kathy Boomer (FFAR) focused on the following questions:

- Relevance and urgency to focus on environmental flows as a CBP MB target?
- Recommendations to CBP GITs and Workgroups regarding Environmental Flows frameworks and decision-support tools?
- CBP science community: critical information gaps and research opportunities?

**12:30 pm**      **Wrap Up**

- STAC Staff will summarize action items from the December quarterly meeting
  - Virtual/in-person update for 2023 STAC quarterly meetings
- Reminder of March meeting theme

**12:45 pm**      **Adjourn**