



Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP)  
Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)  
Quarterly Meeting – September 12-13, 2023  
Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Museum  
Baltimore, MD  
[Meeting Webpage](#)

[RSVP](#)  
[Zoom Meeting](#)

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

**Tuesday, September 12th**

- 9:00 am**      **Coffee & Light Breakfast (Provided)**
- 9:30 am**      **Call to Order, Announcements**—*Kathy Boomer (STAC Chair – FFAR)*
- Approval Requests:
    - June 2023 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
    - Executive Board Call Minutes:
    - Nominee for STAC Vice Chair: Bill Dennison (UMCES)
    - Proposed 2024 quarterly meeting dates and virtual/in-person schedule
      - March 5-6<sup>th</sup>; June 4-5<sup>th</sup>; September 10-11<sup>th</sup>; December 3-4<sup>th</sup>
  - Member Announcements and Updates
    - CESR Communications Team Update
- 10:00 am**      **Welcome New At-Large STAC Members** — *Kathy Boomer (FFAR)*
- 10:15 am**      **Introduction, Chesapeake Bay Program Interim Director** — *Dave Campbell (EPA)*
- 10:45 am**      **STAC Letter to Executive Council** — *Kathy Boomer (FFAR)*  
STAC members will discuss content and recommendations to include in the letter to the Executive Council at the 2023 [Executive Council](#) meeting.
- 11:30 am**      **Break**
- 12:00 pm**      **Introduction to AI within Watershed Management**  
Isabella Bertani and Qian Zhang (UMCES) will provide an introduction to artificial intelligence (AI) within watershed management for time-series data. Following, Mike Evans (Chesapeake Conservancy) will discuss the Chesapeake Conservancy's work on [mapping wetlands](#) and [large solar arrays](#) throughout the Bay watershed states.
- 12:50 pm**      **Lunch**
- 1:45 pm**      **Briefing on Findings from the FY22 STAC Workshop, “Using Local Monitoring Results to Inform the Chesapeake Bay Program’s Watershed Model” and Request to Approve Workshop Report** — *KC Filippino (HRPDC)*
- 2:30 pm**      **Moving Forward, Faster Together**  
Lara Fowler (PSU) and Leah Palm-Forster (UDel) will facilitate a group discussion on the following topics to identify key lessons learned from recent events and reports that the Partnership could advance.
- **What do we know from social science/economics?**
    - Projects from around the Bay region, beyond – PA in the Balance takeaways, etc.
    - STAC workshop takeaways

- CESR takeaways
- Governance recommendations takeaways
- **Capacity building needs**
  - What are we doing well at from across the Bay jurisdictions?
  - What do we need to do more of?
  - Potential for regional cooperation?
- **How can we create more local action and momentum?**
  - Pilots?

**3:15 pm**      **Break**

**3:45 pm**      **Interaction between STAC and the SRS and SSRF Processes**

**4:45 pm**      **Farewell Messages to STAC Members Rotating Off**

**4:45 pm**      **Recess**

**4:45 pm**      **Optional Happy Hour (location TBA)**

**Wednesday, September 13th**

**8:30 am**      **Tour of [Masonville Cove](#) and the [Masonville Dredged Material Containment Facility](#)  
*Limited capacity; STAC Members only***

**9:30 am**      **Coffee & Light Breakfast (Provided)**

**Meeting Theme:** Institutional Learning: Informing watershed management through an inter-regional program comparison.

**Rationale:** Water resource management requires a systems-based framework accommodating diverse communities and landscapes. It's also becoming increasingly clear that success also requires the active involvement of stakeholders and a strong commitment to co-learning. When decision-makers align their goals, objectives, and strategies—aided by socio-economic research—it enhances the prospects of effective policymaking. Moreover, incorporating a range of viewpoints that depict how the hydro-social system behaves holds more potential for refining management predictions and science-based guidance than traditional modeling approaches.

However, implementing such ambitious management frameworks remains difficult and fraught with unaccounted uncertainties. A potential strategy to address these challenges (i.e., foster institutional learning) is to analyze and compare strategies for engaging stakeholders in large-scale watershed programs. While programs in different areas face unique challenges, exploring commonalities could offer invaluable insights to advancing the CBP's efforts "Beyond 2025."

**Targeted Outcomes:**

- Investigate the successes and challenges of implemented hydro-social frameworks guiding interregional water management programs nationwide.
- Reflect on tractable opportunities to improve governance and management of Chesapeake Bay Program's adaptive watershed management program.
- Reflect on research needs to support science-based decision-making.

**10:00 am**      **Framing the Discussion— *Kathy Boomer (FFAR)***

- 10:15 am**      **Provocateur Panel: Exploring the Successes and Challenges of Water Resource Management Programs that Compare in Scale to the Chesapeake Bay Program**  
Speakers (15 minute virtual and in-person presentations):  
[Edwin Martinez](#), *USDA NRCS, Virginia State Conservationist (Great Lakes Restoration Initiative overview)*  
[Ellen Gilinsky](#) (*STAC*) - *MS Basin management*  
[Jason Farnsworth](#), *Executive Director of the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program*,  
[Arthur Wardle](#), (*UC Berkeley - California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)*)
- 11:45 am**      **Break**
- 12:00 pm**      **Response Panel & Group Discussion: How can advance CBP science-based resource management?**  
Panelists: [Daniel Chao](#) (*CBP Local Government Advisory Committee*), [Leah Palm-Forster](#) (*UD*), [Becky Epanchin-Niell](#) (*UMD*), [Ashley Dayer](#) (*Vtech*)
- 12:45 pm**      **Summary of Key Takeaways — Kathy Boomer (FFAR)**
- 1:00 pm**      **Wrap Up and Action/Decision Items — STAC Staff (CRC)**
- 1:05 pm**      **STAC Chair Rotation and Thank You to Kathy Boomer!**
- 1:10 pm**      **Adjourn**
- 1:10 pm**      **Lunch (provided)**