Management Motivation and Model Overview

Lee McDonnell

EPA

STAC Climate Modeling 3.0 Workshop

5/7/2024

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

What management practices...

.... will reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment to levels ...

.... that will achieve levels of dissolved oxygen, clarity, and chlorophyll in the Bay...

... that are supportive of living resources?

COST = \$1~2B/year

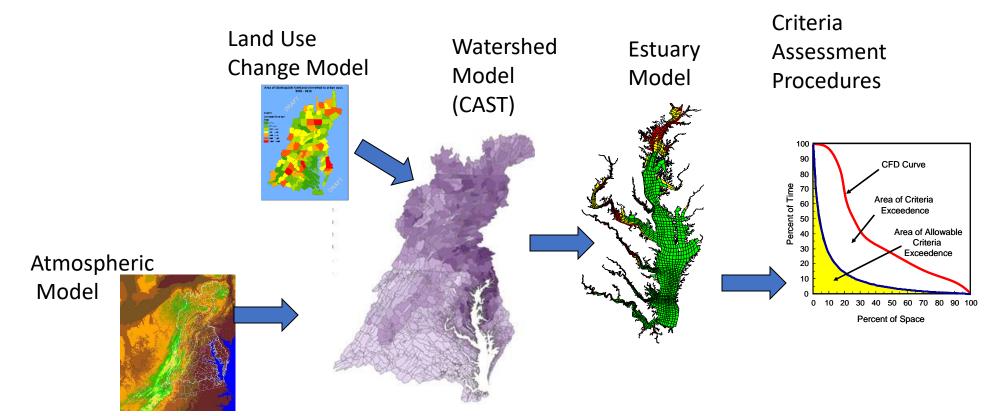


Photo credit: CBP





CBP Decision Support System



What management practices...

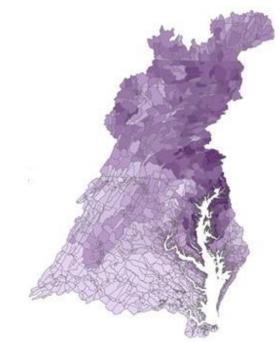
Bay TMDL Summary

.... will reduce nitrogen and phosphorus to levels that will achieve appropriate dissolved oxygen, clarity, and chlorophyll in the Bay?

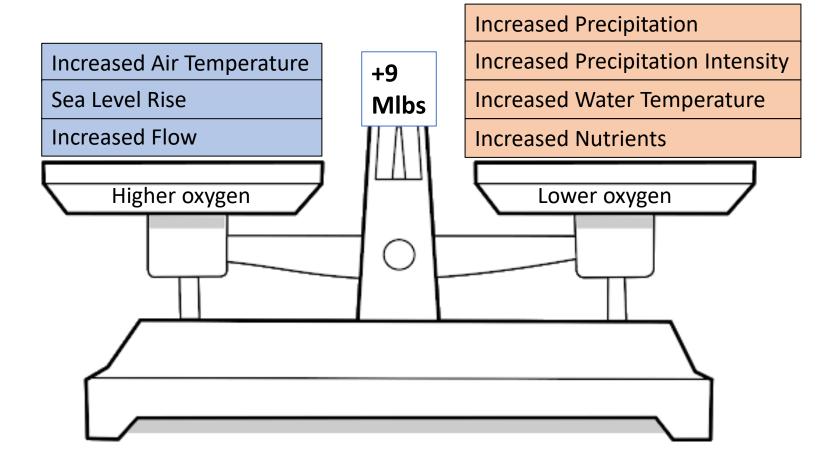
Nutrient Targets

			2018 Planning Targets		
Major	State		approved by PSC		
Major	State	StateBasin	Nitrogen Phosphorus		
Potomac	DC	DC Potomac	2.42	0.130	
Eastern Shore	DE	DE Eastern Shore	4.55	0.108	
Eastern Shore	MD	MD Eastern Shore	15.21	1.286	
Patuxent	MD	MD Patuxent	3.21	0.301	
Potomac	MD	MD Potomac	15.30	1.092	
Susquehanna	MD	MD Susquehanna	1.18	0.053	
Western Shore	MD	MD Western Shore	10.89	0.948	
Susquehanna	NY	NY Susquehanna	11.53	0.587	
Eastern Shore	PA	PA Eastern Shore	0.45	0.025	
Potomac	PA	PA Potomac	6.11	0.357	
Susquehanna	PA	PA Susquehanna	66.59	2.661	
Western Shore	PA	PA Western Shore	0.02	0.001	
Eastern Shore	VA	VA Eastern Shore	1.43	0.164	
James	VA	VA James	25.92	2.731	
Potomac	VA	VA Potomac	16.00	1.892	
Rappahannock	VA	VA Rappahannock	6.85	0.849	
York	VA	VA York	5.52	0.556	
James	WV	WV James	0.04	0.005	
Potomac	WV	WV Potomac	8.18	0.427	

- Nutrient loads in million lbs/year
 - Watershed model (CAST) used to assess progress toward these goals



Climate Effects on Bay Oxygen (2017 version)



2018 Climate Decision

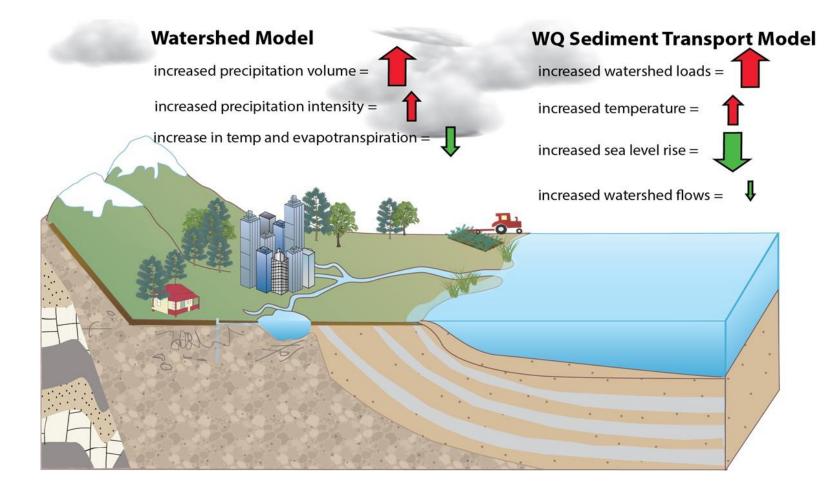
- Confidence in the 9 million pounds was low
- Principals' Staff Committee Decision
 - Develop narrative strategy now
 - Understand the Science in 2019
 - Update models
 - New estimate of load changes
 - Decide in 2021

CBP Climate Work Plan

2018	2019	2020	2021
STAC Climate	CBP's Modeling	CBP's policy	Climate change
Modeling 2.0	Workgroup	workgroups	considerations
Workshop	oversees	decide how to	will be
	changes to	allocate	implemented
	data and	additional	into the 2022-
Preliminary	<i>models</i> to	effort necessary	2023 WIP
work	improve	to counteract	milestones.
	estimates of	the effects of	
	climate effects	climate change	

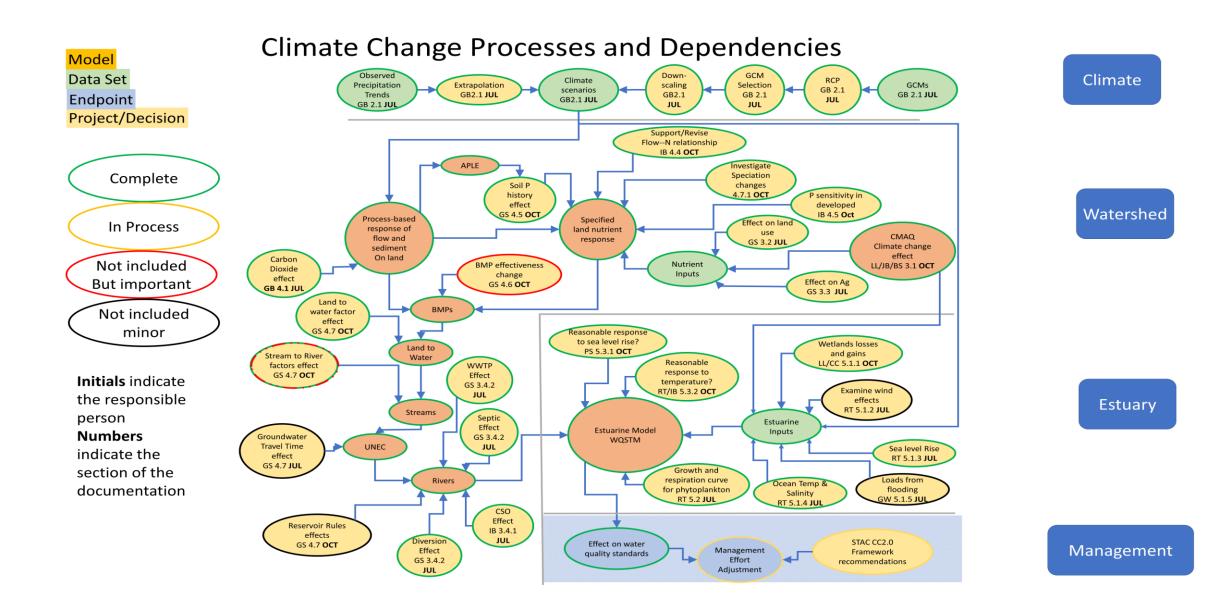
Modeling updates 2019

- Modeling workgroup oversaw updates to CBP suite of models (~25 modifications)
- Climate inputs
- Response of watershed
- Estuarine processes

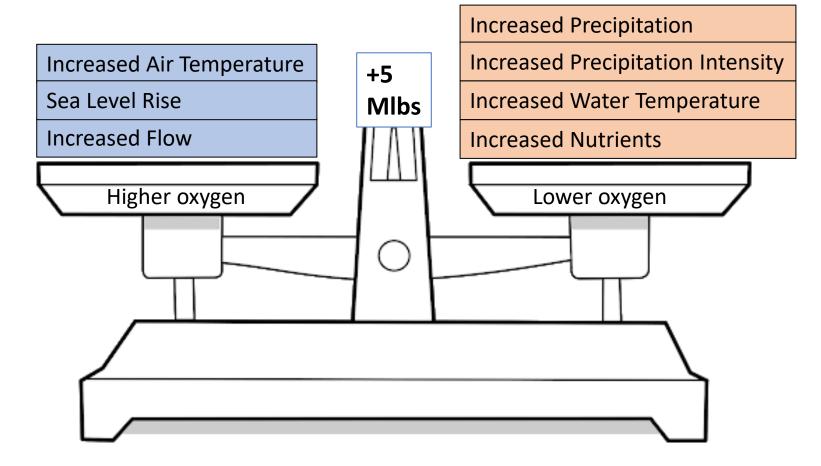


Elements of Chesapeake Water Quality Climate Risk Assessment

Chesapeake Bay Program Science, Restoration, Partnership



Climate Effects on Bay Oxygen (2020 version)



CBP studied 21 different effects producing an overall lower level of oxygen

2021 Climate Decision – Principals' Staff Committee

- Accept updated models
- Accept recommended adjustments to TMDL planning targets, increasing the level of effort toward nutrient reduction
- Develop new models and methods for shallow water
- Reassess in 2025 for 2035 climate

Additional Management Board 2021 Decisions

- Criteria Assessment Protocol (CAP) Workgroup will evaluate climate change risks to current water quality standard criteria and designated uses.
- Continue efforts to improve understanding of the science and refine estimates of pollutant load changes due to 2035 climate change conditions.
 - Develop a better understanding of the BMP responses, including new or other emerging BMPs, to climate change conditions.
 - Compare the current 2025 climate change assumptions with measured climate conditions through 2024.
 - Consider the efficacy of using projections from measured trends versus downscaled global climate model data for revised 2035 estimates.

CBP Climate Work Plan

2021-2025	2026	2027	2028+
Develop Phase 7 models	STAC and CBP partnership Review Models	CBP's policy workgroups decide how to <i>allocate</i>	Phase 7 models in use
STAC Climate Modeling 3.0 Workshop	Begin climate application	<i>additional</i> <i>effort</i> necessary to counteract the effects of climate change through 2035	

STAC-

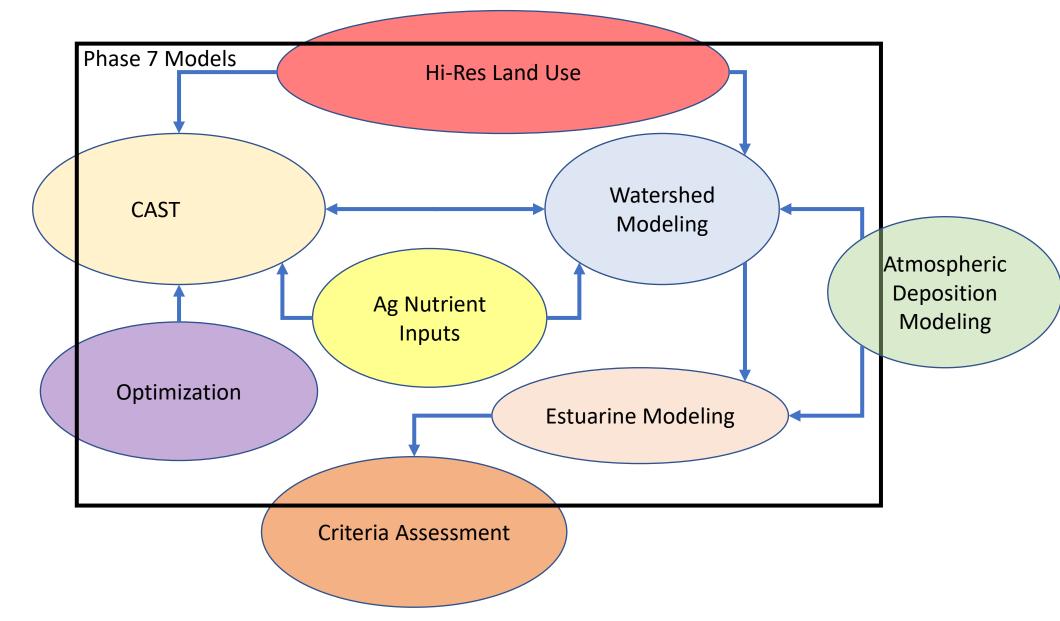
Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response

- Living Resource focus
 - Water quality criteria were developed according to living resource needs
 - However –
 Expected living resource response is unknown
- Better incorporate shallow water
 - Important for living resources
 - Where people interact with the Bay

Biological, Chemical, and Social System Response



Phase 7 Development



Modeling Governance

https://castcontent.chesapeakebay.net/documents/P6ModelDocumentation%2F1%20Overview%202018%2005%2022.pdf https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/group/modeling_team https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/programs/modeling

