

Breakout Session Question Overview

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1. What is a **pressing question or challenge** facing the Chesapeake Bay Program that social scientists are uniquely qualified to tackle in collaboration with natural and physical sciences?
2. What **barriers exist to collaboration** between social and natural scientists, and how can we overcome them?
3. How can we **better communicate the value** of social science insights to natural science practitioners and policymakers?

What is a **pressing question or challenge** facing the Chesapeake Bay Program that social scientists are uniquely qualified to tackle in collaboration with natural and physical sciences?

- How do people perceive environmental change and how does that translate to actions?
- How should CBP be organized?
- TMDL → Menu of options. Which options are most palpable? How to get feedback about past actions to spur effective future change?
- How do communities/CPB view climate resiliency? How do these align? How can CBP incorporate those views?
- Bringing social science expertise (and other expertise) in early into CBP structures (e.g., GITs);
- More networking to help break down silos and help understand the diversity

What **barriers exist to collaboration** between social and natural scientists, and how can we overcome them?

- Language barriers; learning the language of different disciplines is challenging and can impede/slow collaboration (collaborating more often)
- Incentive structures may impede/slow collaboration if such collaboration is not encouraged/rewarded (change incentives)
- Social science is often engaged later/at the end of the project (should there be a requirement to include social science?)
- Lack of funding for social science research
- Physical science results/outcomes are weighed more heavily than social science (cultural change)

How can we better communicate the value of social science insights to natural science practitioners and policymakers?

- Demonstrate the value such as by deeper integration; embedding in CBP
- Talk about successful collaborations between natural and social scientists and how that collaboration helped
- Changing incentive structures that encourage communication between disciplines can demonstrate the value of social science
- Have social scientists be part of the communication team
- Social science helps to demonstrate the impact of research