



Chesapeake Bay Program
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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July 7, 2014

RE: STAC Multiple Models for Management (M3.2) Workshop

Nicholas DiPasquale, Chair, Chesapeake Bay Program Management Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109
Annapolis, MD 21403

Cc: Management Board; STAR; Modeling Workgroup

Dear Mr. DiPasquale,

Please see the attached STAC workshop report entitled, "Multiple Models for Management in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed." This report provides a summary of STAC's February 25-26, 2013 workshop and includes specific findings and recommendations identified by workshop attendees. Attendees believe that the CBP could initiate the following recommendations to begin realizing the benefits of using multiple modeling. Those recommendations include:

- The CBP should implement a multiple modeling strategy for each major decision-making model of the Bay (airshed, land use, watershed, and estuary) and analyze the output to quantify skill, advance knowledge, and inform adaptive management.
- The CBP should exercise the multiple model systems developed under Recommendation 1 to quantify model uncertainty and confidence in key predictions used in decision-making.
- The CBP should estimate and better communicate the appropriate levels of spending on monitoring, modeling, and research relative to the costs of implementation and the cost of poor decision-making.
- The CBP should implement ways to better communicate modeling, uncertainty, and multiple model results to partners, decision makers, and the public.

In addition to the report, STAC Staff developed a factsheet to summarize the complex scientific and technical information for the Partnership, as well as citizens throughout the watershed. That factsheet is also attached for your review and distribution.

We hope these recommendations are useful, and STAC looks forward to your feedback. STAC respectfully requests a written response to the above specific recommendations from the CBP Management Board Chair by Friday, September 8, 2014.

Please direct any questions you may have about this report and its recommendations to Natalie Gardner, the Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee Coordinator, and lead workshop steering committee member, Donald Weller of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.

On behalf of the entire STAC, thank you again for considering these recommended next steps, and we look forward to working with you closely on this in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KH', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kirk Havens

Chair, Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee