



Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP)
Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)
Quarterly Meeting – December 3-4, 2024
Webinar Meeting - [December Meeting Page](#)
[Register for Zoom Meeting](#)

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

Tuesday, December 3rd

9:00 am

Call to Order, STAC Business, Announcements — *Larry Sanford (STAC Chair)*

Following STAC member and meeting participant introductions, Sanford will highlight important takeaways from the September 2024 meeting and request membership approval of the September 2024 Meeting Minutes. Materials and recordings from September can be found on the [meeting webpage](#). Sanford will also request membership approval of the drafted October and November 2025 Executive Board Minutes; STAC members will share announcement and updates. Sanford will provide a short overview of today's agenda.

- Introductions
- Approval Requests:
 - September 2024 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
 - October and November Executive Board Meeting Minutes
 - No-Cost Extension on FY24 Brook Trout Workshop
- Approved 2025 quarterly meeting dates
 - March 4-5, 2025
 - June 16-18, 2025 – in-person retreat at NCTC
 - September 16-17, 2025
 - December 2-3, 2025
- Member Announcements and Updates

9:25 am

October 2024 PSC Meeting and 2024 STAC Letter to the Executive Council

— *Larry Sanford (STAC Chair)*

Sanford will recap the October 25, [2024 Principle Staff Committee \(PSC\) Meeting](#), which discussed Beyond 2025 report, Executive Council Charge, and themes for the Executive Council meeting on December 10, 2024.

9:45 am

Proposed Restructure to STAC Meetings — *Gary Shenk (USGS), STAC Staff*

STAC's quarterly meeting structure was established in the 1980s, when in-person meetings were the primary way to collaborate and share information. As organizational engagement practices have evolved, a reconsideration of STAC's annual meeting cycle to strategically balance in-person and virtual events may enhance its effectiveness, improve accessibility, and better align activities with the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Program. Sanford and STAC Staff will present a potential restructure of the 2025 STAC meeting schedule.

10:15 am

STAC FY24 Workshop Request for Proposal (RFP) Approval and DEIJ Metric Discussion

— *STAC Staff, Melissa Sines (Colmena Consulting)*

STAC membership will be asked to approve the STAC FY2025 Workshop Request for Proposals (RFP), which will then be released following the STAC December quarterly meeting on Thursday, December 5th. Melissa Sines (Colmena Consulting) will join STAC to discuss metrics related to equity and accessibility and provide rubric scoring guidance

for members. Sines provides consulting services to the CBP Goal Implementation Teams (GITs)/workgroups on integrating DEI considerations into their work.

10:45 am **15-minute Break**

11:00 am **Panel: Veterans Letter** — *Richard Batiuk (Coastwise Partners), Donald Boesch (UMCES), Bob Perciasepe (Center for Climate and Energy Solutions)*

This panel will begin with an overview of the "[Veterans Letter on the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement](#)" (August 2024), focusing specifically on Recommendation #3, which highlights opportunities to leverage infrastructure funding and greenhouse gas reduction efforts to accelerate nutrient and sediment reductions. Panelists will discuss pathways to address climate impacts and advance Bay restoration goals. Q&A to follow.

12:00 pm **Management Board Retreat Outcomes** — *Lee McDonnell (EPA)*

Lee McDonnell (EPA) will share the outcomes from the [Management Board Planning Retreat](#) that occurred at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) on November 12-14, 2024. These outcomes will provide guidance for the Day 2 discussion on how STAC can best integrate into the updated Beyond 2025 Phase 2 timeline.

12:30 pm **Recess**

Wednesday, December 4th

9:00 am **Welcome and Recap from Day 1** — *Larry Sanford (STAC Chair)*

Sanford will provide a short recap on Day 1 of the STAC December quarterly meeting and a short overview of today's agenda.

9:10 am **Living Resources Update** — *Mark Monaco (NOAA), Kenny Rose (UMCES)*

STAC members Monaco (NOAA) and Rose (UMCES) will share an update on the living resources effort, including a potential STAC-led workshop in 2025.

9:40 am **Tiered Implementation to the TMDL Prospectus Document**

— *Denice Wardrop (CRC), Kurt Stephenson (VT)*

In response to a recommendation by the 2023 Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response ([CESR](#)) report, a STAC-led group produced a draft summary of a tiered implementation of the Bay TMDL. A "tiered TMDL" accepts the current Bay water quality standards and the overall TMDL nutrient reduction targets, but offers an alternative path toward attainment. A tiered approach to TMDL implementation establishes staggered timelines, with interim goals that prioritize pollutant load reductions to local (segment/habitat) regions of the Bay that can greatest anticipated benefit to living resources. CESR authors, Wardrop and Stephenson, will present the draft document for STAC feedback and discussion.

10:25 am **Approval of STAC Social Science Standing Workgroup Charge and Mission Statement**
— *STAC Staff, Social Science Workgroup (SSWG)*

The recently established STAC-led Social Science Standing Workgroup will present the drafted Workgroup Charge & Mission Statement for membership approval.

10:45 am **15-minute Break**

11:00 am **Brainstorming Session: Governance and adaptive management for Beyond 2025**

This session, led by the STAC-led Social Science Workgroup (SSWG), will focus on how

social sciences may guide governance and adaptive management Chesapeake Bay Program's Phase 2 Beyond 2025 efforts. Participants will discuss the next steps the Social Science Workgroup can take to support the adaptive management process, including contributions to the "Big Question" Outcome Reports and prioritization of projects. The discussion will help identify how the workgroup can best shepherd this process moving forward.

12:00 pm **Wrap Up**

- Current membership vacancies
- STAC Staff will summarize action items from the December quarterly meeting

12:15 pm **Adjourn**