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Release Date

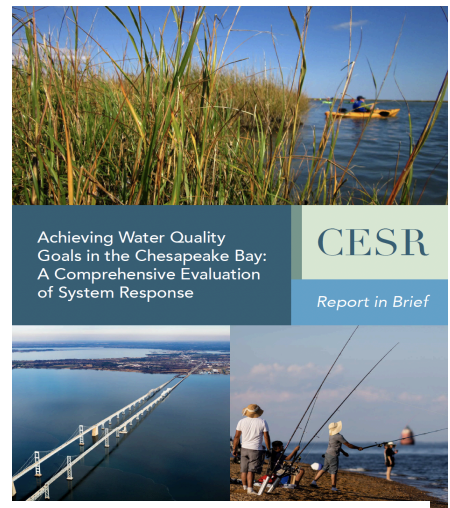
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New Release: Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response (CESR) Report in Brief

A new, short visual summary now available for important Bay scientific report

A new, highly visual summary document, the [CESR Report in Brief](#), is now available as a companion to the full 133-page [Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response \(CESR\) report](#). The Report in Brief presents the major findings and paths forward, along with new graphics and synopses of key points.

CESR was developed through the [Chesapeake Bay Program’s Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee \(STAC\)](#) to evaluate why progress towards achieving water quality goals has been slower than expected, and identify opportunities to improve the Program’s effectiveness in the future. It represents a multi-year investigation of the 40-year effort to reduce nutrient loads to the Chesapeake Bay.



Cover of CESR Report in Brief

Co-editors Denice Wardrop and Kurt Stephenson and the CESR Outreach Committee worked with [Green Fin Studio](#) to develop the Report in Brief to share the findings from the CESR report with the broader Bay community.

Rivers	Monitoring Observations	Bay Model
Susquehanna	—	↓
Potomac	↓	↓
Choptank	↑	↓
Patuxent	↓	↓
Rappahannock	↑	↓
Mattaponi	—	↑
Pamunkey	↑	↓
James	↓	↓
Appomattox	↑	↓

Observed versus modeled P trend in the major tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay from 1985-2021. The dashes are no trend, while arrows represent decreasing or increasing P loads.

Read the Report in Brief to learn about STAC’s conclusions, including how our expectation of progress (as represented by the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool- or CAST) appears out of sync with observed pollution reductions based on monitoring data (see table from the report, left), and why that disconnect may exist.

The Report in Brief aims to empower decision makers in the community, from policymakers to homeowner associations and garden clubs, to protect the Chesapeake Bay, its living resources and the associated economy. The value of the CESR report to inform policy was recently demonstrated by the newly enacted Whole Watershed Act in Maryland that establishes a highly collaborative, science-based approach to watershed restoration across the state.

The [Chesapeake Research Consortium](#) (CRC), celebrating its 52nd year, is a non-profit [501(c)(3)] organization comprised of seven research and education institutions across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. CRC aspires to fully enable its member institutions and the broader scientific community in the region to contribute effectively toward better understanding and management of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. Each of CRC's member institutions has a long history of research within the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed, using that science to inform management, and training the workforce for science-based management.

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