



Stakeholders' Advisory Committee
TO THE CHESAPEAKE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



Photo Credit: Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program

Stakeholders' Committee 2023 Recommendations

Sept 13, 2023

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Focus of the Annual Report

Leadership of the Chesapeake Bay Program

- Executive Council (Collectively the Governors, DC Mayor, EPA, CBC)
- Principals' Staff Committee (Secretaries of Environment, Ag, Forests, Conservation, etc...)

Why?

The EC and PSC are the **focal points of accountability** for the **Chesapeake Watershed Agreement** and improving water quality, living resources and habitats, and enhancing resource productivity of the Watershed.

Characteristics of Annual Recommendations

Issues the full Committee discussed in the past year

- Topics from quarterly meeting briefings
- Informed by multiple perspectives and learning from each other

Limit to 3 topics

- Avoid “hidden” or sub-recommendations

Concise

- Detail focused on the advice and stakeholder view of the impact

Actionable

- Beyond an expression of appreciation or concern
- Not posing another question or simply requesting information
- Within the purview of the executive branches of the CBP Partnership

Recap: 2022 Recommendations

(1) Accountability for the 2025 Deadline (WQ)

- hire agency staff to enforce existing regulations, target priority practices with co-benefits, and provide technical assistance for implementation
- “Crisis of Credibility” – accountability for the TMDL and Goals of the *Watershed Agreement*

(2) Volunteer Stipends (S&E)

- Address a barrier of inclusive engagement and advance the CBP’s commitments to DEIJ by providing stipends to eligible volunteers of ACs and Workgroups

(3) Large-Scale Solar Development (CLU)

- coordinate a watershed-wide approach to protect the high-quality ecosystem functions, sustainable agriculture, and water quality targets

December 2022: Luray, VA

Committee Retreat to Set Annual Priorities

- EC Charge of Charting a Course to 2025
- Social Science in the Bay Program
- Bylaws Revision- Criteria for Membership
- Name Change- Stakeholders
- Elected Chair, Vice-Chair, Subcommittee Chairs

Updates on CBP Decisions and Actions

- PSC delegates Getting to 2025 and Beyond decisions to MB
- PSC agrees NY, PA and MD can use phased approach for Conowingo WIP that extends beyond 2025
- CAST resolutions continued

February 2023: Cambridge, MD

Theme: Equitable Access to Grant (S&E Subcommittee)

- Panel with Bay Funders on DEIJ in grantmaking
 - Proposal Design, Awareness, Review and Capacity Building
- MD Progress on *Watershed Agreement* Outcomes
- Local Context from Shore Rivers and Choptank Riverkeeper
- Refined Annual Priorities in Subcommittee break-out sessions
- Revisited Vice-Chair election

Updates on CBP Decisions and Actions

- Charting the Course to 2025 and Beyond
- CAST resolutions continue
- Assessment of funding needs for CBP Monitoring Networks

May 2023: Harrisburg, PA (CCWC Conference)

Theme: Understanding the risk to restoration and climate goals in light of current trends of tree loss (CLU Subcommittee)

- Panel: Benefits of Trees, Land Use and Forest Conservation (high-res data), Tools & Resources
- PA's Progress on *Watershed Agreement* Outcomes
- Stakeholder Engagement in Beyond 2025 Steering Committee

CBP Decisions and Actions

- Continued updates on Getting to 2025 and Beyond
- July- PSC approved Stakeholders' Committee Name Change
- PSC briefing on STAC Reports: CESR Report and Rising Water Temperatures
- Conowingo WIP updates on funding, outreach and BMP opportunities

Sept 2023: Fredericksburg, VA

Theme: Progress and Accountability on Water Quality Targets

- VA's Progress on *Watershed Agreement* Outcomes
- Briefing on 'Charting a Course to 2025' report
- Briefing on Beyond 2025 Steering Committee

CBP Decisions and Actions

- EPA to respond to IG report by Sept 16
- PSC preparing for October EC meeting
- PSC finalizes CAST issues on unaccounted loads, urban fertilizer and data anomalies
- Discussion begins on creation of new Ag Advisory Committee

Subcommittee Break-out Session Questions

Based on your annual priority topic:

Is your subcommittee prepared to offer a recommendation that...

- (a) the full Committee discussed this year, and
- (b) falls within the purview of the Bay Program leadership (EC/PSC), and
- (c) is actionable

FINAL REPORT DUE SEPTEMBER 28