

# **Nontidal network indicators:**

Initial response to comments from  
STAR/Indicators Workgroup etc.

Blomquist

Langland

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Hyer

# Outline

- Review comments
  - Present recommendations
- Review Current Bay Barometer
- Identify “process” issues with Indicators
  - Present recommendations for dealing with these issues

# Feedback on combined indicator

- Comments from:
  - STAR meeting 12/21/2010 to discuss indicators
  - Management meeting-- date?
  - Indicators workgroup-- date?
- No official, written comments, thanks to Katie for recreating them!
- Static indicator approved by Management Board on 12/8/10
- Bay Barometer posted indicator Spring 2011.
- Were there any favorable comments?
- Do vocal critics drown out the silently satisfied?

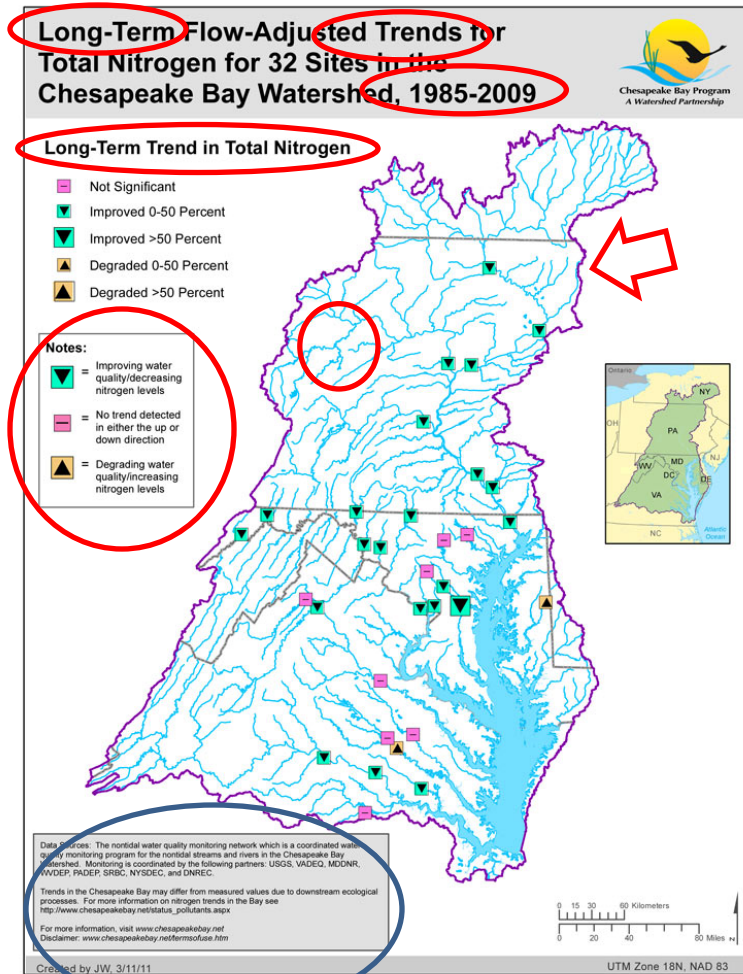
# Summary of comments: (reply and action)

1. Overall the message is confusing because there are too many messages in the one map
  - It is a complex story, not everything can (or should) be simplified.
  - Short-term trends will be prepared as a separate static indicator.
  - Yields will be prepared as a static indicator.
  - A combined indicator will be retained.
2. Yield categories are unclear and misleading.
  - Revision is warranted—the current indicator is not technically inaccurate.
  - We will work with a small group to refine approach to categorizing yields (several months effort)
  - The indicator was never intended to be an ecological indicator, if one is desired a new approach would be needed, no action recommended
3. Arrows are confusing
  - The TMDL/WIP is the diet, the WSM is the calorie counter, the network is the scale: If my scale pointed upward on good days, I'd be confused.
  - The arrows must be closely tied to the measured indicator—retain downward arrow
  - Improve explanation and annotation on graphics. Make sure this translated to Bay Barometer web page or other CB product
4. The index map is not helpful from a communication's perspective:
  - The index map was intended to help the user identify specific monitoring site locations as needed, It is not an indicator.
  - The index map was dropped from the Bay web site
  - Re-institute some way for the readers of Bay web site to find out about specific site locations

# Chesapeake Bay Web Site Vs. “STATIC” Indicators

- Indicators are publically accessible through the Chesapeake Bay Web site.
  - <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/trackprogress/river>
    - These indicators bear little resemblance to the agreed upon indicator form
- Static indicators are indicators are available from the site at
  - <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/maps>
    - But no one would know these are the indicators or how to find them.

## Approved static indicator (Long-term trend)

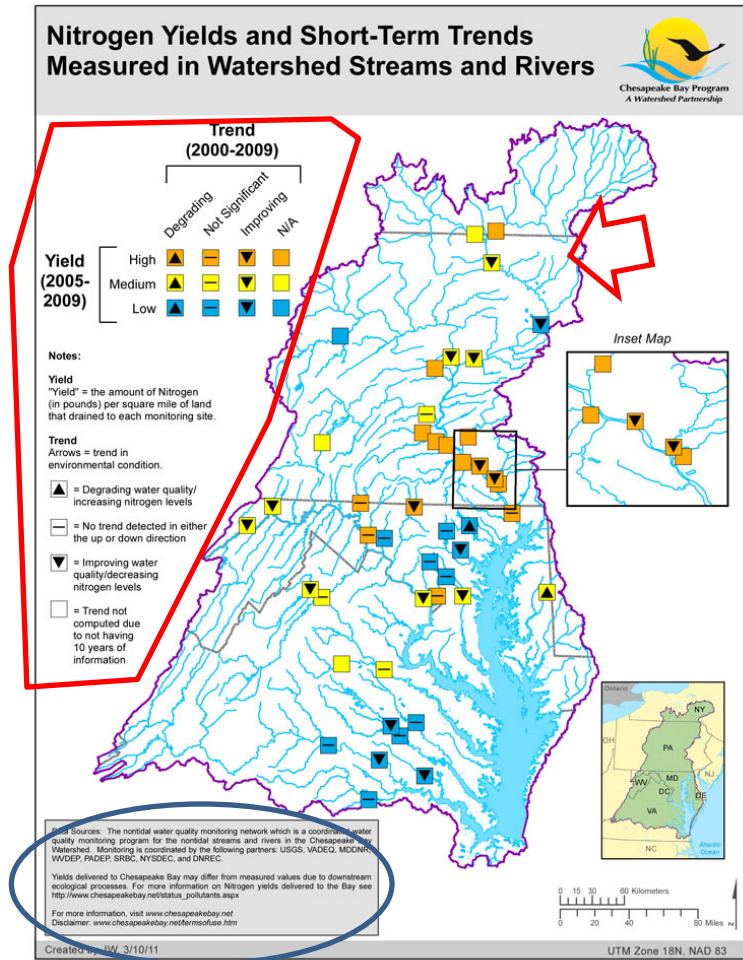


## Current Bay web site Interactive Map (Long-term trend)

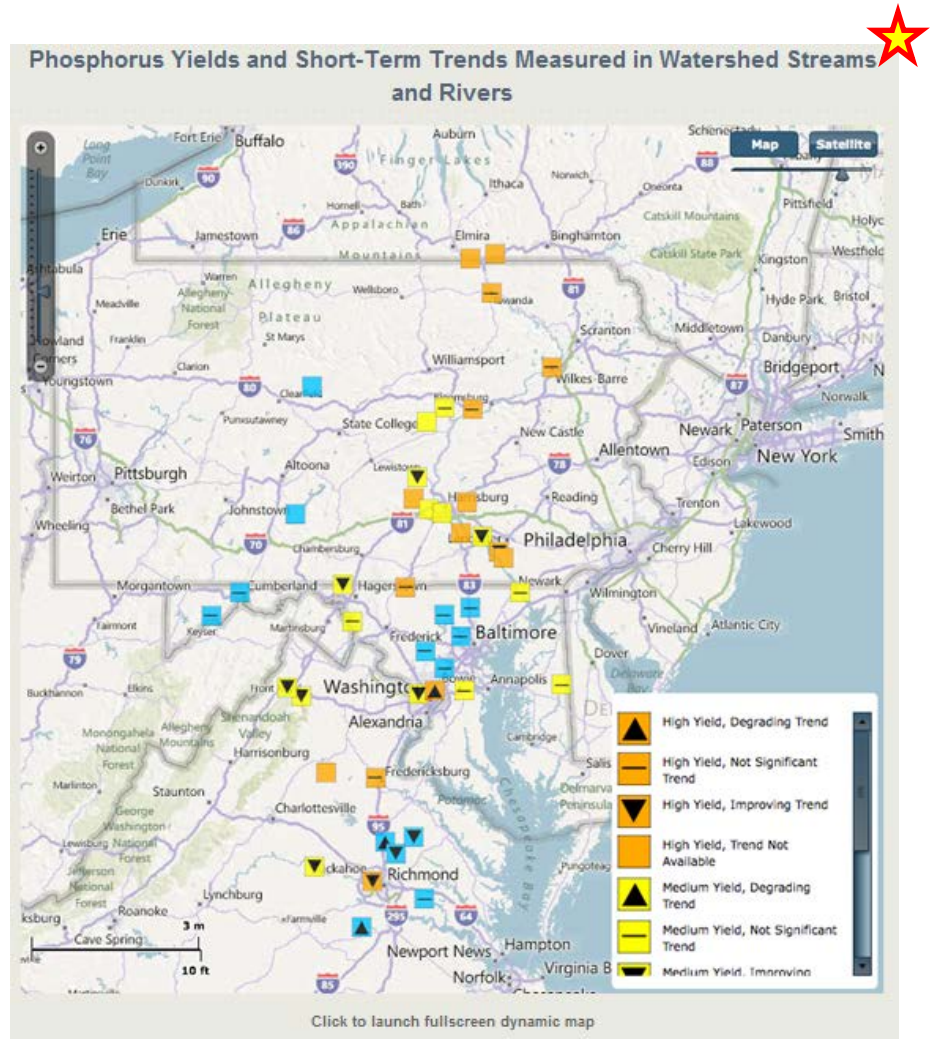




## Approved static indicator (combined short term trend and yield)



## Current Bay web site Interactive Map (combined short term trend and yield)



# Issues to resolve between static and dynamic indicators

- Inclusion of Static indicators on the Indicators page!
- Meaningful titles
  - Trend, Period, Yield etc.
- Meaningful explanations
  - Don't assume special knowledge of the user
- Chesapeake Watershed Geography
- Local streams reference
  - And reference to an index map.
- Credit to collaborating jurisdictions and agencies



# Notes on PROCESS associated with indicators development and implementation:

1. GIT teams now “own” indicators.
  - We need to work more closely with the WQ GIT, starting with Katherine Antos (coordinator).
2. Coordination and communications among STAR, Communications Office, Indicators Workgroup, and technical indicators development teams is vague.
  - Communicate more and have notes to document actions and decisions.
  - Include communications office team in vetting of indicators.
3. The CB web site is currently the indicator dissemination tool
  - Don’t modify indicators for the web site without working with tech team.
  - Include **Static** indicators on Bay web site. (from Citable USGS document)
  - Have link to interactive indicators to meet that need.