New Restoration Variances for 2017

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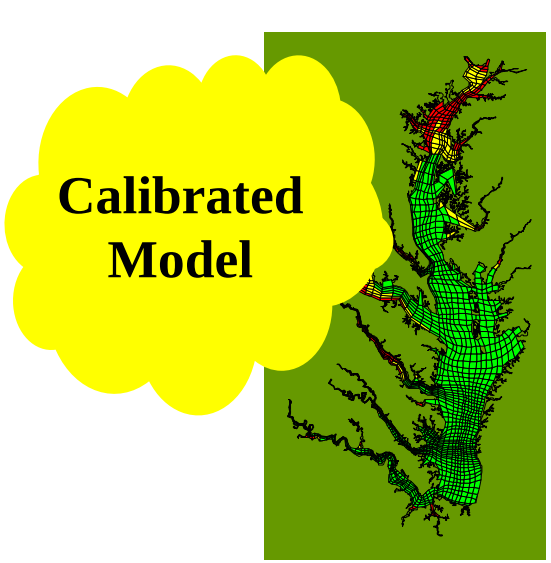
Criteria Assessment Protocols Workgroup

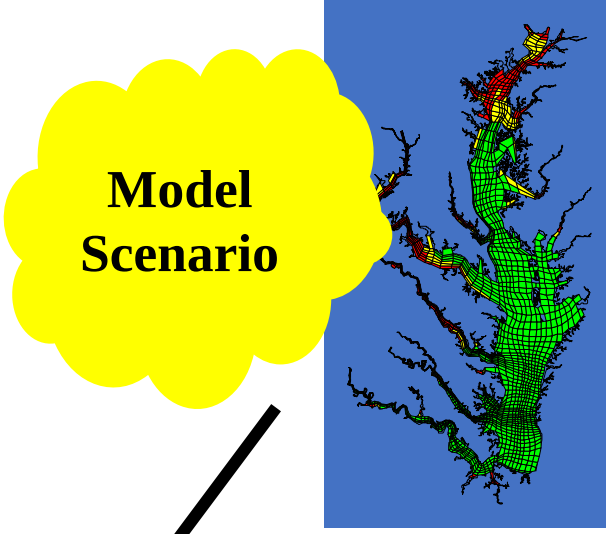
3/8/2019

Chesapeake TMDL WQ Standards

- Unchanged since 2010

- 30-day mean DO only
  1. Average of 1 or 2 samples per point
  2. Vertically interpolated
  3. Horizontally interpolated
  4. Apply CFD
  5. DW bioreference curve
  6. DC and OW default reference curve





Change Analysis

1993-1995
Observed Data

1993-1995 scenario
"Observations"

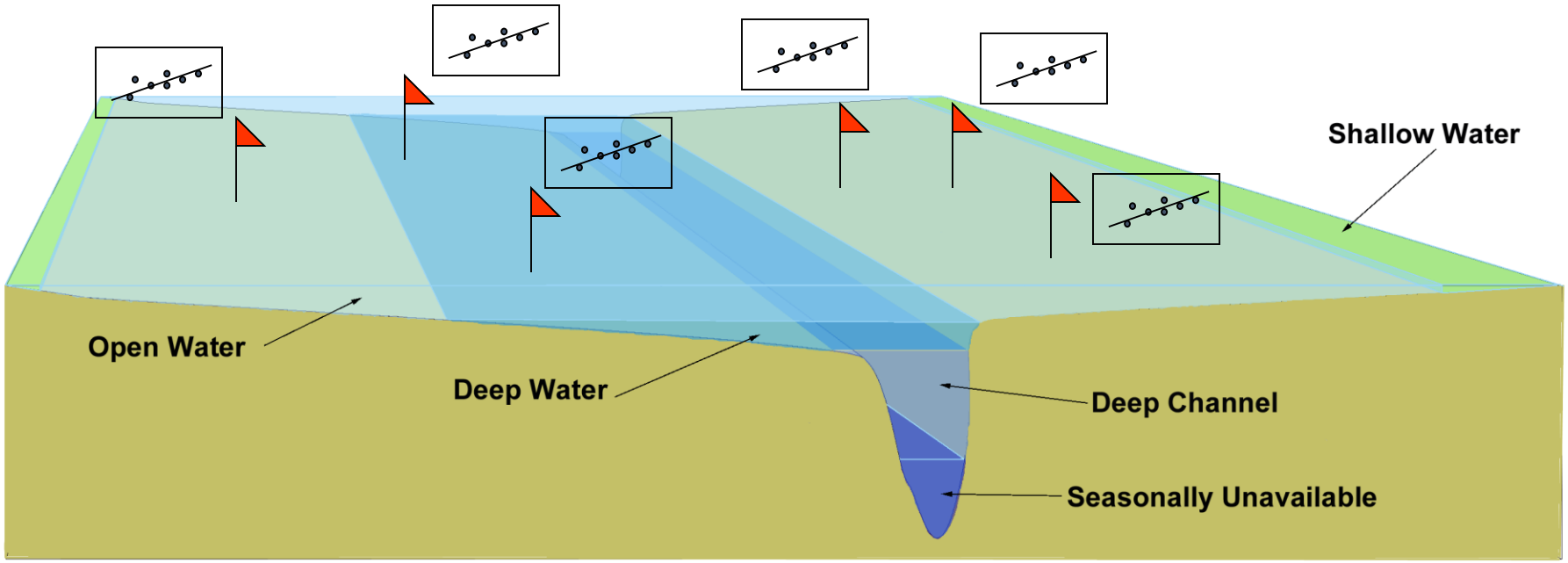
Criteria Assessment
Procedures

Criteria Assessment
Procedures

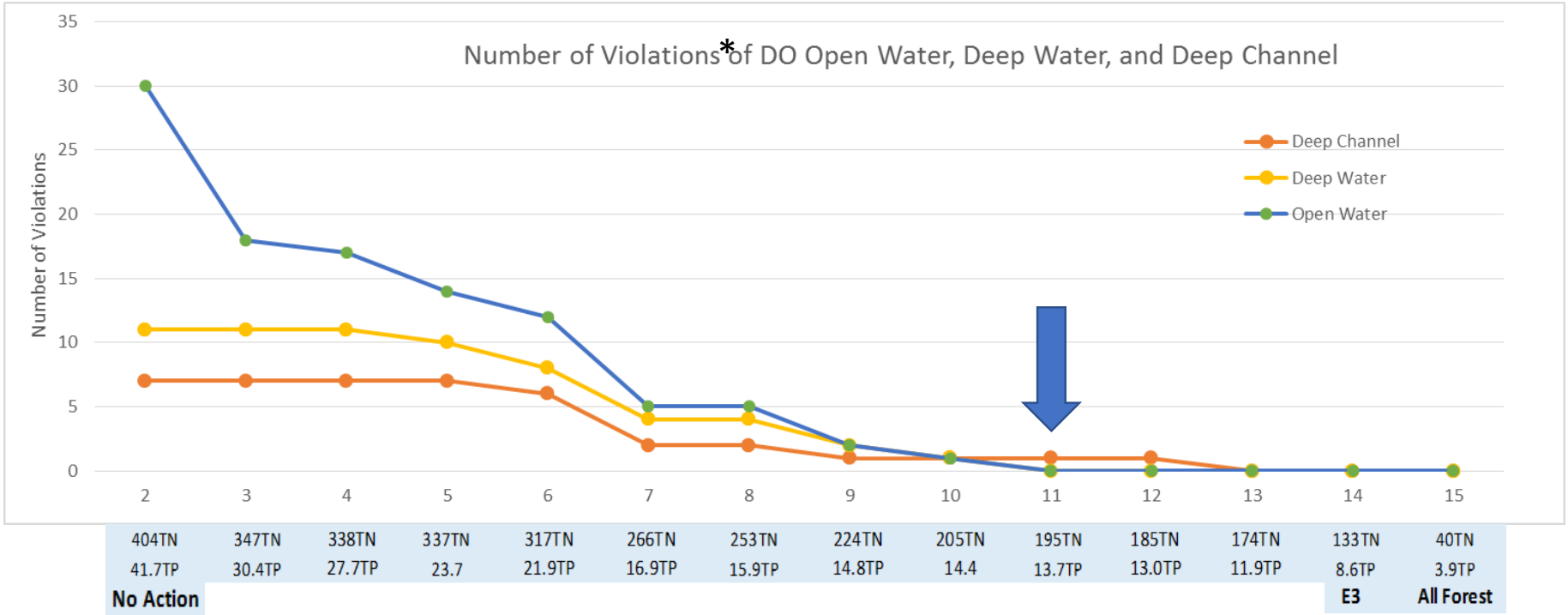
Criteria Achievement
in critical period

Criteria Achievement
Under Scenario

One regression for each point and each month



Determining the Bay's Ability to Absorb Pollutants



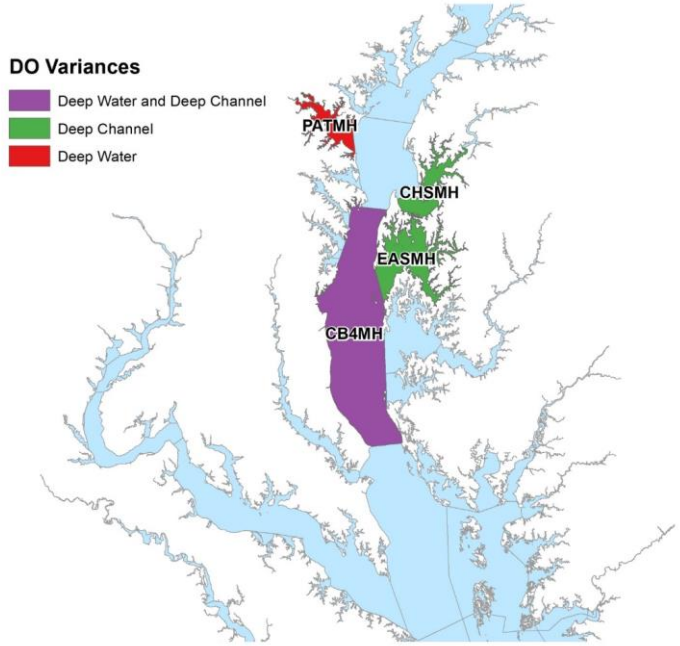
* Segments where data availability and model skill are sufficient

Spring 2018

- WQGIT and PSC decided that loads would be allocated such that CB4MH DC would exactly equal 6.49% violation (rounded down to 6%)

Maryland's Restoration Variances

Maryland's water quality standards regulations still contain restoration variances agreed to by the Partners/approved by EPA in 2010 and updated in 2012



Patapsco River Deep-water 7%

Lower Chester River Deep-channel 16%

Eastern Bay Deep-channel 2%

Middle Central Chesapeake Bay

- Deep-water 7%
- Deep-channel 2%

Proposed Path Forward

- Support Maryland updating their water quality standards regulations' existing restoration variances

CBSEG	DU	2010 Var	2017 Var	Modeled
CB4MH	DC	2%	6%	6.49%
CB4MH	DW	7%	5%	5.09%
CHSMH	DC	16%	0%	0%
CB4MH	DC	7%	0%	0%
EASMH	DC	2%	2%	6.37%

PSC 12/20/2017

PSC Policy Decisions: Assimilative Capacity

- The PSC supports Maryland in moving forward with its water quality standards regulatory process, recognizing that any adjustments to Maryland's current restoration variances to meet the Bay's assimilative capacity for nitrogen and phosphorus are subject to EPA approval

- The PSC recommends the development of Partnership communication messages for the public over the next four months, in time for the release of the final Phase III WIP planning targets in May 2018