Climate Monitoring and Assessment

GOAL: Climate Resiliency Goal
LEAD: STAR/Climate Resiliency Workgroup (CRWG)

OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO MANAGEMENT BOARD:

Replace

OUTCOME: : "Continually monitor and assess the trends and likely impacts of changing climatic and sea level conditions on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem, including the effectiveness of restoration and protection policies, programs and projects."

Consideration – Relation to bay agreement, challenges and opportunities

- Priority in Bay agreement and EC 2021 directive on climate change
- Challenge: Assessing effectiveness of programs
- Opportunity: Develop/implement climate resiliency assessment framework to apply with all outcomes and integrate climate science to inform attainability
- Move away from tracking climate change trends (others already do this)

Consideration – Resources

- Need full engagement by GITs/partnership to implement
- Need continuing/additional climate science support

Consideration – Value added, public input

- Climate science integration - informs achievability of all outcomes under changing climate conditions
- Supports progress under EC climate change directive
- If removed, risk of having outcomes in amended Watershed Agreement that are not attainable or realistic

Consideration – Make SMART

- Pursue SMART direction for outcome - measured by how many outcomes have integrated climate science (use SRS process)

Presented by: Mark Bennett, USGS, CRWG Chair

Climate Adaptation Outcome

GOAL: Climate Resiliency Goal
LEAD: STAR/Climate Resiliency Workgroup (CRWG)

OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO MANAGEMENT BOARD:

Update

OUTCOME: "Continually pursue, design and construct restoration and protection projects to enhance the resiliency of Bay and aquatic ecosystems from the impacts of coastal erosion, coastal flooding, more intense and more frequent storms and sea level rise."

Consideration – Relation to Bay agreement, challenges and opportunities

- Climate change – theme, principal, and goal in the Bay agreement
- Elevated priority–2021 EC directive
- Challenges: Lack of monitoring/metrics; need jurisdictional support for implementation
- Opportunity–placed-based, holistic watershed approach (tidal, nontidal, aquatic, terrestrial); appropriate timescale monitoring for metrics

Consideration – Resources

- Science synthesis - low to medium
- Implementation of projects - high
- More capacity to support larger scope

Consideration – Value added, public input

- Facilitates collaboration; provides cutting edge science
- Loss of outcome could mean loss of partners, less support for legislation change

Consideration – Make SMART

- Incorporate place-based language, timebound strategies, monitoring and assessment objectives for identified focus areas (coastal and inland)
- Ex: Assess nature-based adaptation options within future timeframes (2050/75/100) with progress measured by implementation (e.g., 5/10/15-yr milestones)

Presented by: Julie Reichert-Nguyen, NOAA, CRWG Coordinator