



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

March 21, 2024

CBP Advisory Committees

Structure & Function



STAC Scope & Purpose

Mission Statement: The Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) provides scientific and technical advice and guidance to the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Partnership on measures to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.



Committee Structure

STAC Leadership



Larry Sarver
Chair
At-Large
UMCES



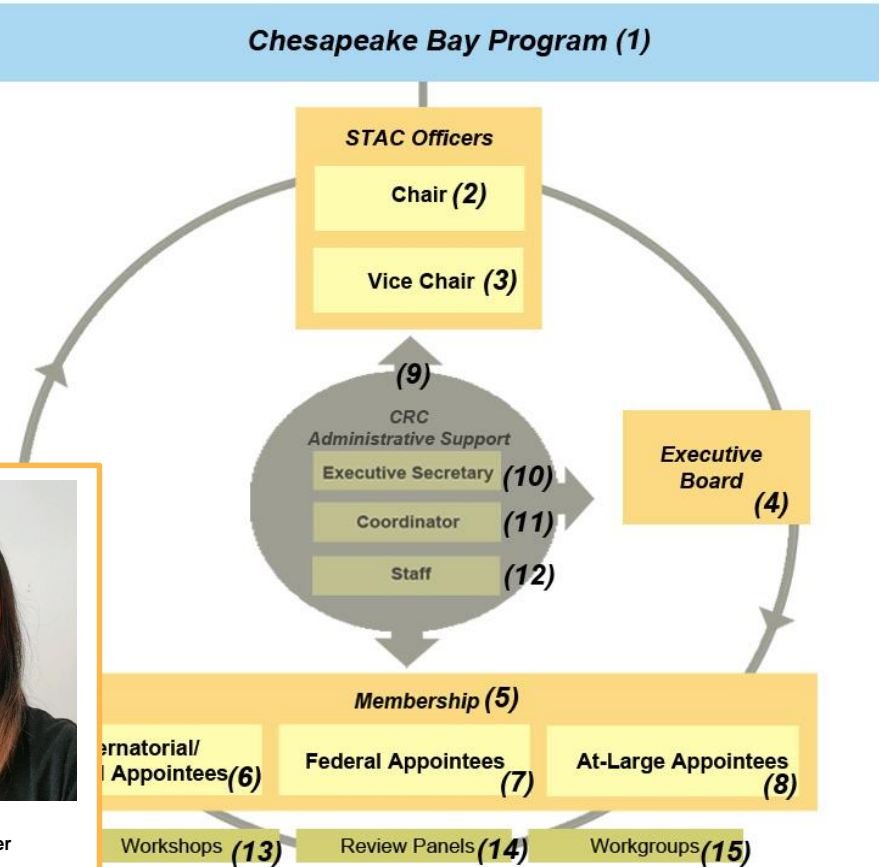
Denice Wardrop
Executive Secretary



Meg Cole
Coordinator



Tou Matthews
Projects Manager



Committee Structure

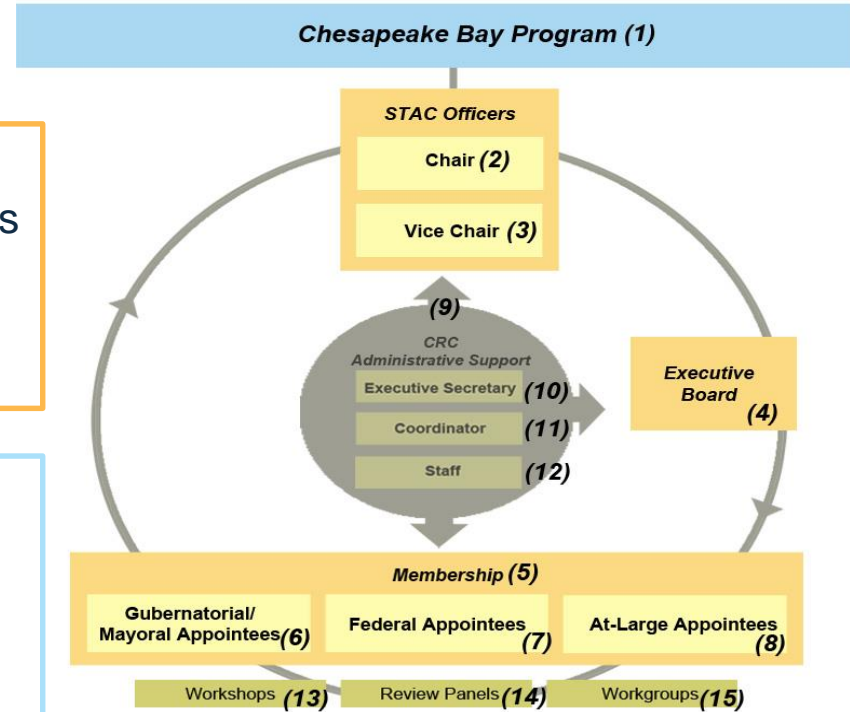
Executive Board

- Acts on behalf of STAC in between quarterlies
- Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair, Executive Secretary, and up to six (6) additional STAC members

Active Subcommittees:

- CESR Communications & Outreach Committee
- Science Synthesis Subcommittee

TBA: Ecological Knowledge (ITEK) Subcommittee



Committee Membership

Appointment Type	Term
<i>Mayoral (2)</i>	4 years or until replaced
<i>Gubernatorial (11)</i>	4 years or until replaced
<i>Federal (6)</i>	No more than two consecutive 4-year terms
<i>At-large (21)</i>	No more than two consecutive 4-year terms
Total Members = 38	



STAC At-large Membership: Self-Nomination Form

The Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) is seeking self-nominations for At-large Membership positions. STAC supports the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Partnership initiatives to advance their restoration and conservation goals. STAC serves as a liaison between the scientific community and the CBP. Members strengthen collaborative research networks across the region and beyond to address critical knowledge gaps concerning water, soil, and habitat management under changing climate conditions through technical reports and white papers, peer reviews of CBP products, technical workshops, and active engagement with the entire CBP Partnership. STAC is committed to leveraging a diversity of backgrounds and perspectives to tackle uncertainties that may limit the success of our restoration efforts.

Essential expertise includes but is not limited to terrestrial and estuarine biogeochemistry, hydrology, fisheries, agronomy, urban planning, civil engineering, and behavioral economics. Through its members' professional and academic contacts and organizational networks, STAC ensures close cooperation among the various research institutions, government agencies, and non-profit organizations that form the CBP partnership. If you have relevant expertise and driving commitment to advancing science-based decision-making related to resource management, please consider submitting your application.

colem@chesapeake.org [Switch account](#)



The name, email, and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form

* Indicates required question

Email *

Committee Membership

STAC Member Affiliation 2024

STAC Member Expertise

Agriculture	4 members
Economics	1 member
Environmental Data Analysis	2 members
Estuarine – Living Resources ★	8 members
Estuarine – Physical/Biogeochemical	2 members
Social Science ★	7 members
Urban/Wastewater Treatment ★	6 members
Watershed – Hydro/Aquatic	3 members
Watershed – Wetlands/Terrestrial	5 members

State/Local Government: 12 %

NGOs: 15 %

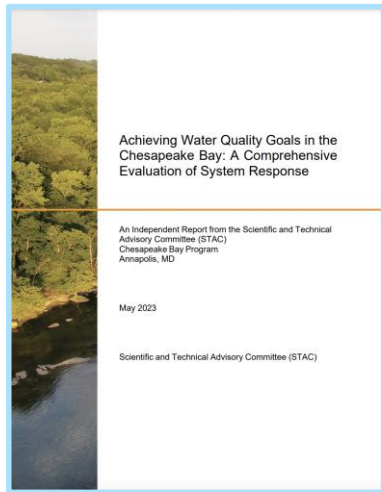
Academic Institutions: 51 %

UMBC (3)
Virginia Tech (3)

■ Academic Institutions ■ NGOs ■ Federal ■ State/Local Government



Annual Recommendations



STAC highlighted the main conclusions from the **CESR** report in our **2023 Letter to the EC**:

1. WQ improvement is slower than expected
2. Bay impacted by climate & land use changes
3. WQ is part of larger restoration puzzle
4. Adaptive management needed for program goals



<https://www.chesapeake.org/stac/cesr/>

STAC CESR Page

Details

Background

The effort began as a STAC independent initiative in March 2019, after Kurt Stephenson, STAC Chair at the time, initiated a process that would identify gaps and uncertainties in system response—physical, chemical, biological, and water quality standards in Chesapeake Bay. As STAC Chair at the time, Benham facilitated the entire committee. This process consisted of two major components:

- 1 – Workgroups were formed around the subsystems of the chain linking management actions to water quality. Workgroups focused on sediment reductions (watershed), water quality response to nutrient and sediment reductions (estuary) and living resource response to water quality (living resources). Reports were generated by each workgroup.
- 2 – A steering committee developed a series of framing questions to guide the preparation of this report that would meet the objective of identifying gaps and uncertainties in achieving the Bay TMDL and water quality standards. Coeditors Stephenson and Wardrop, supported to great extent by a subgroup of the Steering Committee (Leonard Shabman, Zach Easton, Jeremy Testa, William Dennison, Kenny Rose, and Mark Monaco) were tasked with assembling ideas and contributions to write a single draft text, drawing material from the aforementioned workgroup reports, STAC and Chesapeake Bay Program reports, the scientific literature, and a limited amount of additional analyses performed in collaboration with Bay Program scientists. The resulting report was then submitted for several reviews by both steering committee members and the membership at-large to produce a consensus report.



<https://www.chesapeake.org/stac/cesr/>

STAC Administrative Contacts



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Meg Cole, *STAC Coordinator*

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For more information on STAC, workshops, reviews, and upcoming meetings (including reports, as available), visit our webpage at:

<http://www.chesapeake.org/stac/>

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