



Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership

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EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office
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Role of Partnerships and Accountability Branch

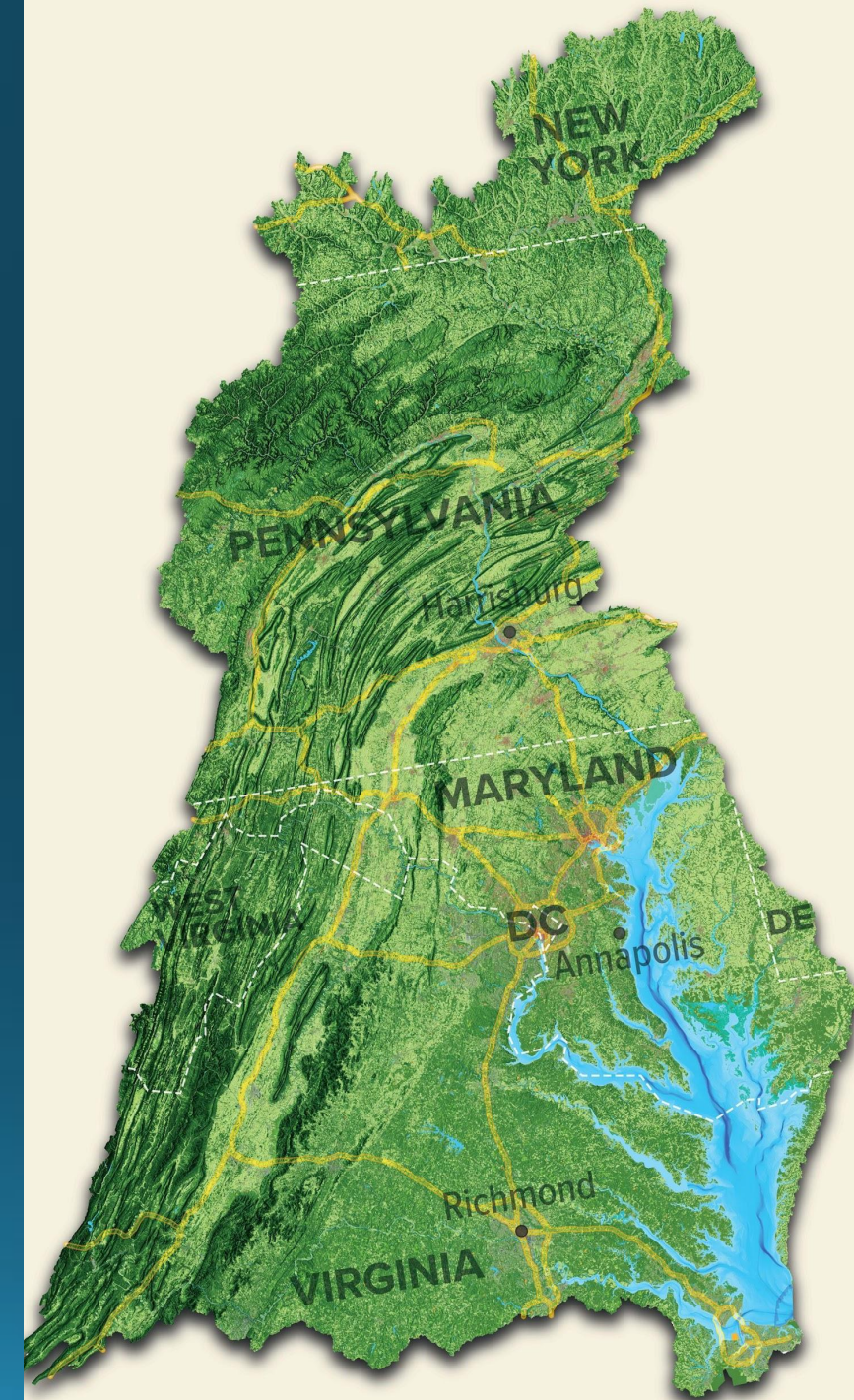
Key PAB Functions

- **Partnerships**

- Organization, support and coordination, including:
 - Watershed Agreement implementation
 - Cross-team / GIT
 - Federal leadership
- Local and diverse engagement and leadership

- **Accountability and Budget**

- Indicators Development and Support
- Strategy Review System
- Strategic Planning and Budget Formulation



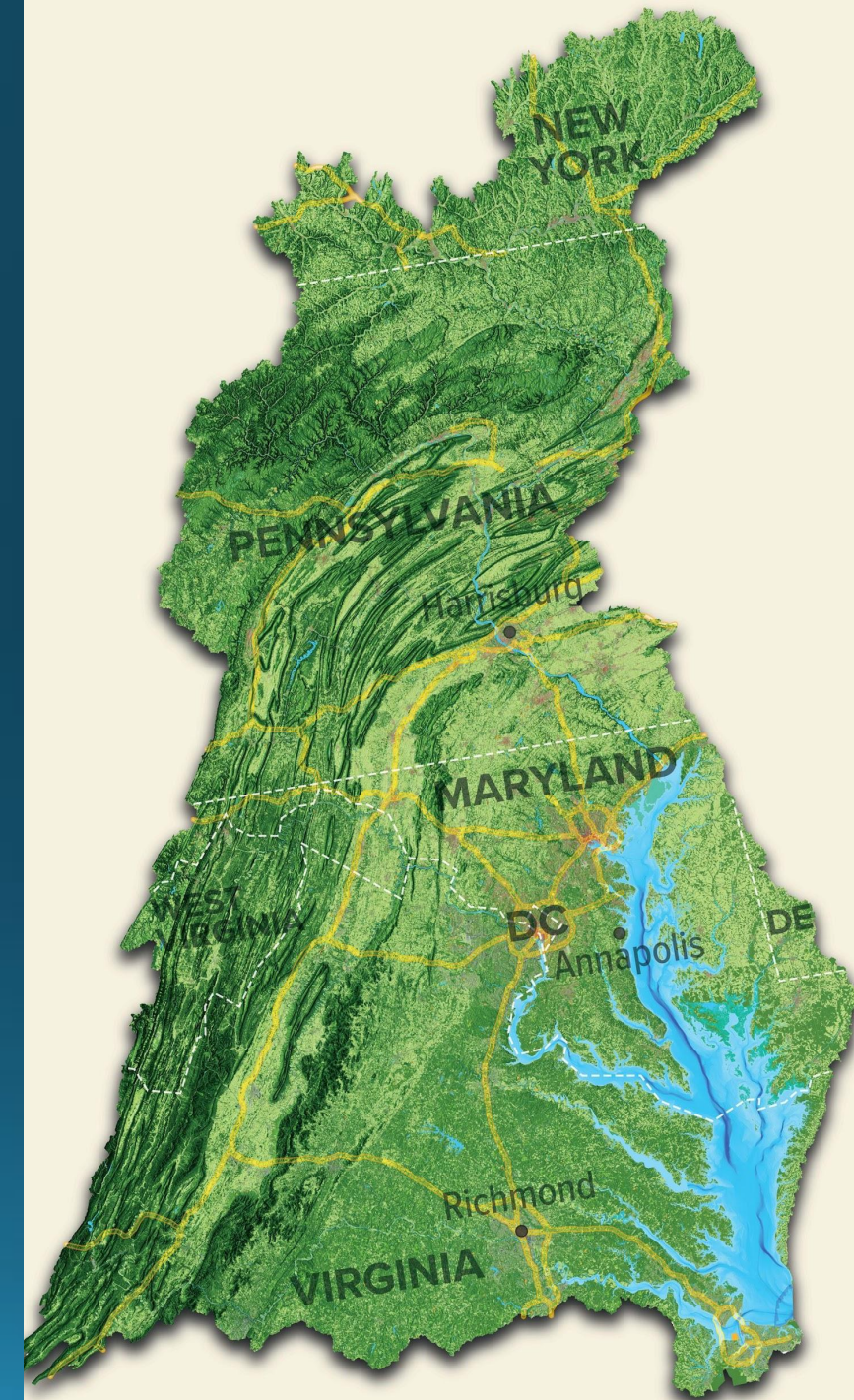
Key PAB Functions

- **Communications**

- Communicates the policy, science and data of the CBP partnership
- Provides communication expertise and strategy to CBP partnership

- **Web**

- Build and maintain impactful, user-focused websites
- Maintains content, development, and design for Bay.net, ChesapeakeSTAT, ChesapeakeProgress, and Chesapeake Behavior Change, amongst others
- Conducts research, analytics tracking, and testing



Key Priorities for 2024

- Support implementation of the DEIJ Strategy
- Enhance Wetlands coordination
- Support Beyond 2025 effort
- Strengthen and leverage social science expertise and application
- Executive Council planning and coordination
- Strengthen and enhance partnerships
- Supporting and implementing EC directive on climate change





Role of EPA in the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership

Section 117(b) of the Clean Water Act directs the EPA Administrator to maintain a Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Assists the signatories of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement in developing and implementing specific action plans to carry out their responsibilities to help meet the goals/outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement

Coordinates the actions of the EPA, other Federal agencies, and State and local authorities in developing strategies to improve the water quality and living resources of the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem

Coordinates and oversees the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and helps ensure accountability through the Bay jurisdictions' Watershed Implementation Plans and Two-Year Milestones.

Provides grants to state and local jurisdictions and other partner organizations for implementing the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, including water quality monitoring grants

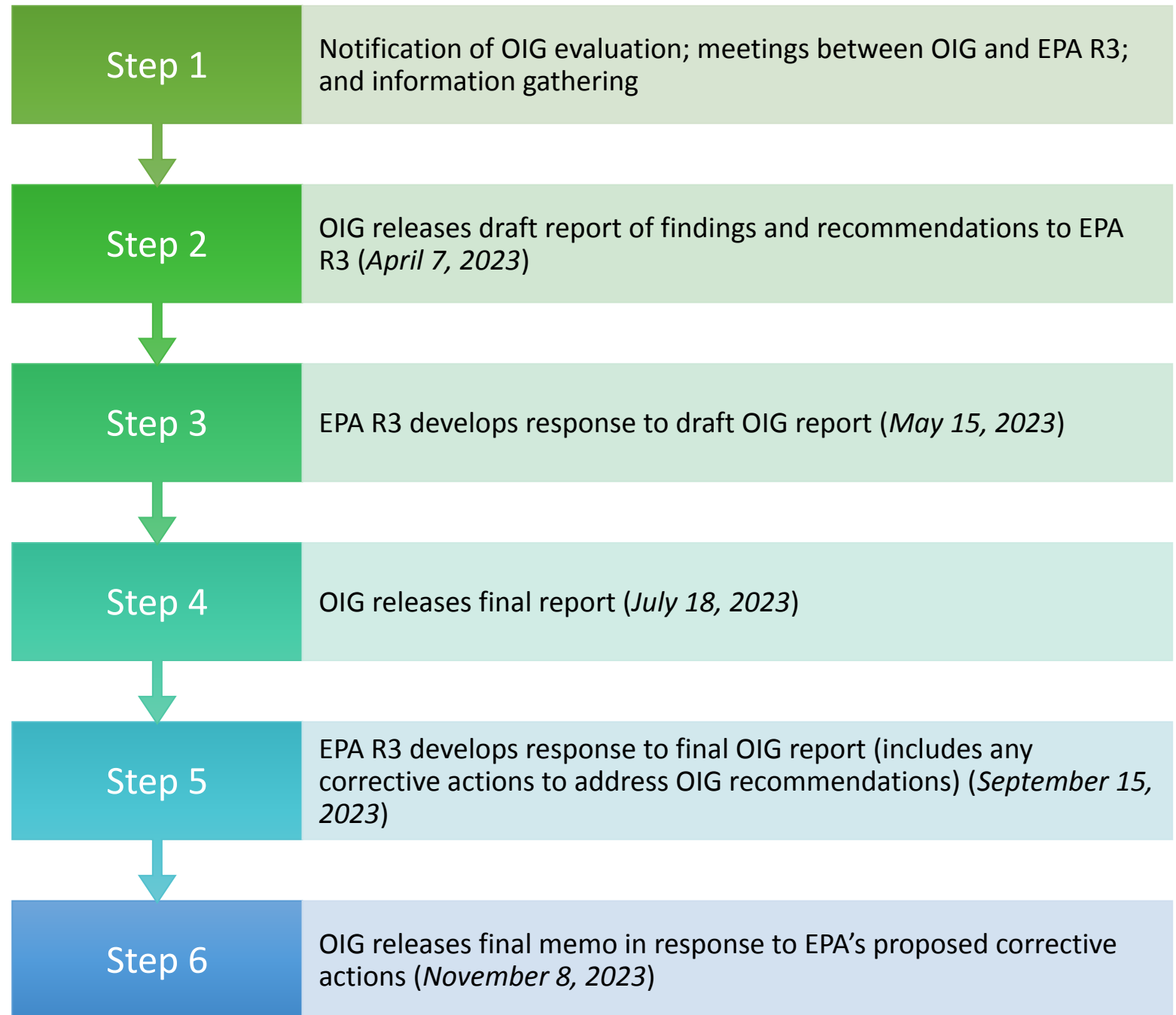
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- Coordinates implementation of the Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act (CBARA)
- Convenes forums to deliberate and agree on policy decisions that transcend state lines
- Maintains a comprehensive 30+ year tidal and nontidal monitoring network with consistent and comparable data
- Supports an internationally recognized series of models and technical support systems to run the models
- Ensures communication and outreach with a focus on restoration and protection of the ecosystem of the entire Chesapeake Bay watershed. Key products: Annual Bay Barometer, Chesapeakebay.net, ChesapeakeProgress



OIG Audit/Evaluation: Discussion

Overarching Steps for this Evaluation





(Potential) Key Decisions in 2024



2 0 1 4

Adoption of Beyond 2025
Recommendations on
Partnerships and Watershed
Agreement



Recommendation on
Whether to Establish an
Agricultural Advisory
Committee



Continuation of water quality milestones for 2026-2027?



Development of Nonpoint Source Strategy for the CBP partnership?



EC Recommendations Process - Discussion

Photo Credits

- Will Parson, multi-media manager, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
- Carlin Stiehl, past intern, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
- Ethan Weston, past intern, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.



Thank you! Questions?



Chesapeake Bay Program

40 years of science, restoration and partnership