

Modeling Workgroup Core Values, Decision Making, and Membership

During the 2017 Midpoint Assessment and beyond, the Modeling Workgroup will be called on to develop scientifically-based modeling systems to support the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership goals of Chesapeake restoration. To ensure that technical modeling decisions are made with the highest level of scientific rigor and with the greatest participation by the Partnership the core values of the Modeling Workgroup are Integration, Innovation, Independence, and Inclusiveness.

Core Values

The Modeling Workgroup has a responsibility to the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership to provide state-of-the-art decision-support modeling tools that are built through community and participatory principles. The responsible planning and management of resources to provide the best available decision-support modeling tools requires the Modeling Workgroup members and participants to adhere to the core values of:

Integration - Integration of most recent science and knowledge in air, watershed, and coastal waters to support ecosystem modeling for restoration decision making

Innovation - Embracing creativity and encouraging improvement in the development and support of transparent and robust modeling tools.

Independence – Making modeling decisions on the basis of best available evidence and using the most appropriate methods to produce, run, and interpret models, independent of policy considerations.

Inclusiveness - Commitment to an open and transparent process and the engagement of relevant partners, that results in strengthening the Partnership's decision making tools.

Decision Making

Modeling Workgroup proceedings are open and all interested persons can participate. After consideration of all participants comments decisions will be made by members through a consensus-based process that seeks agreement of all members and resolves minority objections. Consensus can be determined through a voice or roll-call vote of all participating members at a Workgroup meeting.

If consensus cannot be reached after substantive negotiation, member positions will be documented and a two thirds agreement by Modeling Workgroup members will override a lack of consensus.

Membership

Through adoption of this document, the Modeling Workgroup establishes the membership structure as having the following constituents and categories. A member could fill multiple categories and therefore the total number of members could be fewer than the sum of the groups below. Members can select an alternate/proxy for participation for participation at any particular meeting.

- 2 Co-chairs
 - Selected by STAR
- 1 Coordinator
 - Selected by EPA
- 7 Jurisdictional members

- Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington DC, and West Virginia.
 - Selected by each jurisdiction's Management Board member.
- 1 lead practitioner member for each major model
 - Lead practitioner selected by the Modeling Workgroup membership.
 - Major models determined by the Modeling Workgroup membership
 - As of 2015 these are atmospheric, watershed, and estuarine water quality
- 4 Federal agency members; EPA, USDA, NOAA, and USGS
 - Selected by each agency.
 - Federal agencies can be added or subtracted by consensus of the Modeling Workgroup membership.
- 4 academic members
 - Selected by the Modeling Workgroup and possessing relevant expertise in a component of the Workgroup modeling effort.
- Up to 6 at-large members
 - Selected by consensus of the Modeling Workgroup and possessing relevant expertise in a component of the Workgroup modeling effort.
 - Not affiliated with an organization already included in the membership.