



# Chesapeake Bay Commission Federal Activities

**Ann Swanson, Executive Director  
Marel King, Pennsylvania Director  
Principals' Staff Committee Meeting  
January 31, 2019**

# CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

Cooperative  
Federalism  
at its best



**FEDERAL PARTNERS**

# 2018 Federal Farm Bill

- 5-year authorizations for USDA programs
- Title II: Conservation
- Enacted in December





# Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

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- Authorized, Mandatory Funding Level increases from \$100 M/year to \$300 M/year
- Two Funding Pools– State and Critical Conservation Areas
  - Eliminated National Pool (40%)
  - Split is now 50/50
- Agreements can exceed 5 years if necessary
- Agreements can be extended for one 5-year period
- Alternative Funding Arrangements for “block grants” (no more than 15/year)





# Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)/Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

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- Acreage cap increases from 24 M to 27 M acres by 2023
- Cost-share payments retained at 50%
- Soil Rental Rates (SSR) reflective of local economic conditions
- 100% Riparian Buffer management payments to maintain and enhance
- Temporary waivers for CREP match requirements
- Reimbursement for installation costs and practice incentive payments (PIP) prior to full completion of the entire practice.





# Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

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- Funding increased from \$1.75 B in 2019 to \$2.025 B in 2023
- States may identify up to 10 most effective conservation practices eligible to receive 90% cost share.
- Allows for 5 to 10-year contracts.
- Reduces livestock set aside from 60% to 50% (grazing and CAFO)
- Third party certifiers can aid conservation planning





# Other Conservation Title Highlights

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- Fully funds Conservation Title over 10 years
- Funding for Conservation Easements (ACEP) raised to \$450 M/year (\$2 B 10-year total increase)
- Climate and soil health-smart provisions included in CSP and EQIP
- USDA analysis of practice costs and payment rates to remain competitive and address local natural resource concerns



# Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations Requests

- Shutdown delaying FY 2020 process
- Sequestration budget deal needed to achieve adequate funding levels
- Recommendations aimed at Congressional members' appropriation priority requests





## CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION · FEBRUARY 2018

### FEDERAL AGENCY BUDGET REQUEST

### FISCAL YEAR 2019

#### BUDGET REQUEST SUMMARY

Funding at national level unless noted; all dollar amounts in thousands (K).

##### Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- EPA: Chesapeake Bay Program: \$73,000K
- EPA: Nonpoint Source (Sec. 319) Grants: \$179,915K
- EPA: Pollution Control (Sec. 106) Grants: \$230,806K
- EPA: Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund: \$1,394,000K
- DOI-Land and Water Conservation Fund (all agencies): \$400,000K
- DOI-USGS: Regional & Crosscutting Activities — Chesapeake Bay: \$12,600K
- DOI-USFWS: Cooperative Landscape Conservation: \$12,988K
- DOI-USFWS: Habitat Conservation — Coastal Programs: \$13,375K
- DOI-NPS: Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Trails Program: \$2,000K
- USDA-Forest Service: Forest Stewardship Program: \$20,036K

##### Energy and Water Development

- USACE: Construction — Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery, MD & VA: \$5,000K
- USACE: Construction — Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection (Sec. 510): \$5,000K
- USACE: Construction — Poplar Island: \$36,250K
- USACE: Construction — Continuing Authorities Program — Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (Sec. 206) \$9,000K and Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Protection (Sec. 14) \$5,000K.

##### Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

- NOAA-NMFS: Habitat Conservation and Restoration: \$53,342K
- NOAA-NMFS: Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions: \$35,871K
- NOAA-OAR: National Sea Grant Program: \$65,000K

##### Agriculture, Rural Development, Food & Drug Administration and Related Agencies

- USDA-NRCS: Conservation Technical Assistance: \$768,844K
- USDA-NRCS: Farm Bill Programs: No Changes in Mandatory Programs

#### Federal Investments Are Working

**L**IKE NEVER BEFORE, REAL PROGRESS IS BEING seen in Chesapeake Bay restoration. Record acres of submerged aquatic vegetation, reduced areas of oxygen-starved water, and a burgeoning aquaculture industry are signposts that the state, federal and legislative partnership to restore the Bay is working. We are gaining momentum.

But continued success depends on maintaining the mutualism of funding among federal, state and local governments, the myriad of non-governmental agencies that support the Bay and private citizens. And the dedication of the Bay's Congressional delegation has been steadfast in providing both the policy and financial wherewithal to achieve improvements in water quality and living resources.

As Congress begins deliberations on the FY 2019 Federal budget, the Chesapeake Bay Commission believes it important to detail in numbers and narrative the federal funding needed to support the Bay.

##### Who We Are and What We Do

The Chesapeake Bay Commission is a tri-state legislative Commission with members from Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia. We work to advance policy, at all levels of government, to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay. As an organization composed primarily of state legislators, we have a broad understanding of the creation and implementation of programs to achieve strategic objectives by governmental entities and the evaluation of the success of these programs. In our assessment, and supported by tangible results, the state-federal Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership has proven to be highly effective. The current relationship of state-led on-the-ground restoration decisions and actions supplemented by federal coordination, oversight, information and funding is producing real results in cleaner water, healthier fisheries and greater economic and environmental resilience.

Chesapeake Bay Commission · Policy for the Bay

## New This Year

- Accelerate Timeline to Provide Input to Administration
- Focus on Priorities
- Not Just Baseline
- Leverage Crossroads' Expertise

## Commission Action

- Coordinate with states, feds & NGOs
- Publish Document mid-Feb
- Member Outreach (Feb & March)
- Letters to OMB & Subcommittees
- Coordinate and leverage

# Subcommittee: Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

## EPA

- **Chesapeake Bay Program: \$90,000K (+\$17,000K)**
- Nonpoint Source (Sec. 319) Grants: \$179,915K
- Pollution Control (Sec. 106) Grants: \$230,806K
- Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund: \$1,394,000K

## DOI

- USGS – Regional and Crosscutting Activities: C Bay: \$12,600K
- USFWS - Cooperative Landscape Conservation: \$12,988K
- USFWS - Habitat Conservation – Coastal Programs: \$13,375K
- **NPS – Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Trails Programs: \$3,000K (+\$1,000K)**
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (all agencies: \$400,000K)

## USDA

- US Forest Service – Forest Stewardship: \$23,036K



# Subcommittee: Energy and Water Development

## USACE

- Construction – Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection (Sec. 510): +\$5,000K
- Construction – Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (Sec. 206) – Oyster Restoration and Protection: language/\$5,000K
- Construction – Poplar Island: O&M/tbd
- Construction – Mid-Bay: Design/tbd
- Construction – Continuing Authorities Program – Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (Sec. 206): \$9,000K
- Construction – Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Protection (Sec. 14): \$5,000K

## Subcommittee: Agriculture, Rural Development, Food & Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

### USDA

- NRCS – Conservation Technical Assistance: \$768,844K+ (???)
- Natural Resource Conservation Service Farm Bill Programs: No Changes in Mandatory Programs

## Subcommittee: Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

### NOAA – National Marine Fisheries Service

- Habitat Conservation and Restoration: \$53,342K
- Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET): \$7,200K
- Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions: \$35,871K
- National Sea Grant Program: \$93,500K





# WRDA Stormwater Infrastructure Financing Task Force

- EPA to set up Task Force within 180 days of enactment
- Recommendations due to administrator 18 months after enactment
- Federal shut down causing delay

# Section 4101

## America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018

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*“establish a stormwater infrastructure funding task force composed of representatives of Federal, State, and local governments and private (including nonprofit) entities to conduct a study on, and develop recommendations to improve, the availability of public and private sources of funding for the construction, rehabilitation, and operation and maintenance of stormwater infrastructure.”*



CBC Recommended David Bulova as member



# Essential Partners

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## Questions and Comments