

# STREAM TEMPERATURE IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED

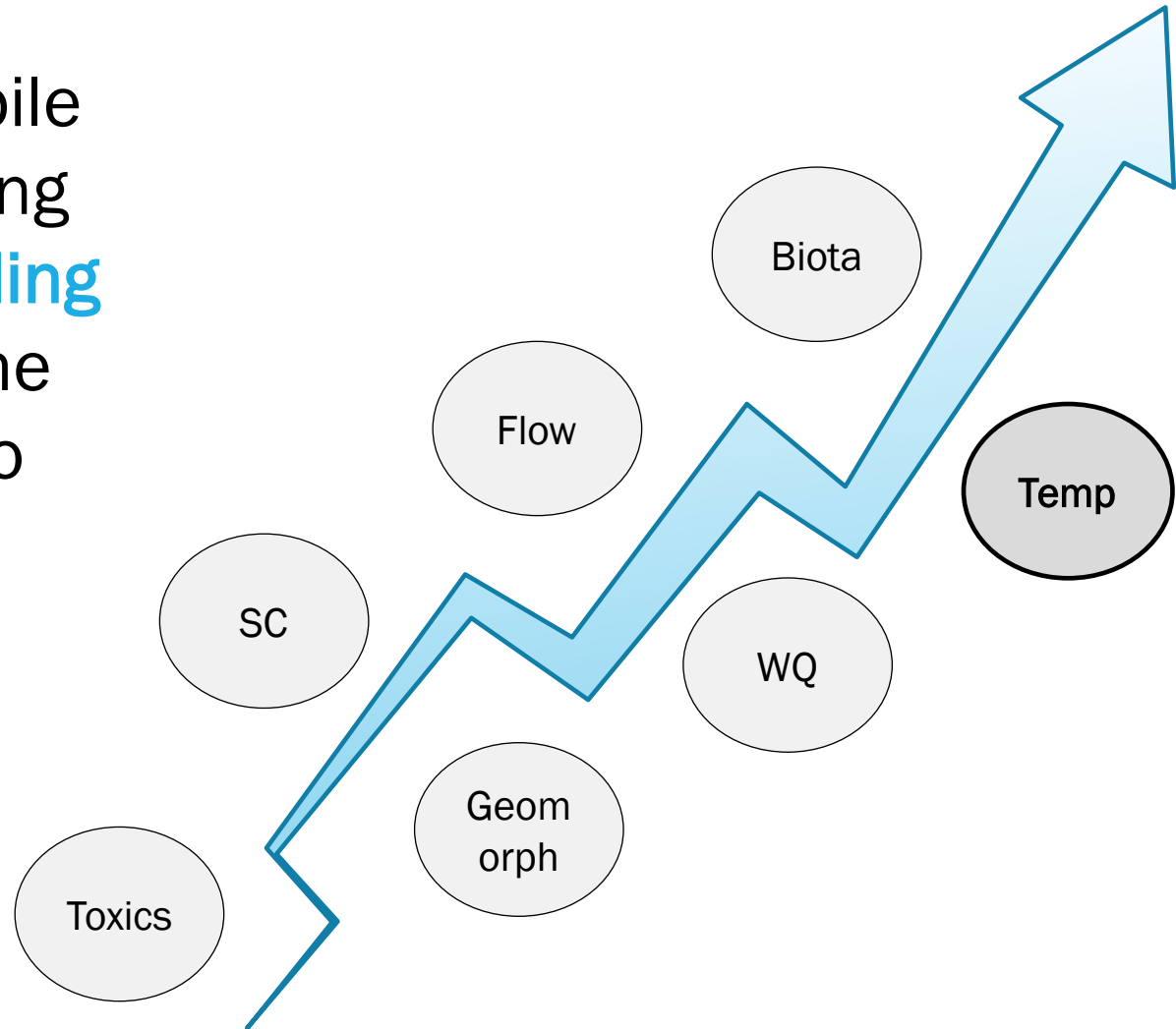


JOHN CLUNE, TAMMY ZIMMERMAN, JAMES COLGIN AND CHARLES SANDUSKY

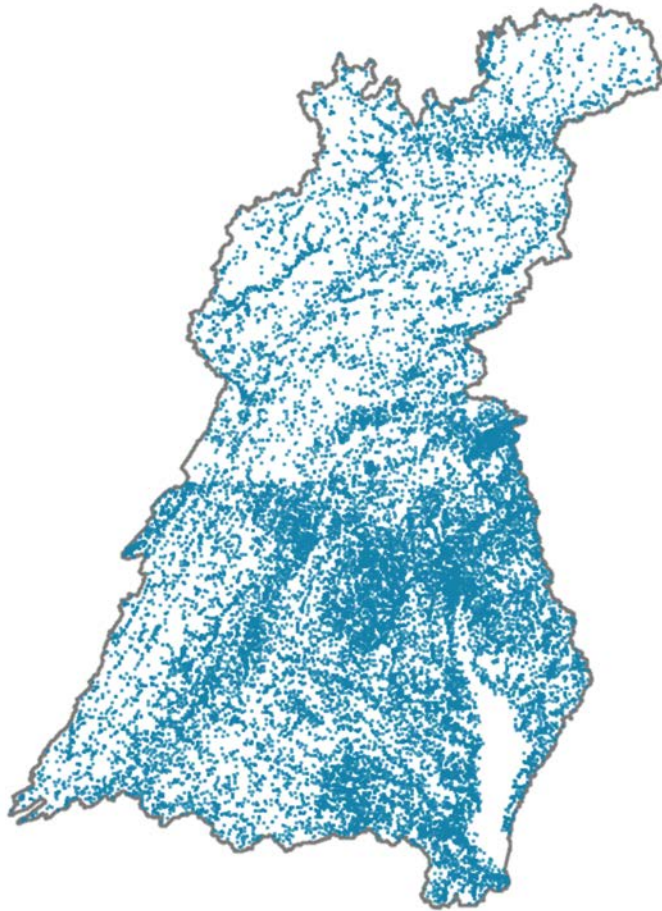
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Photo by [Max Andrey](#) from [Pexels](#)

The USGS has begun to compile **multi-agency data** for assessing **status and trends**, and **modeling** stream temperature across the Chesapeake Bay watershed to better understand the drivers and stressors of fish health

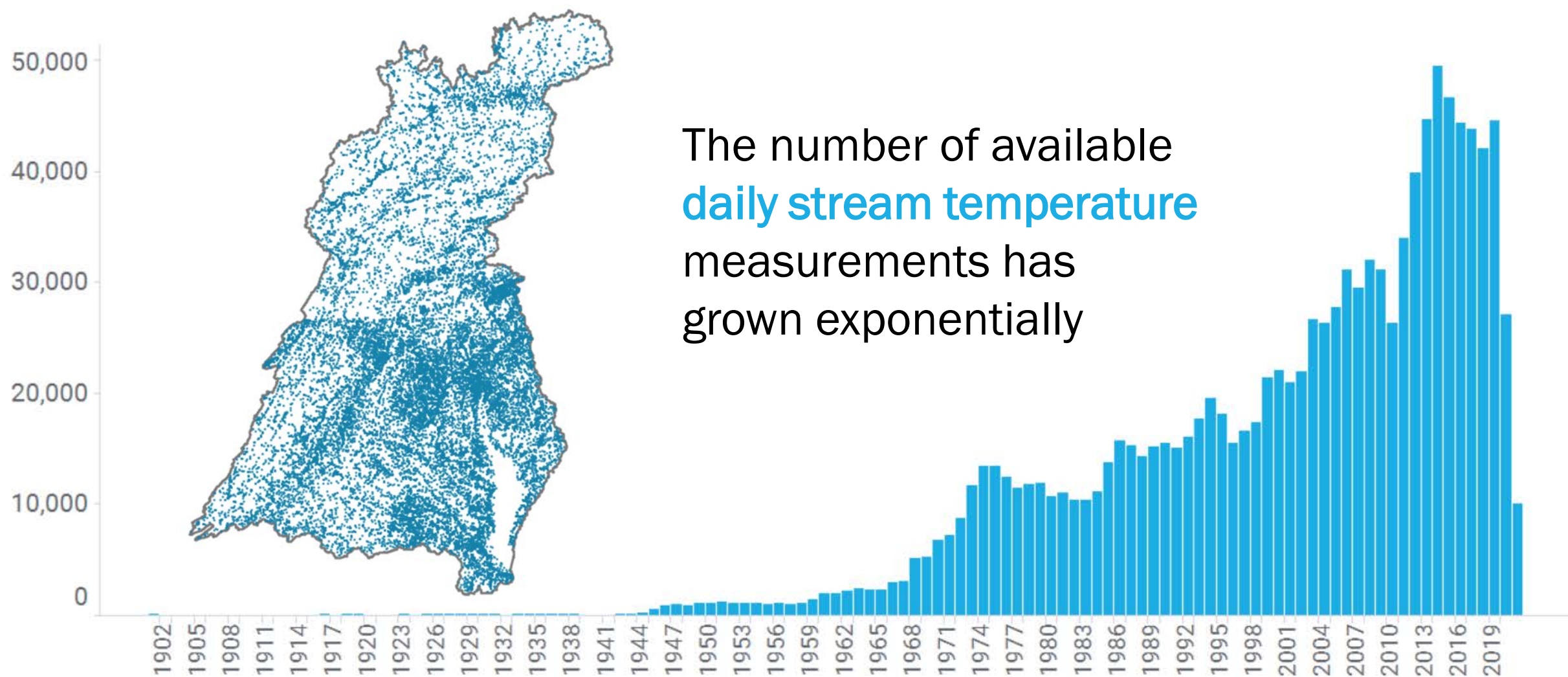






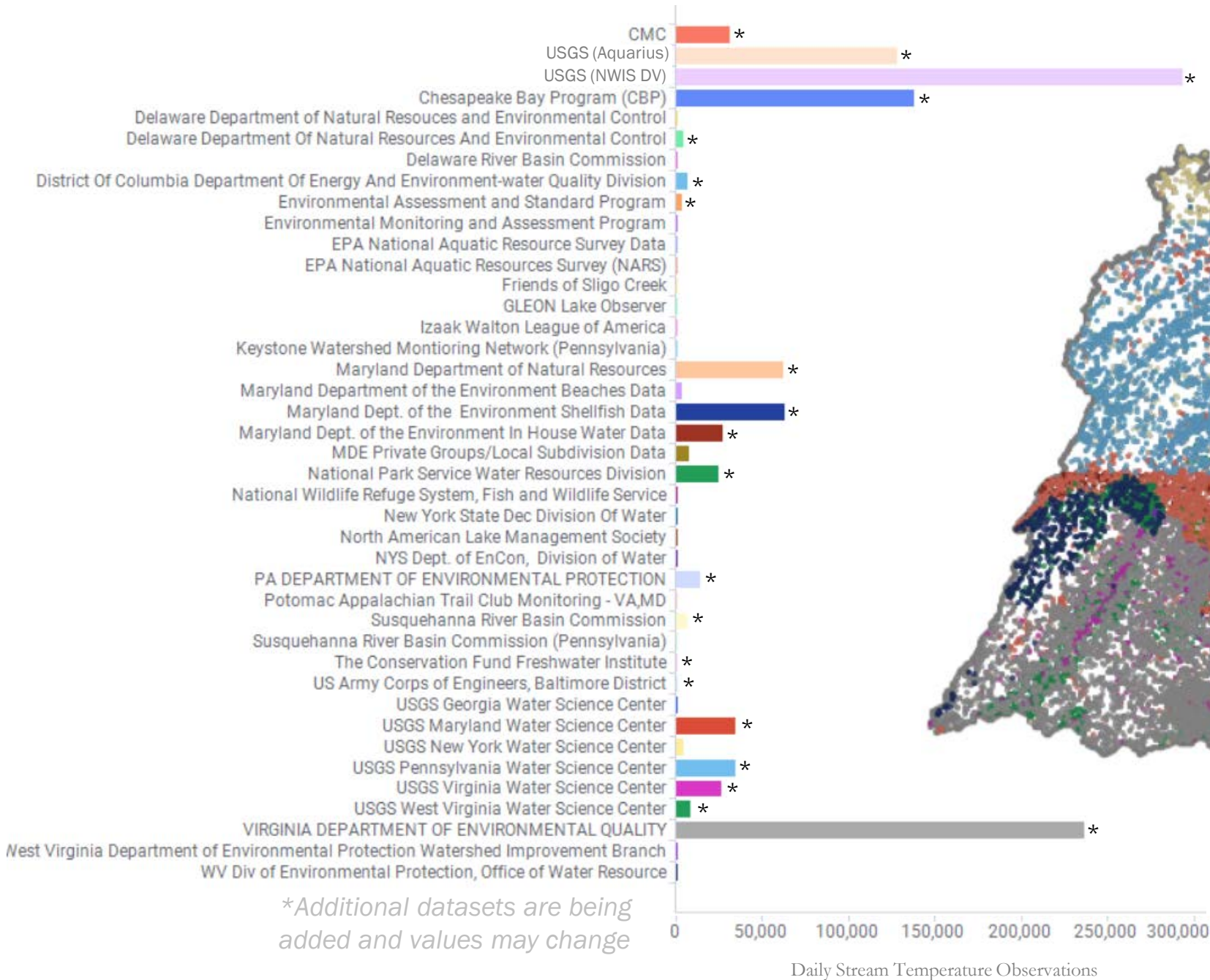
In the past 70 years,  
**stream temperature data**  
has been collected at  
**31,142 sites** by multiple  
agencies across the  
Chesapeake Bay Watershed

*\*Additional datasets are being added and values may change*



The number of available  
**daily stream temperature**  
measurements has  
grown exponentially

*\*Additional datasets are being added and values may change*



\* Networks currently in use  
(recent data since 2019)

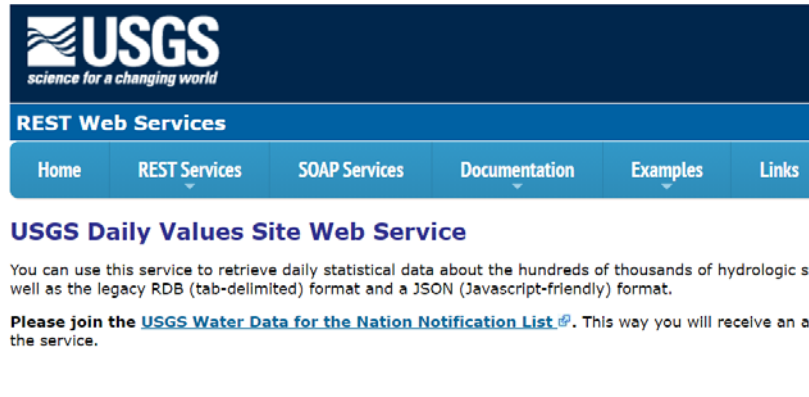
Some **sites**  
and **agencies**  
have more  
observations  
than others

Note: USGS (NWIS DV) refers to aggregate data statistics (i.e. mean, max, min) provided by the readNWISdata dv function call in the USGS R dataRetrieval package. USGS (Aquarius) data refers to temperature routine check measurements made during streamflow measurements acquired from the USGS Aquarius database.





# Compiling data is a **challenge** and needs a future coordinated framework

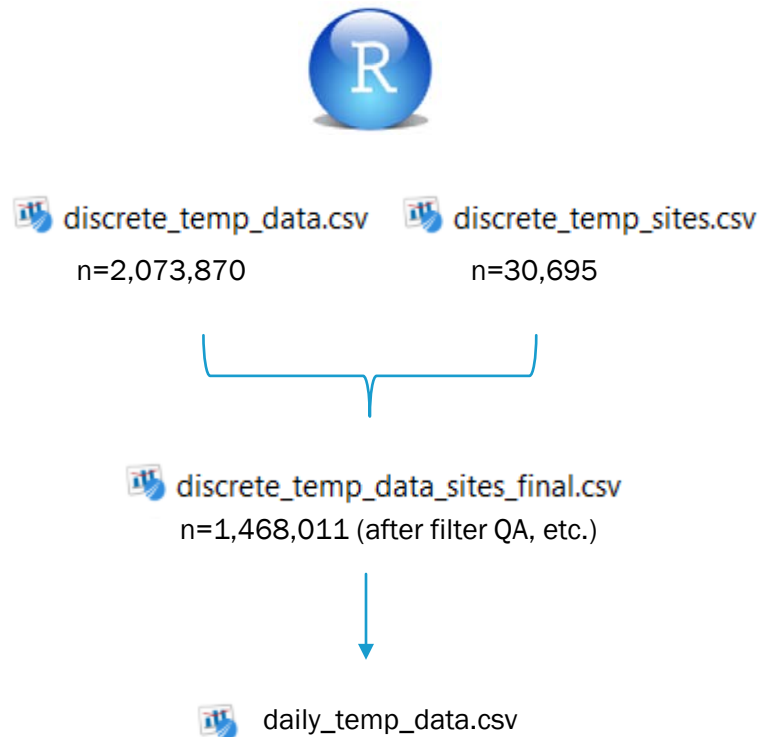


CMC  
PA DEP  
SRBC  
NY DEC  
VIMS  
DOEE  
ICPRB

MD DNR  
MD Baltimore  
County  
NPS  
UVA  
VEROS  
WV DNR



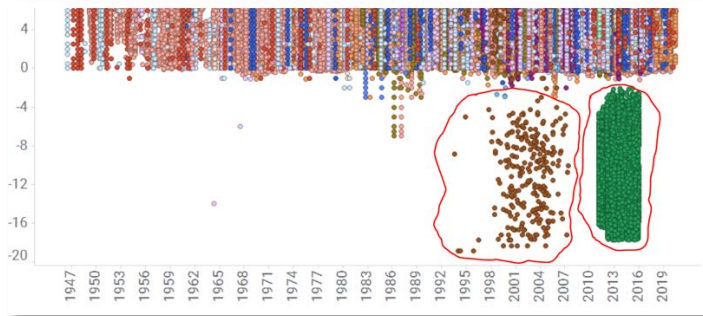
Currently developing **methods** that can be used for routine data compilation cycles (every 2 years, etc.)



```
DiscreteData_WaterTemp_WQP.R x
1 setwd("C:
2
3 install.packages("dataRetrieval")
4 library (dataRetrieval)
5
6 # Pulls and saves site information for discrete sites in Bay watershed
7 discrete_temp_sites_pull <- whatWQPsites(huc=c("0205*", "0206*", "0207*
8
9 # Pulls and saves temperature data for sites in Bay watershed
10 discrete_temp_data_pull <- readWQPdata(huc=c("0205*", "0206*", "0207*",
11
12 # Removes unwanted columns (see Methods - Appendix I for notes on col
13 discrete_temp_sites <- discrete_temp_sites_pull[which(names(discrete_
14 discrete_temp_data <- discrete_temp_data_pull[which(names(discrete_te
15
16 # Merge discrete_temp_sites & discrete_temp_data
17 discrete_temp_data_sites <- merge(discrete_temp_sites, discrete_temp_
18
```

# Implementing **quality control (QC) procedures** that can improve multi-agency datasets

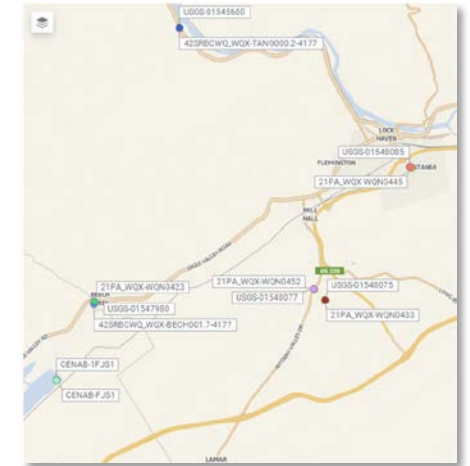
## Wrong Units



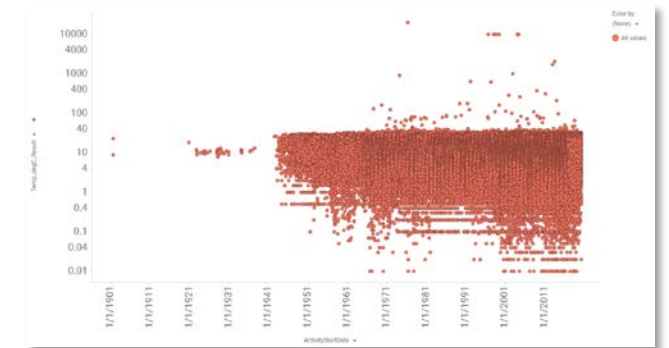
## Outliers



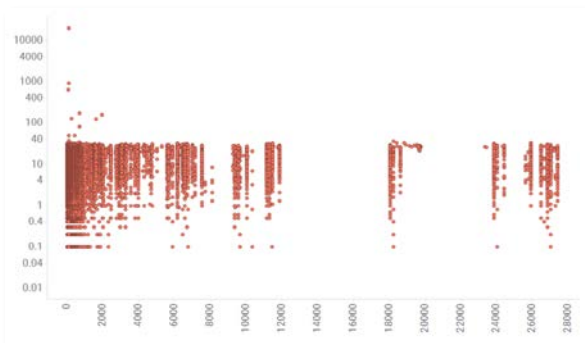
## Site Duplication



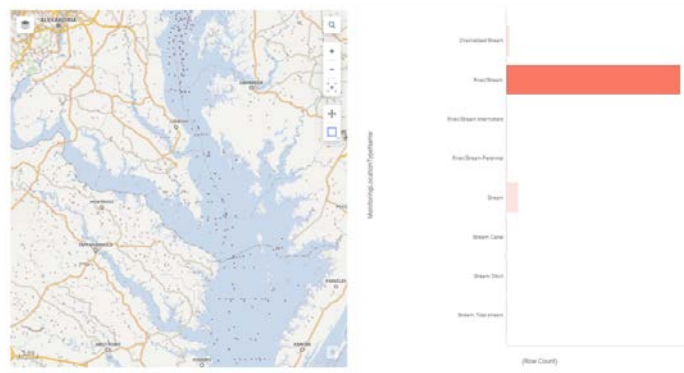
## Detection Limits



## Incomplete Metadata

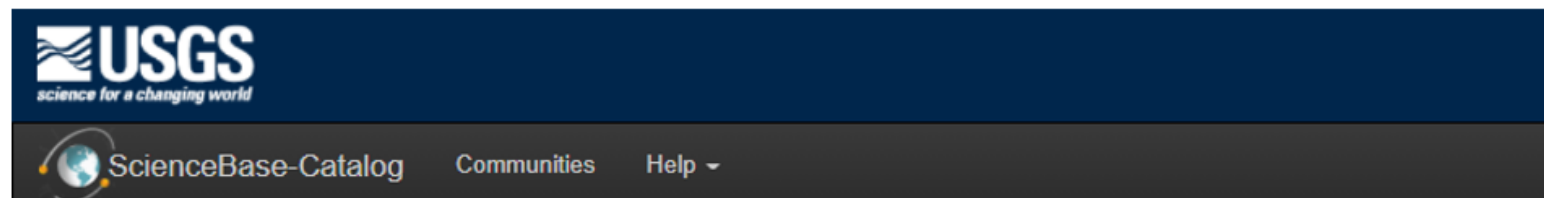


## Coding Issues





Preparing a  
USGS **data  
release** that  
can be used as  
a foundation  
for a future  
framework



## Data release: Compilation of multi-agency water temperature observations for streams in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, 1894 -2021

### Dates

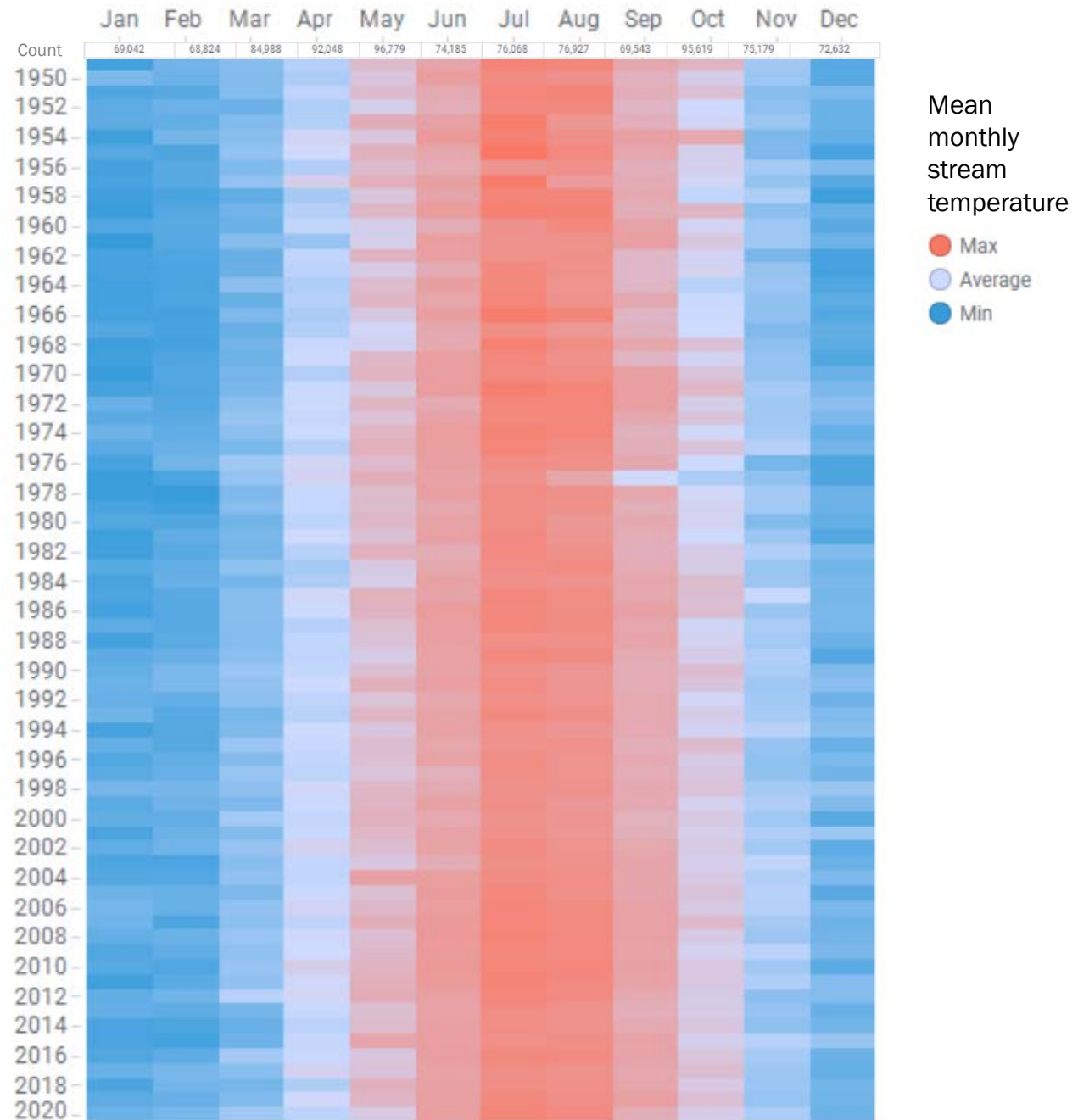
**Publication Date:** 2021  
**Start Date:** 1894-08-30  
**End Date:** 2021-12-01

### Citation

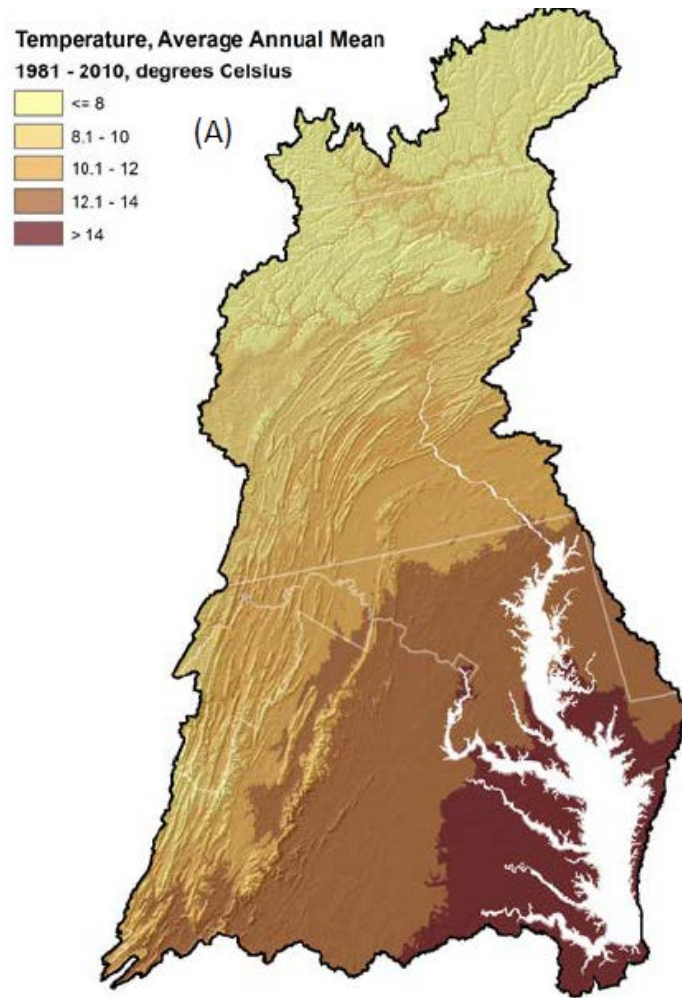
John W. Clune, James Colgin, Charles Sandusky, and Tammy Zimmerman, 2021, Compilation of multi-agency water temperature observations for streams in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, 1894 -2021 1: U.S. Geological Survey, <https://doi.org/10.XXXX/XXXXX>

site_id	date	mean_temp_degC	min_temp_degC	max_temp_degC	n_obs	source	flag	date_
USGS-01434025	2020-07-12T00:00:00Z	15.96	15.50	16.80	96	nwis_uv	P	7/12/2020
USGS-01434025	2020-07-13T00:00:00Z	15.91	15.20	16.80	96	nwis_uv	P	7/13/2020
USGS-01434025	2020-07-14T00:00:00Z	15.74	15.10	16.50	96	nwis_uv	P	7/14/2020
USGS-01434025	2020-07-15T00:00:00Z	15.42	14.80	16.10	96	nwis_uv	P	7/15/2020
USGS-01434025	2020-07-16T00:00:00Z	15.32	15.10	15.80	96	nwis_uv	P	7/16/2020
USGS-01434025	2020-07-17T00:00:00Z	15.09	14.60	16.10	96	nwis_uv	P	7/17/2020
USGS-01434025	2020-07-18T00:00:00Z	15.22	14.20	16.50	96	nwis_uv	P	7/18/2020
USGS-01434025	2020-07-19T00:00:00Z	15.82	15.00	17.00	96	nwis_uv	P	7/19/2020

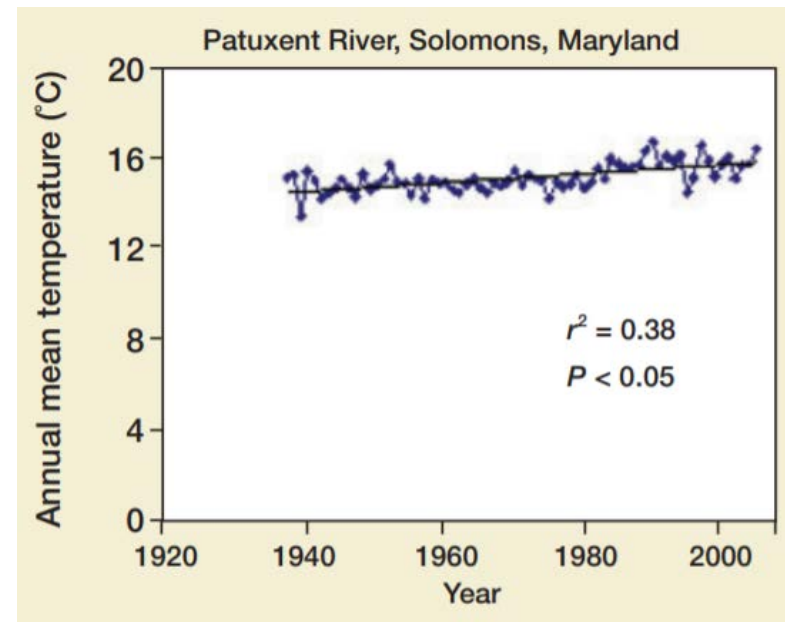
Abundant daily  
stream temperature  
measurements will  
be available for  
**data exploration**  
(seasonal, monthly  
and annual)



*\*Additional datasets are being added and values may change*



Publishing methods that will use daily observations to develop **status and trends** at sites with long term records



(<https://doi.org/10.1890/090037>)

*Kaushal and others, 2010*  
*Rice and Jastram,*  
*Ashizawa and Cole, 1994*  
*Webb and Nobilis, 1995*  
*Durance and Ormerod, 2007*  
*Wagner and others, 2017*  
*Hirsh and others, 2010*  
*Oliver and others, 2022*



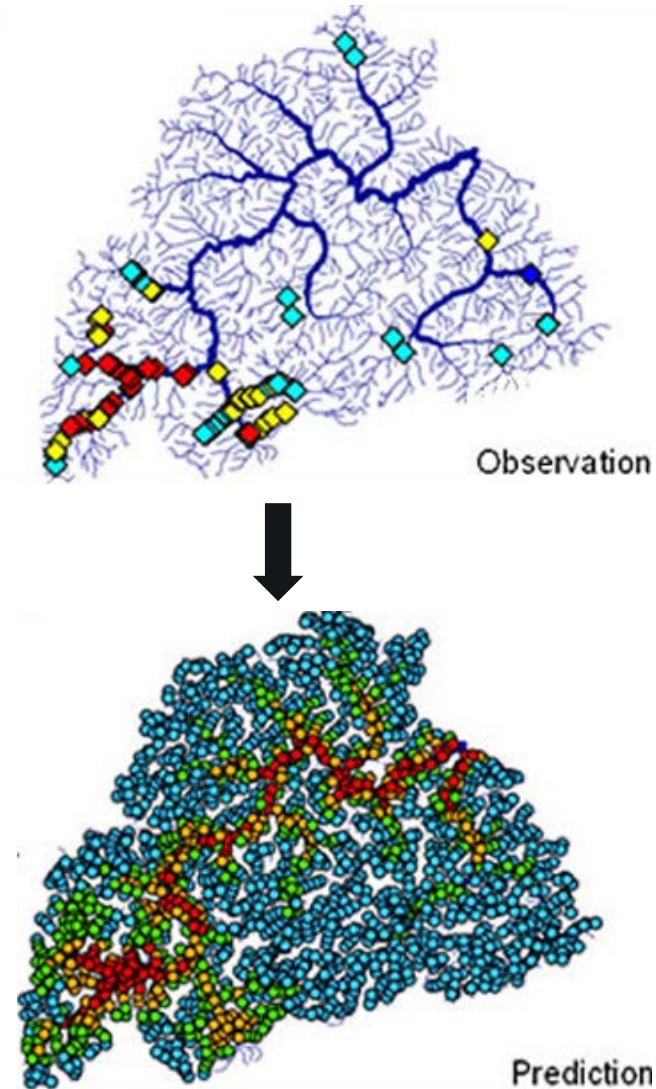
Evaluating **models** that will use these data to better **predict stream temperature** spatially across the Chesapeake Bay watershed (100k, 24k scale)

*USGS SPARROW*

*Ecosheds*

*Bay Model*

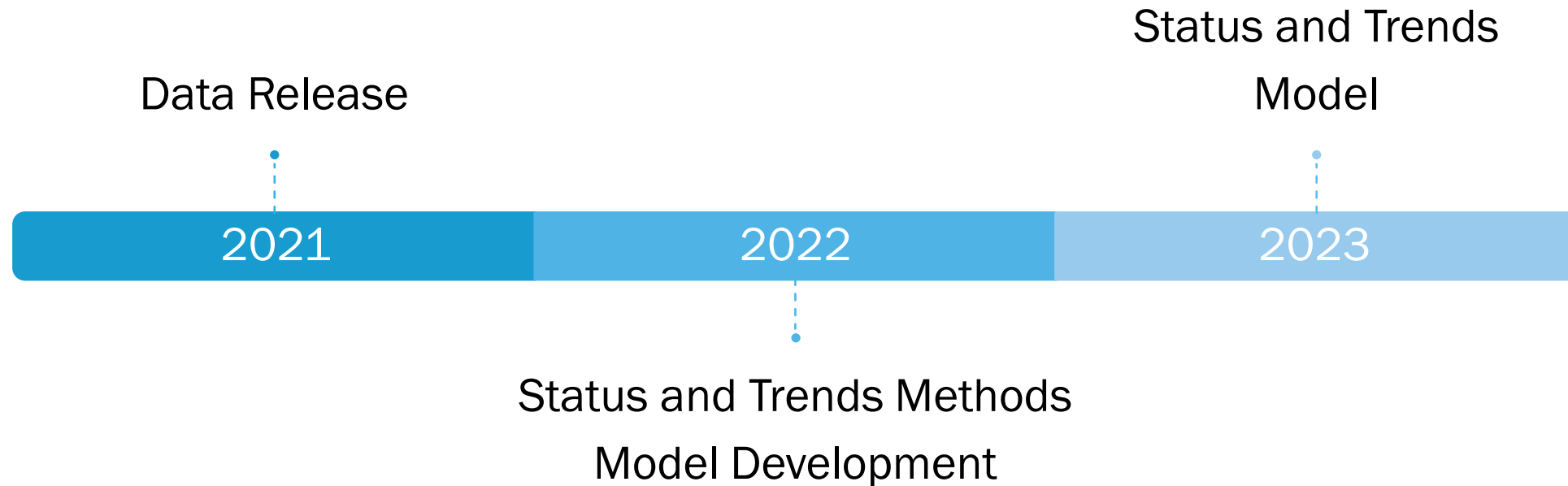
*EPA SSN Models*



Courtesy  
Naomi Detenbeck (US EPA)



The next few years will bring new  
**advances in understanding stream temperature**  
across the Chesapeake Bay watershed.



# THANK YOU



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