Update on STAC Activities and Plans

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Major STAC Activities

1. Continued support of CBP activities (ad hoc guidance, workshops etc.)

2. Climate Change Science Synthesis

3. STAC “State of the Science”

Climate Change Science Synthesis

Opportunity to synthesize available data and/or previously published research to identify knowledge gaps, inform additional research, and/or place existing scientific information into a management-relevant context.

- Solicitation released March 2019. Received 10 proposals (May 2019).
- Proposals address range of issues from BMP performance to sea level rise impacts on water quality. Most address issues identified via STAC's Climate Change Modeling 2.0 workshop (Sep. 2018) and/or Climate Resiliency Workgroup.
- STAC subcommittee evaluating proposals. Expect selection July 2019.

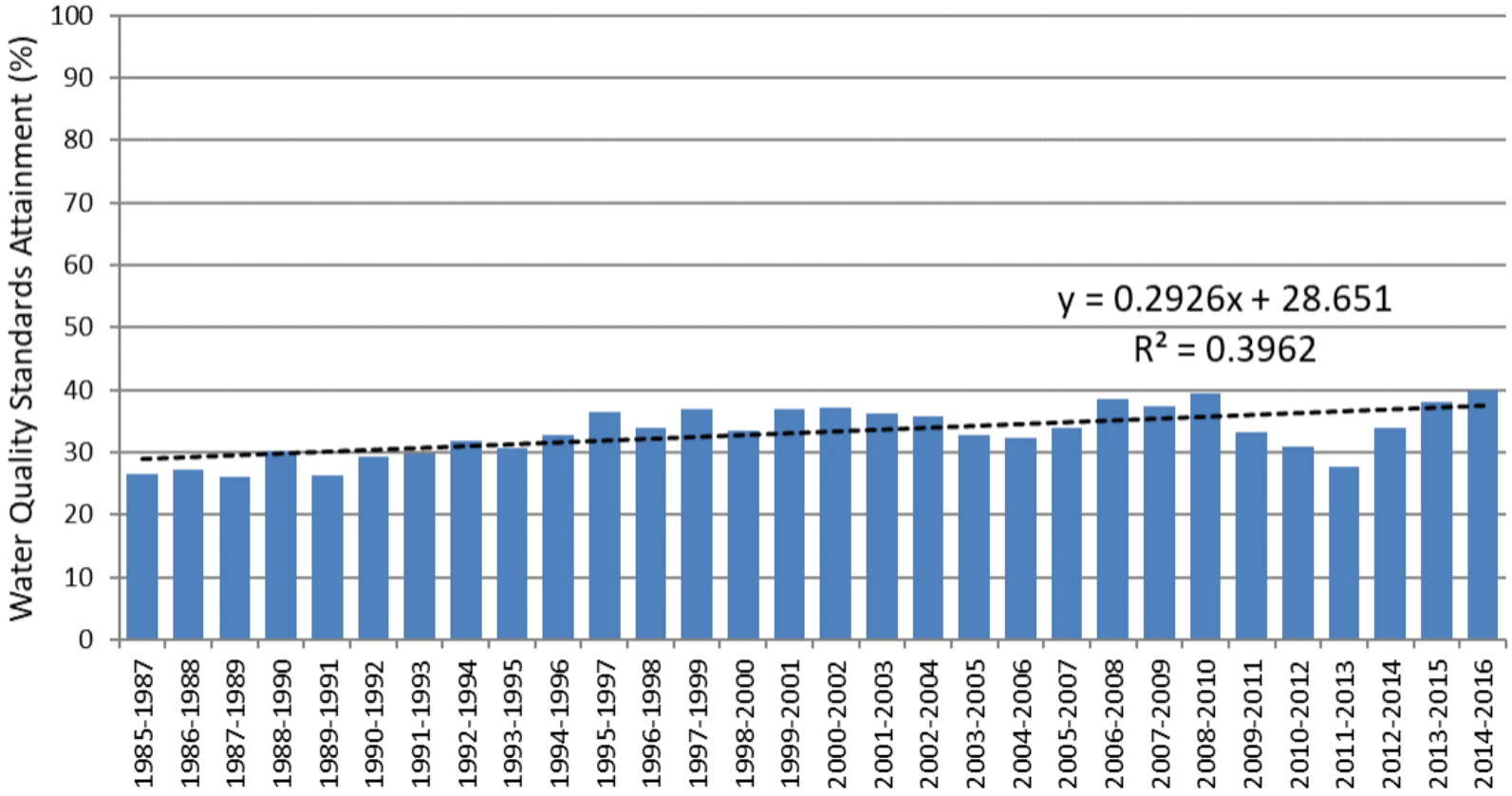
STAC “State of the Science”

March 2019, STAC membership agreed to begin a 2-year, proactive effort to identify critical knowledge gaps and limits of physical, biological, and social system response to CBP management actions to achieve Chesapeake Bay water quality standards (WQS).

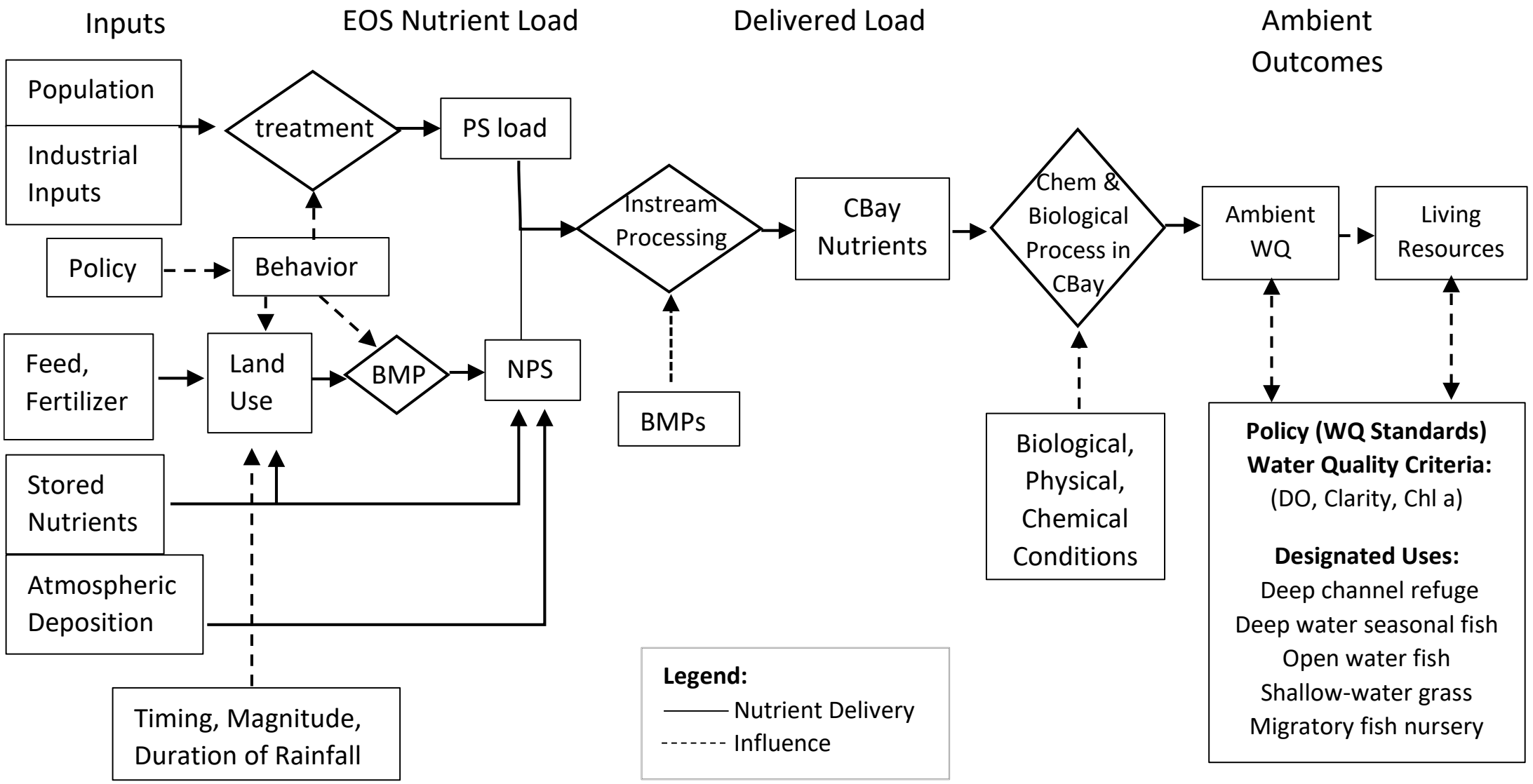
The goal is to inform decision-makers and stakeholders about knowledge gaps, potential for system recovery, and opportunities for improving system response in preparation for the post-2025 period.

Motivation

- WQS are the primary regulatory motivation for Bay restoration efforts
- WQS attainment (water quality criteria and designated uses) remains distant possibility.



System-wide perspective…



Opportunity for STAC's Contribution

This is an opportunity to focus full range of STAC expertise and build off of prior work to identify critical areas in the system that pose risk to achievement of WQS (ultimately living resources designated uses).

STAC has:

- multi-disciplinary expertise
- significant body of work evaluating multiple issues of the CBay system
- networks & experience outside watershed to bring back to inform CBay issues.

What this effort will ***NOT*** do:

Grade or evaluate the “state of the Bay”

Provide a normative evaluation on the efficacy of policy goals

Provide a comprehensive literature review of all Chesapeake Bay watershed, estuarine, or living resource research

Perform another model review

Questions