

# Chesapeake Bay Program Update

## Local Government Advisory Committee Meeting

December 3, 2020



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**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

# EPA CBPO Program Update

- EPA CBP Funding Summary
- Conowingo WIP Update
- Climate Policy Decisions for Consideration
- Other?





# EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Funding Summary

## FY 2020 Chesapeake Bay Program Budget

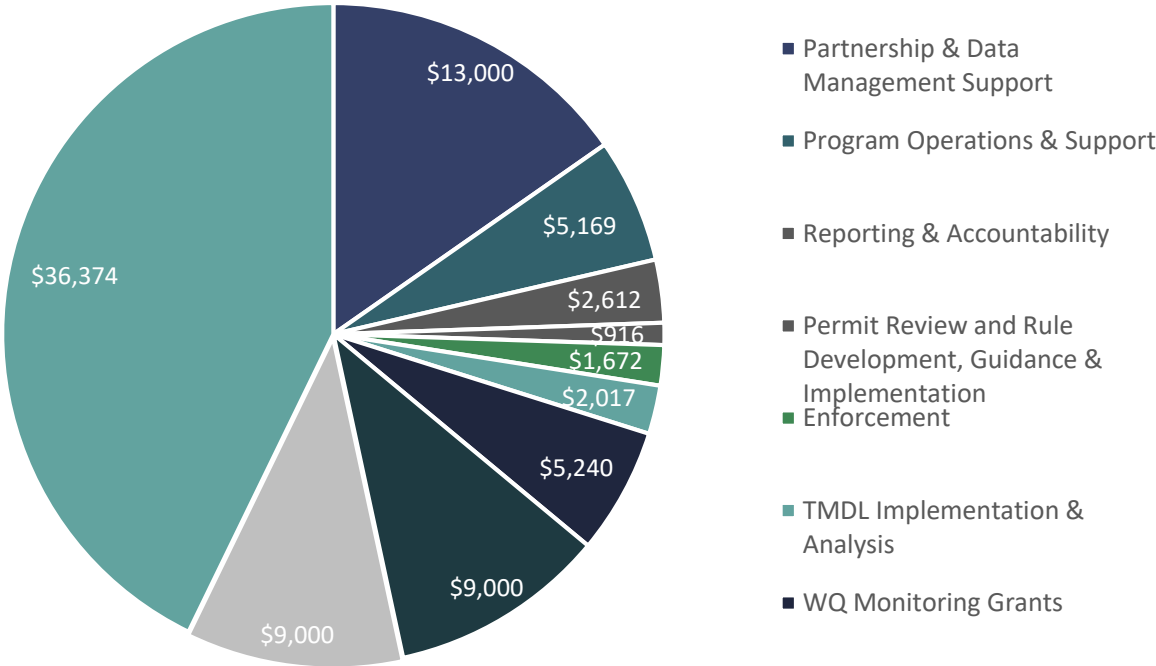
### Funding Categories\*

	<b>FY 2020 Enacted Budget</b> (Dollars in thousands)
Program Operations & Support	\$5,169
Partnership & Data Management Support	\$13,000
WQ Monitoring Grants	\$5,240
TMDL Implementation & Analysis	\$2,017
Reporting & Accountability	\$2,612
Permit Review and Rule Development, Guidance & Implementation	\$916
Enforcement	\$1,672
Small Watershed Grant Program	\$9,000
Innovative Nutrient Sediment Reduction Grants	\$9,000
State Implementation Grants	\$36,374
<b>Chesapeake Bay Funding Totals</b>	<b>\$85,000</b>

\*Funding categories used in annual congressional justification

# FY 2020 Chesapeake Bay Program Budget

Funding by Category

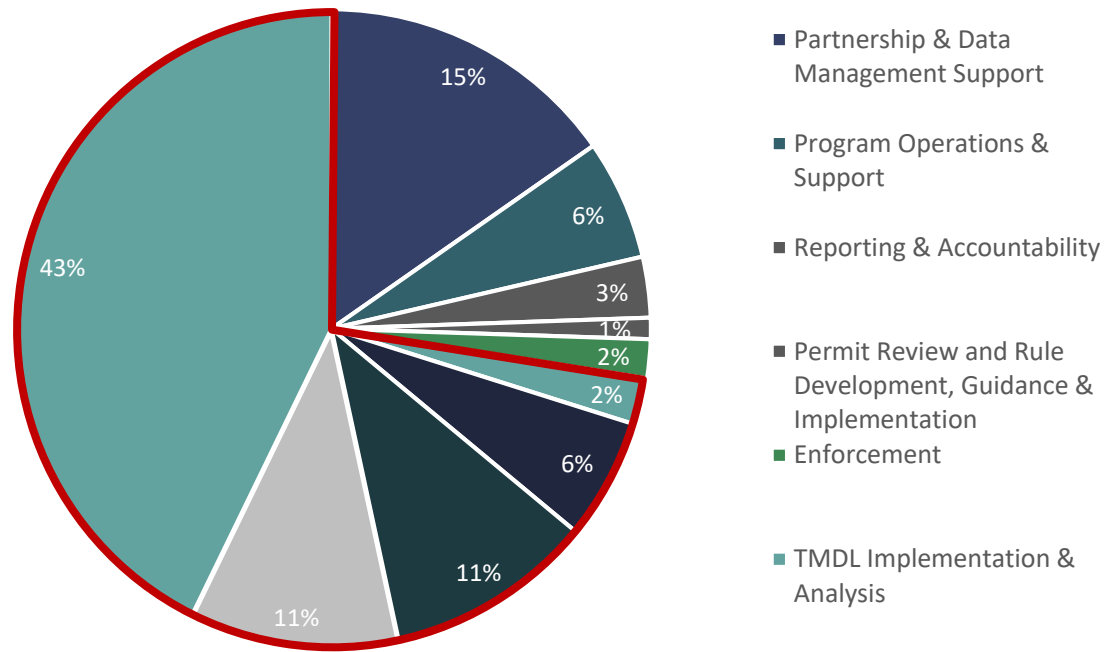


\*Dollars in thousands

# FY 2020 Chesapeake Bay Program Budget

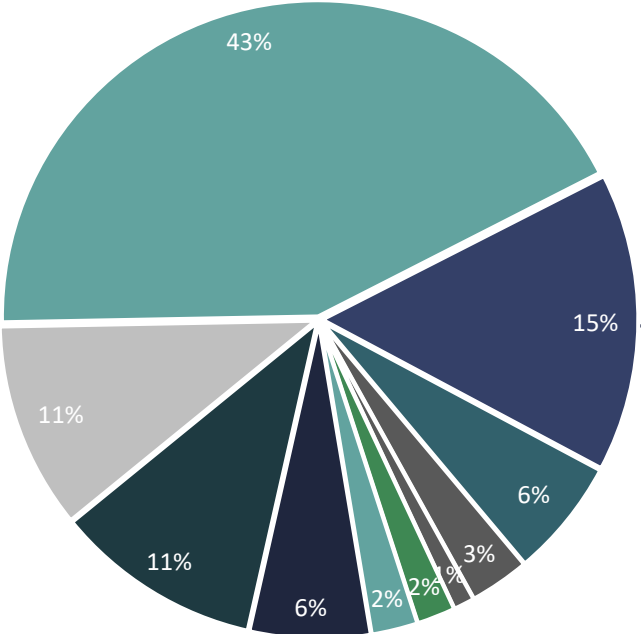
Funding by Category

>70% to Grants



# FY 2020 Partnership and Data Management Support

Funding by Category



Examples of Partnership and Data Management Support	
<b>Advisory Committees</b>	
CAC/LGAC	~\$300 K each
STAC	~\$400 K
<b>CRC Staffer Support</b>	~\$900 K
<b>Goal Team Funding</b>	~\$900 K
<b>GIT Coordinator Positions</b>	~\$800 K
<b>SAV Monitoring and Analysis</b>	~\$400 K
<b>Technical Program Support (QA, monitoring, modeling, data analysis, GIS, high-resolution land cover, etc.)</b>	~\$3.95 M
<b>Mission Support Contracts (Tetra Tech and ERG)</b>	~\$1.0 M

# CBIG

# CBRAP

Implementation of management mechanisms **for all Goals and Outcomes** established under the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, with emphasis on reduction of nutrient and sediment pollution.

Implementation of regulatory, accountability, assessment, compliance, and enforcement capabilities in support of the **Water Quality Goal** of the 2014 Watershed Agreement and Bay TMDL.

**20%:** Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland  
**10%:** Delaware, DC, New York, West Virginia



**Allocation Formula**

**Base:** All Bay Agreement signatories receive funds.  
**Formula:** **35%** for reductions through 2017.  
**65%** for 2018-2025 N load reduction commitments.

**\$12.6 M**



**Funding Amount**

**\$11.2 M**

**Combined Funding Amount approx. \$23.8 M**



# Local Government Implementation Funding

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 ([P.L. 113-76](#)) provided additional state funding for CBPO, and EPA provided \$5 M for this commitment.
- Intended for use by local entities, including:
  - Counties, municipalities, cities, towns, townships, federally recognized tribes, local public authorities or districts (including conservation districts or regional planning districts), organizations representing local governments, or watershed organizations that support local government implementation.
- Subset of the eligible uses of the CBRAP and CBIG – to support the jurisdictions' WIPs.
- Funds can be placed on either CBIG, CBRAP grants, or both.
- Allocated using CBRAP grant allocation formula.
- EPA can also provide this funding directly to local entities through competitive RFAs.

# Funding Allocations FY2019

Jurisdiction	FY2019 CBIG	FY2019 CBRAP	FY2019 Local Implementation
Delaware	\$1,250,000	\$820,465	\$366,000 (CBIG)
District of Columbia	\$1,250,000	\$723,036	\$322,784 (CBIG)
Maryland	\$2,515,700	\$2,758,047	\$1,231,270 (Even split between CBIG and CBRAP)
New York	\$1,250,000	\$1,007,224	\$449,654 (CBIG)
Pennsylvania via NFWF	\$2,515,700	\$2,666,819	\$1,190,544 (NFWF)
Virginia	\$2,515,700	\$2,552,098	\$1,139,329 (\$234,329 to CBIG and \$905,000 to CBRAP)
West Virginia	\$1,250,000	\$672,311	\$300,139 (CBIG)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,547,100</b>	<b>\$11,200,000</b>	<b>\$4,999,720</b>

# Looking Ahead to FY 2021

- [America's Conservation Enhancement Act \(P.L. 116-188\)](#)
  - Signed into law October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - Authorizes EPA Chesapeake Bay Program at **\$90 M in FY 2021**
  - Incremental increases to \$92 M by FY 2025
- Current budget authority is provided by Continuing Resolution through December 11, 2020.
- House FY 2021 Appropriations Bill:
  - Increases funding for Chesapeake Bay Program Office from FY 2020 level of \$85 M by \$5.5 M, to **\$90.5 M**
  - The increase in funding is split among the following grants: SWG, INSWR, and Most Effective Basins Grants
- Senate FY 2021 Appropriations Bill:
  - Maintains Chesapeake Bay Program Office funding at FY 2020 level of **\$85 M**



# Conowingo Watershed Implementation Plan Update

Draft Conowingo  
WIP  
Implementation  
Strategy

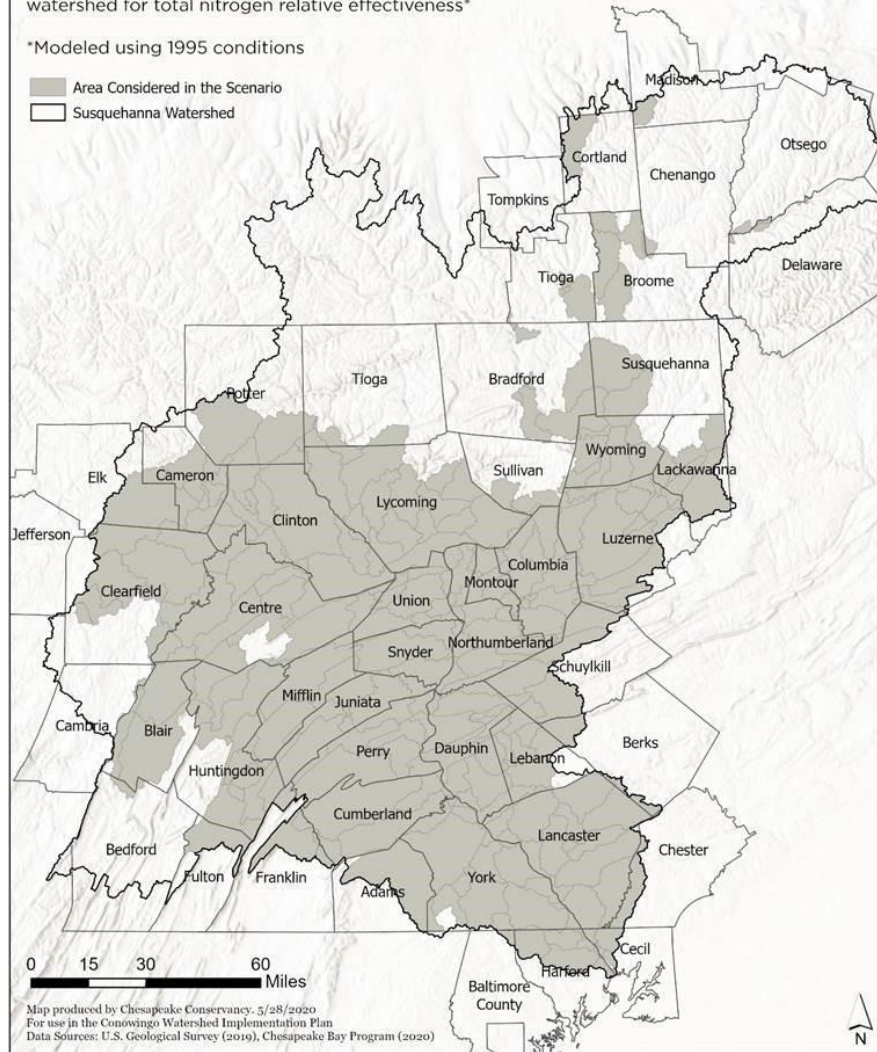
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- The Steering Committee and the PSC approved one “preferred” implementation scenario to target most nitrogen-effective practices in the Susquehanna River basin (PA, MD, & NY), which has the greatest relative influence on Dissolved Oxygen in the Bay.
    - The majority of implementation will occur in PA.
    - The cost per year is \$53.3M (the range for the other 10 scenarios that were considered is \$50M – \$368M)
  - The primary WIP strategy supports restoration efforts in three core areas:
    1. Natural filters (e.g., wetland restoration & riparian forest buffers)
    2. Sustainable farm practices (e.g., prescribed grazing & conservation tillage)
    3. Nutrient reduction practices (e.g., nutrient management & manure incorporation)

## Geographic Extent of the Primary Conowingo WIP Strategy

Upper median of land river segments within the Susquehanna watershed for total nitrogen relative effectiveness\*

\*Modeled using 1995 conditions

- Area Considered in the Scenario
- Susquehanna Watershed



Map produced by Chesapeake Conservancy, 5/28/2020  
For use in the Conowingo Watershed Implementation Plan  
Data Sources: U.S. Geological Survey (2019), Chesapeake Bay Program (2020)

# Conowingo WIP & Financing Strategy Timeline

*--Subject to Change--*

- **Oct 16 – Dec 21:** ~~60 day~~ public review of draft Conowingo WIP
  - Includes EPA's formal review and evaluation of draft WIP

*\*\*Steering Committee needs to determine schedule for finalizing the Conowingo WIP based on feedback received from the public comment period and EPA*

- **Dec 2020:** Draft financing strategy submitted to Steering Committee for review and comment
- **March 2021:** Final financing strategy posted to CBP website
- **Winter 2022-2023:** Implementation of financing activities



# Climate Policy Decisions Under Consideration





# Previous PSC 2025 Climate Change Decisions

## **1. Incorporate Climate Change in the Phase III WIPs**

Include a narrative strategy in the Phase III WIPs that describe the jurisdictions current action plans and strategies to address climate change, as well as the jurisdiction-specific nutrient and sediment pollution loadings due to 2025 climate change conditions, while incorporating local priorities and actions to address climate change impacts.

## **2. Understand the Science**

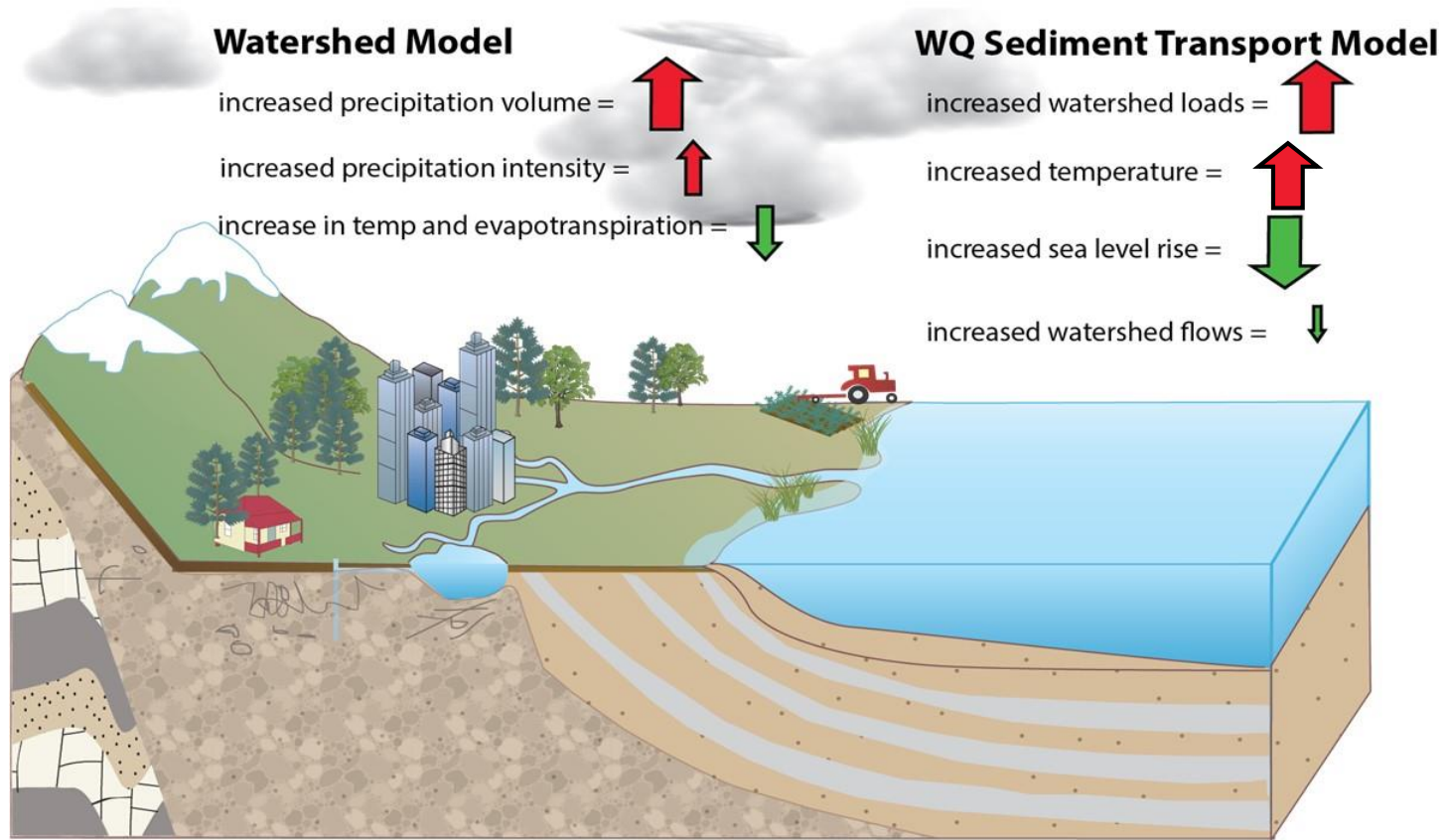
Address the uncertainty by documenting the current understanding of the science and identifying research gaps and needs:

- a) Develop an estimate of pollutant load changes (N, P and Sediment) due to climate change conditions.
- b) Develop a better understanding of the BMP responses, including new or other emerging BMPs, to climate change conditions.
- c) In 2021, the Partnership will consider results of updated methods, techniques, and studies and revisit existing estimated loads due to climate change to determine if any updates to those load estimates are needed.
- d) Jurisdictions will be expected to account for additional nutrient and sediment pollutant loads due to 2025 climate change conditions in a Phase III WIP addendum and/or 2-year milestones beginning in 2022.

## **3. Incorporate into Milestones**

Starting with the 2022-2023 milestones, determine how climate change will impact the BMPs included in the WIPs and address these vulnerabilities in the two-year milestones.

# Components of Climate Change – Effect on Tidal Dissolved Oxygen



# Key Points in Assessment of 2025 Climate Change

- The efforts since December 2017 to understand the science have produced an improved model with a better understanding of the underlying processes
  - Revised load estimates will be focused on the deep water and deep channel designated uses
  - Improved model provides ability to consider alternative allocation methods
  - Adjustments to the designated uses in CB6 and CB7 are being considered
  - More work is needed on the shallow water simulation and understanding climate effects on BMPs
- Resulting Climate Change load estimates for 2025 have **decreased by about half** from the December 2017/March 2018 estimates (about 5M lbs TN)
- However, the estimated load reduction to address climate risk for 2035 is about twice that of the estimated 2025 nitrogen load reduction (about 10M lbs TN).
- The WQGIT is moving forward with recommendations approved by the Management Board to PSC at the December 17 meeting.

Climate Change  
Recommendations  
to the PSC

- Approve the 2020 update to the 2025 climate load allocations based on the latest modeling assessment

**Beginning in 2022, Jurisdictions will:**

- Account for additional nutrient and sediment pollutant loads due to 2025 climate change conditions in a Phase III WIP addendum and/or 2-year milestones, and
- Include a narrative in the 2022-2023 Milestones that describe the current understanding of 2035 climate change conditions.

**In 2025, the Partnership will:**

- Consider results of updated methods, techniques, and studies and revisit existing estimated loads due to climate change to determine if any updates to those 2035 load estimates are needed.



# Questions?



## Learn more:

- [www.chesapeakebay.net](http://www.chesapeakebay.net)
- [www.chesapeakeprogress.com](http://www.chesapeakeprogress.com)
- [www.epa.gov/chesapeake-bay-tmdl](http://www.epa.gov/chesapeake-bay-tmdl)
- **Facebook: Chesapeake Bay Program**
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- **Instagram: @chesbayprogram**

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