



RECAP OF OCTOBER 2021 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING & IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE DIRECTIVE

Michelle Price-Fay and Rachel Felver

October 14, 2021

EXCURSION ON THE LYNNHAVEN



- Imani Black, Founder, Minorities in Aquaculture
- Andrew Button, Head, Conservation and Replenishment Department, VMRC
- Melissa Deas, Acting Chief Resiliency Office, DC
- Lisa Ayers Lawrence, Marine Education Program Leader, VIMS
- Mark Luckenbach, Associate Dean of Research and Advisory Service, VIMS
- Chris Moore, Senior Regional Ecosystem Scientist, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Sarah Nuss, Education Coordinator, Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

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INTERACTION WITH STUDENTS



October 14, 2021

PUBLIC MEETING

- 110 people watched via webcast.
- Simultaneously streamed on both Twitter and Facebook.
- 10 media on the webcast; 8 in-person
- 28 news stories generated (including one in Binghamton, NY!)
- 25-40 high school students attended the meeting.
- One overheated laptop, causing six minutes of black out.

(check out the full recording from WAVY:

<https://www.wavy.com/news/virginia/maryland-gov-hogan-meeting-with-northam-at-chesapeake-bay-foundations-brock-center-in-virginia-beach/>)

DIRECTIVE NO. 21-1 COLLECTIVE ACTION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

October 14, 2021



Presentation title

IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE DIRECTIVE

Chesapeake Executive Council
*Directive No. 21-1 Collective Action for Climate
Change*



Principals' Staff Committee is directed to do the following:

- Address the threats of climate change in all aspects of the partnership's work to restore the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.
- Prioritize communities and habitats most vulnerable to ever-increasing risks.
- Apply the best scientific, modeling, monitoring and planning capabilities of the Chesapeake Bay Program.
- Connect Chesapeake Bay restoration goals with emerging opportunities in climate adaptation, mitigation and resilience.

ADDRESS CLIMATE THREATS IN ALL THE PARTNERSHIP'S WORK

- **Integrate** climate science and adaptation to climate change throughout the work of the Chesapeake Bay Program and **direct** the Management Board to ensure the partnership's organizational structure effectively advances this integration.
- **Direct** the Management Board to **incorporate climate risks** into the management strategies of the *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement* outcomes.
- **Work partnership-wide** to ensure the science, restoration and programs equitably address the impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations, including indigenous people, historically under-represented communities, those of lower economic status and people of color, considering existing social, economic and health disparities.
- **Continuously improve** our knowledge of and response to the threats of climate change and **report on implementation** of this Directive and new challenges at Chesapeake Executive Council annual meetings.

PRIORITIZE COMMUNITIES AND HABITATS MOST VULNERABLE TO EVER-INCREASING RISKS

- **Prioritize** achieving our outcomes to conserve and restore **wetlands, forest buffers** and **urban tree canopies** for both increased resilience to climate impacts and to assist in meeting national goals for achieving **30% of lands and waters conserved by 2030**.
- **Build** climate science into **environmental literacy programs** for students, the public and decision-makers, with a **focus on inclusion** of material on the **most vulnerable habitats, people, communities and industries**.

APPLY THE BEST SCIENTIFIC, MODELING, MONITORING AND PLANNING CAPABILITIES OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

- **Emphasize** the continued need to **update best management practice design standards** to account for the impacts of climate change, **using leading predictive models and tools**, to ensure **investments made today continue to yield benefits** even as the climate changes.
- **Determine capacity needed** to **monitor the impacts** of climate change on our natural resources within the existing Chesapeake Bay Program's science programs and **evaluate** the opportunity to fill those needs with **ongoing climate change monitoring programs**.
- **Improve the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool cost calculator** to account for climate change so that the partnership can ensure investments in water quality **consider the impacts of delayed action**.

CONNECT CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION GOALS WITH EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION, MITIGATION AND RESILIENCE.

- **Recognize**, and where feasible, **assess** and **adopt** the water quality practices that **sequester greenhouse gases**, and the climate mitigation practices that **reduce nitrogen** pollution to watersheds.
- **Prioritize** the **adoption of farming and forestry best management practices** to **maximize the co-benefits** of improved water quality, resilience, carbon sequestration and soil health.
- **Promote greenhouse gas mitigations** through **restoring coastal ecosystems** and **enhancing green infrastructure** throughout the watershed.
- **Utilize conservation finance** where appropriate to **leverage public and increase private investments**, including **emerging carbon markets**, in Chesapeake Bay restoration.

EC DIRECTION TO THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

- **Incorporate climate risks** into the management strategies of the *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement* outcomes.
 - **How does the Management Board want to report on our efforts to support this?**
- **Work partnership-wide** to ensure the science, restoration and programs equitably address the impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations, including indigenous people, historically under-represented communities, those of lower economic status and people of color, considering existing social, economic and health disparities.
 - **Each jurisdiction has plans and efforts that support the Bay, what is the best format and timeframe to highlight these collective efforts to the PSC and EC?**
- **Integrate** climate science and adaption to climate change throughout the work of the Chesapeake Bay Program and direct the Management Board to ensure the partnership's organizational structure effectively advances this integration.
 - **How can the Management Board ensure that all GITs, workgroups, advisory committees and action teams integrate climate change into our work?**

NEXT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

- Richmond, Va.
- December 15, 2021
- 11:30 - 2:00 p.m.
- Executive Mansion
- Elect New EC Chair
- Advisory
Committee Reports
- More Details
Forthcoming!

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THANK YOU!

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U.S. EPA

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