**CAC Quarterly Meeting- November 2018**

**Speaker Biographies in Order of the Agenda**

**Krista Schlyer**

**Conservation Photographer and Writer**  
Krista Schlyer is an award-winning photographer and writer focusing on conservation, biodiversity and public lands. She has worked throughout North America, from the arid borderlands of the American West and fire-forests of the Southeast, to the urban rivers of Washington DC. Schlyer is a Senior Fellow in the International League of Conservation Photographers and winner of the Ansel Adams Award for Conservation Photography, National Outdoor Book Award, and Vision Award from the North American Nature Photographers Association.

**Tommy Lawrence**

**Managing Director, Earth Conservation Corps**

Tommy Lawrence started with the Earth Conservation Corps in November 2015 when he was asked by Robert Nixon to help restore the Eagle Camera located at the Metropolitan Police Academy in Southeast, DC. The camera had been offline for a few years, and Tommy accepted the challenge. Tommy is a graduate of Temple University in Philadelphia where he studied Film & Visual Anthropology before moving to Washington, DC to start a career in television. He spent a few years working on some reality television shows and eventually met Nixon through a shark week program, and then a show for National Geographic. Soon after meeting Nixon though, all that changed. Nixon introduced him to the Earth Conservation Corps, their raptor ambassadors, the eagle & osprey cameras, and their mission which motivated him to want to do more within the organization. Today, Tommy is the Managing Director of the Earth Conservation Corps and hopes to continue the legacy of the ECC and drive its mission to create career opportunities for at-risk youth.

**Rodney Stotts, Falconer**

**Raptor Program Coordinator, Earth Conservation Corps**

Rodney Stotts is a falconer and licensed raptor specialist from South East Washington DC. A former staff of the Earth Conservation Corps, he is a mentor and youth community leader. Mr. Stotts creates transformative opportunities that connect youth to the environment and community. Realizing his lifestyle was not safe or sustainable, Stotts was drawn to falconry and river conservation as an alternative to jail, or perhaps more likely, death.

**Katherine Antos**

**Chief, Partnering and Environmental Conservation Branch, DOEE**

Katherine Antos joined the District Department of Energy and Environment as Chief of the Partnering and Environmental Conservation Branch in May 2017. She previously worked with the Anacostia Waterfront Trust from 2016-2017 as the Ambassador for the Anacostia River under the Urban Waters Federal Partnership, in which she collaborated with government, environmental and community-based organizations to restore the river and enhance opportunities and access for under-served neighborhoods. From 2007 – 2016, Katherine worked at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She spent most of that time at EPA’s Chesapeake Bay Program Office, where she was part of the team that established and implemented an accountable and adaptive “pollution diet” for the Chesapeake Bay, also known as the Bay TMDL. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and children and enjoys running and biking along the Anacostia River.

**David Gadis**

**General Manager and CEO, DC Water**

Mr. Gadis serves as Chief Executive Officer and President of DC Water. Immediately before joining DC Water, Mr. Gadis worked as the Chief Revenue Officer for U.S.A. Track and Field. Prior to that, Mr. Gadis served as Executive Vice President of Veolia North America where he led North American business development operations. He was responsible for corporate growth and $3 billion in revenue. He served as a key consultant to municipalities and Mayors as they developed utility plans to address infrastructure improvement needs and how to save money in operating their utilities.

Gadis also worked as CEO and President of Veolia Water Indianapolis, LLC, formerly known as the Indianapolis Water Company. He was its first African American CEO/President and the first African American CEO to lead a major utility in Indianapolis. In that position, he managed the operations of the city’s water utility that employed more than 600 employees and served more than 1 million customers and 360,000 rate payers. Gadis was also responsible for field services, engineering/construction, procurement, fleet, warehousing, and plant production. He was also credited with turning the customer service department into a world class operation, answering 90% of its 80,000 calls per month in 30 seconds or less.

**Vaughn Perry**

**Equitable Development Manager, 11th Street Bridge Park**

Vaughn Perry is the Equitable Development Manager for the 11th Street Bridge Park. His role is to oversee and implement the deliverables for the Equitable Development Plan. A D.C. native, Vaughn has been a resident and homeowner in Ward 8 for over 16 years. Vaughn’s research interests focus on ecojustice pedagogies, community engagement and green job/skill development. Previously, Vaughn worked for the Anacostia Watershed Society, where he led the National Capital Region - Watershed Stewards Academy providing community leaders with the resources to serve as a point in their community on stormwater issues. Vaughn holds a Bachelor’s degree in IT from Strayer University and a Master’s Degree in Project Management from George Washington University.

**Jim Edward**

**Acting Director of the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office**

James Edward has worked for the Environmental Protection Agency in various positions since coming to the Agency in 1984. He has been serving as Acting Director of the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office in Annapolis, Maryland since December 2017. Prior to holding this position, and since January 2009, Jim has been the Deputy Director of CBPO. He also was the CBPO Acting Director from May 2010 to August 2011 when he oversaw development of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. As Deputy Director, Jim chairs the CBP Federal Office Directors and coordinates the activities of EPA with other Federal agencies in implementing the Bay Executive Order Strategy and the 2014 Bay Watershed Agreement. He also works with State and local authorities in developing strategies to improve the water quality and living resources of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Prior to coming to the Chesapeake Bay Program, Jim was Director of the Compliance Assistance and Sector Programs Division in the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) in Washington DC starting in 2001. Jim has previously served as the Deputy Director of the Federal Facilities Enforcement Office and Director of the Strategic Planning and Prevention Division. He began his public service career with the Department of Interior where he worked for four years in the BLM Wilderness Program before coming to EPA.

He has a B.S. in Landscape Architecture from Rutgers University, a Masters Degree in Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts and also attended Harvard University where he completed the Senior Executive Fellows Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government.

**Betsy Nicholas**

**Executive Director, Waterkeepers Chesapeake**

Betsy Nicholas is the Executive Director of WATERKEEPERS® Chesapeake, the regional coalition of 19 Waterkeeper Organizations protecting the rivers and streams of the Chesapeake and Coastal Bays Watersheds. She has been leading this organization since 2012. She is also the founder of the Fair Farms campaign – building a movement of Marylanders of all stripes, working together for a new food system — one that is fair to farmers, invests in homegrown healthy foods and restores our waterways instead of polluting them. Previously, she worked as a trial attorney in the Environmental and Natural Resources Division of U.S. Department of Justice for several years. Prior to that, she was the General Counsel for Chattahoochee Riverkeeper in Atlanta, Georgia for more than five years. Ms. Nicholas has also been an environmental associate for law firms in New York and Washington, DC. Her experience includes all types of stormwater pollution, industrial agriculture, regenerative agriculture, clean water act litigation, legislative advocacy, endangered species act conservation, hydropower licensing and a host of other issues that come with 20 years of environmental work. Like most clean water advocates, she also loves to get out on the water when she can.

**Ted Evgeniadis**

**Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper**

Ted spent his youth fishing New Jersey’s lakes and streams, jetty hopping up and down the coast, and wading the rocks of the Delaware River in pursuit of what lies beneath. With such a passion for water, he began studying marine biology at a local university in 2004. As a resident of York, PA since 2008, he pursued another academic career in finance. He graduated from York College of Pennsylvania in 2013 and has had experience in wealth management administration and analyzing high net worth client portfolios, family/private foundations, and trusts. Since 2011, Ted has spent his days in York assisting the Lower Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER® Association with various creek cleanups, trail enrichment initiatives, native/invasive plant studies, vegetation control along the Codorus Creek, the Susquehanna Biathlon, macroinvertebrate studies, and other river related events in the Lower Susquehanna Watershed.

**Nicki Kasi**

**PA DEP Co-Chair, Conowingo WIP Steering Committee**

Nicki Kasi is the PA Department of Environmental Protection’s Program Manager for the Chesapeake Bay. She began her career at DEP 28 years ago with a short stint in the Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation, but quickly moved into the Chesapeake Bay restoration effort as a hydrogeologist in the former Bureau of Land and Water Conservation. She was the first staff person assigned to the Chesapeake Bay Model, while also doing watershed assessments in the agricultural sector under section 319 of the Clean Water Act. Before her current position, Ms. Kasi worked as a Program Manager in DEP’s Bureau of Clean Water, and its predecessors, where she demonstrated versatility by managing and directing the development of our operator certification program and efforts in water infrastructure financing and technical assistance.