



**Principals' Staff Committee
December 17, 2020**

Draft Actions/Decisions

Climate Change Final Decision

- Decision: The PSC reached consensus, with EPA deferring to the jurisdictions, on a final set of [recommendations](#) for how the partnership will evaluate climate change for 2025 and 2035, and on numeric targets and allocations for 2025 due to climate change. Specifically, they approved the following:
 - The 2020 update to the 2025 climate load allocations based on the latest modeling assessment.
 - Jurisdictions are 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.
 - Jurisdictions are expected to include a narrative in the 2022-2023 Milestones that describes the current understanding of 2035 climate change conditions, to the effect that: "Preliminary estimates for the climate impact through 2035 indicate a doubling of the 2025 load effect. The effect of climate change on our ability to meet the Bay's water quality standards is a significant and increasing concern."
 - 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.

The full set of recommendations to the PSC, including the specific call to continue efforts to improve understanding of the science and refine estimates of pollutant load changes due to 2035 climate change conditions, may be accessed by clicking here: [Recommendations](#)

- Note: The updated climate change *narrative language* is still being developed by the climate resilience and communications workgroups. The narrative is not needed until submission of 2022-2023 Milestones on 1/15/22.
- Note: New York (Jim Tierney) requested that the record reflect that future allocation decisions regarding the 2035 climate load should factor in fairness and equity.

Chesapeake Bay Program Funding

- Note: Jim Edward provided an overview of the 2020 budget breakdown within EPA offices, CBIG and CBRAP, Local Government Implementation, WIP Assistance and other funding categories, as well as the outlook for 2021. Joe Hatten suggested similar presentations from other federal agencies would be helpful on a future PSC agenda. Ann Swanson suggested having a more in-depth follow-up budget discussion at a future PSC meeting to discuss how CBP partners might help strategically direct future funding, and Sec. Strickler recommended more PSC discussion

regarding discretionary funding. It was also suggested that a future PSC meeting should address monitoring program costs.

DEIJ Action Team Update

- Note: The DEIJ Action Team Co-Chairs, Jeff Seltzer (DC) and Meryem Karad (VA) provided an update on the Action Team's work and presented a proposed timeline for completing DEIJ Action Team tasks (i.e., development of draft and final DEIJ Strategy Implementation Plan and development of recommendations for establishing the Community Advisory Board). PSC members did not voice any objections to that timeline. (For a copy of the presentation and timeline click [here](#) and see slide 7.)
- Note: Several members acknowledged that funding will be a major factor in what can be accomplished. Sec. Grumbles recommended seeking foundation financial support to supplement and complete this work with non-governmental funding. Sec. Strickler agreed.

Planning for 2021 EC Actions

- Note: Sec. Strickler discussed Governor Northam's desire to have an EC event in the Spring/Summer, specifically an outdoor Chesapeake Bay experience (pending COVID-19 vaccinations), with the more formal EC meeting in December. The Governor intends to reach out directly to his EC counterparts. Diana Esher (EPA) requested that the PSC set a date for the initial EC meeting for when the new EPA Administrator is on board and can participate. Sec. Strickler discussed the following issues for the EC to act upon at their 2021 meetings: Climate change and strengthening prior EC language as well as further actions on the CAB and DEIJ. The Chair directed Ann Jennings to chair a PSC action team to develop draft language for a EC statement on climate change. No objections to the meetings, issues, and/or next steps were raised, though several PSC members cautioned that getting EC members to participate would be challenging. It was agreed that meetings would need to be virtual until a COVID-19 vaccine becomes widely available.
- Action: Rachel Felver will convene the EC Planning Team.

Conowingo WIP and Finance Strategy.

- Note: Co-Chairs Matt Rowe (MDE) and Jill Whitcomb (PADEP) provided a Conowingo WIP Steering Committee update on progress to date on a draft Conowingo WIP and the development of a draft Conowingo Finance Strategy. The partnership released the draft Conowingo WIP on October 14, 2020 for public input along with a pre-recorded webinar overview of the WIP and its actions. The public comment period was extended from December 21, 2020 to January 20, 2021 and public outreach and education is being conducted in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New York. EPA noted that the agency would evaluate the draft Conowingo WIP and provide its evaluation by the end of January 2021. A revised draft timeline was presented to the PSC and the Steering Committee committed to keeping the PSC updated and involved in any necessary future changes. The Steering Committee also informed the PSC that the draft Conowingo Financing Strategy is under review and will be presented to the PSC at its next meeting. The Finance Strategy Team highlighted a key assumption in their memo is that the partnership will have the ultimate responsibility for funding implementation and that public funding alone will not be sufficient. Public-private partnerships will be necessary.

PSC Workplan

- Action: Sec. Strickler noted that Ann Jennings will make adjustments to the draft workplan based on the discussion today and distribute to PSC members with the Actions/Decisions.

Items for next PSC meeting

- Conowingo WIP
- Draft DEIJ Implementation Plan
- EC meetings

Attendance (Members names are in bold)

Jurisdictions	
Ben Grumbles Lee Currey Dinorah Dalmasy Paul Emmart Matt Rowe	Md Dept of the Environment
Jeannie Haddaway- Riccio Dave Goshorn	MD Dept of Natural Resources
Terrell Erickson	MD Dept of Agriculture
Jason Dubow	MD Dept of Planning
Tommy Wells Jeffrey Seltzer Katherine Antos John Maleri Ed Dunne	DC Dept of the Environment
Shawn Garvin Steve Williams Clare Sevcik Brittany Sturgis	DE Dept of Natural Resources & Environmental Control
Chris Brosch	DE Dept of Agriculture
Patrick McDonnell Aneca Atkinson Brian Chalfant Jill Whitcomb	PA Dept of Environmental Protection
Greg Hostetter Karl Brown	PA Dept of Agriculture
Cindy Dunn Matt Keefer	PA Dept of Conservation & Natural Resources
Matt Strickler Ann Jennings Meryem Karad	VA Office of the Secretary of Natural Resources
David Paylor James Martin	VA Dept of Environmental Quality

Bettina Ring Terry Lasher	VA Dept of Agriculture and Forestry
Jim Tierney Lauren Townley Cassandra Davis	NY Dept of Environmental Conservation
Scott Mandirola Teresa Koon Dave Montali	WV Dept of Env Protection
Joe Hatten	WV Dept of Agriculture
Ann Swanson Marel King Adrienne Kotula	Chesapeake Bay Commission
Federal Agencies	
Cosmo Servidio Diana Esher	EPA, Region 3
Dana Aunkst	Chesapeake Bay Program, EPA
Terrell Erickson	USDA
Sally Claggett	USFS
Sean Corson	NOAA
Wendy O'Sullivan	NPS
Amy Guise	USACE, Baltimore District
Sharon Baumann Kevin DuBois Jessica Rodriguez	DOD: Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Environmental Department
Scott Phillips Gary Shenk Renee Thompson	USGS
Genevieve LaRouche Chris Guy	USFWS
Advisory Committees	
Julie Lawson Jessica Blackburn	CAC
Ann Simonetti Jennifer Starr	LGAC
Andrew Miller	STAC
Federal Agencies	
Jim Edward Carin Bisland Bill Jenkins Greg Barranco	EPA

Kelly Shenk Suzanne Trevena Tuana Phillips Lewis Linker Lucinda Power Amy Handen Michelle Guck Doreen Vetter Rebecca Hindin Samantha Beers Vanessa Van Note Bo Williams Tom Damm Rick Balla Madeline Lambrix	EPA
Doug Austin	SEE
Garrett Stewart Chantal Madray Breck Sullivan Ivan Hernandez Julianna Greenberg Megan Ossmann Marjorie Zeff	Chesapeake Research Consortium
Rachel Felver Marisa Baltine	Communications Workgroup
Laura Cattell Noll	Local Leadership Workgroup
Kristin Saunders	UMCES
Jeff Corbin	Restoration Systems, LLC
Karl Blankenship	Chesapeake Bay Journal
Lisa Ochsenhirt	AquaLaw
Mark Bryer	The Nature Conservancy
Ridge Hall	Chesapeake Legal Alliance
Chris Pomeroy	AquaLaw
Heidi Bonnafon	WashCOG
Katherine Filippino	Hampton Roads Planning District
Kristin Reilly Peter Marx	Choose Clean Water Coalition
DG Webster	
PThompson	
J Denniston	