

Chesapeake Bay Program Report on Extent and Severity of Toxic Contaminants in Chesapeake Bay and the Watershed

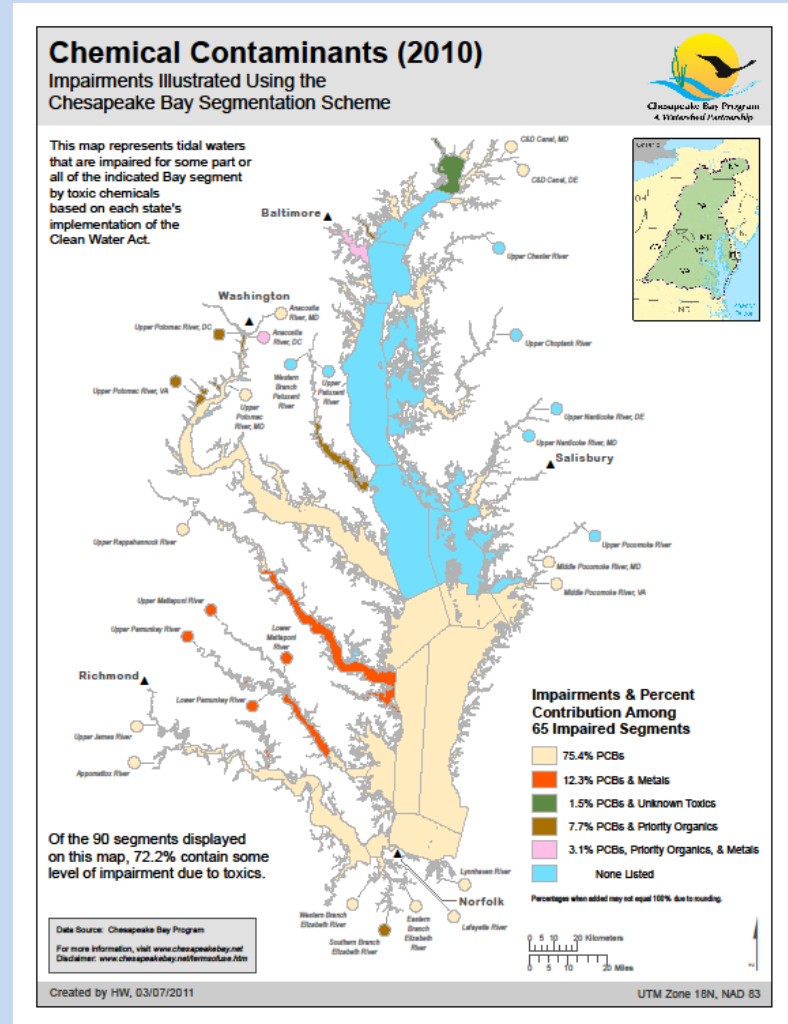
Report Status and Review Process

Scott Phillips, USGS

Greg Allen, EPA CBP

- Contaminants adversely effect fish and wildlife in Chesapeake Bay and its watershed
- CBP developed the Toxics 2000 Strategy
 - Limited progress has been made
- Chesapeake Executive Order Strategy: “Report on the extent and severity of contaminants in the Bay and watershed”
- Findings to be used by the CBP to consider:
 - new goals for reducing toxic contaminants (2013)
 - develop strategies by 2015
 - future research and monitoring activities

Purpose of Report



Report Development and Contributors

- Workshop held in Oct, 2011
- STAR Action Team
 - EPA
 - USGS
 - USFWS
 - NOAA
 - Hampton Roads Sanitation District
 - Chesapeake Research Consortium
 - UMd
- Jurisdiction contacts for the “Integrated Assessment Reports”

Compound Classes Addressed

- Polychlorinated biphenyls
- Dioxins and Furans
- Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons
- Petroleum Hydrocarbons
- Pesticides
- Pharmaceuticals
- Household and Personal Care Products
- Polybrominated diphenyl ether Flame Retardants
- Metals and Metalloids
- Biogenic Hormones

- Effects on fish and wildlife

Sources of Information

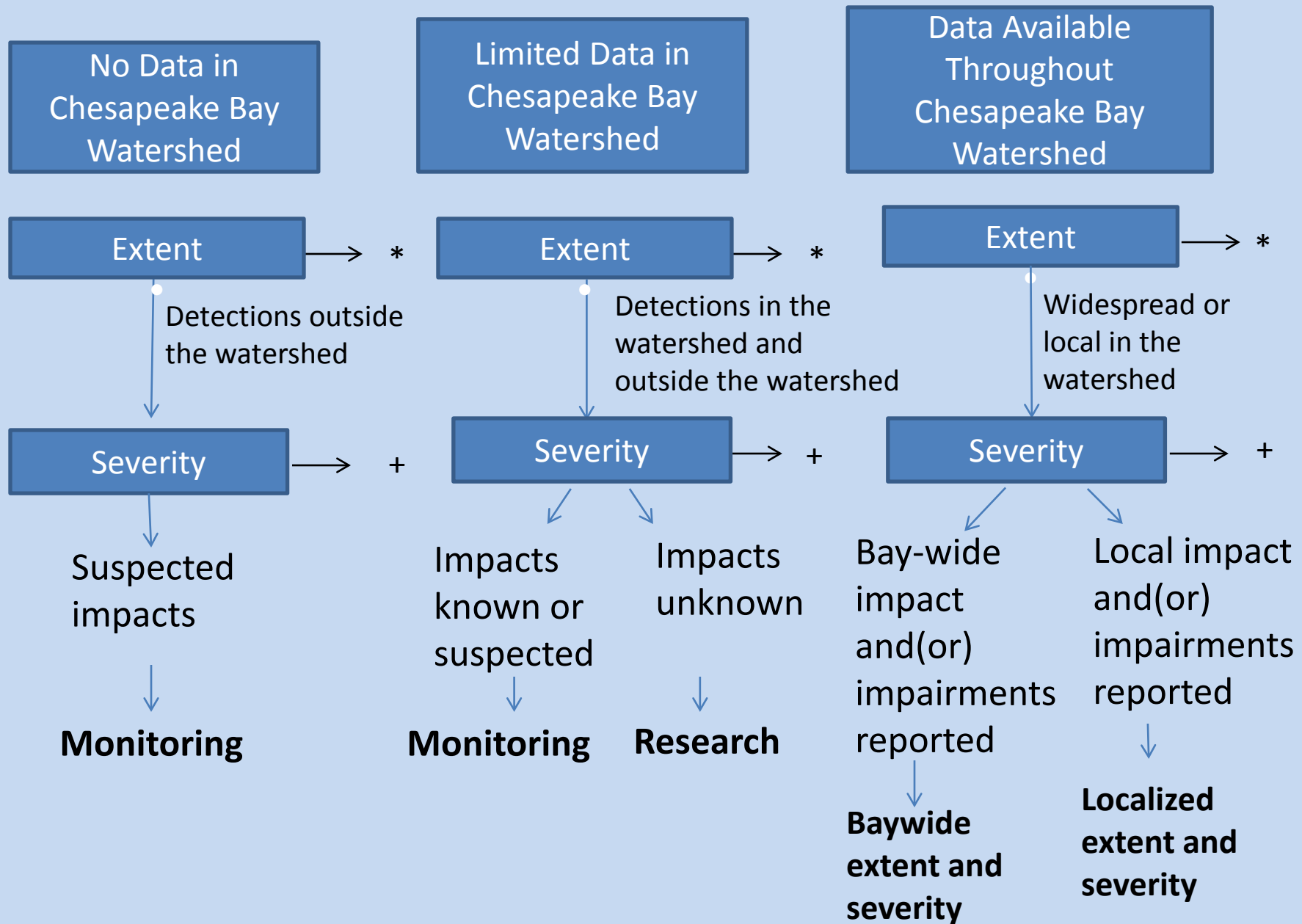
- Focused on Chesapeake results
 - supplemental national information
- Bay jurisdictional 2010 integrated assessment reports; 303d impairment listings
- Fish consumption advisories
- Federal reports (e.g., NOAA, USGS)
- Published journal articles

Information Limitations

- Not all possible contaminants assessed
- Used readily available summaries; no new data analysis
- Within-class limitations (e.g. limited to those for which information is available)
- Used some studies from other watersheds and national studies

Approach and Decision Rules

- Goal: Define extent and severity
- Extent
 - Monitoring information of detections
 - Widespread or local
- Severity
 - Impairments
 - Fish consumption advisories
 - Comparison to effects thresholds
 - Suspected impact to fish and wildlife
- Categorization for each class assessed
 - Consider goal setting
 - Monitoring/Research



* - Contaminants not analyzed in environmental samples and(or) no detections based on current laboratory capabilities

+ - Unknown and(or) no quantifiable impacts based on current health benchmarks.

Review Process

- Completed Initial Review:
 - Jurisdictional contacts for integrated assessment reports
 - CBP STAR Action Team members
- Peer and CBP Partner Review
 - Independent peer review
 - CBP review (jurisdictions, federal agencies, Goal Implementation Teams, others)
 - October 22-November 9
- Internal report approval for EPA, USGS, USFWS
- Final publication

Decision Requested and Next Steps

- Confirm/modify list of reviewers
- Next Steps after report released
 - New CBP action team to consider findings and develop toxic contaminant reduction goal(s) (2013)

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