

# THTF Involvement in Phase 7 Watershed Model Development

Timber Harvest Task Force

3/11/2024

# Outline

- Background on Watershed Model
- Bay TMDL Summary
- Data ideals for management models
  - Consistency > Accuracy
  - Weather independent values > Actual values
- Timber Harvest Parameters

# CAST Structure

CAST is a  
simple  
model

**Inputs (Fertilizer, Manure,  
Atmospheric Deposition,  
Fixation, Wastewater)**



**Land management**



**Watershed Delivery**

Load by land-river segment and land use

## CAST Structure

Inputs (Fertilizer, Manure,  
Atmospheric Deposition,  
Fixation, Wastewater)

\*

Land management

\*

**Watershed Delivery**

Load by land-river segment and land use

## CAST Structure

Average Load

+

$\Delta$  Inputs \* Sensitivity

\*

BMPs

\*

Acres

\*

Land to Water

\*

River Delivery

Load by land-river segment and land use

CAST is a  
simple  
model

# CAST Structure

Illustrative example

**Average Load**  
+  
**Δ Inputs \* Sensitivity**  
\*  
**BMPs**  
\*  
**Acres**  
\*  
**Land to Water**  
\*  
**River Delivery**

Average nitrogen load to stream for  
Harvested Forest watershed wide is 12  
pounds per acre per year

# CAST Structure

Illustrative example

**Average Load**  
+  
**Δ Inputs \* Sensitivity**  
\*  
**BMPs**  
\*  
**Acres**  
\*  
**Land to Water**  
\*  
**River Delivery**

Your area receives 16 lbs of atmospheric deposition while the watershed wide average is 10.

Each additional pound of atmospheric deposition results in 0.16 lbs of runoff

$$12 + (15-10) * 0.16 = 13 \text{ lbs/acre}$$

# CAST Structure

Illustrative example

**Average Load**  
+  
**Δ Inputs \* Sensitivity**  
\*  
**BMPs**  
\*  
**Acres**  
\*  
**Land to Water**  
\*  
**River Delivery**

BMPs are applied which give, in aggregate, a 8% reduction

$$13 * (1-8\%) = 12 \text{ lbs/acre}$$

# CAST Structure

Illustrative example

**Average Load**  
**+**  
**Δ Inputs \* Sensitivity**  
**\***  
**BMPs**  
**\***  
**Acres**  
**\***  
**Land to Water**  
**\***  
**River Delivery**

There are 100 acres of Harvested Forest  
in this segment

$$12 \text{ lbs/acre} * 100 \text{ acres} = 1200 \text{ lbs}$$

Load by land-river segment and land use



# CAST Structure

Illustrative example

**Average Load**  
**+**  
**Δ Inputs \* Sensitivity**  
**\***  
**BMPs**  
**\***  
**Acres**  
**\***  
**Land to Water**  
**\***  
**River Delivery**

The land here is 50% leakier than average due to high groundwater recharge in the piedmont carbonate

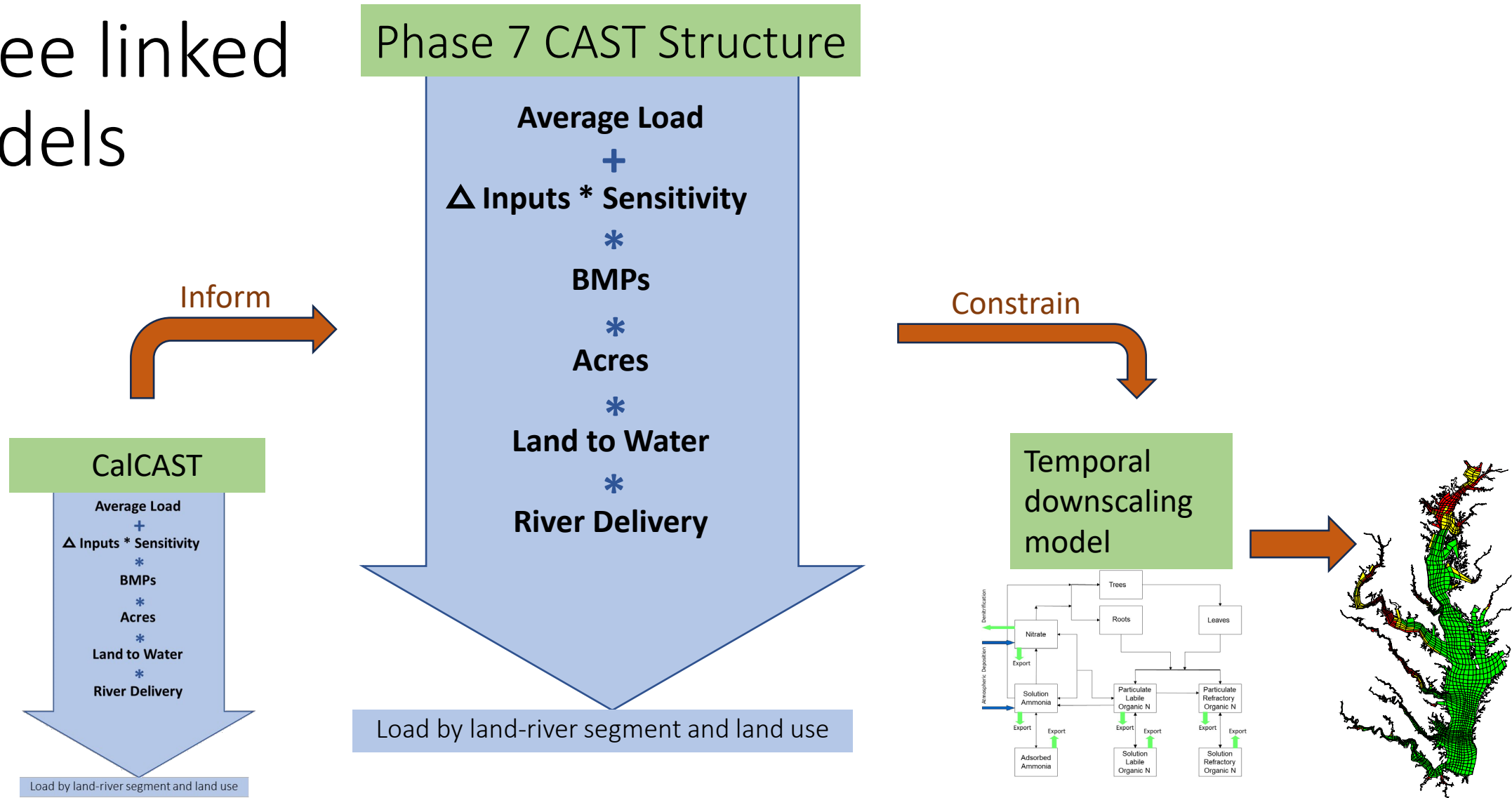
The river system reduces loads by 50% by passing through a reservoir

$$1200 \text{ lbs} * 1.5 * (1-.50) = 900 \text{ lbs}$$

Delivered to the Bay from this land use and segment

Load by land-river segment and land use

# Three linked models



CAST model documentation; section 1

<https://cast.chesapeakebay.net/Documentation/ModelDocumentation>

# Phase 7 CAST

**WQGIT**

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Average Load} \\ &+ \\ &\Delta \text{ Inputs} * \text{Sensitivity} \\ &* \\ &\text{BMPs} \\ &* \\ &\text{Acres} \\ &* \end{aligned}$$



**Modeling Workgroup**

Load by land-river segment and land use

# TMDL summary

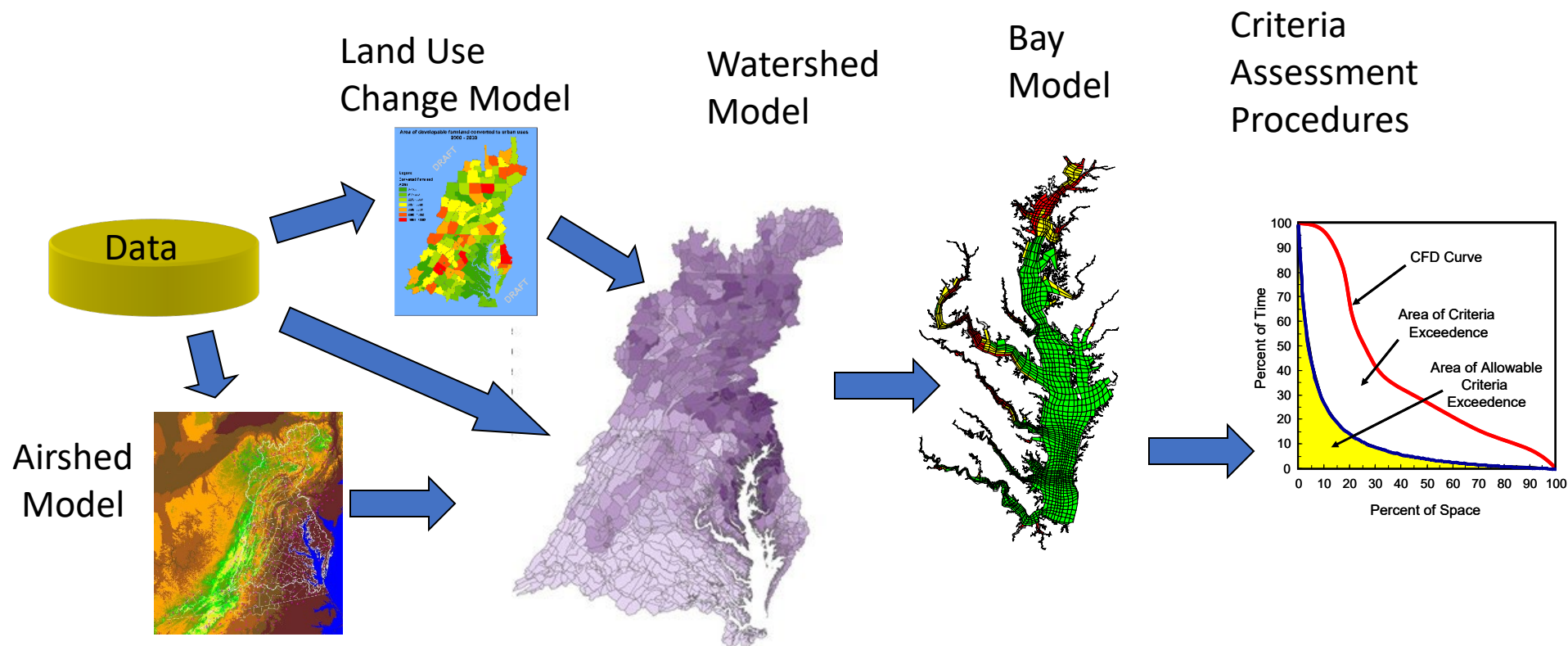


What management practices...

.... will reduce nitrogen and phosphorus to levels ...

.... that will achieve appropriate dissolved oxygen, clarity, and chlorophyll in the Bay?

# CBP Decision Support System



What management practices...

.... will reduce nitrogen and phosphorus to levels ...

.... that will achieve appropriate dissolved oxygen, clarity, and chlorophyll in the Bay?

# Guidelines for WIP Planning Targets

Everything  
Everywhere  
Everyone



**Effort**

No BMPs



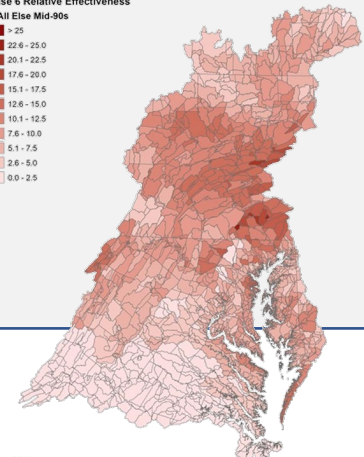
**Effectiveness**



Increasing relationship between  
Relative Effectiveness and Effort

Phase 6 Relative Effectiveness  
TN All Else Mid-90s

> 25
22.6 - 25.0
20.1 - 22.5
17.6 - 20.0
15.1 - 17.5
12.6 - 15.0
10.1 - 12.5
7.6 - 10.0
5.1 - 7.5
2.6 - 5.0
0.0 - 2.5



# Nutrient Targets

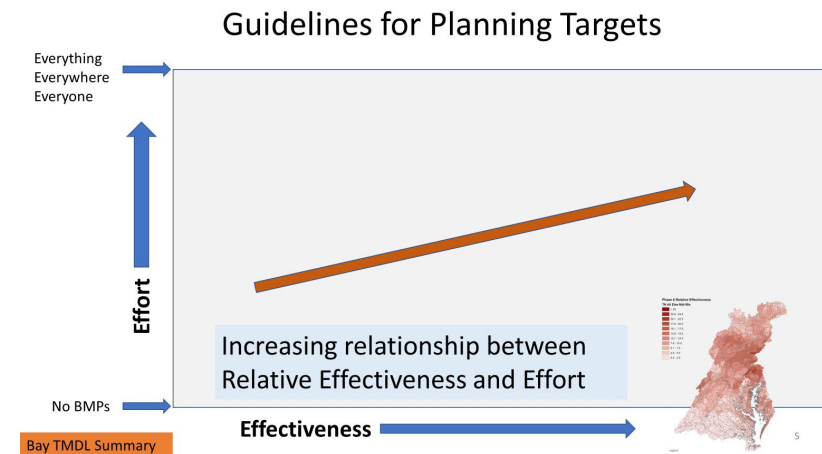
			2018 Planning Targets approved by PSC	
Major	State	StateBasin	Nitrogen	Phosphorus
Potomac	DC	DC Potomac	2.42	0.130
Eastern Shore	DE	DE Eastern Shore	4.55	0.108
Eastern Shore	MD	MD Eastern Shore	15.21	1.286
Patuxent	MD	MD Patuxent	3.21	0.301
Potomac	MD	MD Potomac	15.30	1.092
Susquehanna	MD	MD Susquehanna	1.18	0.053
Western Shore	MD	MD Western Shore	10.89	0.948
Susquehanna	NY	NY Susquehanna	11.53	0.587
Eastern Shore	PA	PA Eastern Shore	0.45	0.025
Potomac	PA	PA Potomac	6.11	0.357
Susquehanna	PA	PA Susquehanna	66.59	2.661
Western Shore	PA	PA Western Shore	0.02	0.001
Eastern Shore	VA	VA Eastern Shore	1.43	0.164
James	VA	VA James	25.92	2.731
Potomac	VA	VA Potomac	16.00	1.892
Rappahannock	VA	VA Rappahannock	6.85	0.849
York	VA	VA York	5.52	0.556
James	WV	WV James	0.04	0.005
Potomac	WV	WV Potomac	8.18	0.427

- Nutrient loads in million lbs/year
- Long-term hydrology
  - When the targets are reached, these are the annual average loads
  - **These are NOT** the cap for the wettest year or the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile year
- Will be reevaluated with new models and climate change through 2035 in 2027/2028



# Primary use of the CBP Watershed Model

- Represent anthropogenic changes in load
- Set and track reduction goals
- Ideally:
  - Include all load sources
  - Treat all jurisdictions equally
  - Track actions that change loads
  - Factor out the temporal variability of weather

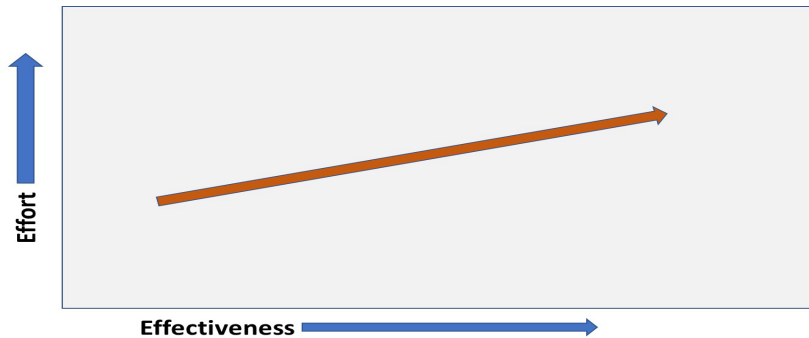


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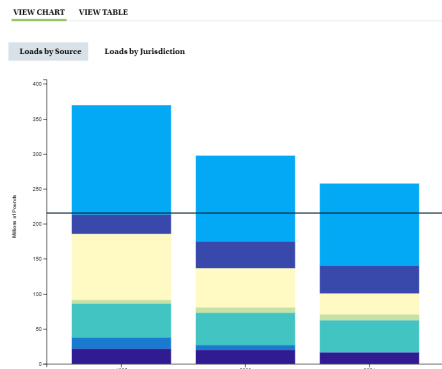
# Consistency > Accuracy

Spatial and temporal trends are more important than the absolute value



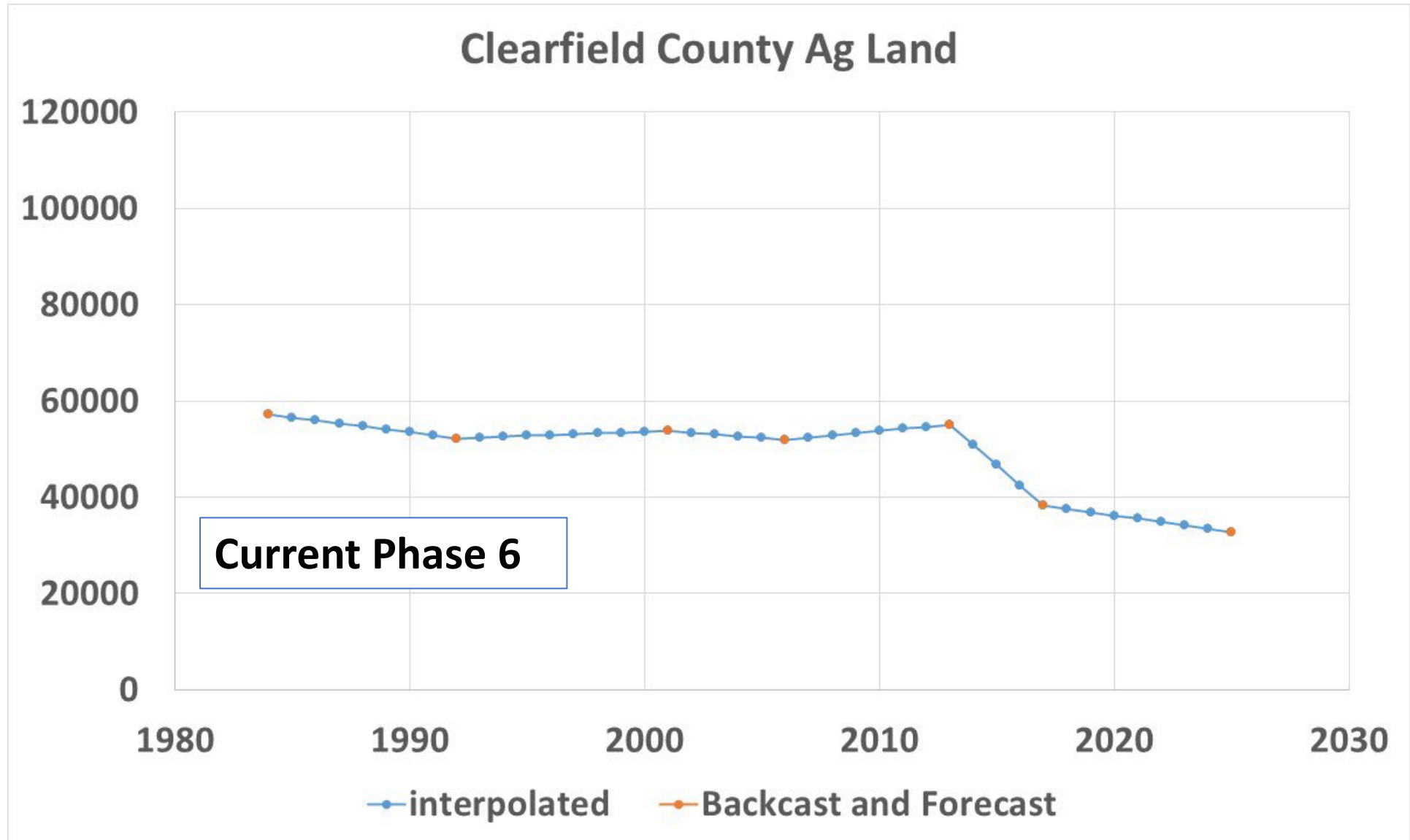
Spatial - Model used to allocate responsibility between jurisdictions

**Modeled Nitrogen Loads to the Chesapeake Bay (1985-2021)**  
Loads simulated using CAST19 and jurisdiction-reported data on wastewater discharges. \*The natural sector wetlands which are preferable land use types with the lowest loading rates among sources.

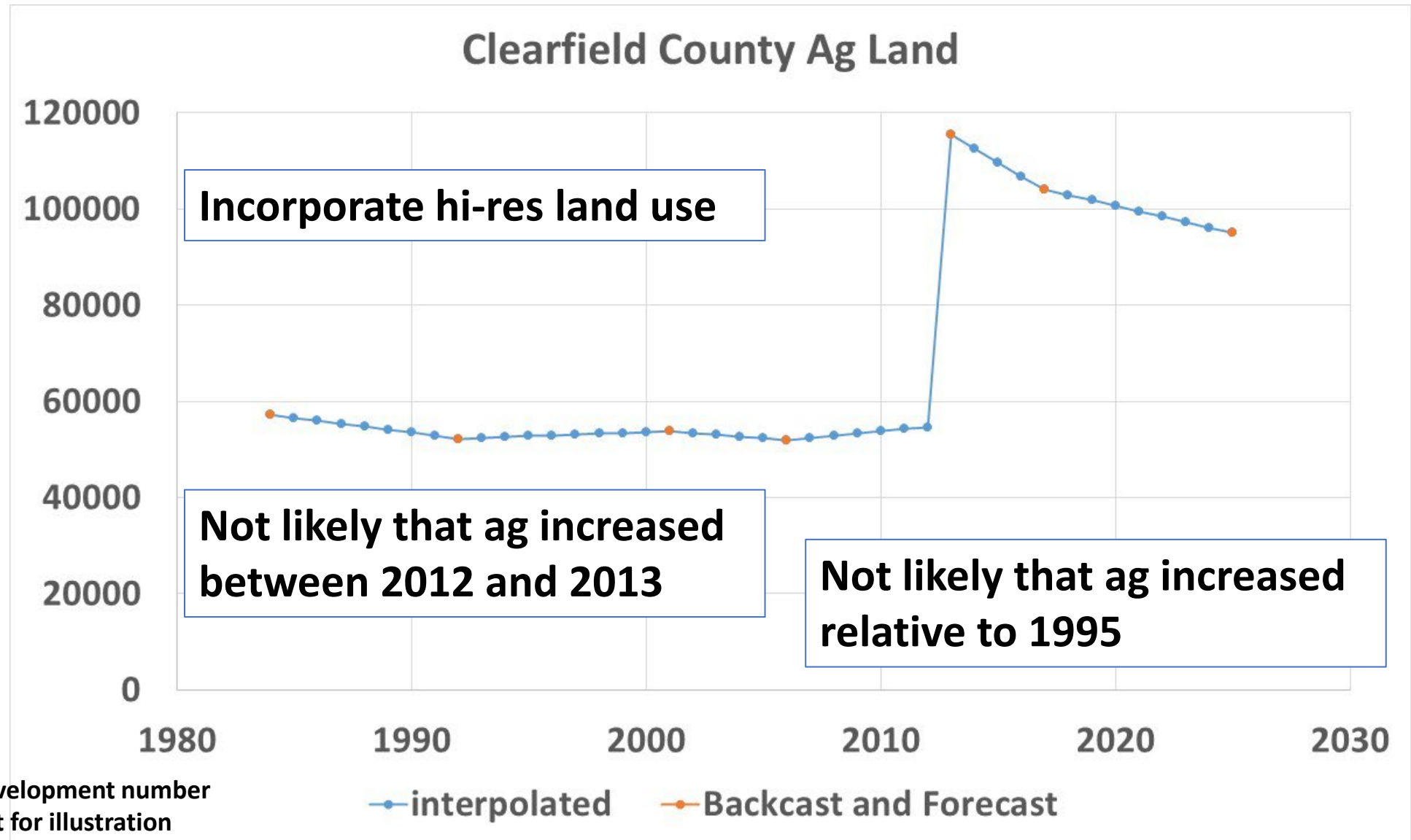


Temporal - Model used to track TMDL, based on changes since 1995

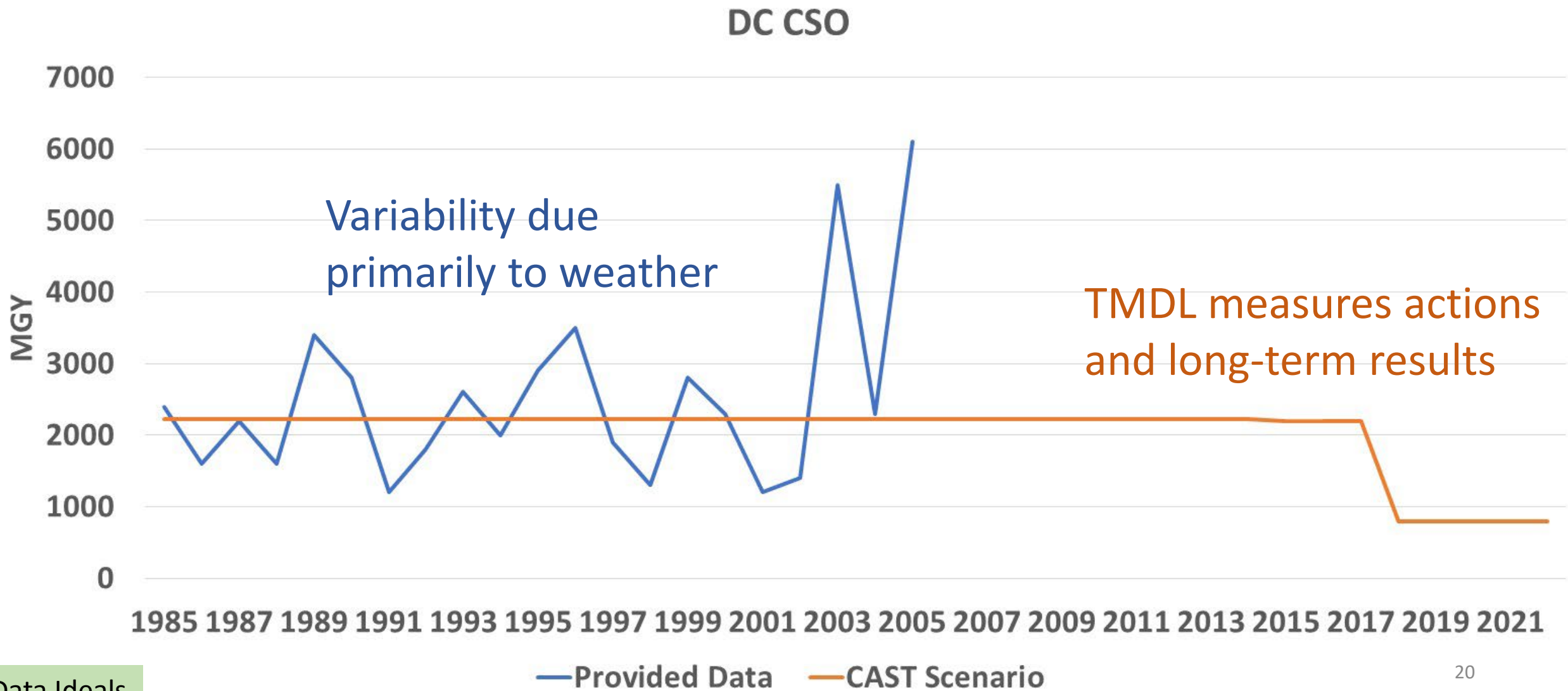
# Consistency example



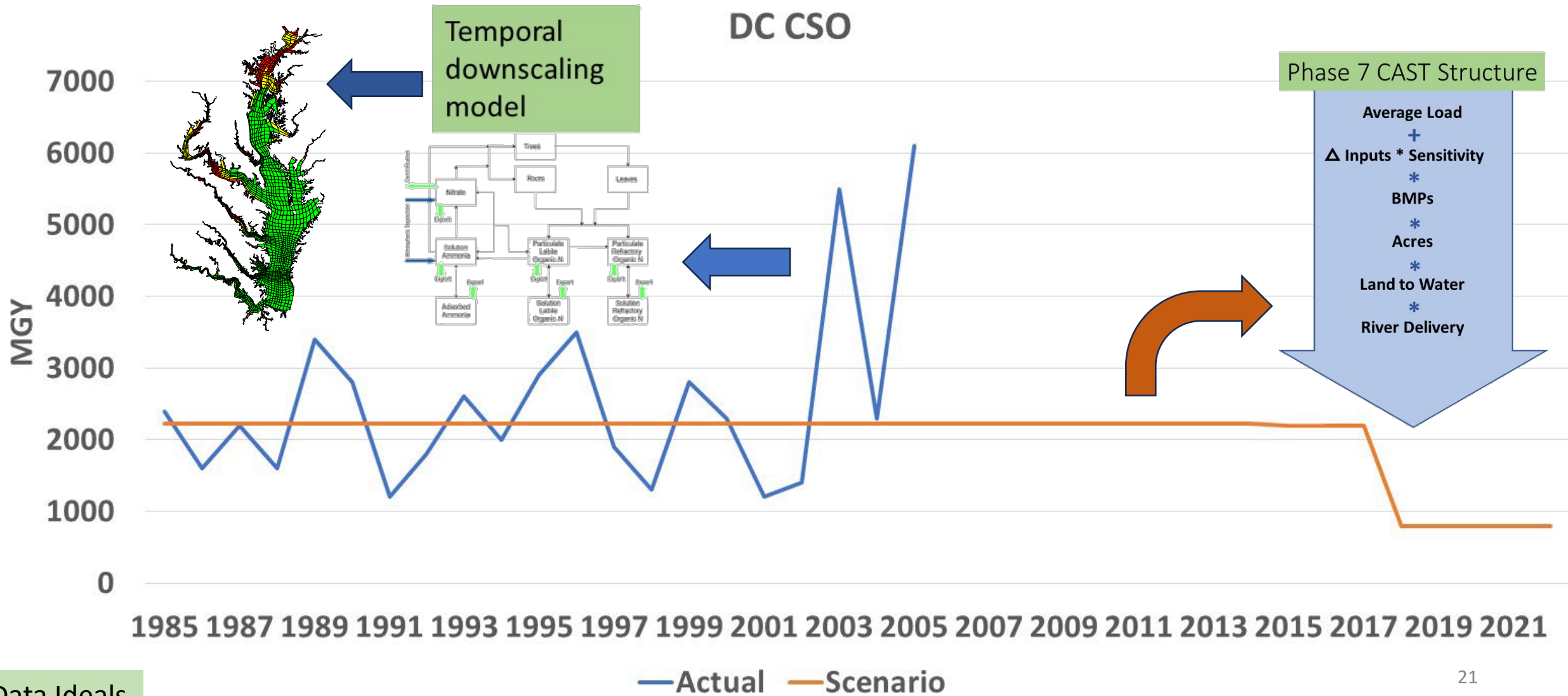
# Consistency example



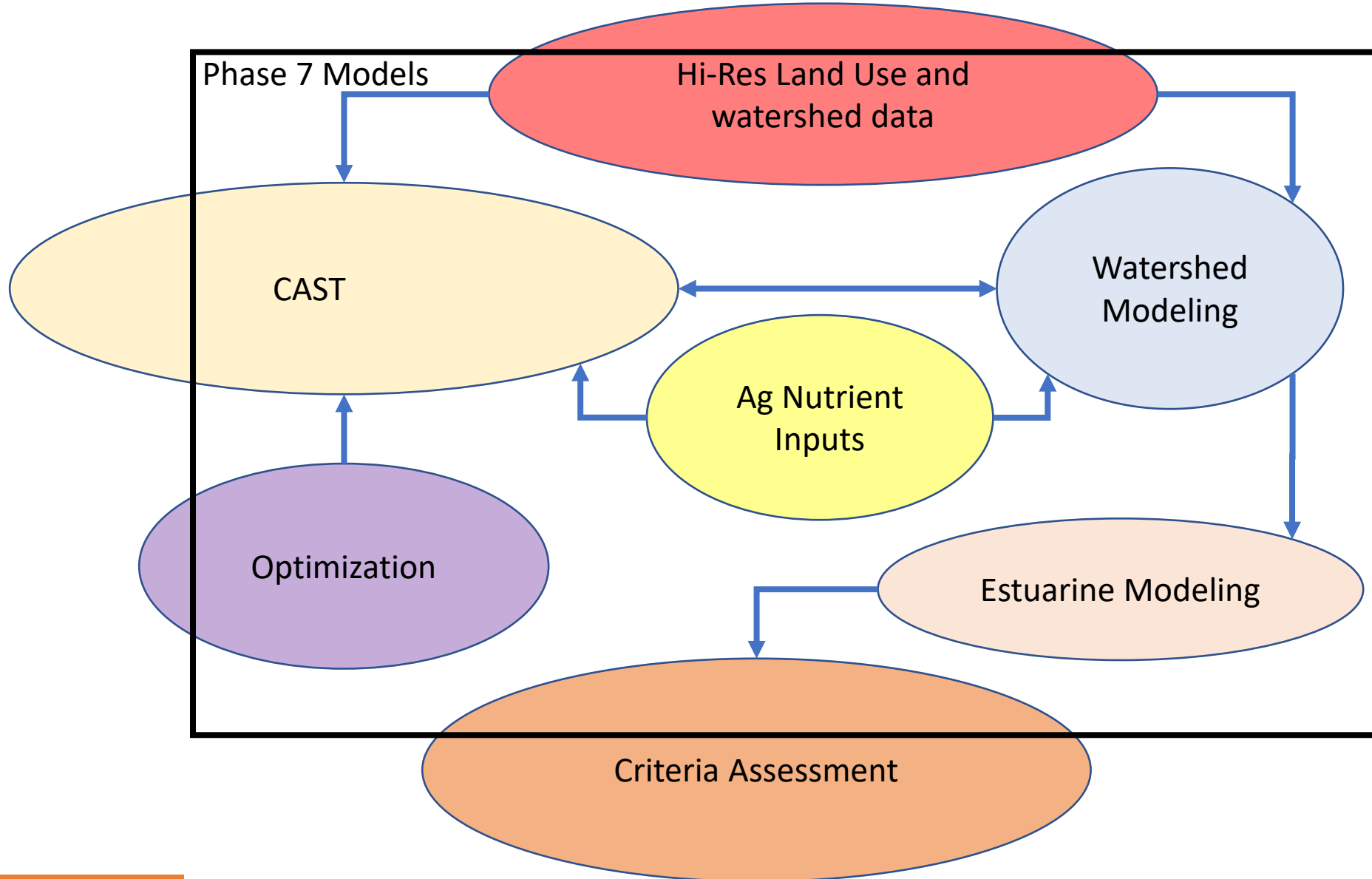
# Weather independence > Actual Values



# Weather independence + Actual Values



# Phase 7 Development Tracks



# Web page

- Overview
- Seven Projects
  - Descriptions
  - Documents
- Linked from
  - Modeling Workgroup
  - WQGIT
  - Many WQGIT WGs

Phase 7 Model Development | Chesapeake Bay Program

chesapeakebay.net/what/programs/modeling/phase\_7\_model\_development

CBPO Scheduler Sign in to Concur... Citi Commercial Car... Chesapeake Bay Ge... https://gis.chesape... Priority Agricultural... Priority Agricultural... Mid-Atlantic IDF Cu...

**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
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WHAT WE DO > PROGRAMS & PROJECTS > PHASE 7 MODEL DEVELOPMENT

## Phase 7 Model Development

The Chesapeake Bay Program is updating its modeling and analysis tools used in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL.

f t e

Currently in development, the Phase 7 Modeling Tools will be used by the partnership to inform decisions related to nutrient and sediment reduction goals outlined in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. Integral to this updated suite of tools is the ability to project climate change effect through 2035. The model, which will be ready for use by 2027, consists of six interrelated projects:

1. High Resolution Land Use
2. Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST)
3. Optimization
4. Agricultural Inputs
5. Watershed Modeling
6. Estuarine Modeling
7. Criteria Assessment

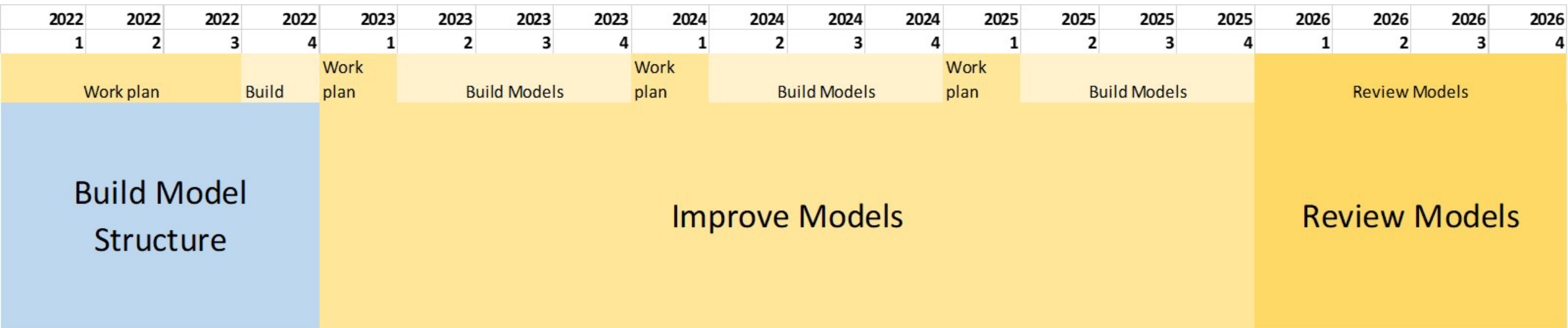
```
graph TD; HL[Hi-Res Land Use] --> CAST[CAST]; HL --> WM[Watershed Modeling]; CAST <--> WM; AI[Ag Nutrient Inputs] --> CAST; AI --> WM;
```

**Modeling**  
Phase 7 Model Development

**Programs & Projects**

- Modeling
- Monitoring
- Quality Assurance
- Resource Lands Assessment
- Chesapeake Bay TMDL
- Watershed Implementation Plans
- BMP Verification

# Watershed Model Plan – Big Picture





# THTF can re-examine

- Land use types
- Relative Loading Rates
- Sensitivities – types and numbers – advise MWG
- Inputs
- BMPs

# P7 Mapped land uses

## Forest and Wetlands

- 40 Forest
- 41 Tree Canopy, Other
- 53 Riverine Wetlands Tree Canopy
- 54 Riverine Wetlands Forest
- 63 Terrene Wetlands Tree Canopy
- 64 Terrene Wetlands Forest
- 50 Riverine Wetlands Barren
- 51 Riverine Wetlands Herbaceous
- 52 Riverine Wetlands Shrubland
- 55 Riverine Wetlands Harvested Forest
- 60 Terrene Wetlands Barren
- 61 Terrene Wetlands Herbaceous
- 62 Terrene Wetlands Shrubland
- 65 Terrene Wetlands Harvested Forest

## Harvested / Succession

- 42 Natural Succession Barren
- 43 Natural Succession Herbaceous
- 44 Natural Succession Shrubland
- 45 Harvested Forest Barren
- 46 Harvested Forest Herbaceous

## Phase 6 Land Uses

**True Forest**

**Headwater or Isolated Wetland**

**Non-tidal Floodplain Wetland**

**Harvested Forest**

**Mixed Open**

Average Load

$\Delta$  Inputs \* Sensitivity

\*  
BMPs

\*  
Acres

\*  
Land to Water

\*  
River Delivery

## Phase 6 method

# Average Loads



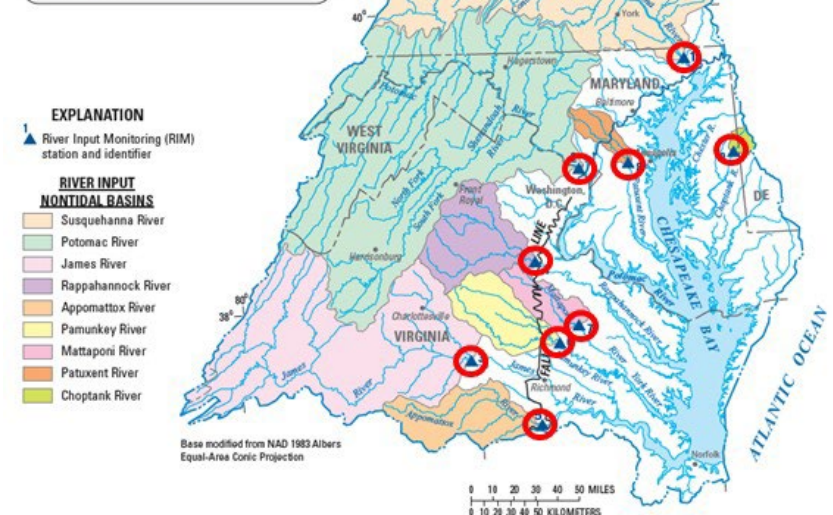
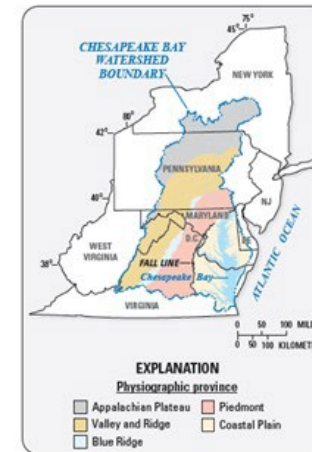
Estimate Total Non-point Source

**Modeling Workgroup**

Monitoring Data

subtract point source  
divide by transport

Average Loads – Average edge-of-small-stream loading rate for a given land use for the entire CB watershed



## Phase 7 CAST

Average Load

$\Delta$  Inputs \* Sensitivity

BMPs

Acres

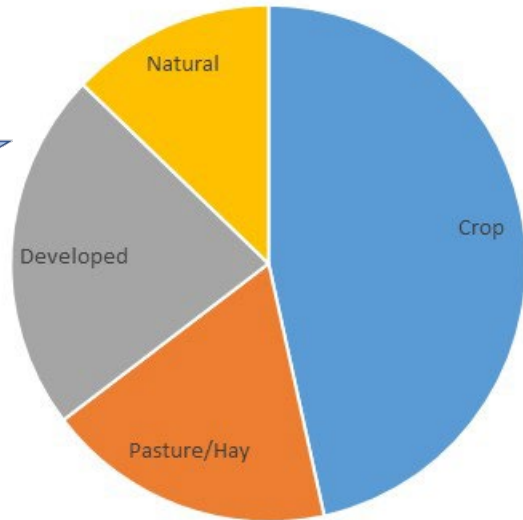
Land to Water

River Delivery

## Phase 6 method

# Average Loads

Average Loads – Average edge-of-small-stream loading rate for a given land use for the entire CB watershed



Divide into Broad Classes

**Modeling Workgroup**

P5: Multiple models

*Phase 5.3.2*

*Sparrow*

*CEAP*

P6: Multiple Models and CalCAST

## Phase 7 CAST

Average Load

$\Delta$  Inputs \* Sensitivity

\*

BMPs

\*

Acres

\*

Land to Water

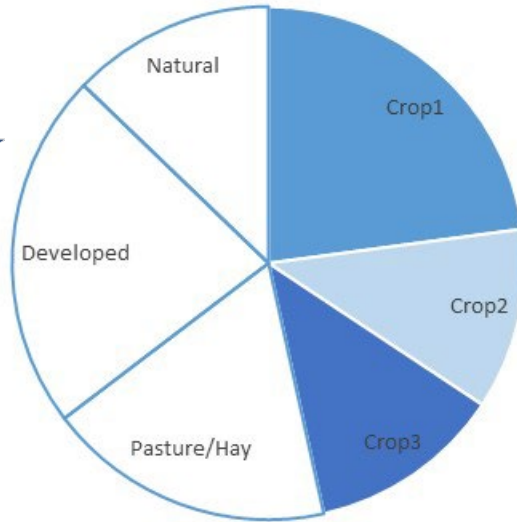
\*

River Delivery

## Phase 6 method

# Average Loads

Average Loads – Average edge-of-small-stream loading rate for a given land use for the entire CB watershed



Split Classes into individual land uses

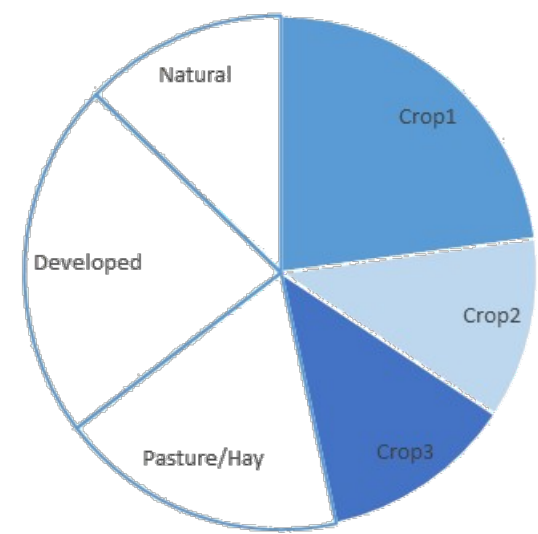
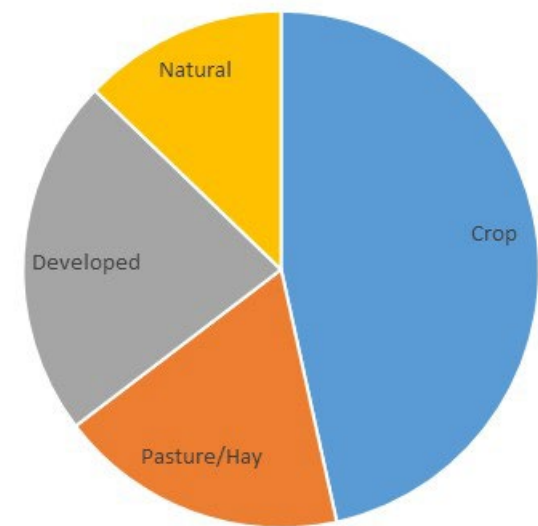
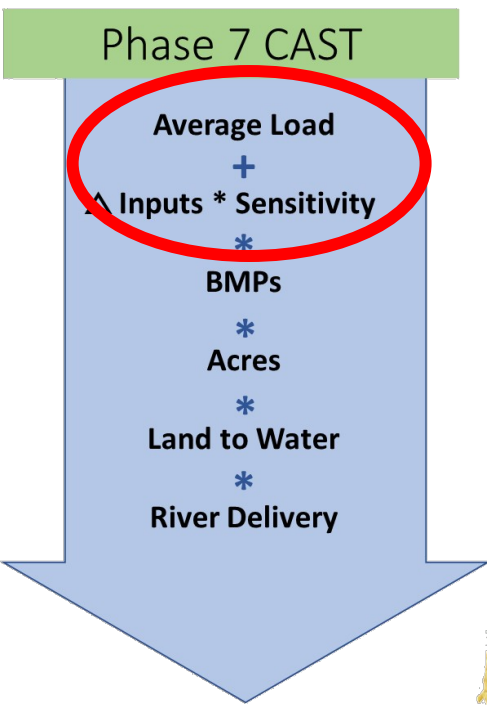
***MWG and WQGIT Workgroups***

Multiple lines of evidence to develop ratios

- for example silage is 16% higher than grain

# Phase 7 method

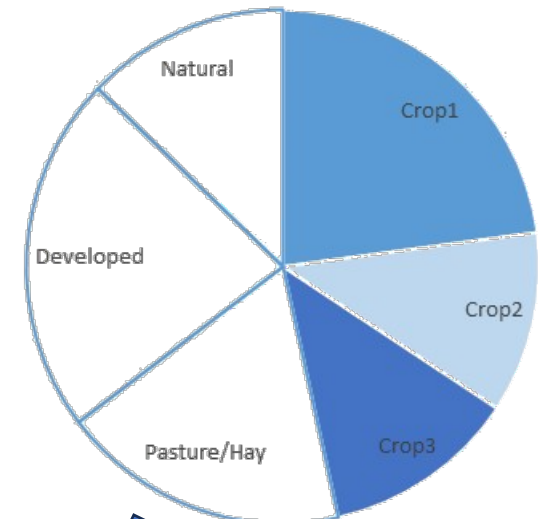
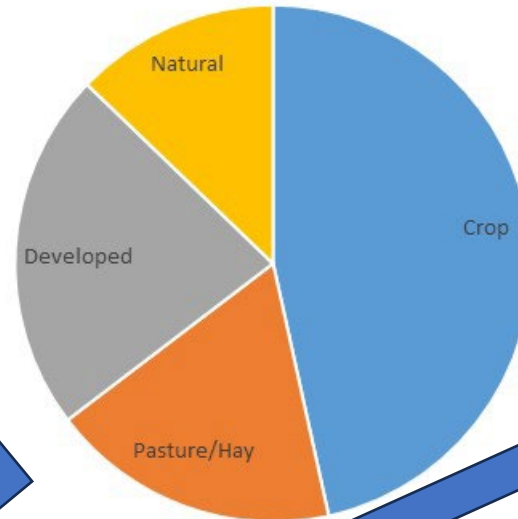
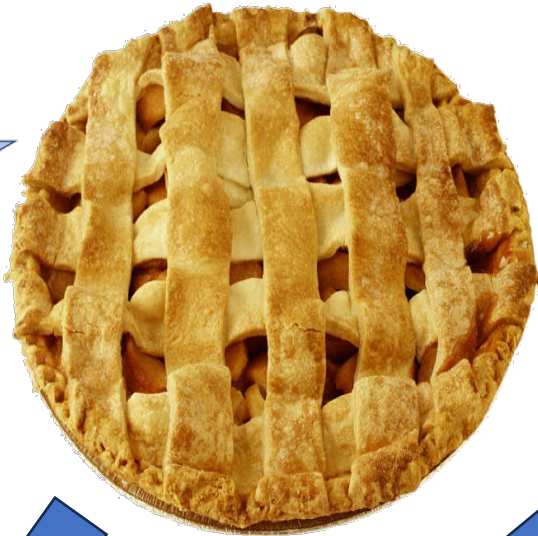
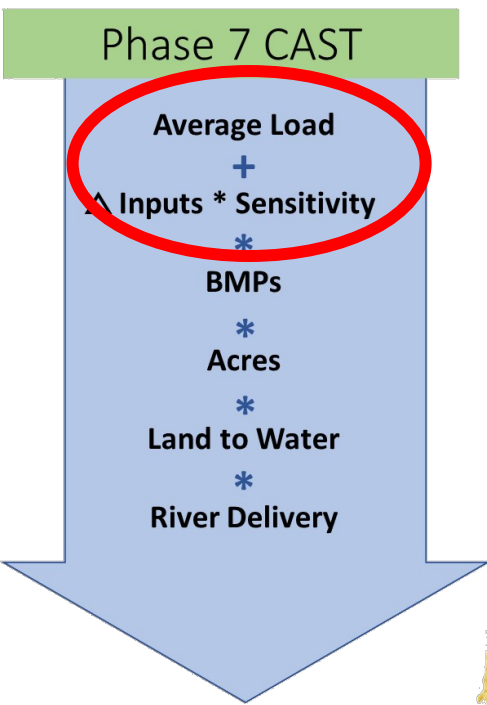
## Simultaneous Estimation with CalCAST



$$NPS_{l,c,t} = \left( CLR \times RC_{cl_1} \times RL_1 + \sum_i \left( (Input_{i,l,c,t} - \widehat{Input_{i,l}}) \times Sens_{i,cl_1} \times RL_1 \right) \right) \times Acres_{l,c,t} \times BMP_{l,c,t}$$



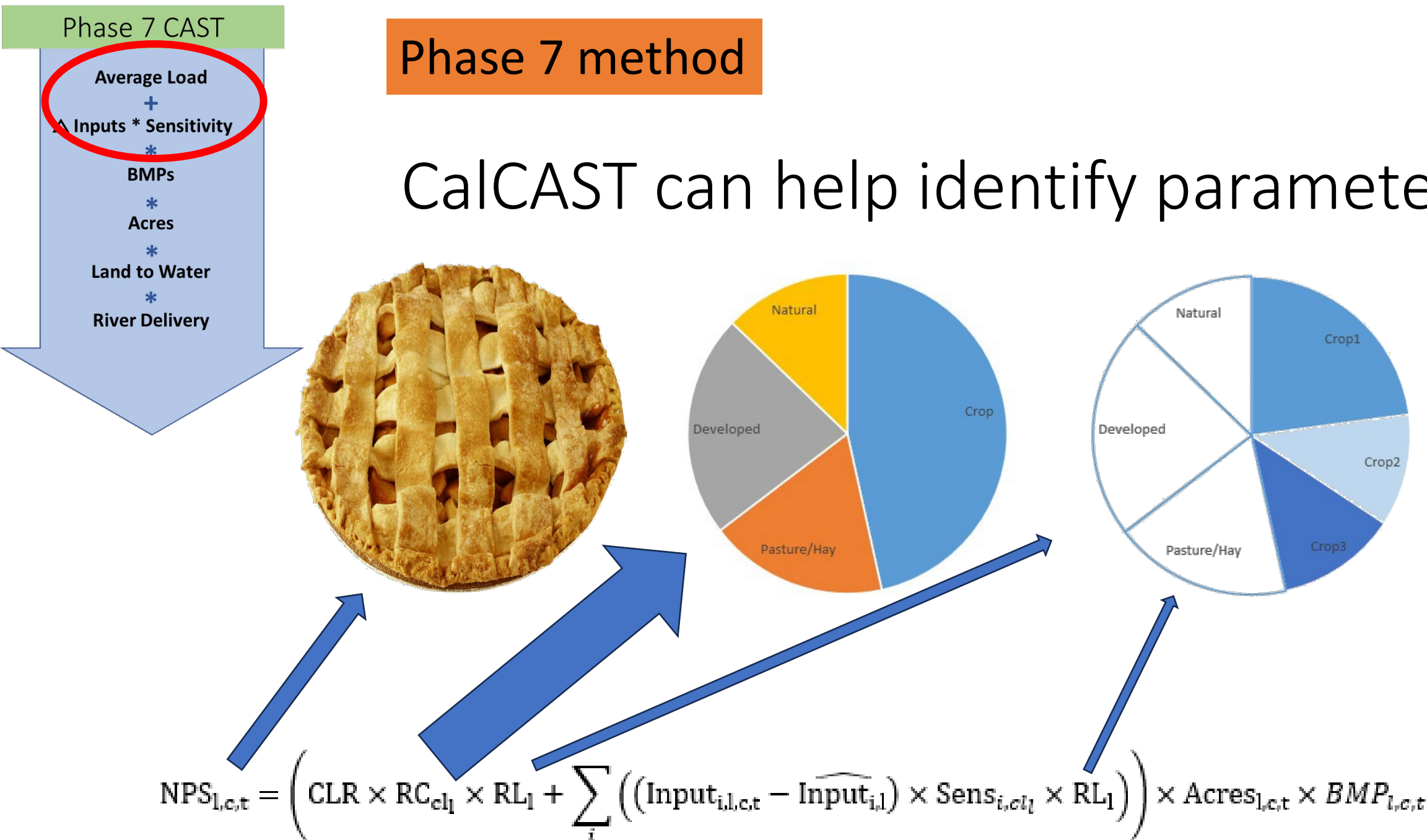
## Phase 7 method

Simultaneous Estimation  
with CalCAST

$$NPS_{l,c,t} = \left( CLR \times RC_{cl_1} \times RL_1 + \sum_i \left( (Input_{i,l,c,t} - \widehat{Input}_{i,l}) \times Sens_{i,cl_1} \times RL_1 \right) \right) \times Acres_{l,c,t} \times BMP_{l,c,t}$$

## Phase 7 method

CalCAST can help identify parameters





# Loading Ratios

		Nitrogen		Phosphorus	
			Loading Rate		Loading Rate
Land Use	Acres	Loading Rate Ratio	(pounds per acre per year)	Loading Rate Ratio	(pounds per acre per year)
True Forest: Reference Land Use	19,575,737	1	1.68	1	0.08
Headwater or Isolated Wetland	350,820	1	1.68	1	0.08
Non-tidal Floodplain Wetland	397,778	1	1.68	1	0.08
Harvested Forest	264,474	7.07	11.88	3.12	0.24
Mixed Open	906,433	1.46	2.45	5.69	0.43

# Sensitivities and inputs – P6

Major Nutrient	Input Type	Forest/Wetland	Harvested Forest	Unit
TN	AtmDep	0.0227	0.1608	lbs/lbs
TP	Stormflow	0.0074	0.023	lbs/inch
TP	Sediment	0.0117	0.0365	lbs/ton

- N sensitivity based on average response of Phase 5 watershed model
  - Harvested forest is the loading rate ratio \* forest rate.
- P sensitivity based on pasture sensitivity \* load ratios
  - Harvested forest is the loading rate ratio \* forest rate.

# THTF can re-examine

- Land use types
- Relative Loading Rates
- Sensitivities – types and numbers – advise MWG
- Inputs
- BMPs