



Chesapeake Bay Program
A Watershed Partnership

DRAFT PHASE 7 DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW SCHEDULE

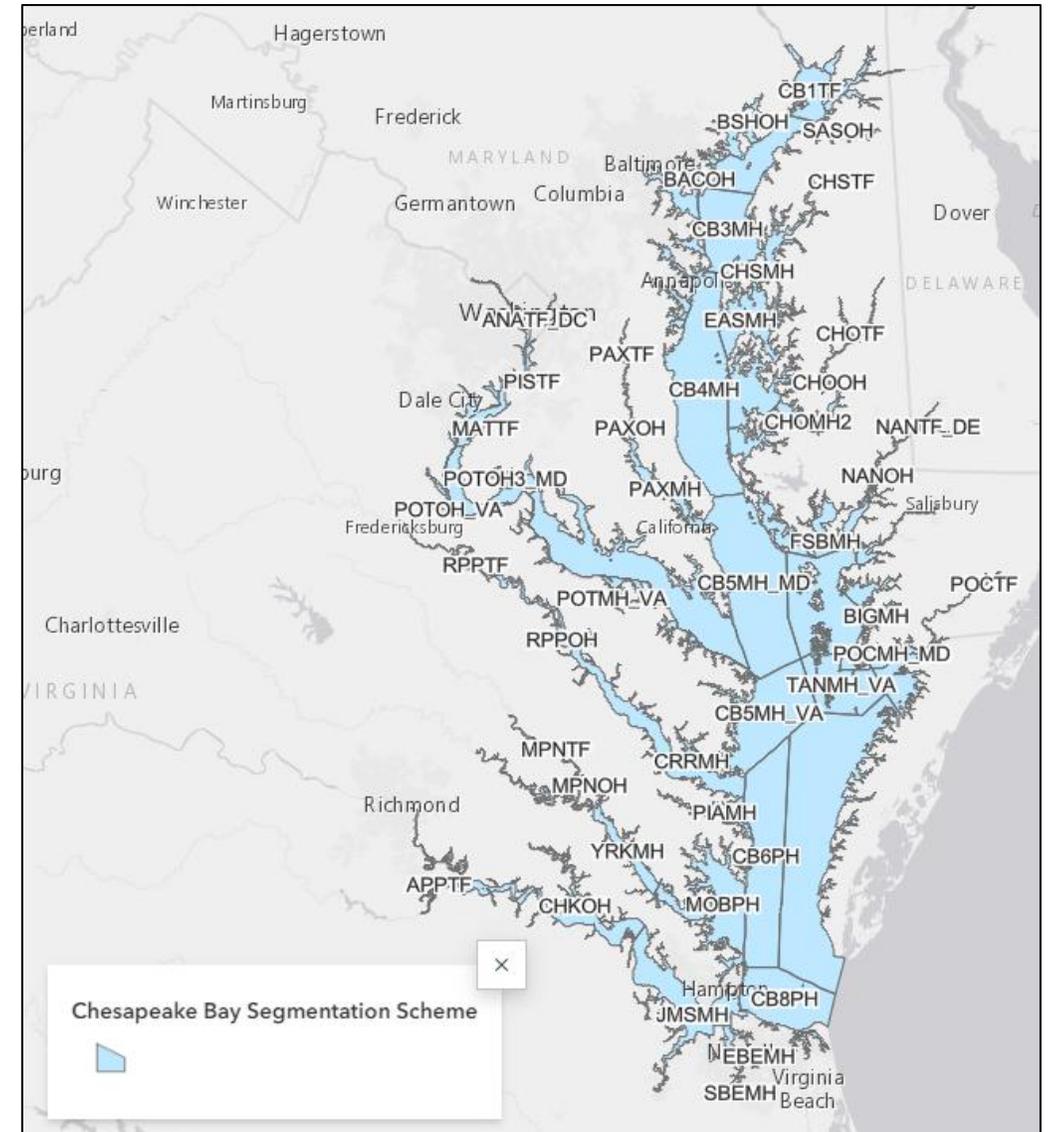
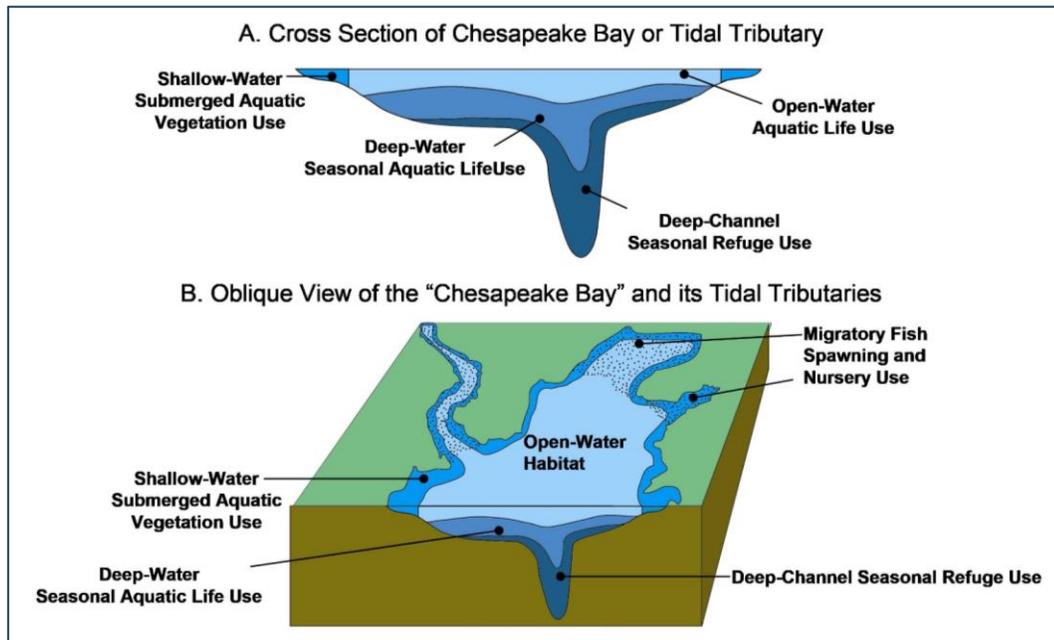
WATER QUALITY GIT MEETING

FEBRUARY 23, 2026

BO WILLIAMS, EPA CBPO

Restoring Chesapeake Bay Water Quality & Living Resources

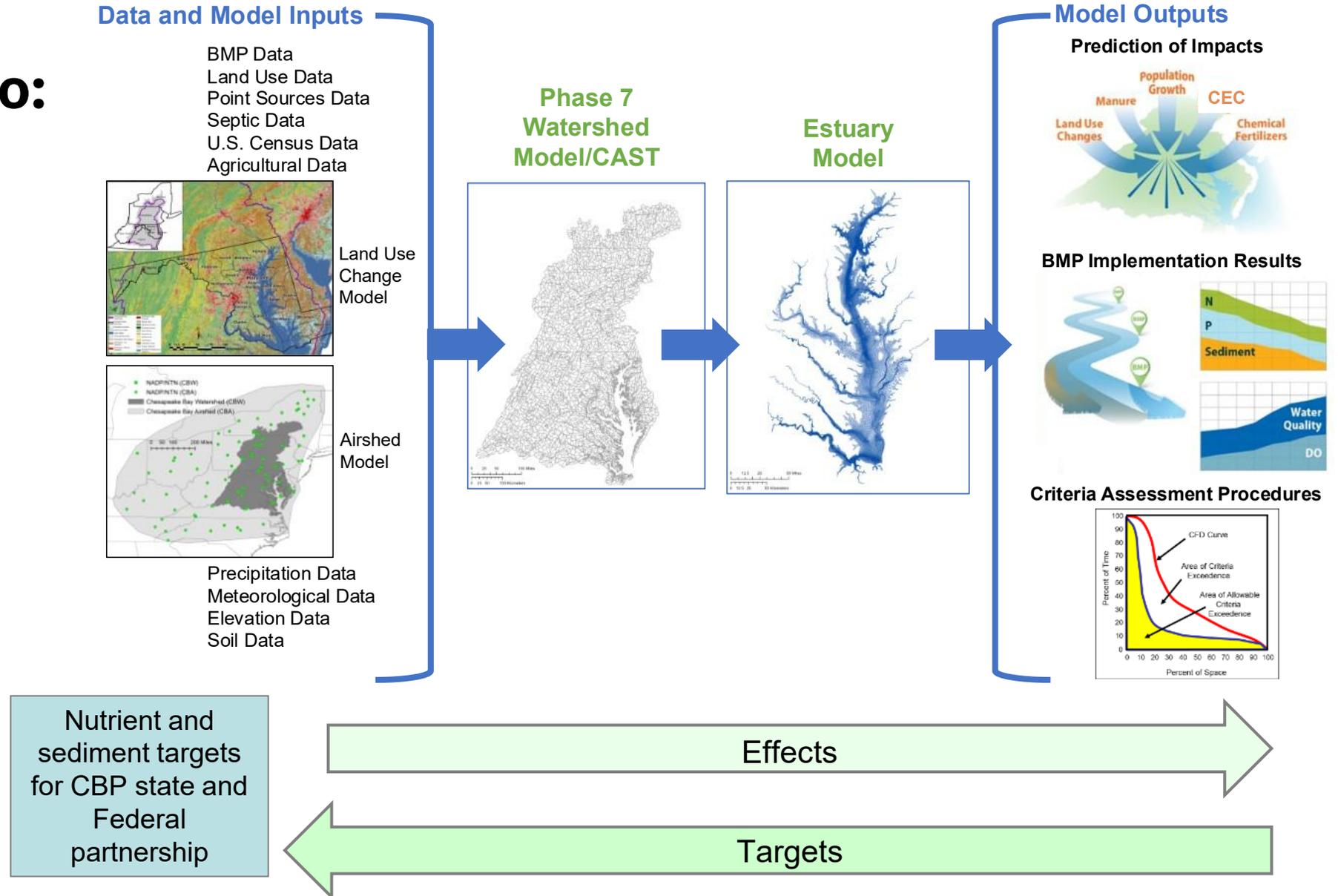
Goal: Meet Water Quality Standards in 92 segments of the tidal Chesapeake Bay



The CBP Model Suite – How the CBP Makes a Plan

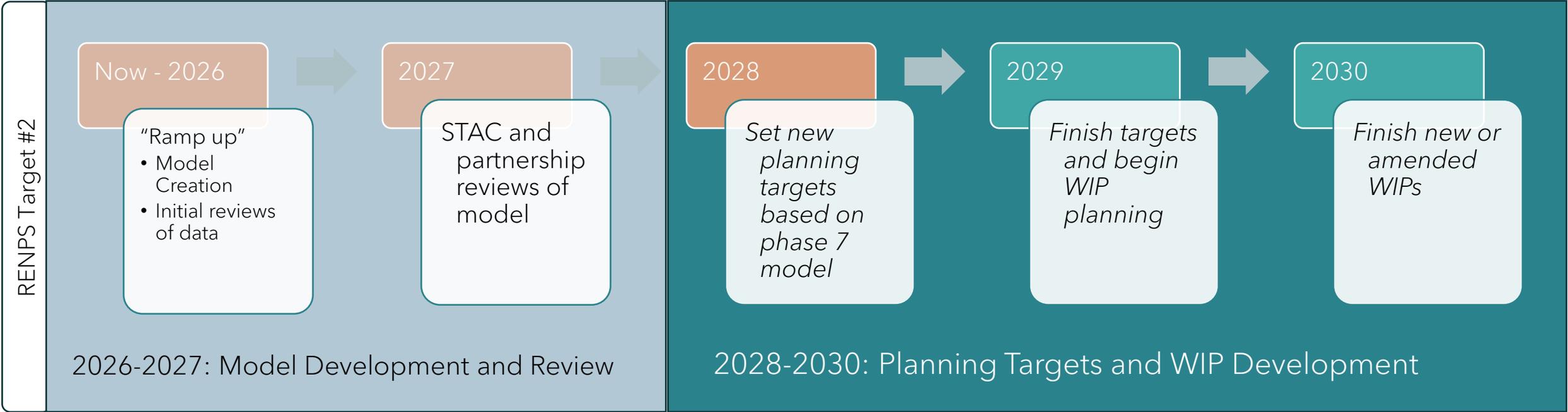
Models are used to:

- Estimate levels of nutrients and sediment that reach the bay under different land management scenarios
- Set targets for nutrient and sediment reductions
- Plan for practices that will allow us to reach goals (Watershed Implementation Plans)
- Track progress towards restoration goals



CBP MODEL AND PLANNING TIMELINE

Through 2030 continue to accelerate completion of all interim water quality planning targets (Target #1)



PHASE 7 DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW SCHEDULE

2026

2027

Model Development

Model Review

Final Partnership Decisions on Data
February 27, 2026

**“Protected Period”
No Further Changes Accepted**
April 2026-Feb 2027

Beta 1 Model Finalized
December 31, 2026

Potential beta versions

Partnership Approval of Phase 7 Model
December 2027

Partnership Data/Methods Decisions

Model Construction

Finalize Documentation

Modeling Workgroup Meeting Check-in
April, 2027

Modeling Workgroup Meeting Check-in
July 2027

Model Finalization

Model Input Data Review

Review Draft WM Model Outputs

Partnership Review

STAC Review

Watershed Model Draft; Review Process Approved
October/November 2026

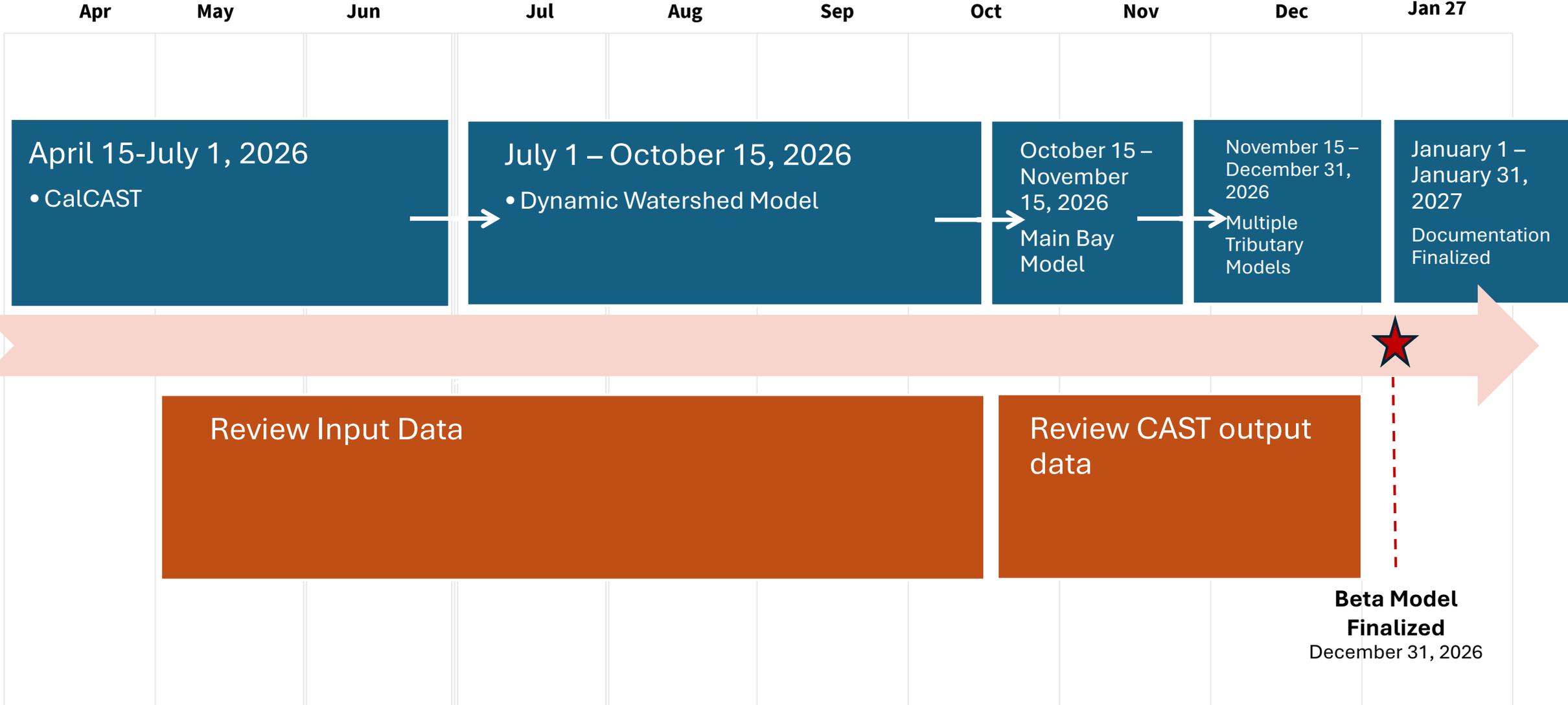
Partnership and STAC Model Review Begins
Feb 1, 2027

STAC Model Review Completed
July 2027

Final Partnership Comments
September 2027



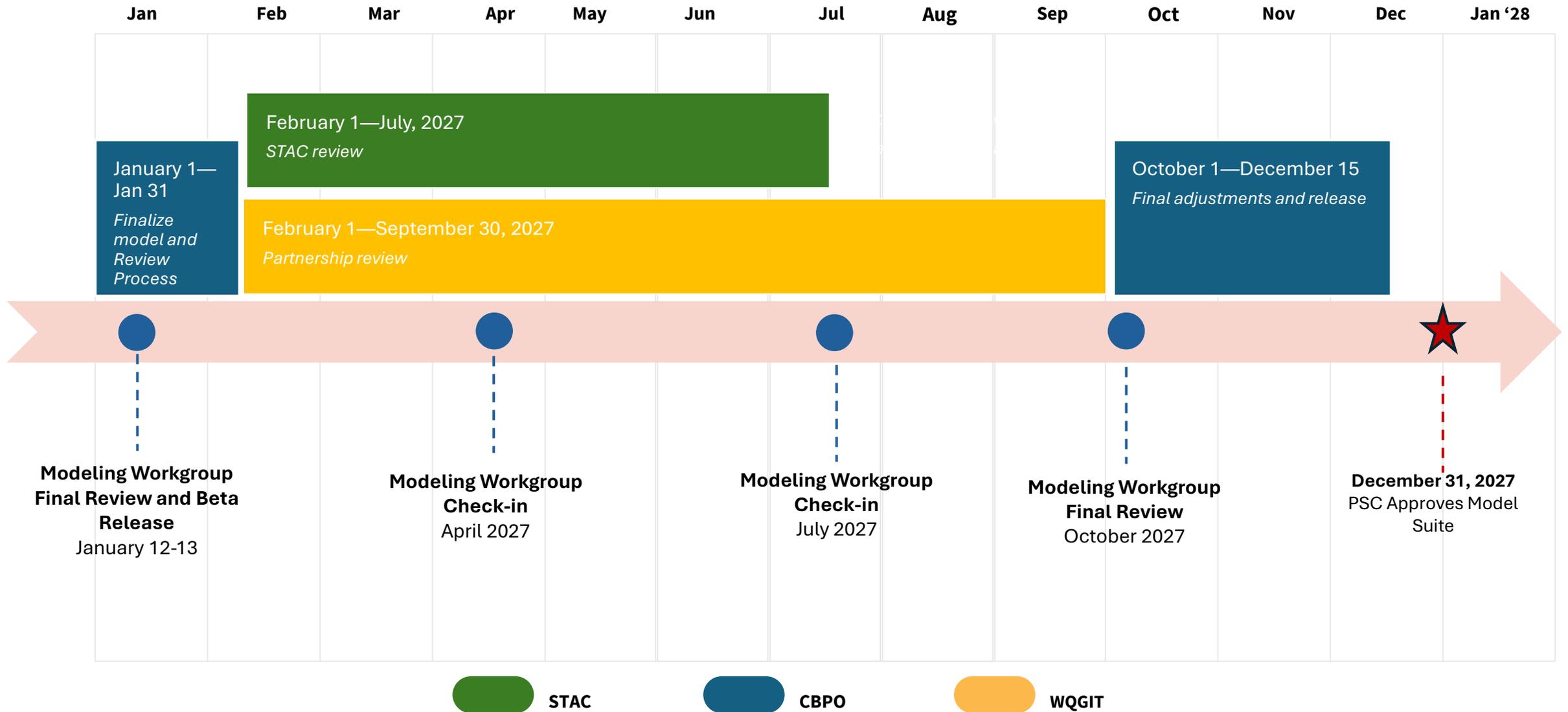
2026 MODEL CONSTRUCTION



2027 MODEL YEAR OF REVIEW

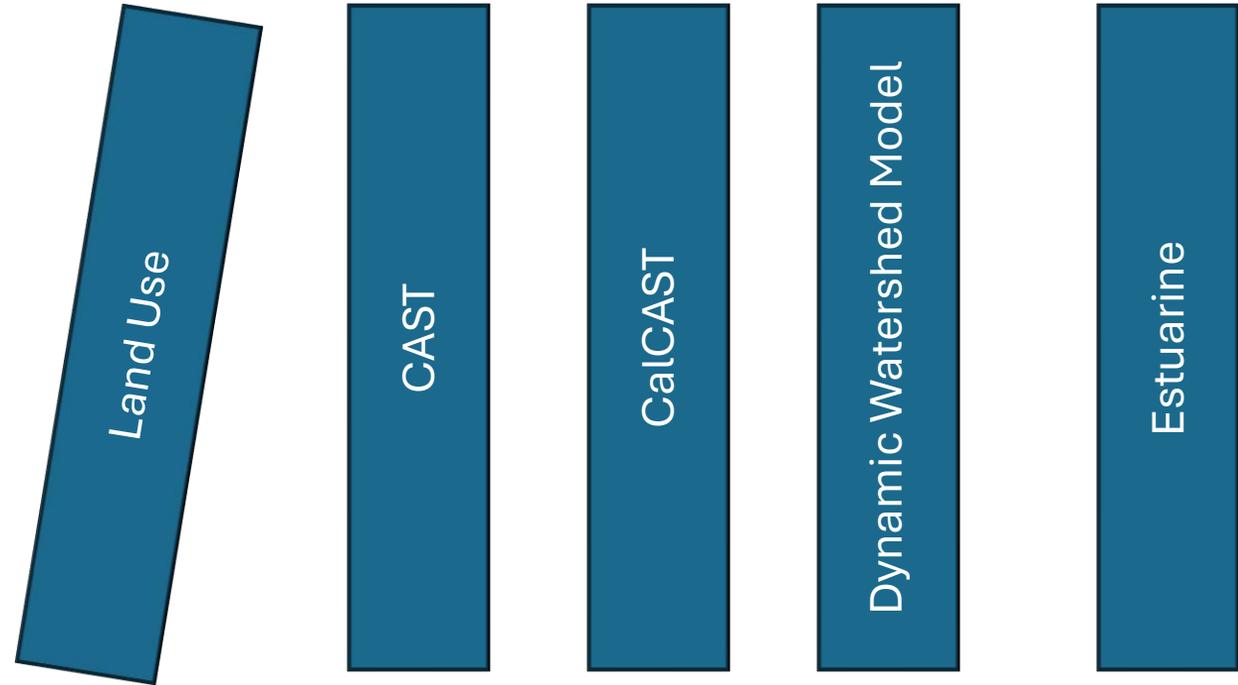
← Ramp-up

Target Development →



2027 MODEL REVIEW

The type, complexity and location (i.e., number of dependencies) of a revision affects the level of effort needed





QUESTIONS?

Bo Williams

EPA CBPO, williams.james@epa.gov