



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*A Watershed Partnership*

# DRAFT PHASE 7 DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW SCHEDULE

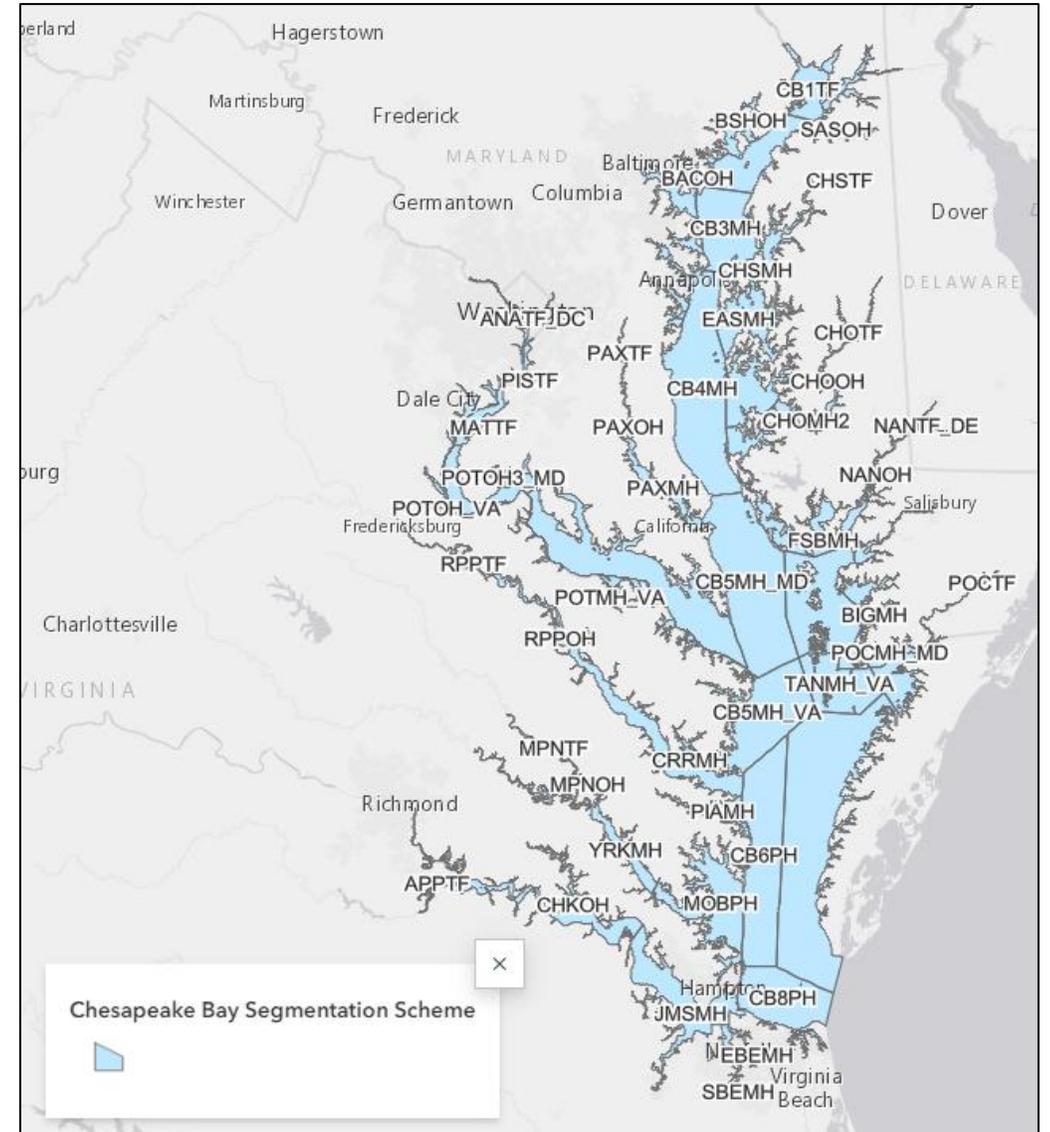
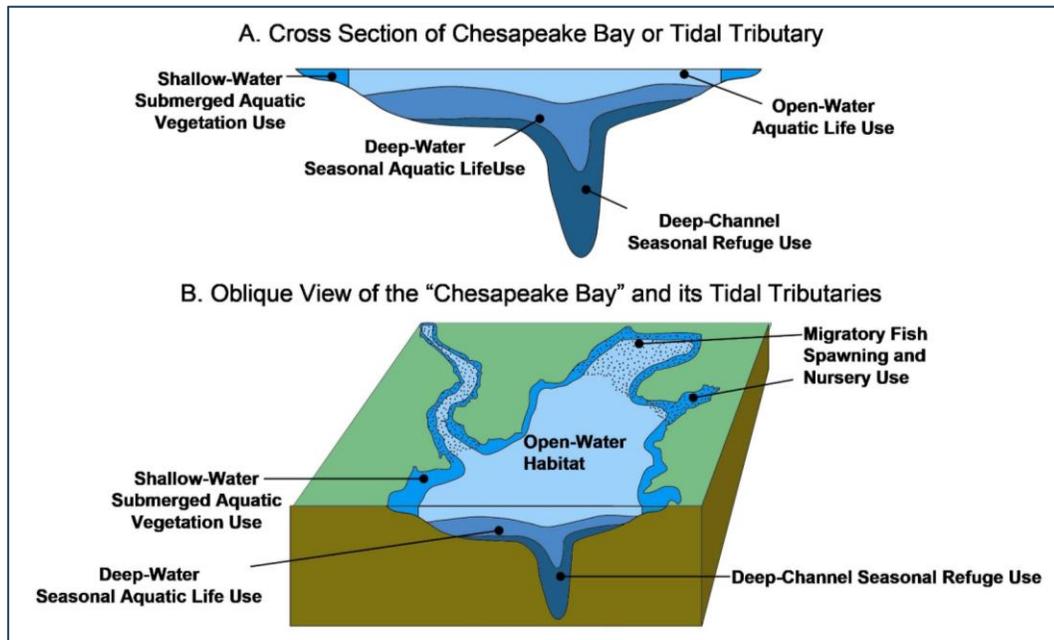
*MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING*

*MARCH 12, 2026*

*LEE MCDONNELL, EPA CBPO*

# Restoring Chesapeake Bay Water Quality & Living Resources

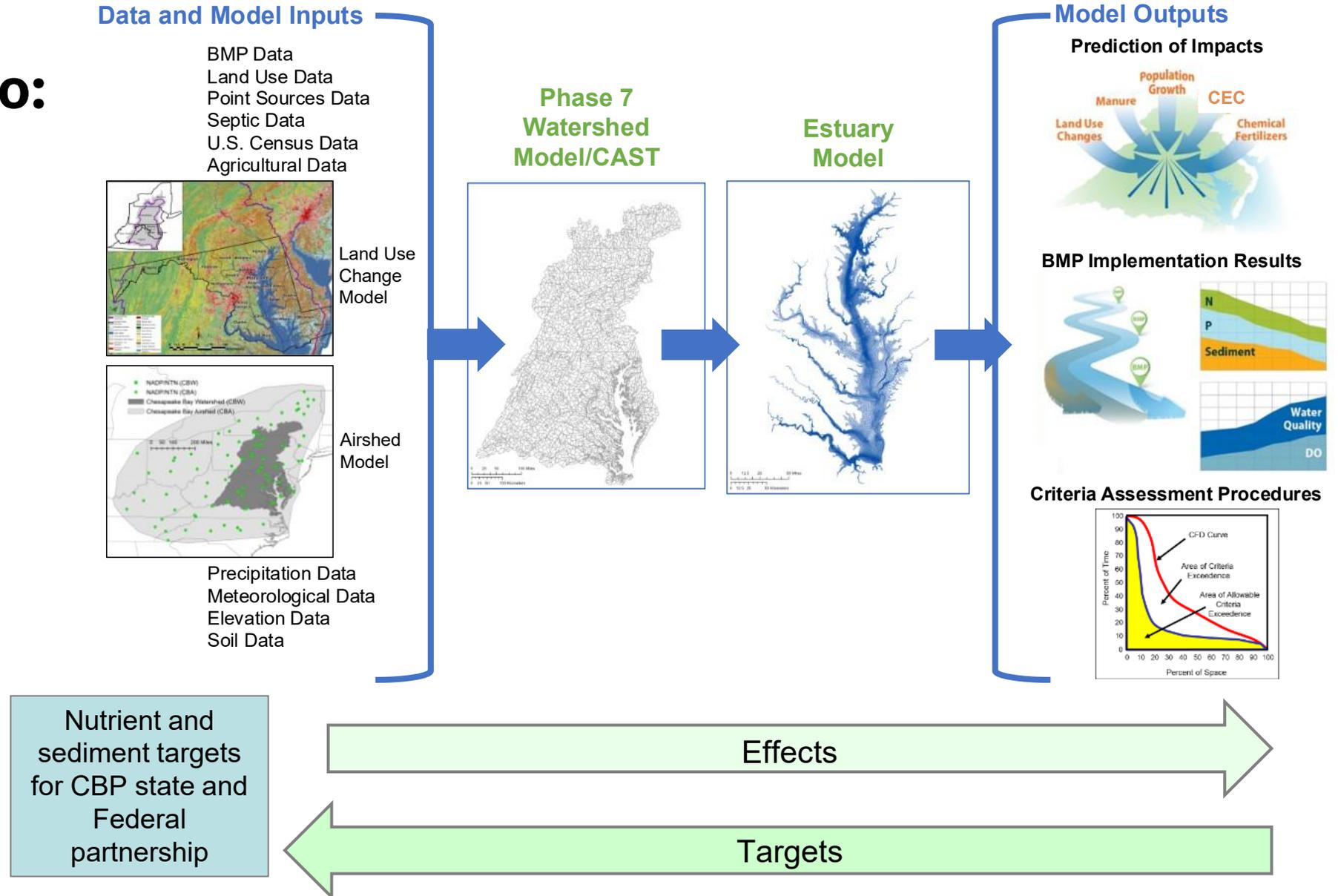
**Goal:** Meet Water Quality Standards in 92 segments of the tidal Chesapeake Bay



# The CBP Model Suite – How the CBP Makes a Plan

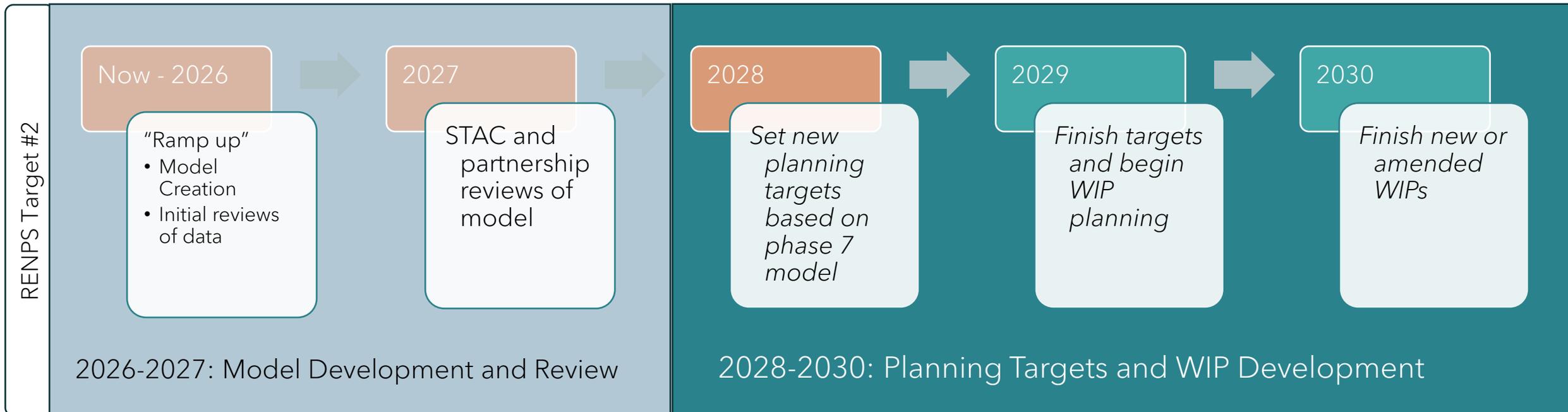
## Models are used to:

- 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

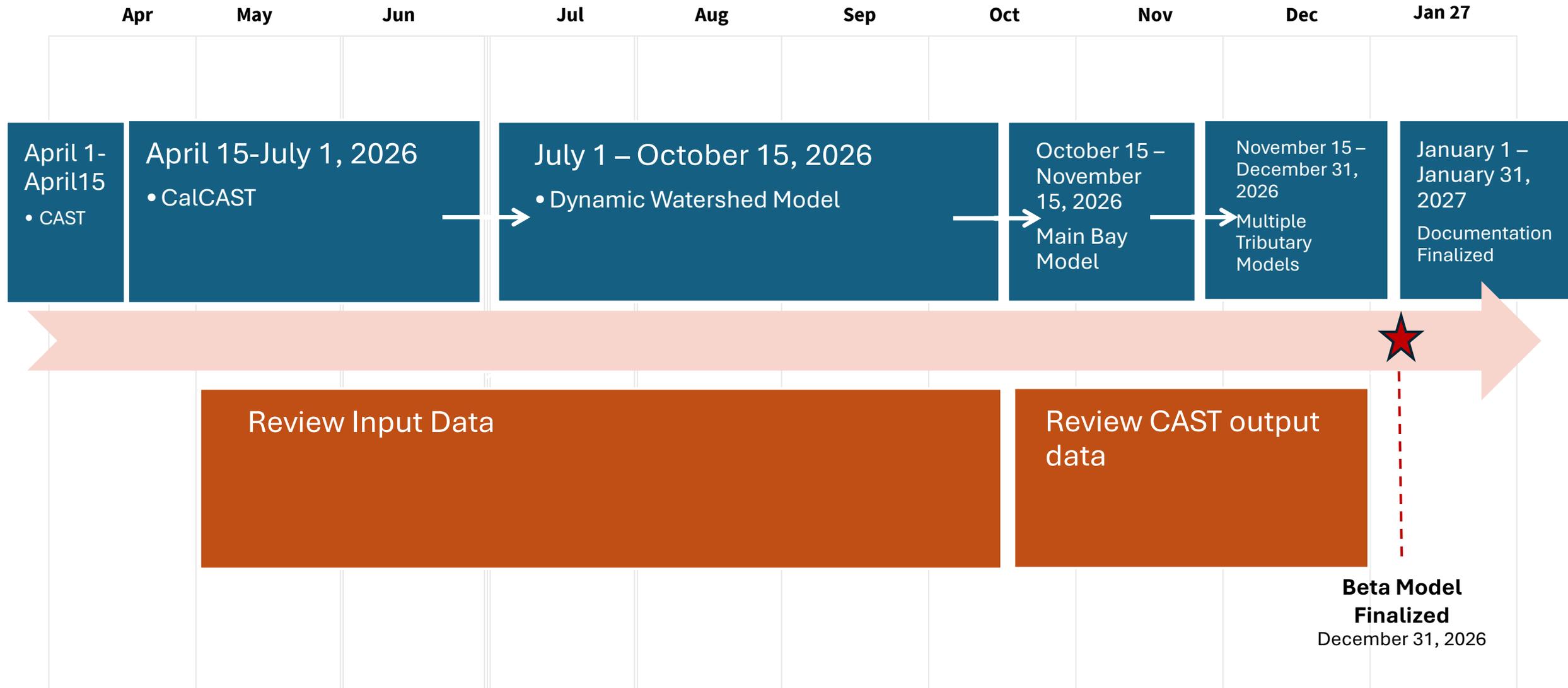
Partnership and STAC Model Review Begins  
Feb 1, 2027

STAC Model Review Completed  
July 2027

Final Partnership Comments  
September 2027



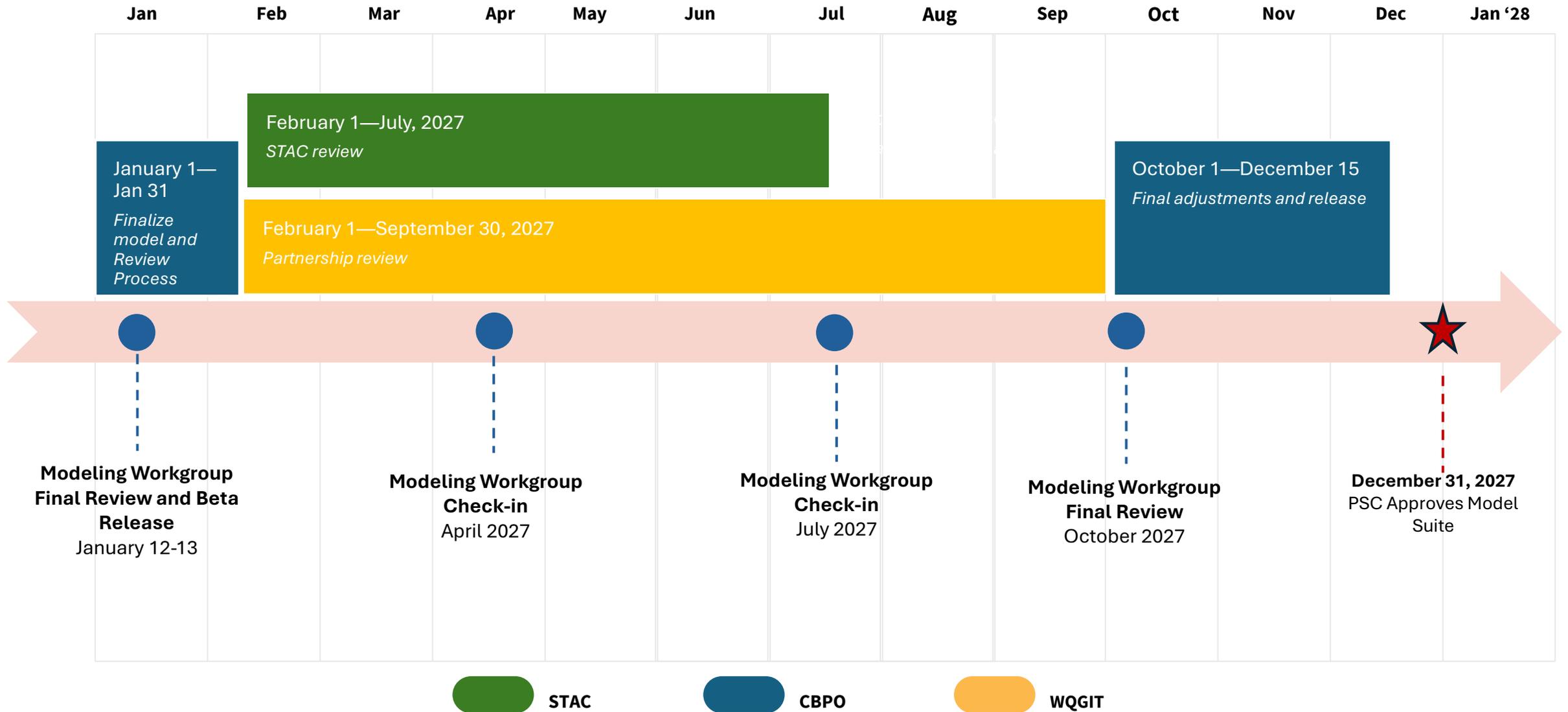
# 2026 MODEL CONSTRUCTION



# 2027 MODEL YEAR OF REVIEW

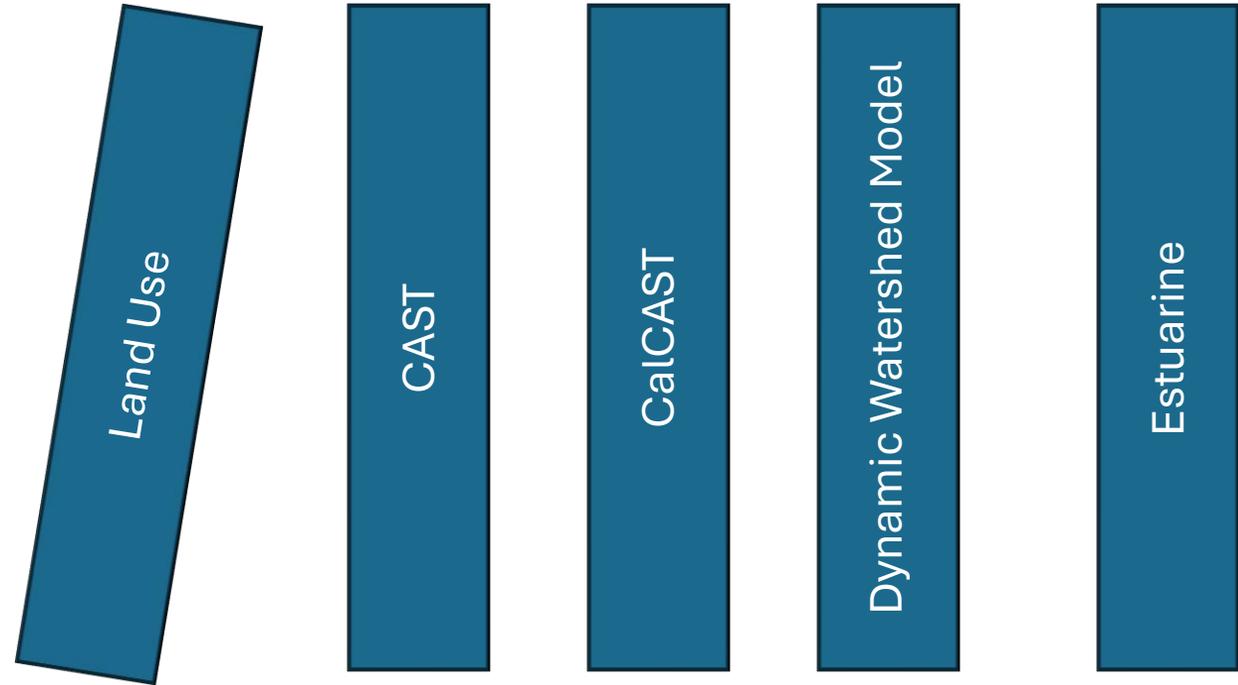
← Ramp-up

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?

Lee McDonnell

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