



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

October 1st, 2026

Expert Panel Protocol Revisions

Watershed Technical Workgroup

Background

- WTWG is rewriting the Expert Panel protocol in an effort to streamline the current Expert Panel process.
- A draft rewrite was distributed for WTWG review on 9/17/2026, with feedback requested in advance of the October meeting.
- Today: Share feedback received to date and continue to discuss edits to this process

Summary of Feedback Received on Draft

- Timing for review comments were varied amongst partners.
- Adjust timeline to better fit in to the proposed model update frequency.
 - When is model update cutoff?
- More clarity on required approval steps and panel member inclusion.
- Fix draft inconsistencies, such as appendix and timeline references throughout.
- Some requested edits/clarifications to language throughout (including references to partnership groups)
- Fix input errors on COI form and CAST model version references.
- Concerns shared over independent review process.

Discussion

- Are there any other initial thoughts on the draft revisions to the Expert Panel Protocol?
- Do you have any other thoughts on the timeline for review, or the timeline for the process of reporting and appendix writing, more specifically?
- Next Steps