



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

CBP Support Groups

Introductions and Updates to the Policy Steering Committee

September 2026

CBP Structure





Governance and Operations Workgroup – GO Team

Scope of Work

- Purpose: The Governance and Operations Workgroup is to aid the EC and PSC in the long-term planning and operational effectiveness of the CBP (p. 22 of GMF)
- Roles & Responsibilities:
 - Provide guidance on and maintain the Governance and Management Framework (GMF)
 - Provide guidance on CBP's priority setting framework
 - Provide guidance on CBP's accountability practices
 - Assist in the implementation and execution of CBP's adaptive management practices, including program-wide reviews and evaluations
 - Develop and maintain program-wide policies, guidance, and/or best management practices at the direction of the PSC and in consultation with goal teams and workgroups

Scope of Work (continued)

- Hosted GMF 101 Webinar – July 2026
- Goals for the next 6 to 12 months:
 - Prioritization Process Framework (*high-priority task*)
 - Assistance Requests
 - Drafting Ethics Guidance
 - Advisory Committee recommendations and charges
- What the group is NOT responsible for:
 - Approving Goal Team charters (will review for consistency)
 - Providing exceptions to the GMF ("policing")
 - Where the GMF is silent on an issue, attempt resolution at Goal Team level

Operations

- How can people engage this group?
 - GO Team Email (governanceandoperations@chesapeakebay.net)
 - Meeting Participation
 - 2 public mtgs per year (minimum)
 - Annual mtg with the Goal Team Chairs and Coordinators (minimum)
 - Commenting on draft documents
- Planned frequency of updates to the PSC – As often as needed, potentially every PSC mtg

Updates on Membership:

Leadership	
Chairs:	Khesha Reed , <i>EPA</i> Anna Killius , <i>CBC</i>
Coordinator:	Emily Heller , <i>EPA</i>
Staff Support:	Erin Sonnenburg , <i>CRC</i>

Signatory <u>Voting</u> Representatives		
	Member	Alternate
CBC	Marel King , <i>CBC</i>	
VA	Kevin McLean , <i>DEQ</i>	
MD	Leila Duman , <i>DNR</i>	
DE	Holly Walker , <i>DNREC</i>	
DC	Julia Wakeling , <i>DOEE</i>	Caitlin Blair , <i>DOEE</i>
NY	Cassie Davis , <i>NYS DEC</i>	
PA	Jill Whitcomb , <i>DEP</i>	Natahnee Miller , <i>DEP</i>
WV	Callie Sams , <i>DEP</i>	
EPA	Lucinda Power , <i>CBPO</i>	

Updates on Membership:

Advisory Committee <u>Non-Voting</u> Representatives	
	Member
Agriculture Advisory Committee	Bill Fink , <i>AAC Chair, Country View Farms</i>
Scientific and Technical Advisory Comm	Erin Letavic , <i>STAC Vice Chair, Herbert, Rowland and Grubic, Inc</i>
Stakeholders Advisory Committee	Sara Romotnik , <i>SAC Vice Chair, Choose Clean Water Coalition</i>
Local Gov Advisory Committee	TBD

Updates on Membership: At Large Voting Representatives

*"Up to **six at-large** voting members may also be nominated by the governance and operations workgroup and approved by the PSC to serve two-year terms. At-large members may be renominated at the conclusion of their term." (pg. 23)*

Current stage: Soliciting nominations for At –large membership.

Will request approval at the November PSC.

Questions? Thank you!

- GO Workgroup's CBP Webpage: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/group/governance-operations#members>
- GO Workgroup's Email: governanceandoperations@chesapeakebay.net



Outreach and Engagement: Strategic Engagement Team

Scope of Work:

Purpose:

- SET helps goal teams and workgroups with actions and activities that utilize communications, outreach, stewardship, local engagement and social science.

Responsibilities:

- Serve as a strategic thought-partner for goal team and workgroup projects.
- Increase the capacity of goal teams and workgroups to advance their goals and outcomes.
- Enhance the Bay Program's ability to communicate and engage with stakeholders across the watershed.

Scope of Work Continued:

Examples of SET Assistance:

- Prioritize outreach and engagement needs based on existing capacity.
- Connect outcome leads with potential internal and/or external partners.
- Identify key audiences and trusted sources for a decision support tool.
- Collaborate with outcome leads on a blog post sharing a case study.

Goals:

- Support goal teams and workgroups with developing and implementing Management Strategies, workplans, and subsequent actions and activities that include outreach, stewardship, local engagement, or social science elements.

Updates on Membership:

SET members bring a diversity of expertise in communications, social science, local government and stewardship.

Outreach and Engagement Support Team	
	Members
Chairs:	Marisa Baldine , <i>ACB</i> Amy Handen , <i>EPA</i>
Coordinator:	Kayli Ottomanelli , <i>ACB</i>
Staff Support:	Kyra Madunich , <i>CRC</i>
Core Members:	Laura Cattell Noll , <i>ACB – Local Government Leaders</i> Meg Cole , <i>CRC – Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee</i> Jeremey Hanson , <i>CRC – Water Quality</i> Catherine Krikstan , <i>UMCES – Web Communications & Digital Strategy</i> Lucinda Power , <i>EPA – Partnerships & Accountability</i> Breck Sullivan , <i>USGS – Science & Analytical Support</i>

Questions? Thank you!

For More Information:

- <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/group/strategic-engagement-team>

Contact Us:

- Coordinator: Kayli Ottomanelli, kottomanelli@chesapeakebay.net
- Staffer: Kyra Madunich, madunichk@chesapeake.org
- Co-Chair: Amy Handen, handen.amy@epa.gov
- Co-Chair: Marisa Baldine, mbaldine@chesapeakebay.net



Science and Analytical Support Team

Ken Hyer, USGS
Lee McDonnell, EPA

Scope of Work:

Purpose: Support goal teams, workgroups, and action teams, in using science to advance all Agreement goals and outcomes

Responsibilities:

- Facilitate coordination and collaboration amongst CBP physical and social science providers for goal teams and workgroups and support teams, and where possible, provide monitoring, data management, modeling and technical analysis.
- Synthesize and communicate scientific results and ecosystem conditions and changes to aid in science-informed management decisions.
- Engage with the Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and its recommendations for enhancing CBP science and implementation.
- Provide support for other science, technical and analytical issues that are outside the responsibility of a single goal team or workgroup but benefit the partnership at large, such as addressing and accounting for changing environmental conditions.

Operations:

Meeting Frequency: Every 2 months

Next 6-12 months: Develop processes, membership, and connections to:

- Governance and Management Framework
- Management Strategies
- Goal Team Co-chairs
- PSC Prioritization Process

Not responsible for:

- Everything everywhere related to science.
- Will work to take a prioritized approach.
- Develop capacity and WG and GT level first.

Membership:

Flexible Membership:

- Science Providers
- Managers (decision makers)

Examples:

- Federal agencies
- Jurisdictions
- Academics
- NGOs

Science and Analytical Support Team		
	Member	Alternate
Chairs:	Ken Hyer , USGS Lee McDonnell , EPA	
Coordinator:	Breck Sullivan , <i>USGS</i>	
Staff Support:		
Position		
Position		
Position		

Questions:

Lee McDonnell, EPA
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Ken Hyer, USGS
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Science & Analytical Support Team