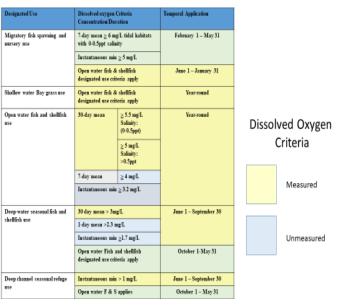
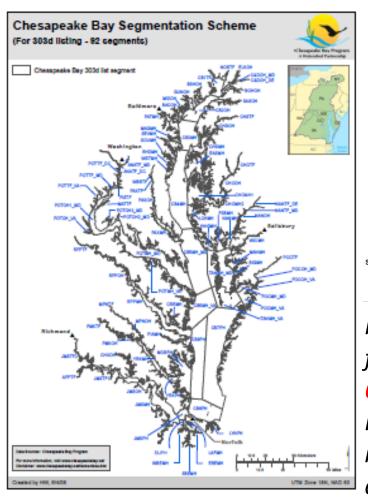
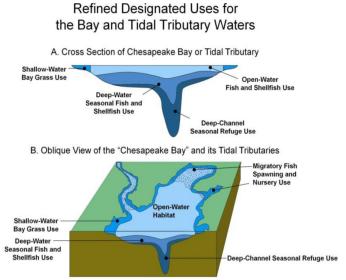
# Assessment of all Bay dissolved oxygen water quality criteria for 2025

Peter Tango
Water Quality GIT
April 27, 2022



Clean Water Act Water Quality Standards Monitoring and Assessment Issue: A segment must meet **all criteria** in **all applicable designated uses** for a decision on delisting in State water quality standards





No assessment available for approximately 61% (512 of 838) Individual decisions needed to make a full assessment of the bay criteria (PT)

0

The number of segments we have full monitoring data accounting for to support all criteria assessments needed to make a delisting decision



- Unassessed criteria remain a hurdle for delisting decisions of State-adopted water quality standards with our existing framework
- Contraction of traditional long-term monitoring programming
- Limited use of new interpretation and interpolation options



# Inability to reporton standard attainment

Designated Use	Dissolved oxygen Criteria Concentration/Duration		Temporal Application	
Migratory fish spawning and nursery use	7-day mean $\geq$ 6 mg/L tidal habitats with 0-0.5ppt salinity		February 1 - May 31	
	Instantaneous min ≥ 5 mg/L			
	Open water fish & shellfish designated use criteria apply		June 1 – January 31	
Shallow water Bay grassuse	Open water fish & shellfish designated use criteria apply		Year-round	
Open water fish and shellfish use	30-day mean	≥ 5.5 mg/L Salinity: (0-0.5ppt)	Year-round	
		≥ 5 mg/L Salinity: >0.5ppt		
	7-day mean	$\geq 4~mg/L$		
	Instantaneous min $\geq 3.2$ mg/L			
Deep-water seasonal fish and shellfish use	30 day mean > 3mg/L		June 1 – September 30	
	1-day mean >2.3 mg/L			
	Instantaneous min $\ge 1.7$ mg/L			
	Open water Fish and shellfish designated use criteria apply		October 1-May 31	
Deep channel seasonal refuge	Instantaneous min > 1 mg/L		June 1 – September 30	
use	Open water F & S	applies	October 1 - May 31	

# Historical interest in 4-dimensional (4D) water quality interpolation: 2008 STAC Workshop

Assessing the feasibility of developing a four-dimensional (4-D) interpolator for use in impaired waters listing assessment December 2008 STAC Publication 08-008

Recommendations from the STAC Expert Panel

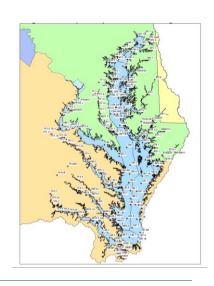
- Frank Curriero (Johns Hopkins University)
- Eileen Hofmann (Old Dominion University)
- Ragu Murtugudde (University of Maryland)
- Jian Shen (Virginia Institute of Marine Science)
- J. Andrew Royle (U.S. Geological Survey)

#### 2008 Findings

- Insufficient information to evaluate the feasibility of a 4-D interpolator
- The panel recommended a study to evaluate the different approaches available for developing a 4-D interpolator
- Data analysis studies should be initiated to develop the statistical basis for a 4-D interpolator.

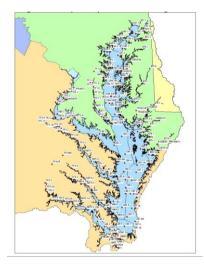
# 2008 STAC Workshop findings:

 A consensus opinion from the expert panel was that the sampling frequency and spatial resolution of the existing Chesapeake Bay datasets are insufficient for successful extrapolation to four dimensions.



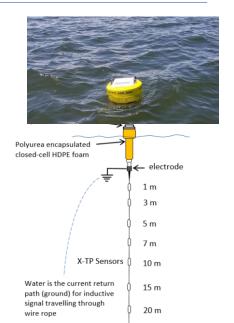
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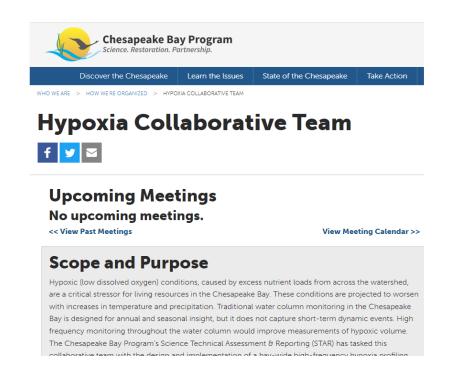
 However, there is an on-going effort among Chesapeake Bay partners to acquire funding to deploy continuous monitoring buoys, which are equipped with vertical profilers in deep water areas of the Chesapeake Bay and tidal tributaries.

"If these efforts succeed, then the shortcomings of existing datasets will be greatly alleviated."



Where are we a decade or so later addressing the 4-D workshop recommendations towards supporting assessment of unassessed criteria?

Organizationally: 2 new workgroups formed under STAR to address infrastructure and analysis developments needed to support habitat assessment and 4-D interpolator development



 Hypoxia monitoring network design, operation, and maintenance

Co-Leads: Peter Tango, Bruce Vogt, Jay Lazar, Kevin Shabow

CRC Staff: Justin Shapiro

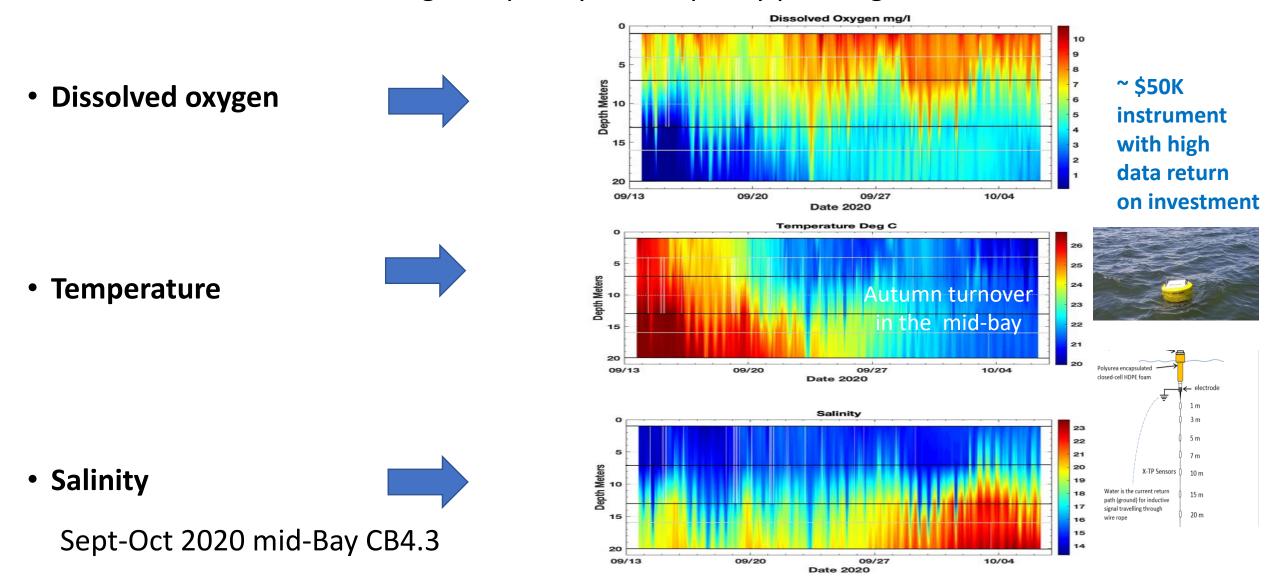


 4-dimensional interpolator development, data needs, data ingestion and interpretation

Co-chairs: Rebecca Murphy and Peter Tango

CRC Staff: Amy Goldfisher

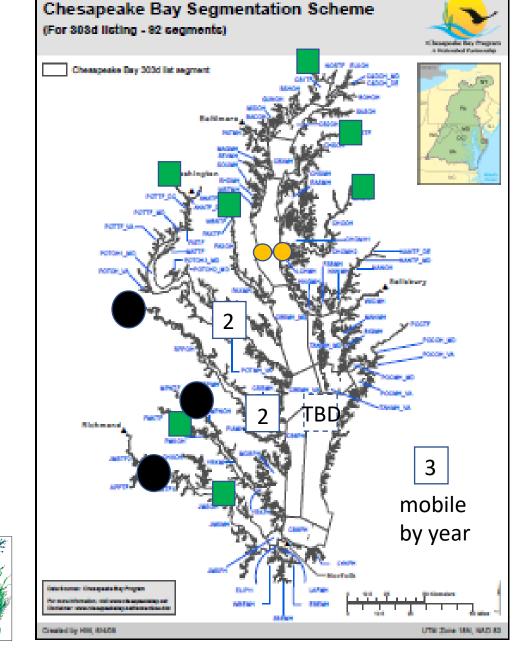
Addressing the data issues: 2019-20 GIT Funded Pilot Project on robust, cost-effective high frequency water quality profiling data collection



D. Wilson 2020. 2019-2020 Chesapeake Bay Trust GIT-funded pilot project results

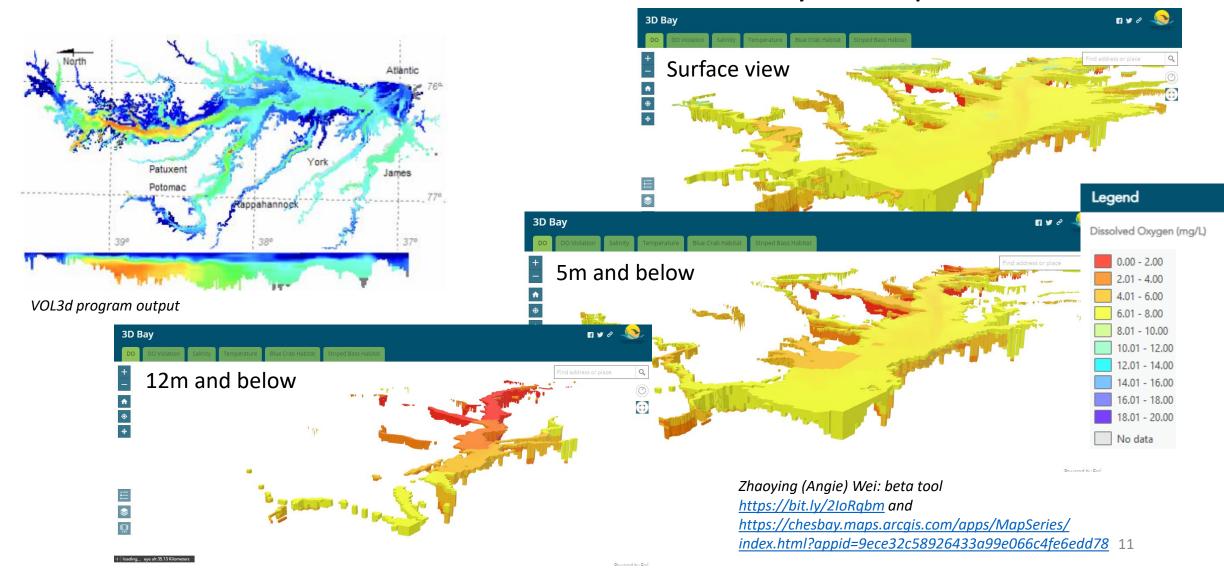
Addressing high temporal frequency data needs issues by expanding monitoring and assessment capacity 2021+

- NOAA supports 2 vertical sensor arrays
- Virginia DEQ/USGS coordinate on 3 river input continuous monitors
- 2021-22 PSC Monitoring Review proposal for capacity to support unassessed criteria assessment, improved fish habitat assessment, modeling calibration and verification:
  - 8 new tidal water vertical array sites
  - 7 new river input con-mons at tidal/nontidal boundary
  - New 4-D water quality interpolator tool development



Interpolation tools: Currently, we are still in 2008 interpolation world getting water quality snapshots in time (inverse distance weighting algorithm)

July 2017 interpolation of DO



2022: New 4-D water quality interpolation is under development (Bay Oxygen Research Group):

#### Long term temporal patterns

Smoothly varying change from observations aided by deterministic relationships with continuously available information (flow, wind, temperature, dynamic model output, etc)

Key data example: Long-term fixed network



#### Spatial structure

Simulator components

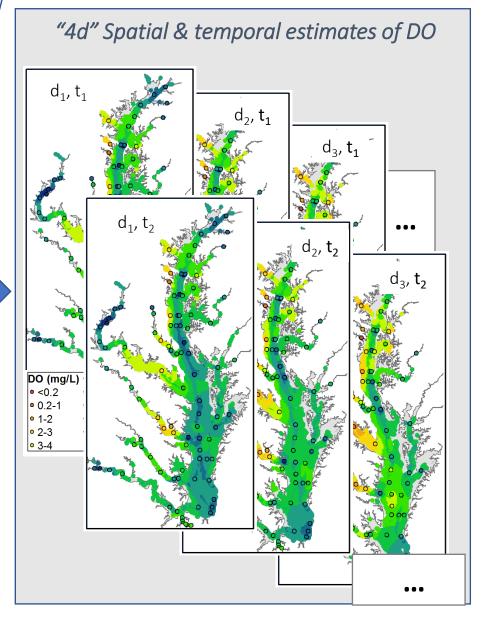
Spatial autocorrelation; anisotropy in depth direction; deterministic relationships to other spatial data (bathymetry, satellite images, etc)

Key data example: Dataflow



#### Short term temporal variability

Daily & tidal cycling, temporal autocorrelation, etc Key data example: Conmon Space-time interpolation with GAMs



# Where we are heading: Assessment of all Bay oxygen water quality criteria for 2025

A new analysis system, built on an expanded data collection effort, is envisioned that will allow assessment of all water quality criteria. Figure 1 shows the flow of information in the proposed system.

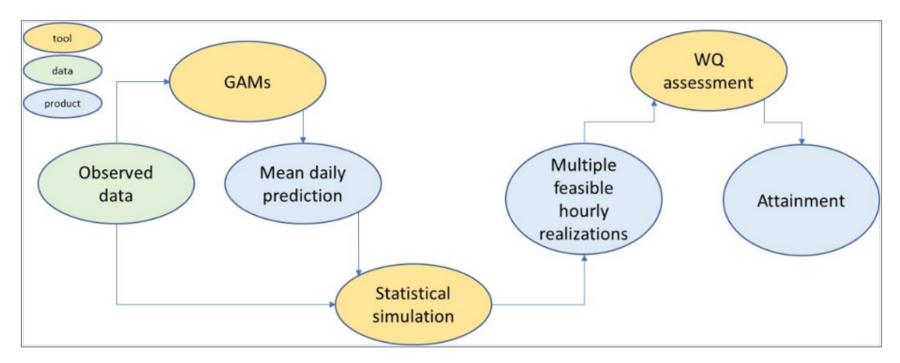
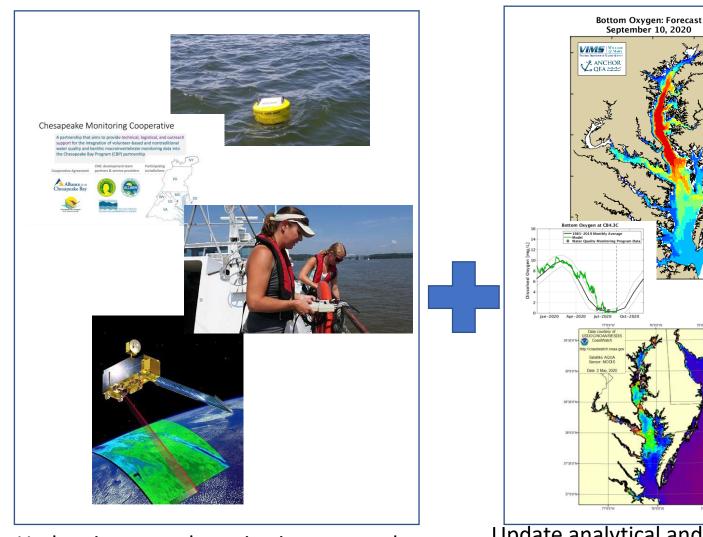
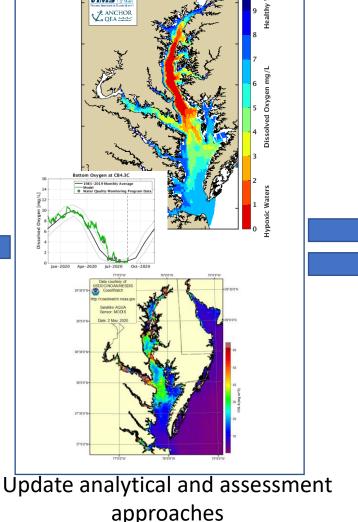


Figure 1: Interpolation and attainment assessment system

### We have ripe opportunities to expand use of our toolbox to estimate conditions over much of the Bay and its tribs



Update integrated monitoring approach



Improved capacity Fill Habitat Assessment Gaps

Figure 4b. Spring oligohaline CFD curves for chlorophyll a from reference water quality conditions.

95th%ile (28.61

Dissolved Oxygen