

Chesapeake Bay TMDL Update

Presented to
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
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EPA accepted Virginia's Watershed Implementation Plan

- No backstops but 25% urban land must be retrofitted with high efficiency BMPs.
- BMPs will be required on most agricultural lands and Virginia will create regulatory program if voluntary programs don't work.
- HRSD will need to make significant upgrades to wastewater treatment plants in the region.
- Some homeowners will need to upgrade to better septic systems or hook up to the sewer system.





Subcommittee Input

- HRPDC staff will develop 1-2 page briefing papers on TMDL issues written to inform the public on what is required and why.
- Legislative approach:
 - HRPDC staff will send Commissioners and legislative liaisons updates on bills relevant to Bay TMDL with short description on the impact on localities.
 - HRPDC staff will share briefing papers and updates on locality costs and challenges with Congressional delegation staffs.





Next Step: Legal Options

- City and county attorneys have been invited to discuss the merits of appealing the Bay TMDL next week.
- Legal consultant to HRPDC, Dave Evans with McGuire Woods will lead the discussion.



Next Step: Program Option

- Phase II WIP due November 2011
- EPA's expectations for Phase II WIP:
 - Divide target nutrient reductions into a finer geographic scale (counties, sub-watersheds)
 - Identify specific controls and practices that will be implemented, no later than 2017, to meet interim water quality goals.
- State has not identified a process to develop Phase II WIP.



Regional Approach to Phase II WIP

- HRPDC staff recommends creating Regional Framework to coordinate data collection, data analysis, and policy development.
 - Long-term objective: Identify what programs and projects localities would need to implement so localities can budget for implementation.
 - Short-term objective: Compare model data to local data (impervious cover, BMPs, septic tanks) and analyze the pollution loads based on those two sets of data.



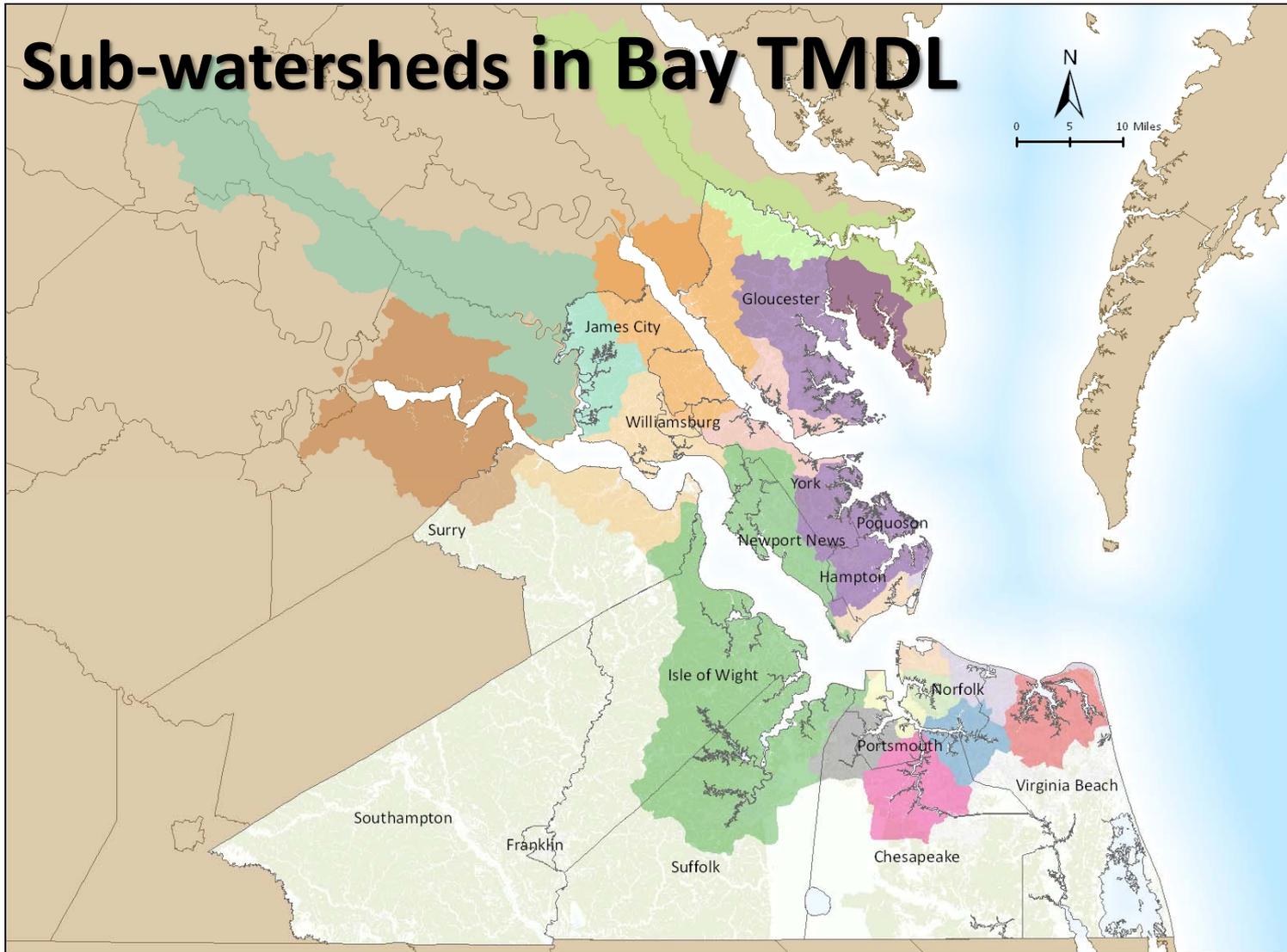
Phase II WIP – initial steps

- Develop regional framework for data collection:
 - What do localities need to know?
 - What data is available and who has it?
 - What data do localities already have?
 - Alternatives for collecting missing data including cost estimates.
 - Develop regional data standards.
- Develop regional framework for data analysis:
 - Who runs model with different data sets?
 - Define assumptions (pollutions loading rates)
 - Evaluate implementation strategies.





Sub-watersheds in Bay TMDL





Actions

- Approve Chesapeake Bay TMDL resolution.
- Authorize HRPDC staff to develop a Regional Framework for Phase II WIP.
- Authorize HRPDC staff to establish steering committee of source sector representatives.