

Chesapeake Bay Program Report on Extent and Severity of Toxic Contaminants in Chesapeake Bay and the Watershed

Annual Conference of Pesticides in
Chesapeake Waters Project

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Bay Contaminants Report

Purpose

- Contaminants adversely effect fish and wildlife in Chesapeake Bay and its watershed
- Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) recognized the issue and developed the Toxics 2000 Strategy but limited progress has been made due to competing priorities
- EO 13508 Strategy directs federal agencies to report on the extent and severity of contaminants in the Bay and watershed
- Findings to be used by the CBP to consider new goals during 2013 for reducing the input of toxic contaminants and to develop strategies by 2015 to carry out any goals
- Findings will also guide future research and monitoring activities

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Contributors

- Science Technical Analysis and Reporting (STAR) Action Team
 - EPA
 - USGS
 - USFWS
 - NOAA
 - Hampton Roads Sanitation District
 - Chesapeake Research Consortium
 - UMd
- Jurisdiction Integrated Assessment Report contacts

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Compound Classes

- Polychlorinated biphenyls
- Dioxins and Furans
- Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons
- Petroleum Hydrocarbons
- Pesticides
- Pharmaceuticals
- Household and Personal Care Products
- Polybrominated diphenyl ether Flame Retardants
- Metals and Metalloids
- Biogenic Hormones

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Sources for Literature Review

- Jurisdiction 2010 integrated assessment reports; 303d impairment listings
- Fish consumption advisories
- Federal reports (e.g., NOAA, USGS)
- Published journal articles

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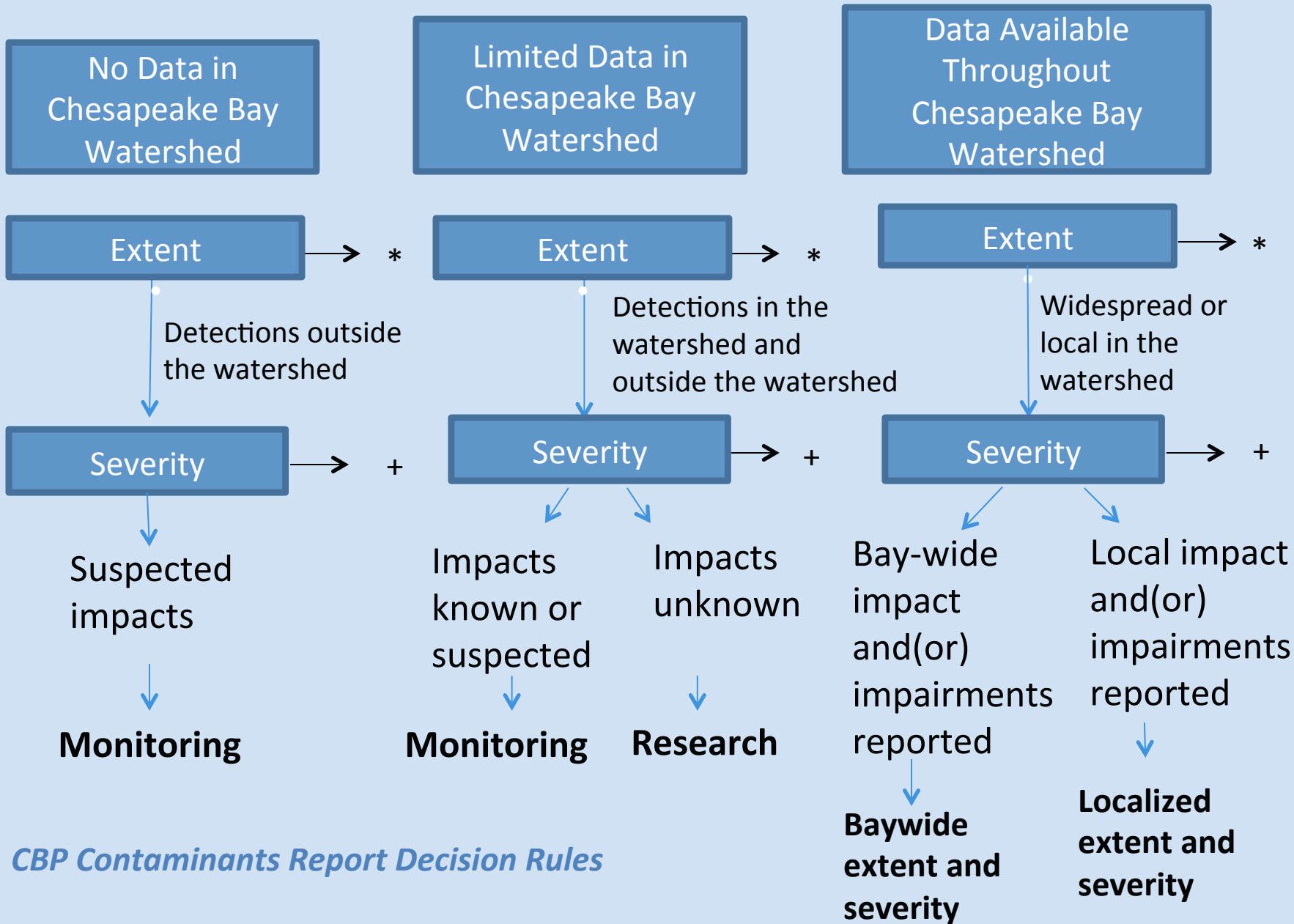
Scope Limitations

- Not all possible contaminants assessed
- Used readily available summaries; no new data analysis
- Within-class limitations (e.g. limited to those for which information is available)
- Used some studies from other watersheds and national studies

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Approach and Decision Rules

- Availability of data for Chesapeake Bay
- Extent of detections
 - Widespread or local
- Severity
 - Impairments
 - Fish consumption advisories
 - Comparison to effects thresholds
 - Suspected impact to fish and wildlife
- Categorization for each class assessed
 - Consider goal setting
 - Monitoring/Research



* - Contaminants not analyzed in environmental samples and(or) no detections based on current laboratory capabilities

+ - Unknown and(or) no quantifiable impacts based on current health benchmarks.

Bay Contaminants Report Reviews

- Completed:
 - Jurisdiction integrated assessment report contacts
 - CBP STAR Action Team members
- Upcoming October 22-November 9:
 - Independent peer review
 - CBP review (jurisdictions, federal agencies, Goal Implementation Teams)
- Internal report approval for EPA, USGS, USFWS
- Final publication