

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Stated Preference Study
Draft Report
US EPA
October 27, 2014

Charge Questions:

1. Overall:
 - a. Does the overall report reflect scientifically appropriate use of stated preference methods and analysis for estimating use and non-use benefits of the TMDLs for the Chesapeake Bay and lakes in the watershed? Is any additional information or analysis needed to characterize the benefits of the TMDLs for the Chesapeake Bay and lakes in the Watershed?
 - b. Please comment on the overall clarity of the report.
 - c. Does the document appropriately summarize the recent, relevant stated preference literature for valuation of water quality attributes and the Chesapeake Bay?
 - d. Are the analytical methods used in the Report consistent with the current state of literature? Is the application of these methods appropriate for the stated preference survey data?
2. Is the survey development process clearly described and consistent with best practice in the economics literature?
3. Is the description of the data clear, including summary statistics and comparisons? Are the conclusions drawn consistent with the data?
4. Data Analysis:

Considering the main objective of estimating the benefits of the TMDL:

 - a. Are the analytical specifications, variables, and overall methodology consistent with current state of the relevant literature, and appropriate for the survey data?
 - b. Do the results sections provide an adequate, robust, and clear description of the findings from the various models and analytic choices?
 - c. Are the interpretations and conclusions drawn from the analyses consistent with the empirical findings and the relevant economics literature?
 - d. Is the non-response data analysis appropriate and consistent with current economic practice?
5. Are relevant issues identified and addressed appropriately in the sensitivity analysis, given the current state of the literature?

6. Total WTP

- a. Is the approach to extrapolating household willingness to pay to populations consistent with precedent and best practices in the literature?
 - b. Is the approach for estimating total WTP for users and non-users consistent with current scientific practice?
7. The appendices provide additional information and background. Is there an appropriate balance between information presented in the report and information reserved for the appendices?