

Delaware Estuary Nutrient Criteria: Need & Use of Expert Panels

Water Quality Advisory Committee
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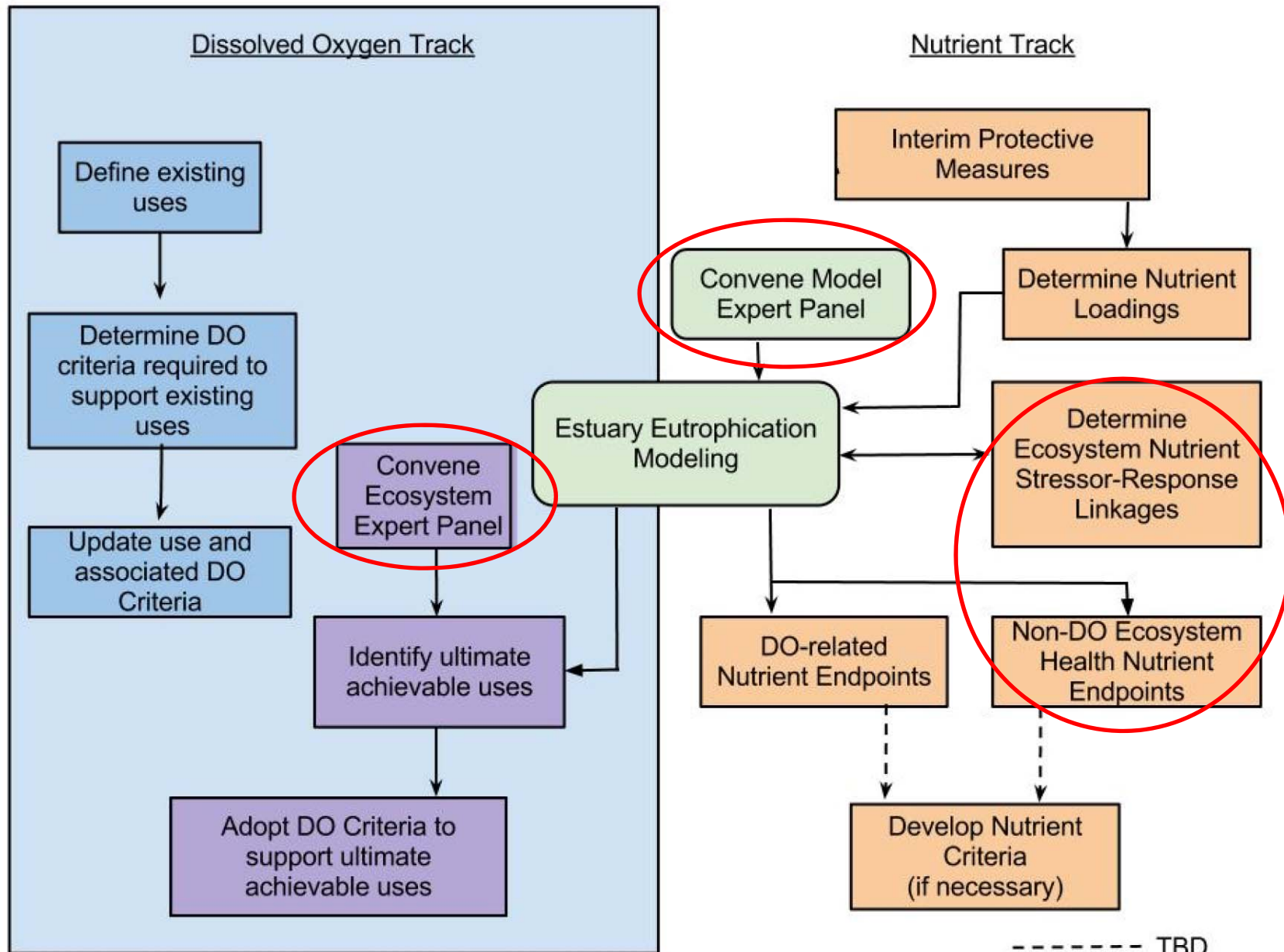
Concepts & Evolution of Expert Panel Ideas

- **Fall 2008:** Philadelphia highlights the value and need
- **Spring 2009**
 - Philadelphia takes lead on draft concept & broad role
 - DRBC seeks to narrow focus
 - Initial attempt to solicit Expert Panel members for D.O. requirements
- **2009-2011:** continued WQAC discussions
- **March 2012**
 - WQAC discussion on separate vs. broad Expert Panels
 - DRBC immediate need for Modeling Expert Panel
- **December 2012**
 - Commission resolution authorizing Modeling Expert Panel
 - WQAC continued discussions on evolution, overlap
 - : includes feedback from Delaware Estuary TMDL Coalition

Technical Questions to Address via Expert Panels

- 1. What hydrodynamic & water quality model would best serve the needs for the Delaware Estuary?**
- 2. What fish & ecological communities are protected at different dissolved oxygen levels?**
- 3. What ecological endpoints will best define the health of the Delaware Estuary in the different zones, and thus will serve to define and assess attainment of “Aquatic Life Use” related to nutrient levels?**

Mapping Technical Roles into Process



Interactions & Overlap Among Expert Panels

- **Initial concept for single broad expert panel**
- **DRBC operational need for separate technical panels**
- **Options for member overlap & review of products**