



**Chesapeake Bay Program
Management Board Meeting
Thursday, July 11, 2013**

Program Update

CBPO Calendar

July 22	STAR Tidal and Non-Tidal Workgroups meeting
August 22-23	CAC Meeting (PA)
Sept. 17-18	STAC Quarterly meeting (Annapolis)
Sept. 27	LGAC Meeting (Shepherdstown)

Program Updates

Local Government Advisory Committee

LGAC members Sheila Finalyson and Robert Willey hosted a roundtable at the Maryland Municipal League Annual Conference on June 23, 2013. A second roundtable is scheduled for August 14, 2013 at the Maryland Association of Counties Annual Conference. That roundtable will be hosted by LGAC members Dave Dunmyer and Mary Ann Lisanti. John Thomas represented LGAC at the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners Annual Conference held in Lancaster PA in late June 2013.

Members of LGAC's Maryland Delegation met with the Maryland Bay Cabinet on June 20, 2013. Members of the Virginia delegation also had a productive meeting with representatives of VA DEQ in June 2013.

LGAC is working with the Environmental Finance Center to finalize plans for an Integrated Water Resources Management Leadership Training to be held on September 26 and 27, 2013 at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's Annual Watershed Forum in Shepherdstown, WV.

The next LGAC Quarterly meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2013 in Shepherdstown, WV.

Citizens Advisory Committee

No updates at this time.

Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)

STAC will hold its second quarterly meeting of FY 2013 on September 17-18, 2013 at The Maryland Inn in Annapolis, Maryland. If you plan on attending this meeting, please send your RSVP to Matt Ellis at ellism@si.edu.

STAC held its final FY 2012 workshop this past May. Below is a description of that workshop:

1) Emerging Issues and Opportunities for Improving Performance of Water Quality Credit Trading Programs in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed - This workshop was held on May 14, 2013 at the Sheraton Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. The purpose of the workshop was to provide an in-depth treatment of important trading issues by utilizing state trading program managers, watershed stakeholders, and academic thoroughly familiar with the Bay watershed.

In addition, STAC members recently voted to approve FY 2013 funds for four workshops that will take place before May 31, 2014. STAC staff and the workshop steering committees are in the beginning stages of the planning process. The approved workshops include:

1) Management Effects on Water Quality Trends - This workshop plans to investigate connections between trends in human activities (including management actions in the watershed), watershed loads, and estuarine water quality and living resources.

2) Designing Sustainable Stream Restoration Projects within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed - The objective of this workshop is to create agreement among practitioners, regulators and scientists on a common language and methods for designing sustainable stream restoration projects that improve the functional elements of stream health to address water quality, climatological impacts, physical and biological components within the stream and adjacent riparian zone.

3) In my Backyard: An Innovative Look at the Advances of Onsite Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems - This workshop will be an open forum to further discuss decentralized systems issues to bring the watershed as a whole into a new era of management. The workshop will focus on potential measures addressing state management of existing onsite septic systems and new technologies that may be used in new installations of onsite septic systems.

4) The Peculiarities of Perviousness - This workshop plans to define, measure, and model the nutrient dynamics from the land cover known as pervious land.

For additional information about the workshops, contact Natalie Gardner at gardnern@si.edu.

STAC distributed a workshop factsheet on May 30, 2013. The factsheet was derived from the April 2012 STAC workshop entitled "Exploring the Environmental Effects of Shale Gas Development in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed." The factsheet can be found at: http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/300_Gottschalk2013.pdf.

Finally, STAC will distribute a workshop report entitled "Research-Based Best Practices in Environmental Education" on July 16, 2013. The report is a product of the August 27-28, 2012 STAC Environmental Literacy workshop. As always, the report can be found at: http://www.chesapeake.org/stac/stac_pubs.php.

Science, Technical Analysis, and Reporting

STAR and its workgroups are working together to adjust FY13 monitoring programming in the Bay and watershed to align with an approximately 1M gap in federal funding this year. A July 22 meeting is targeted for coordination between tidal and non-tidal workgroups for a preferred 1-2 options that address a revised monitoring effort addressing the FY13 gap.

For more information contact Peter Tango: ptango@chesapeakebay.net

Goal Implementation Teams

Fisheries Goal Team

The Sustainable Fisheries GIT focuses on advancing ecosystem-based fisheries management by using science to make informed fishery management decisions that cross state boundaries.

- The full Fisheries GIT met for their [biannual meeting June 17-18th](#) in Colonial Beach, VA. The meeting included presentations on the latest science and highlighted issues for discussion and resolution by the full GIT. The meeting summary can be found [here](#)
- The Fisheries GIT ExComm endorsed the CBSAC [2013 Blue Crab Advisory Report](#). The abundance of spawning-age females increased from 2012, and the current abundance of 147 million adult female

crabs is above overfished threshold, but below the recommended target. The Chesapeake Bay blue crab stock is currently not overfished, and overfishing is not occurring. The report explains new male conservation triggers that will signal managers to consider male conservation measures. The report also identifies data gaps that CBSAC will begin to prioritize. The

- Science presentations at the meeting covered oyster ecosystem services (nitrogen removal potential), striped bass nutritional reference points, and using acoustic technology to track migratory fish in the Bay. These presentations serve to tee up the latest findings and management implications, and spur dialogue between scientists and managers to inform decision making.
- A panel including scientists, planners, activists, and a county commissioner from Charles County discussed the land use decision process and how ecological issues are considered. This continues the work of the Fisheries GIT to identify strategies that can help mitigate the impacts of development to critical fish habitats. Fishery managers remain concerned that fish health and sustainability is tied to activities on land, and that we need to work across management sectors to ensure development and the environment can coexist.
- The Invasive Catfish Task Force is currently working to complete their Invasive Catfish Response Plan to raise awareness, reduce spread, and mitigate impacts. The GIT agreed that public outreach and communication is a top priority and asked the Task Force to develop more specific actions around this priority.
- The July ExComm meeting is scheduled and the agenda includes discussion of the New Agreement, an updated work plan coming out of the full GIT meeting, and the GIT's role in land use planning.
- The American Shad Indicator Action Team continues to meet regularly to discuss a new Baywide indicator. This new indicator aims to better represent the current status of American shad in the Bay and ongoing restoration efforts.

Habitats Goal Implementation Team

The Habitat GIT is restoring a network of land and water habitats to afford a range of public benefits and to support priority species.

The Habitat GIT and STAC led a workshop titled "Designing Sustainable Coastal Habitats" on April 16-17, 2013 in Easton, MD. The results of the workshop will be shared at the end of July 2013.

The Habitat GIT presented STAC with a workshop proposal focusing on stream restoration. Funding was awarded and a steering committee is being formed.

Workshop Title: Designing Sustainable Stream Restoration Projects within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Objective: Create agreement among practitioners, regulators and scientists on a common language and methods for designing sustainable stream restoration projects that improve the functional elements of stream health to address water quality, climatological impacts, physical and biological components within the stream and adjacent riparian zone.

The Wetland Workgroup met on May 21, 2013. The workgroup focused on the Wetland BMP Verification Protocols, permitting restoration projects, and wetland rehabilitation.

The Habitat GIT Spring 2013 Meeting was held on June 25, 2013 via webinar and focused on the goals and outcomes in the new Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement as well as updates from the workgroups.

Technical Synthesis III, SAV research project, received funding from EPA.

Maintain Healthy Watershed Goal Implementation Team

The goal of the Maintain Healthy Watersheds Goal Implementation Team (GIT 4) is to maintain local watershed health across a range of landscape contexts. With this goal, GIT 4 intends to bring attention to the challenge of protecting streams and watersheds that are healthy today. This initiative complements the "dirty waters" approach which focuses on restoring impaired waters.

The Maintain Healthy Watersheds Goal Implementation Team (GIT4) has responded to Management Board and Principals' Staff Committee requests for information in support of the healthy waters/healthy watersheds goal and outcome statements that are proposed for the new agreement. For today's meeting, in response to a request made by Anthony Moore (VA) at the recent PSC meeting, we have provided a briefing document on the diversity of State programs that support healthy waters/healthy watershed identification and protection. That compilation was created through collaboration with State agency representatives to GIT4 for all CBP partner States. Also, GIT4 leadership will meet with EPA HQ Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds lead staff for the National Healthy Watersheds Initiative on July 25 to discuss the good possibility of EPA HQ funding for a pilot healthy watershed assessment project in the Chesapeake Watershed. The next GIT4 meeting will be in late July or the first week of August, at which the GIT will continue to provide a forum for shared learning and collaboration for healthy watershed protection.

Recent Meetings and Events

June 5-6	LGAC Meeting (Baltimore, Md)
June 6	GIT Chairs Meeting (Annapolis, Md)
June 11-12	STAC Quarterly Meeting (Annapolis, Md)
June 27	PSC In-Person Meeting (Washington, D.C.)