

Updates from August 10, 2017 Quarterly Progress Meeting September 21, 2017

Communications Updates

Communications Actions:

Rachel Felver, CBP Communications Office Director, and Catherine Krikstan, CBP Communications Workgroup Chair, will schedule meetings with Oyster and SAV teams to discuss opportunities within the partnership (CBP Communications Office) and among the jurisdictions (CBP Communications Workgroup).

Substrate paper compiled by NOAA intern will be part of the oyster discussions and will eventually be shared with the Management Board after review. GIT 1 will meet with the Communications Workgroup before providing status update to the Management Board in September.

Oyster Update: After the August MB meeting, the oyster Coordinator and Staffer connected with the Communications Office and it was decided that both would meet after the substrate paper is completed. The Substrate Report is still in the review process.

SAV Update: On August 30, members of the CBP Communications Workgroup met with members of the SAV Workgroup to discuss ways in which to expand communications about underwater grasses to different audiences. The main communications issue is while it is good news for the Bay that underwater grasses are increasing, members of the public do not realize the benefits. The audiences that need to be reached include, the interested public, homeowners, water quality monitoring volunteers, waterfowl organizations, anglers and recreational and commercial boaters. The Communications Workgroup agreed to draft a communications strategy this fall on how to change the perception of SAV in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and continue to work with the SAV Workgroup to put it into place. They will also consider how to communicate this challenge to the upstream audiences.

Forage Fish Updates

Action: The Forage Fish Action Team will draft a recommendation to STAC on behalf of the Management Board for a threshold analysis on tidal shoreline. Decision: The Management Board agreed a review of the recommendation is not needed before it goes to STAC, with the assurance from the forage team and STAC representatives present at the meeting that STAC would review the existing science and determine whether there is enough information to develop such a threshold.

Update: The request to STAC for a shoreline threshold analysis will be completed through a GIT-funded study that will commence in January 2018 and likely be completed by January 2019.

Action: The Forage Fish Action Team will work with STAR to develop a monitoring strategy.

Update: The STAR request for a shallow water monitoring plan will be addressed following the Budget and Finance workshop. The Forage Fish action team plans to meet with STAR after the Budget and Finance workshop to discuss how this monitoring plan can incorporate monitoring needs from other outcomes during this process.

Blue Crab Updates: see *blue crab allocation framework* and *blue crab management outcome* documents

SAV/Finance Updates: see *draft conceptual framework* document