



Chesapeake Bay Program
A Watershed Partnership

**Chesapeake Bay Program
Management Board
November 16, 2017**

Program Update

CBPO Calendar

Nov 29-30	Citizens Advisory Committee meeting
Dec. 4-5	Joint Modeling/WQGIT Meeting
Dec. 5-6	STAC Quarterly Meeting
Dec. 7	Management Board Meeting
Dec. 12-13	STAC Workshop: Integrating Recent Finders to Explain Water Quality Change
Dec. 14-15	LGAC Meeting
Dec. 18-19	Full Sustainable Fisheries GIT Meeting
Dec. 19-20	Principals' Staff Committee Retreat

Updates

CBP Releases first-ever Citizen Stewardship Index

On November 8, 2017, the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) released the first comprehensive survey of stewardship actions and attitudes across the watershed. The Index reveals what actions residents are taking to protect clean water and restore environmental health and shows how much of the region has volunteered or spoken out on behalf of the environment. It also forecasts future stewardship by measuring the willingness of residents to engage in certain actions and responses to perceptions that motivate environmentally responsible behaviors.

Data for the Stewardship Index was collected by surveying 5,200 randomly selected watershed residents earlier this year. The score – 24 out of 100 – is based on the adoption rate of 19 actions that individuals can take to improve water quality and environmental health, as well as the portion of the public that is volunteering or engaging in civic activities to improve the environment. The data can be downloaded, segmented and extrapolated by geographic region, demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, community attributes, behaviors and attitudes. It also has revealed six high-level findings about watershed residents as a whole.

For more information: <http://www.chesapeakeprogress.com/engaged-communities/citizen-stewardship>

CBC Policy Report on Agriculture Technical Assistance

The Chesapeake Bay Commission, at its November 9 quarterly meeting in Harrisburg, Pa., released a new policy report on agriculture technical assistance. “Boots on the Ground: Improving Technical Assistance for Farmers” is the first Bay-wide effort documenting the escalating need for more technical assistance to guide farmers in planning and installing pollution control practices. The report offers three recommendations to help increase the capacity to provide more technical assistance: 1) Create a robust network of private sector and non-profit providers of technical assistance;

2) Enhance the job climate for governmental conservation professionals providing technical assistance; and 3) Provide more consistent, stable and predictable levels of funding for technical assistance, including funds independent of cost-share programs. Through the release of the report, the Commission and its partners are bringing attention to the importance of adequate and dedicated funding for local Soil and Water Conservation Districts to support the strong farmer/district partnership. Contact: Ann Swanson, aswanson@chesbay.us or (410) 263-3420 for hard copies of the report or to arrange a presentation.

National Climate Assessment of Climate Science

The U.S. Global Climate Change Program recently released an assessment of climate science and climate change on the planet. The latest assessment found that the annual average surface air temperature has increased about 1.8 degrees over the last 115 years, making this period the warmest in the history of modern civilization. Indeed, the last three years alone have been the hottest on record. Based on thousands of scientific studies from around the world, the report concludes that human activities, particularly those that emit greenhouse gases, are the main reason our planet has warmed since the mid-twentieth century. Other indicators of climate change are being seen around the world, including documented changes in surface, atmospheric and oceanic temperatures, melting glaciers, diminishing snow cover, shrinking sea ice, rising sea levels, ocean acidification and increasing atmospheric water vapor. The National Climate Assessment is intended to support the United States' national assessment of climate-related risks and inform responses. Established by a presidential initiative in 1988 and mandated by Congress under the Global Change Research Act of 1990, the Global Change Research Program includes representatives from 13 federal agencies who conduct or use research on global climate change. This group is legally required to release a national climate assessment every four years. For more information: <https://science2017.globalchange.gov/>

EPA Awards Nearly \$1.2 million in Environmental Justice Grants

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will award nearly \$1.2 million in competitive grants to local and tribal organizations working to address environmental justice issues in their community. EPA's Environmental Justice Small Grants provide critical support to organizations that otherwise lack the funding and resources to address challenges in their community. The grants are intended to help educate local residents about environmental issues that may impact their health; collect data about local environmental conditions; and work collaboratively to address environmental justice challenges in their community. They may also be used for activities that educate and empower youth and the next generation of leaders in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) related job sectors and environmental stewardship. Two of the 36 organizations across 30 states and Puerto Rico are in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed: 1) The Patapsco Latino Action Network in Baltimore, Maryland, received funding to cleanup marine debris and engage community residents in the Brooklyn and Curtis Bay neighborhoods; and 2) the Boxerwood Education Association in Lexington, Virginia, will develop and pilot a replicable model that addresses advancing citizen-level environmental stewardship in under-resourced rural or small-town populations.

Advisory Committee Updates

Local Government Advisory Committee

The purpose of the LGAC is to advise the Executive Council on how to effectively implement projects and engage the support of local governments to achieve the goals of the Bay Agreement.

The Local Government Advisory Committee (via the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay) was recently awarded a Virginia Environmental Endowment grant to organize six local elected official roundtables in 2018. Alliance staff will work with the VA LGAC delegation and VA DEQ to coordinate the Virginia Local Government Roundtables.

In Pennsylvania, Alliance staff is working with members of the LGAC's PA delegation and PA DEP on a series of forums for local elected officials to be held in 2018.

Andria McClellan, Norfolk City Council member and member of LGAC's Virginia delegation, addressed members of the Habitat Goal Implementation Team at their November face-to-face meeting. Council member McClellan shared Norfolk's Green Infrastructure Plan and told members of the GIT of local efforts to implement best management practices with co-benefits.

LGAC Chair Bruce Williams agreed to serve on the Scoping Third-Party Evaluation Advisory Committee for NFWF's Small Watershed Grants Evaluation. Delaware Member Don Phillips agreed to serve as Alternate.

Two LGAC member seats remain open in Maryland, and one in New York.

LGAC's next meeting will be held December 14-15, 2017 in Lancaster, PA. The Committee will explore legacy sediments, floodplain restoration, and mill dam removal.

Contact: Mary Gattis, mgattis@allianceforthebay.org

Citizens' Advisory Committee

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is charged with responsibility for representing residents and stakeholders of the Chesapeake Bay watershed in the restoration effort and advising the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership on all aspects of restoration.

CAC welcomed two new members to the Committee: (1) Chante Coleman, Executive Director of the Choose Clean Water Coalition. Chante will bring her experience with water policy and advocacy; diversity, equity and inclusion; and the connection to the 230 coalition member organization to the CAC. (2) Ann Jurczyk, the Outreach and Advocacy Manager at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Ann will bring her experience with running the Clean Water Captain program in Virginia and her connections with localities and their citizens to the CAC.

CAC's next quarterly meeting will be held in DC on November 29-30. The meeting theme will be urban stormwater and will include updates from DC agencies, including DDOE's local engagement strategy for Phase III WIPs, updates on the Midpoint Assessment, Citizens Stewardship Index, and a tour of a the Springhouse Run stream restoration at the National Arboretum.

To be added to CAC's Interested Parties List, please contact: Adam Bray abray@allianceforthebay.org
For program questions, contact Jessica Blackburn jblackburn@allianceforthebay.org

Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) provides scientific and technical guidance to the Chesapeake Bay Program on measures to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay.

Upcoming Meetings:

STAC will hold its third quarterly meeting of FY2017 on December 5-6, 2017 at the Westin Annapolis Hotel in Annapolis, MD. For any quarterly meeting inquiries, or to be added to STAC's Interested Parties list, contact STAC Staff Elaine Hinrichs, hinrichse@chesapeake.org.

Workshops:

Special Announcement: The Request for Proposals (RFP) for FY2018 STAC workshops will be distributed in early December. To receive the RFP announcement, contact STAC Staff to be added to our Interested Parties list, or check back at <http://www.chesapeake.org/stac/assistance.php>. Proposals will be due in late January 2018.

STAC will be hosting a workshop on November 14-15 entitled "Consideration of BMP Performance Uncertainty in Chesapeake Bay Program Implementation" in Fairfax, VA. The goal of this workshop is to make specific recommendations for how to document, characterize, and communicate best management practice (BMP) performance uncertainty within the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP), and propose how BMP performance uncertainty might be used within the CBP's modeling, planning, and implementation efforts. More information can be found [here](#).

STAC is planning four additional workshops that will take place over the next few months - listed here in order of anticipated date. Information regarding recent and upcoming workshops - including agendas, presentations, and reports (as available) can be found on the [workshop homepage](#).

- 1) Integrating Recent Findings to Explain Water Quality Change: Support for the Mid-Point Assessment and Beyond – **December 12-13, 2017**
- 2) Chesapeake Bay Program Modeling Beyond 2018: A Proactive Visioning Workshop – **January 17-19, 2018**
- 3) Reassessing Habitat Conditions in Sub-estuaries of the Chesapeake Bay and Responses to Resource Management
- 4) Factors Influencing the Mainstem, Tidal, and Non-Tidal Fish Habitat Function in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed: Application to Restoration and Management Decision

STAC is working to finalize four reports from the following FY2016 workshops held in spring 2017. All STAC activity reports (as available) can be found on the [STAC publication page](#).

- 1) Quantifying Ecosystem Services and Co-Benefits of Nutrient and Sediment Reducing Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- 2) Legacy Sediment, Riparian Corridors, and Total Maximum Daily Loads

- 3) An Analytical Framework for Aligning Chesapeake Bay Program Monitoring Efforts to Support Climate Change
- 4) Understanding and Explaining 30+ Years of Water Clarity Trends in the Bay’s Tidal Waters

STAC is also working to finalize three reports from the following FY2015 workshops. Information regarding each of these workshops can be found on the [STAC archived workshop homepage](#).

- 1) Linking Wetland Workplan Goals to Enhance Capacity, Increase Implementation
- 2) Assessing Uncertainty in the CBP Modeling System
- 3) Comparison of Shallow Water Models for Use in Supporting Chesapeake Bay Management Decision-making

Reviews:

STAC is finalizing two technical reviews that will help inform decisions related to the Partnership’s 2017 Mid-point Assessment. For more information, visit the [review homepage](#) or contact STAC Coordinator Rachel Dixon at dixonr@chesapeake.org. Reports of the panels’ findings and recommendations are being finalized for both reviews and will be distributed in mid-November.

- 1) Chesapeake Bay Water Quality/Sediment Transport Model (WQSTM)
- 2) CBP Partnership’s Climate Change Assessment Framework and Programmatic Integration and Response Efforts

For more information regarding any of the reviews above, visit the [review homepage](#) or contact STAC Coordinator Rachel Dixon at dixonr@chesapeake.org

Goal Implementation Team, STAR and Communication Workgroup Updates

Status and Trends (Previously Indicators) Workgroup:

The following indicators were updated since the October Management Board meeting:

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Statement of Progress</i>	<i>Link</i>
Citizen Stewardship*	In 2017, residents of the Chesapeake Bay region scored a 24 out of 100 on the Citizen Stewardship Index: the first comprehensive survey of stewardship actions and attitudes in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.	http://www.chesapeakeprogress.com/engaged-communities/citizen-stewardship

Indicators that are likely to be updated before or close to the next Management Board meeting include:

- Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring (tidal segments achieving water quality standards and USGS assessment of monitored nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment loads) (November 2017)
- Toxic Contaminants (November 2017)
- Student MWEE* (November 2017)
- Sustainable Schools (Fall 2017)
- Adult Striped Bass Abundance and Fishery Management (Fall 2017)

- Planting Forest Buffers (Winter 2018)
- Wetlands Restored on Agricultural Lands (Winter 2018)

NOTE: an asterisk* denotes new indicators that have been approved through the Status and Trends workgroup under STAR. The Indicators Coordinator provides notification to the Management Board and to STAR of these new indicators; members of either group may request additional information or a presentation at a meeting on these new indicators.

Contact: Laura Free, 410-267-5713, free.laura@epa.gov

Fisheries Goal Implementation 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 Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team released the meeting summary from the [June 2017 meeting](#) and their Fall 2017 newsletter. The [meeting summary](#) compiles key highlights from the presentations and discussions held at the June biannual Fisheries meeting, while the [Fall 2017 Newsletter](#) provides a high-level overview of the efforts completed by the full team to achieve their outcomes.

Grant funding from the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund was awarded to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Elizabeth River Project to complete oyster restoration in the Lafayette River, one of the tributaries selected for restoration under the Oyster Restoration Outcome.

The Invasive Catfish Task Force hosted an Invasive Catfish Symposium on November 6-7 at the VCU Rice Rivers Center to discuss the state of the science and status of the catfish fishery. Topics included population dynamics, movement and habitat use, diet, and harvest. Presentations will be posted to the [website](#) shortly.

The Fish and Habitat GITs successfully competed for a Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) sponsored workshop for fiscal year 2017. The workshop will help fill scientific and technical gaps in understanding of fish habitat stressors. The steering committee is planning the workshop, researching previous approaches, and preparing pre-materials.

- *"Factors Influencing Fish Habitat Function in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed: Application to Restoration and Management Decisions"* will be coordinated by Gina Hunt (MD DNR), Mark Monaco (NOAA) and Donna Bilkovic (VIMS) to evaluate and determine the significance of factors influencing habitat function for a range of representative species across Chesapeake Bay habitats.

The Fish Habitat Action Team is working with a small group from the Chesapeake Bay Program to develop communication materials that recommends inclusion of fish habitat into the Watershed Implementation Plans.

The Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team is planning their [winter biannual meeting](#), which convenes their diverse membership to discuss fisheries in the Chesapeake Bay. The meeting will be held on December 18 -19 at St. Mary's College of Maryland. More details will be sent out soon.

Contact: Kara Skipper; kara.skipper@noaa.gov

Habitat Goal Implementation Team

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

The Habitat GIT held its Fall meeting on November 8th, 2017 at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Brock Environmental Center in Virginia Beach, VA. Select workgroups presented updates to their biennial workplans, and the team explored opportunities for alignment of key actions with partners including USACE, NFWF, USGS, and the Southern Tip Partnership.

On November 9th, the Habitat GIT hosted a half-day Nature's Network training workshop at the Brock Environmental Center following the full GIT meeting. Participants were introduced to the suite of scalable conservation design tools and explored (through Chesapeake-specific case studies) their potential to help CBP partners achieve the wetland and black duck outcomes.

A committee within the Stream Health Workgroup has formed to resolve issues with permitting of restoration projects. The group is seeking state and regulatory agency representation particularly from Delaware and EPA Region 3. Please contact cumming.margot@epa.gov if your jurisdiction or agency would like to participate.

An updated Fish Passage map has been posted [on ChesapeakeProgress](#) that shows barriers removed, passage installed and stream miles opened. It is interactive and can show change over time relative to the 2012 baseline.

Contact: Paige Hobaugh, hobaugh.paige@epa.gov

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team

The Water Quality GIT works to evaluate, focus and accelerates the implementation of practices, policies and programs that will restore water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to conditions that support living resources and protect human health.

The WQGIT held a conference call on September 11.

- The WQGIT was briefed on the decision points of scenario years for Phase III WIP planning targets and Phase III WIP development, and the key criteria of consideration for each planning target scenario year. Options for planning target scenario years include 2010, 2012, 2017, and 2025.
- The WQGIT was briefed on options for addressing climate change qualitatively in the Phase III WIPs.
- The WQGIT was briefed on preliminary results of the 2025 growth forecast using a historical trends scenario to predict land use growth.

The WQGIT held their annual Face-to-Face meeting on September 25-26 at the CBP office, in the Joe Macknis Memorial Conference Room. A full record of actions and decisions is available on the Face-to-Face [meeting page](#).

- The WQGIT discussed recommending a 6-week shift in the PSC-approved Midpoint Assessment Schedule, to allow time to finalize the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools and run analyses needed to establish the draft Phase III WIP Planning Targets. This would shift the PSC retreat from October 30-31 to December 19-20, and release of the draft Phase III WIP Planning Targets would shift accordingly from November 1, 2017 to December 22, 2017.

- In accordance with the proposed 6-week shift in schedule for the release of the draft Phase III WIP planning targets, the WQGIT and CBP Modeling Team discussed convening a joint two-day in-person meeting in early December, 2017 to make final recommendations to the PSC on: how to address Conowingo loads; addressing climate change in the Phase III WIPs, finalizing the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools; and establishing recommendations on the draft Phase III WIP planning targets.
- The WQGIT discussed policy options for incorporating climate change considerations into the Phase III WIPs. The options for addressing climate change in the Phase III WIPs are: inclusion of climate change impacts qualitatively through adaptive management and focus on resilient BMP siting, adaptation and design; and/or incorporation of climate change effects as an added load to be addressed numerically in the Phase III WIP planning targets. The WQGIT has requested revised language for the qualitative policy component, and will review the revised language at an upcoming conference call. The CBP Modeling Team will do additional analysis on the calibrated Phase 6 suite of modeling tools to support a WQGIT recommendation on this issue at the December joint Modeling/WQGIT meeting.
- The WQGIT recommended to the PSC that additional loads from Conowingo should be addressed now in the Phase III WIPs, given the current best available knowledge of Conowingo as a changed condition.
- The WQGIT recommended to the PSC to address Conowingo loads as a local planning goal, separate from the jurisdictions' Phase III WIP planning targets. MD, PA, NY and Exelon would determine a path forward for addressing the load associated with the Conowingo infill, possible through use of a multiple-strategy approach.
- The WQGIT approved the recommendation to use 2010 as the scenario year for establishing draft Phase III WIP planning targets.
- The WQGIT recommended to the PSC to use 2025 growth projections ("Current Zoning" scenario results + animal numbers and crop mix) as base conditions for the development of their phase III WIPs. The "Current Zoning" 2025 growth scenario will be completed by November 15 and will be available in CAST by January 2018. The "Conservation Plus" scenario (formerly "Utopian" scenario) will be completed by January 2018 and will be available in CAST in March 2018. Other alternative futures scenarios, including "Current Zoning Plus" requested at the June 2017 LGAC/LUWG Forum will be developed later in 2018 as time and resources allow.

The WQGIT held a conference call on October 12.

- The WQGIT approved the recommendation to the PSC to shift the PSC-approved Midpoint Assessment Schedule by approximately 6 weeks, to allow time to finalize the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools and run analyses needed to establish the draft Phase III WIP Planning Targets. This would shift the PSC retreat from October 30-31 to December 19-20, and release of the draft Phase III WIP Planning Targets would shift accordingly from November 1, 2017 to December 22, 2017.
- In accordance with the proposed 6-week shift in schedule for the release of the draft Phase III WIP planning targets, the WQGIT will convene a joint two-day in-person meeting with the Modeling Workgroup on December 4-5, 2017 to make final recommendations to the PSC on: how to address Conowingo loads; addressing climate change in the Phase III WIPs, finalizing the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools; and establishing recommendations on the draft Phase III WIP planning targets.
- The WQGIT discussed the overall process and timeline for the review of the draft Phase III WIP planning targets. The process and timeline document will be revised and reviewed by the

WQGIT for approval at an upcoming conference call. Requested revisions include: inclusion of a separate, detailed timeline for requests of special cases in the Phase III WIPs, and a proposal to ensure adequate transparency of comments and issues raised during the planning target review process.

The WQGIT will hold a conference call October 23. A subset of planned topics includes:

- The WQGIT will be briefed on options for data visualization tools to assist in the Partnership's review of the Phase 6 geographic isolation runs and the draft Phase III WIP planning targets.
- The WQGIT will be briefed on updates from the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative (CMC), which is the citizen's monitoring project funded by CBP. The work of the CMC may be of interest to local governments and stakeholders, especially in regard to supporting efforts for the development and implementation of local planning goals in the Phase III WIPs.
- The WQGIT will be briefed on outcomes from the October 17 Modeling Workgroup quarterly meeting, including progress on the calibration of the Phase 6 Watershed Model and Water Quality Sediment Transport Model, and initial findings from draft key scenarios.

Contact: Lucinda Power, power.lucinda@epa.gov

Healthy Watersheds 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 HWGIT has started a GIT funding project, *Preliminary State-Identified Healthy Watersheds Vulnerability Assessments for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed*. This project utilizes the EPA Healthy Watersheds Program's [Preliminary Healthy Watersheds Assessments](#) (PHWA) along with additional jurisdictional data to address two major gaps identified in the Healthy Watershed's Management Strategy: "routine collection of information about the status of healthy waters and watersheds is often lacking" and "widespread assessments of healthy watershed vulnerability are not available." Tetra Tech has been awarded as the contractor and will work with EPA, HWGIT staff, and jurisdiction leads to:

1. identify, obtain, and integrate appropriate state data to augment the EPA assessment to summarize conditions of state-identified healthy watersheds,
2. identify state-identified healthy watershed vulnerabilities, and
3. develop an approach that can be utilized in the future to determine if state-identified healthy watersheds are being maintained.

The HWGIT has also an updated map of [State Identified Healthy Waters and Watersheds](#) which has been uploaded on Chesapeake Progress.

Contact: Katherine Wares; kwares@chesapeakebay.net

Foster Stewardship Goal Implementation Team

The Fostering Stewardship GIT promotes individual stewardship, supports environmental education for all ages, and assists citizens, communities and local governments in undertaking initiatives to achieve restoration and conservation in the Chesapeake region. It aims to build public support of restoration efforts and increase citizen engagement and active stewardship.

Public Access is having their Annual Meeting on November 14th to look at the newly organized workplan format, the data call for 2017, and an update on any issues and concerns with public access planning and development.

Public Access, Citizen Stewardship, and Diversity will be presenting before the Management Board on November 16th.

Environmental Literacy is holding their Biennial Education Practitioners Forum at NCTC on November 29th and 30th where support will be available to school districts to create and sustain systemic environmental literacy programs for their students. This will bring together school districts that are on the cusp for getting plans and programs in place and next helping them the rest of the way.

The Chesapeake Conservation Partnership is holding their Annual Meeting on November 29th and 30th to celebrate the Partnership's new charter, review mapping progress, consider a new proposed "big, hairy, audacious goal" (BHAG) stimulated by last year's meeting, hear Guest speaker Thomas Lovejoy who coined the term "Biodiversity" speak to conservation, as well as see where jurisdictions stand with funding.

Contact: Drew Pizzala; drew_pizzala@partner.nps.gov

Enhance Partnering, Leadership and Management Goal Implementation Team

The goal of the Enhance Partnering, Leadership and Management GIT is to continually improve the governance and management of the CBP Partnership.

Annual Face-to-Face Meeting

The GIT held its annual face-to-face meeting on October 10-11, 2017 in Shepherdstown, WV. Goal Team members discussed high-level programmatic topics such as completing the Decision Framework through the Biennial Strategy Review System; organizational analysis; and governance. The GIT will be bringing forward ideas and recommendations from these topics to the Management Board over the coming months.

CBP Biennial Strategy Review System

The SRS team is using a new process of assigning "adaptive management mentors" to assist outcome leads in preparing for Quarterly Progress Meetings. These mentors act as guides for outcome leads, and work with teams to ensure that the logic of the decision framework is present in all Quarterly Progress Meeting materials and requests. The team is also developing a process/timeline for updating 2-year work plans and management strategies. A recommended process will be presented to GIT 6 on November 7, and to the Management Board on November 16.

As a reminder, all SRS documents, including schedules and materials relating to the Quarterly Progress Meetings, can now be found under "Project and Resources" of the [Enhance Partnering, Leadership and Management Goal Team](#) page on the Chesapeake Bay Program website.

Contact: Dave Goshorn, david.goshorn@maryland.gov

FY2017 GIT Funding

RFP content information has been submitted to the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The Trust is reviewing these submissions, and will send feedback to Goal Teams as appropriate. The Trust plans to release the RFP for competitive bidding during the month of November.

Contact: Greg Allen, allen.greg@epa.gov

GIT Budget and Finance Workgroup

The Workgroup is working with the SAV workgroup to develop a process for creating finance systems and/or strategies. The first of three “dialogue sessions” was held on October 18, and involved technical and financial/economic experts from both workgroups. The second session will be held on November 15, and will include additional stakeholders from federal and state agencies, local government, and other financial and conservation organizations. The third and final session is tentatively scheduled for early January 2018. This session will expand to include additional stakeholders from industry, banking, and other relevant sectors. Findings will be presented to the Management Board after the third dialogue session, and planning will begin for how to translate the work with the SAV workgroup into a larger, one-day finance system/strategy workshop.

Contact: Dan Nees, dnees@umd.edu

GIT 6 Contact: Emily Freeman, freeman.emily@epa.gov

Scientific, Technical Assessment, and Reporting Team

The purpose of STAR (Scientific, Technical Analysis and Reporting) is to facilitate productive deployment of scientific resources, to provide timely, quality information to managers, and to expand communication between workgroups.

CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM LIDAR DATA NEEDS

In an effort to identify potential partners to buy-in to the data collection and take advantage of NOAA's data collection, processing, QA/QC, archiving, and access pipeline, representatives from NOAA's National Geodetic Survey Geosciences Research Division presented on topo-bathy LiDAR data collection, with a request to workgroup coordinators to identify any potential needs for this data.

INTEGRATED MONITORING NETWORKS

At the last meeting, IMN WG Coordinator Peter Tango and Citizen Monitoring Project manager at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Liz Chudoba provided an overview of the development of a region-wide monitoring Memorandum of Understanding. A single page document will be created over the next 6-9 months regarding the collection, integration and application of citizen-based monitoring data into the decision-support resources of the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership. The IMN WG members were asked to review, comment and edit draft MOU text in time for the upcoming September meetings.

Future efforts were discussed to create and approve project templates that reflect volunteer engagement on specific monitoring program needs and acknowledge product development that is informative to the volunteers on how their data are or will be used.

CLIMATE RESILIENCY WORKGROUP

The CRWG held its quarterly in-person meeting on October 16, 2017. The meeting focused on the ongoing project to develop a suite of climate change indicators. The project team, led by ERG, Inc., presented the subset of approximately 65 potential indicators and assessment of monitoring networks

that could support indicator development. The CRWG completed a scoring exercise to guide selection of final suite to be developed by Spring 2018.

The CRWG is continuing to provide support to the CBP Partnership's effort to integrate consideration of climate change into the Chesapeake Bay TMDL Midpoint Assessment. The Workgroup is currently working to refine the proposed policy language to reflect input from the WQGIT and PSC. Informed by the outcomes of the climate change modeling assessment, the CBP Partnership is scheduled to decide on December 19-20, 2017 when and how to incorporate climate change considerations.

The CRWG's proposed project to create a Chesapeake Bay Watershed Climate Data and Mapping Repository was selected for funding. The scope of work will be released along with other CBP goal team projects by the Chesapeake Bay Trust within the next month.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT PROTOCOLS WORKGROUP

During October, the CAP WG is supporting the response to CBP-STAC review team comments on the new Water Quality Criteria Addendum while completing final edits to the addendum using the CBP-STAC input. The CBP's response to comments will be presented to the WQGIT on November 13 for review and approval.

DATA INTEGRITY WORKGROUP (Previously AMQAW)

The DIWG had their quarterly meeting in October to review standard check-ins with Chesapeake Bay Program partnering labs on Split sample analyses and USGS reference samples. An audit was scheduled for November 8, 2017 to serve as a review of, and training for nontidal water quality sampling by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission.

Durga Gosh is now the full time Quality Assurance Coordinator for the DI Workgroup, and will be based out of the CBPO.

Contact: Melissa Merritt; mmerritt@chesapeakebay.net

Communications Workgroup

The Communications Workgroup provides strategic planning and expert advice to support the communication needs of the Chesapeake Bay Program partners, and spur public action through consistent messaging, expanded media coverage, use of multimedia and online tools, comprehensive branding and promotion, outreach to stakeholders, and coordinated internal and external communications.

At the November Communications Workgroup meeting, Emily Trentacoste presented an example of the level of detail and analysis that is publicly available for sub-watersheds, and how it can be used to tell the story of pollution and targeted management actions in an area. Rachel Felver updated the workgroup on the creation of the 2016-2017 Bay Barometer, and she and Catherine Krikstan spoke about the upcoming Citizen Stewardship Index release. Lastly, Bill Hayden from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality talked about successes and challenges DEQ's their public affairs office has faced over the past few years and what actions they have taken to respond. The Communications Workgroup will meet for their January biannual in-person meeting on January 10 in Baltimore, Md. Outreach Coordinator Caitlyn Johnstone conducted the first in a series of meetings with the chairs, coordinators and staffers of the Bay Program's Goal Implementation Teams and major workgroups. These meetings are meant to learn about their outreach needs and how they could inform the overall

CBP outreach strategy she is developing. Her first meetings were with members of the Water Quality and Enhancing, Partnering and Leading GITs. Caitlyn also took part in the Festival del Río Anacostia in Bladensburg, Md., which you can learn more about [here](#).

Will Parson, Joan Smedinghoff and Catherine gave a presentation on effective digital storytelling at the Chesapeake Watershed Forum on Saturday, November 4. You can read about their presentation [here](#).

The Chesapeake Bay Program will issue a press release announcing the release of the Citizen Stewardship Index on November 8.

Contact: Joan Smedinghoff; jmedinghoff@chesapeakebay.net

Recent Meetings and Events

Oct. 26	STAR Meeting
Oct 28	South Wings Fly-In
Oct. 30	Principals' Staff Committee Conference Call
Nov. 3-5	Chesapeake Watershed Forum (Shepherdstown, WV)
Nov. 6-7	Invasive Catfish Task Force Catfish Symposium
Nov. 8	Habitat GIT Fall Meeting (Virginia Beach, Va.)
Nov. 9-10	Chesapeake Bay Commission Quarterly Meeting (Pa.)