



Climate Resiliency Workgroup Conference Call

Monday, December 19, 2016

1:30 PM – 3:30PM

Conference Line: (866)-299-3188 Code: 410-267-5731

Adobe Connect: <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ccw> (enter as a guest)

Meeting Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/24537/>

Schmidt Conference Center Room at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)
647 Contees Wharf Road, Edgewater, MD 21037

Minutes

Steering Committee Meeting

The Steering Committee of the Climate Resiliency Workgroup discussed the 2017 schedule for the workgroup and reviewed the workplan to determine progress and future focus areas for upcoming meetings.

Zoe reviewed the CBP Biennial Review Process, and the CRWG's part within the schedule. Zoe also noted that, even though the CRWG does not have their official meeting date in this process until 2018, there are climate elements in the other GIT's workplans that *will* be reviewed throughout the year. Zoe has also suggested language in the questionnaires that will go to the workgroups to make sure there is a climate component in their updates.

See Workplan with Zoe's added progress column. Zoe has put together all *collective* actions and the progress made from 2016. Zoe took the opportunity to engage the group in any gap analysis and next steps regarding the workplan progress in 2017.

Zoe then reviewed Workgroup priorities for 2016. These priorities were identified by the group in 2016, and Zoe noted which topics had been covered by an in-person meeting within that year. In total, one third of the topics were covered this past year.

The proposed meeting themes for the CRWG in 2017 include:

1. Water Quality and the 2017 Midpoint Assessment
 - a. BMP Siting and Design Guidelines
 - b. Climate Impact Vulnerability Assessments
 - c. Additional guidance on Phase III WIP development and Implementation
2. Monitoring Needs and Long Term Trend Assessments
 - a. Research Agenda, Capacity and Needs- Regional Workshop?
 - b. Climate Change Indicators and Performance Metrics- 2016 GIT funded project
3. Climate Data, Information and Mapping
 - a. Watershed-wide/Coast-wide mapping layer
 - b. USACE Comprehensive Study
 - c. CBP Cross GIT Mapping Project
 - d. Regional adaptation priorities
4. Green Infrastructure and Coastal Resiliency
 - a. Lessons learned
 - b. Performance Metrics
 - c. Regional priorities

These meeting themes were prioritized by the Steering Committee and then presented and approved by the whole Climate Resiliency Workgroup.

1:30 Welcome & Introductions (Mark Bennett, USGS and Erik Meyers, The Conservation Fund)

1:35 Announcements (Zoe Johnson, NCBO)

- Call for 2017 STAC Workshops: Initial Proposals due 1/25/17; Final Proposals due 2/17/17
See [Request for Proposals](#).
Zoe discussed the STAC Request for Workshop Proposals, with initial proposals due by January 5th. CRWG members are welcome to put forward suggestions for this proposal.
- Overview of Proposed CBP Biennial Review Framework
[See Presentation](#).
Zoe reviewed the CBP Biennial Review Framework. This process will be used to assess the CBP's achievement in its goals for the Bay Agreement. It is a schedule for when GITs and workgroups go before the CBP Management Board.
- Erik Meyers announced a progress report of a marsh elevation project with sediment work finishing last week in Maryland.
- Michelle Hamor from ACE announced a Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Study, which Zoe discussed should warrant more discussion between groups to align outcomes and goals of the project.

1:45 2017 TMDL MidPoint Assessment: Climate Change Integration (Mark Bennett, USGS)

- **Objective:** Provide an update on the status and next steps for integrating climate change into the 2017 MPA decision-making process
- **Action:** Review and approve the STAC Workshop response letter to the recommendations for the workshop, "Development of climate projections for use in CBP assessments"

[See Presentation](#).

Mark Bennett reviewed the Climate Change Decision-Making Timeline. There were three key sets of Partnership decisions discussed: In December, 2016: 1) climate change assessment procedures, 2) guiding principles, and 3) range of options for how and when to factor climate change considerations into the jurisdictions' Phase III WIPs. In May 2017: How and when to incorporate climate change considerations into the Phase III WIPs as the partners work on the draft Phase III WIP planning targets due in June 2017. And in December 2017: Final Phase III WIP planning targets fully reflecting partnership decisions regarding how and when to incorporate climate change considerations.

DISCUSSION

Erik asked about the reasoning of the PSC on the focus of qualitative vs quantitative aspects. Mark replied that the jurisdictions were asking for the more qualitative focus in the attainment of their goals. Zoe added that since not all the information of the modeling results are available yet (i.e., Conowingo and Land use change), no option has been removed from the table in terms of solutions for goal attainment. The idea is that we need to be cautious until these fairly large policy decisions are made.

Please provide input for the [draft response letter to STAC](#) regarding the Climate [STAC workshop report](#). Any feedback will need to be received by Jan 6th, 2017. This response letter needs to be reviewed by the CRWG, WQ GIT, and the Modeling WG before being sent to STAC officially.

2:15 Update on GIT Funding Projects (Zoe Johnson, NCBO)

- 2015: Climate Smart Analysis Matrix – Report out on Climate Smart Habitat Restoration Workshop held in November
- 2016: Climate Indicator Development – Update on proposal review and selection process

Zoe updated the group on the 2015 Climate Smart Analysis Matrix. The SAV and Black Duck Workgroups are the focus of this project to, which is analyzing climate vulnerability and specific adaptation strategies to make conservation work more “climate smart.” The next step in this process is to compile the results from the November 2016 workshop and to develop recommendations for how CBP can then utilize the decision-making methodology with other workgroups.

Zoe then discussed the development of the suite of climate change indicators for the CBP. There were indicators discussed in three categories: climate trends, impacts associated with climate change, and progress towards building resiliency. There were four proposals received from the RFP. The consultant will be decided on in January. Both this project and the Climate Smart Analysis Matrix project will involve the CRWG throughout the development process.

2:30 2017 Workgroup Priorities and Meeting Schedule (Zoe Johnson, NCBO)

- **Objective:** Review proposed 2017 Meeting Schedule and Key Action Focus Area Workgroup Priorities
- **Action:** CRWG to provide additional feedback for meeting focus areas and offer suggestions for invited speakers, seminar, and external guests

Zoe reviewed the proposed quarterly meeting schedule with the group. The CRWG approved moving to quarterly face to face meetings, with conference calls in between. Every meeting will be held on the 3rd Monday of every month, except for Jan and Feb, which will be held Jan 17 and Feb 21. Melissa and Kyle will send out a calendar invitation to remind everyone.

Michelle Hamor urged the group to schedule the meeting for the Climate Change Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Study early. Zoe suggested a presentation during the January call. This would allow for a larger discussion could occur in March.

3:00 Presentation: Mid Atlantic Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program (MARISA) (Jordan Fischbach, RAND Corp.)

[See Presentation.](#)

Jordan Fischbach provided an overview of the mission of MARISA, as well as key objectives and proposed activities.

The mission of MARISA is to support the effective utilization of climate science and the building of adaptive capacity and resilience to climate variability and change in the Mid-Atlantic region. This effort is led by RAND Corp.

DISCUSSION

Zoe asked what the best way was for the CRWG to interact with the MARISA initiative. Jordan replied that there is so much structured work underway, that it will require effort to determine where this group can plug in to the MARISA work. Jordan also brought up the idea of a workshop to possibly dive deeper in working together.

Zoe also suggested the possibility of a climate science conference for this area, since other RISA initiatives have hosted them. Jordan responded that this sounds very valuable for both parties. This could potentially occur in the first half of 2017. Jordan will review with his team some dates and locations for this conference.

Erik added that there needs to be some way to store the progress in these efforts, rather than constantly reviewing and reassembling the information each year. Jordan replied that this type of clearinghouse could be made a priority in the coming year.

Zoe asked if Jordan envisioned an ability to be able to take on tailored projects during the project timeline? Jordan discussed funding being a need for these projects, although there is high interest for these projects.

3:30 Wrap-Up/Adjourn

Participants

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