



**Minutes**  
**Chesapeake Bay Forestry Workgroup**

June 6, 2018 9AM – 10:30 AM

Conference Line: 888-844-9904, Code: 6802405# 9597380

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**Members**

Sally Claggett, FS, *Coordinator*  
Julie Mawhorter, FS, *Staff*  
Katherine Wares, CRC, *Staff*  
Barry Frantz, NRCS  
Peter Claggett, USGS  
Robert Corletta, DC DOEE  
Marcia Fox, DNRC  
Kesha Braunskill, DE FS  
Anne Hairston-Strang, MD DNR  
Marian Honecny, MD DNR  
Paul Emmart, MDE  
Lauren Townley, NYSDEC  
Cassandra Davis, NYSDEC  
Lydia Brinkley, USC  
Greg Evans, VA DOF  
Judy Okay, VA DOF  
Frank Rogers, WV DOF  
Herb Peddicord, WV DOF  
Holly May, ACB  
Craig Highfield, ACB  
Laurel Abowd, CRC  
Earl Bradley, Sierra Club  
Kathy Boomer, TNC

**Tree Canopy Outcome - SRS Process Overview**

The Tree Canopy Outcome will be giving an SRS presentation to the Management Board on November 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Tree Canopy meeting with the state leads in Annapolis on June 28<sup>th</sup> and a full FWG meeting in Annapolis on September 5<sup>th</sup> to prepare for the SRS. Land Use ones and Local leadership are also presenting on Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. Like with the RFB SRS process, there are three documents due before the Management Board meeting (logic table/workplan progress, outcome questionnaire, and PPT), then a presentation will be given at the Management Board meeting, and then the next version of the logic

table workplan (2018-2019) will be made within 90 days after the Management Board meeting. Julie will be coordinate with Darius Stanton to follow up on workplan actions and discuss collaboration with the Diversity Workgroup, which will also be covered at the June 28 meeting and possibly at a Diversity Workgroup meeting.

### **Tree Canopy Indicator Proposal**

The Tree Canopy goal is to increase Urban Tree Canopy to 2,400 acres by 2025. States set goals for each year in order to reach the 2,400 total. High resolution land cover data is used to track progress in the long term, and the 2013 LULC data is used to establish a baseline. In the short term, there is BMP data for urban buffers, urban tree planting, and urban forest planting that can be used for tracking progress.

**ACTION:** FWG members should review the indicator proposal and send comments to Julie by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Measuring Progress**

The Tree Canopy Indicator proposal addresses the issue of how to define an urban/community “footprint” or boundary within which to track changes in tree canopy. It is proposed to use 2010 Census Urban Areas and Clusters for a consistent, repeatable dataset to capture most large and small communities. Peter showed a map of community tree canopy in 2010 census areas – map and table of tree canopy data in the census urban areas/clusters are provided on the meeting page.

### **Comments and Questions**

- We need to communicate verification and land use differences.
- States don’t have resources and time to do verification. Can we come up with a different way to verify?
- Note the areas on the map are “urban and” community tree canopy and add where the data came from. How is “community” defined?
- Can other “communities” be added to the map? Do smaller places show up on the map?
- We need each state to review the GIS layer of 2010 Census Urban Areas and Clusters to see if it covers most communities of interest, and bring feedback/suggestions to the June 28 meeting with state tree canopy leads.

**ACTION:** Julie will obtain and send the Census Urban Areas and Clusters shapefiles to the state tree canopy leads for review in preparation for June 28 meeting.

### **GIT Funding Ideas**

The Chesapeake Bay Program is starting the Goal Implementation Team funding process for FY2018. GIT funding is from the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program. For FY2017, 16 projects were funded and projects range from \$20K-\$80K. Members shared ideas for FWG 2018 GIT Funding projects.

- Julie noted there hasn’t been a Tree Canopy GIT Funding project in several years There could projects related to data analysis/reporting tool for Tree Canopy, for looking at Tree Canopy data overlaps, environmental justice, and urban heat/climate data. If people think there is a need, there could be a project to create a tree tracking tool across the watershed that people can report data into.
- Judy Okay proposed an urban forest buffer project. This project would give funding to VDOF to fund training and guidebook for Tree stewards, Master Naturalists, and other community groups (schools, etc.) that can get trees in the ground in urban areas. The funding will also include

demonstrations. This supports Stewardship GIT, FWG, and Healthy Watersheds. An objective would be to make the training universal/throughout the watershed. The project started as a buffer idea but it could also include tree planting.

- Sally said during the RFB SRS process, Carin Bisland and Greg Allen suggested that the RFB outcome go through the LEAN process. We would hire a LEAN coordinator and have a state go through the process and determine how to make the buffer process more efficient. This will also be brought up at the June MB meeting.

**ACTION:** Katherine and Sally will check with GIT 6, WQGIT, Diversity Workgroup, and Climate Workgroup to see when we can submit proposals and how many we can submit. If we can only do one to the WQGIT, Katherine will send a poll for people to vote on which proposal we want to submit. This should be figured out by the end of the month.

### **10:00 Review of Management Board Review of Riparian Forest Buffers**

Ann Swanson on the Management Board thought the FWG should focus on (1) non-agriculture efforts, (2) whole farm planning/ buffer bypass issues, and (3) verification timeline change (~15years). Christine Conn said there is financial assistance and a finance workgroup that could assist the FWG with RFB efforts.

**ACTION:** Katherine will post the final RFB SRS materials to the FWG page.

### **Round Robin**

DC: The 10<sup>th</sup> annual DC housing expo and home show is on June 9<sup>th</sup> from 10AM-3PM at the Washington Convention Center.

MD: There is a tree survival workshop on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

VA: The Governor announced the top 20% of conservation land will be preserved.

WV: More information will be sent out soon on the Telly Workshop on August 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>. They are still looking for a location in the Frederick, Maryland area.

CBP: There will not be a July FWG meeting and the August meeting will be the Telly Workshop. The next meeting will be in September, it will be a face-to-face meeting in Annapolis.