



Forestry Workgroup April Meeting

April 9th, 2026
9:00am - 11:00am

Meeting Link: [Join the meeting via Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 246 388 262 055 07 **Passcode:** GG2Ec7oM

Call: +1 469-208-1525,,596978741# **Conference ID:** 596 978 741#

[Visit the meeting webpage for meeting materials and additional information.](#)

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Please read the following information carefully, as our meeting policies have changed:

- All meeting attendees' cameras and microphones will be muted at the start of the meeting.
- To request access to the microphone and camera, all meeting participants will be required to use the raised hand feature on Teams. Once access has been granted by the meeting organizer, you will then be allowed to unmute your mic and turn on your camera. Unless instructed otherwise, once a participant has microphone or camera access, they will have this permission for the remainder of the meeting.
- Access to chat will be provided as well. Should it be necessary, the Q&A feature on Teams will be utilized to field participant questions.

Compromised Meeting Plan: If the meeting's privacy is compromised, the meeting staffer and coordinator will send an email to all Members, alternates, staffers, coordinators, and interested parties. Within the email, you will find a new meeting link, instructions on sharing this information with external partners, and any necessary adjustments to the meeting schedule. Please do NOT share this information publicly or post it to the Chesapeakebay.net webpage.

Purpose:

- Learn about a recent ICPRB effort to prioritize land for protection
- Share updates about Management Strategy planning for the 2025 Watershed Agreement
- Explore data that could be used to set a baseline for the new forest conservation target

Agenda

I. Welcome and Introductions

(9:00 – 9:05)

Requested Action: Non-decisional

Lead: Anne Hairston-Strang (MD Forest Service, FWG Co-Chair)

II. Announcements (9:05 – 9:15)

- Ken Hyer (USGS), the new Healthy Landscapes co-chair, will introduce himself.
- Save the date! The June 3rd Forestry Workgroup meeting will be in person in Goochland, VA with a virtual option available. More details to follow!
- Call for three at-large member nominations (or re-nominations!)
- The first Healthy Landscapes meeting will be held on May 11th from 10am - 3pm. More details to follow!

Requested Action: Non-decisional

Lead: Katie Brownson (USFS, FWG Coordinator)

III. Round Robin (9:15 – 9:30)

Please come with 2-3 updates to share from your jurisdiction or organization!

Requested Action: Non-decisional

IV. Land Prioritization for Drinking Water Protection (9:30 – 9:50)

The presentation highlights ICPRB's 2025 update to the Land Prioritization dataset, which applies multiple geospatial metrics to identify and rank land parcels most important for protecting drinking water sources and demonstrates how this basin-wide (full state coverage) dataset can support targeted conservation planning and source water protection decision-making.

Lead: Renee Thompson and Megan McClaugherty (ICPRB)

Requested Action: Non-decisional

V. Update on Management Strategy development (9:50– 10:05)

Katie will provide an update on guidance received so far from the Bay Program on developing new Management Strategies and discuss next steps, which will include a request for assistance in compiling information on relevant programs and authorities supporting the Healthy Forests and Trees outcome.

Lead: Katie Brownson (USFS, FWG Coordinator)

Requested Action: Non-decisional

VI. Exploring Data for Establishing the Forest Conservation Target Baseline (10:05 – 10:55)

This session will be used to explore watershed-wide datasets that could be leveraged to establish a baseline for the new forest conservation target in the Healthy Forests and Trees management strategy. Sophie will present on protected lands dataset, Cotton will present on the USFS Forest Stewardship Program and data, and Katie will present on the high-resolution land use change data and forest planting BMP data.

Leads: Sophie Waterman (USGS), Cotton Randall (USFS), Katie Brownson (USFS)

Requested Action: Non-decisional

VII. Wrap-Up and Adjourn (10:55 – 11:00)

Lead: Katie Brownson (USFS)

Next Meeting: May 6th, 2026, 9:00am - 11:00am