



Chesapeake Bay Program

Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Forestry Workgroup Meeting

September 4th, 2024 | 9:00 am - 11:00 am

[Meeting Materials](#)

[Microsoft Teams Link](#)

Meeting ID: 211 440 005 393 Passcode: ZUX2ZM

Conference Line: +1 469-208-1525 Passcode: 167 772 374#

This meeting will be recorded for internal use to ensure the meeting note accuracy.

9:00 **Welcome and Introductions – Kesha Braunskill (USFS, FWG Co-Chair)**

9:10 **Announcements – Katie Brownson (USFS)**

- Beyond 2025 update: Comment letter submitted on behalf of the Forestry Workgroup based on discussions at our last meeting. The Steering Committee will be working to revise and finalize the report by the end of September
- Update on the new 2021/22 LULC data (2024 ed.): Katie Walker will be providing a summary of the feedback received during the stakeholder review period and updates made to address concerns and improve the data during the [September Land Use Workgroup meeting](#) (Sept 18th 1-3). All are welcome to join.
- Upcoming Riparian Forest Buffer webinars:
 - September 23 (12-1): Dr. David Newburn of the University of Maryland (UMD) will review his Hughes Center-funded research project, “Evaluating the Effectiveness of Economic Incentives to Enhance Riparian Buffer Adoption and Environmental Benefits for Water Quality and Carbon Sequestration.” [Register here](#).
 - October 10 (12-1): USFS Eastern Region Watershed Forestry team will host a webinar on Riparian Forest Buffers featuring our very own Craig Highfield as well as Jeremy Geist from Trout Unlimited. Registration information and a link to sign up for email updates on future watershed forestry webinars is available [here](#).

9:20 **Recommendations to Modify Forest Harvesting BMP efficiencies – Lorenzo Cinalli (USFS)**

The Timber Harvest Task Force has met and agreed upon final recommendations for an update to the Forest Harvesting BMP efficiency, which will be distributed to the FWG. Lorenzo will give an overview of the recommendations, with an opportunity for discussion and questions. A final decision from the FWG on whether to confirm these recommendations is requested, before advancing these to the WTWG & WQGIT.

- 9:50** **Timber Harvest Task Force – proposed changes for forest harvesting in Phase 7 – Katie Brownson (USFS)**
Katie will summarize other proposed updates from the Timber Harvest Task Force to improve the way forest harvesting is modeled in Phase 7 of the Watershed Model.
- 10:05** **State of Chesapeake Forests 2.0 Update – Katie Brownson (USFS)**
Katie will give an overview of the updates planned for the next update to the State of Chesapeake Forests Storymap and request input from the workgroup
- 10:20** **State of Chesapeake Forests 2.0- Plantable Areas and Fragmentation Analyses – Charlotte Weinstein (Chesapeake Conservancy)**
CC will be supporting USFS with geospatial analyses that will be included in the State of the Chesapeake Forests 2.0 Storymap. These analyses will identify areas for new tree plantings and investigate the health of our forests through patterns of fragmentation. CC will be coordinating with USFS and USGS on proposed methods, using analyses performed for the Maryland Forest Technical Study as a basis. This presentation will provide a brief overview of these methods and intended output and offer a chance for the workgroup to provide feedback.
- 10:50** **Round Robin**
- 11:00** **Adjourn**