

Proposed Process and Schedule for Securing CBP Partners' Buy-in on Application of Citizen Monitoring Data in Individual and Shared Decision Making

Objective: Use the process of developing, reviewing, approving, signing and publically communicating on a partnership memorandum of understanding to forge a deeper understanding of and commitment to the use of citizen-based and other non-tradition partners' monitoring data in individual partners and shared partnership decision making.

Recommended Approach

Develop a memorandum of understanding (MOU), to be ultimately approved and signed at the state cabinet secretary level, structured after the 2004 Chesapeake Bay watershed monitoring network MOU. Work the idea for such an MOU and then subsequent drafts of the MOU up through the Partnership's management structure, seeking much greater understanding of and buy-in to the use of citizen-based and other non-traditional partners' monitoring data in making decisions on Bay and watershed restoration and protection.

Recommended Process and Schedule

- Draft up a one-page concept paper and first present to the CBP Integrated Monitoring Networks Workgroup (**July 19**) followed by the Data Integrity Workgroup (**August**) and then STAR (**September**)
- Consult with Carin Bisland and Kristin Saunders on how to best navigate the CBP management structure to get the necessary level of buy-in and blessing (**September**)
- Present the concept paper to the CBP GIT coordinators and staffers to gauge their respective GIT's interest in getting more directly involved in its development, review and approval (**September**)
- Brief the interested GITs (**October-December**)
- Briefing the Partnership's advisory committees (**Fall/winter quarterly meetings**)
- Get on the agenda for the Management Board (**January 2018**)
- Present the draft MOU and larger context and importance to the Partnership to the Principals' Staff Committee and seek approval to circulate for final approval and signatures (**Spring 2018 meeting**)

Discussion Questions

- Does the recommended approach make sense to you?
- Does the overall structure and content of the Bay watershed monitoring network MOU make sense as an overall starting point for a Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative oriented MOU?
- Does the recommended process/schedule make sense to you?
- Who will take the lead as the spokesperson on pitching the idea for an MOU up the Partnership management structure?
- Who will take the lead on preparing the first draft of the MOU?
- Who do we envision as the actual signatories of the MOU beyond our seven watershed jurisdictional partners?
- What issues/topics/commitments do we want to embody within the MOU?
- Are we ready to initiate this work starting with the July 19 Integrated Monitoring Networks Workgroup meeting?