
Logic and Action Plan: ITAT Actions

— December 7, 2022 —
ITAT Meeting

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Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring Outcome

Continually improve the capacity to monitor and assess the effects of management actions being undertaken to implement the Bay TMDL and improve water quality. Use the monitoring results to report annually to the public on progress made in attaining established Bay water quality standards and trends in reducing nutrients and sediment in the watershed.

Logic and Action Plan

- Actions taken in next 2 years to improve progress of achieving the WQSAM outcome
- Public and signatory comment period – now
- Final Logic and Action Plan due January 11th

** If an action is not in the Logic and Action Plan, it does not mean ITAT can not participate in effort or peruse new ideas**

Tidal Trend Updates:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
Conduct and/or process annual analysis of water quality trends at long-term monitoring stations throughout the Bay and tidal tributary waters, using the <i>baytrends</i> R package. Trends are updated annually for the previous calendar year.	Generate annual update of tidal water quality changes over short- and long-term for all stations and parameters by collaborating with MD, VA, DOEE and COG on any modifications to methods, processing MD, VA, and DC deliverables, QA of results, and combining bay-wide results.	CBP monitoring team and STAR analyst working with MD, VA, DOEE, and COG

Tidal Trends Communication:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
Report and communicate findings on tidal trends for management-relevant time frames (annual, summer and spring seasons for chlorophyll a, summer and annual for DO, SAV growing season and annual for Secchi depth, annual for N, P, TSS and temperature).	Results for all tidal trend parameters are posted on the CBP ITAT website, baytrendsmapping tool, and Chesapeake Bay Watershed Data Dashboard. A summary presentation and briefing document will be released annually. Communicate results in Tributary Summaries when they are updated.	ITAT

Cluster Analysis:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
Comparative analysis of changing patterns over time across tidal tributaries in N, P, chlorophyll <i>a</i> , and DO concentrations	<p>Results of cluster analysis comparing water quality changes over time within and across tidal tributaries and the mainstem. Insights will be incorporated into presentations to partners and into tributary reports as appropriate.</p> <p>Explore additional funding to develop cluster analysis tool</p>	ITAT

Tributary Summary Updates:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
Update Tributary Reports	<p>The James Tributary Report will be updated in 2023.</p> <p>A framework to update the remaining reports will be developed and implemented, resulting in a regular update schedule for all 12 Tributary Report documents.</p> <p>Tributary Reports will be hosted on the Chesapeake Bay Data Dashboard through an interactive watershed map and on CAST.</p>	ITAT

Nontidal/Tidal Connections:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
<p>Improving understanding and build capacity for analysis and communication of linkage between watershed changes (including BMPs and land change), to loads, to non-tidal and tidal waters, and estuary response.</p>	<p>Convene meetings focused on connecting watershed loads and trends to water-quality responses in the estuary and explore aligning the nontidal trends with tidal trends.</p>	<p>ITAT</p>

Nutrient Limitation:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
Analysis explaining nutrient limitation patterns and changes	Calibrate and Verify Models for Nutrient Limitation Survey - Nutrient limitation patterns and changes in the mainstem Bay and major tributaries	ITAT , STAR monitoring team

Tributary Summary Communication:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
<p>Create a communications strategy for the Tributary Summaries.</p>	<p>SET will compile contacts of local watershed groups for ITAT.</p> <p>With content support from ITAT, SET will feature Tributary Summaries in various outreach materials (I.e. Bay Brief, social media accounts)</p>	<p>STAR, Strategic Engagement Team, ITAT, CBP Communications Team</p>

Tributary Summary Outreach:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
Share Tributary Summaries with local leaders and planners	<p data-bbox="653 399 1400 481">Presentations to local governments and local watershed groups on Tributary Summaries.</p> <p data-bbox="653 536 1439 661">Mid Atlantic Planning Commission Webinar showcasing the Tributary Summaries and other monitoring data tools</p>	ITAT, Local Leadership Workgroup, SET

Decision-making Tools:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
Expand existing technical tools and consider development of new tools to provide the information for decision makers to consider practices that provide benefits for multiple outcomes	Contribute to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Data Dashboard to relate water-quality results to other selected outcomes such as a new tab on the Tributary Summaries and Baytrendsmapping tool for the Tidal Trends.	GIS Team and CBP monitoring Team, ITAT (Kaylyn Gootman)

CBP Indicators:

Action	Performance Targets	Responsible Party
<p>Support cross-workgroup discussions to develop prioritized indicators in connection with clear management objectives with corresponding workgroups</p>	<p>Investigate usage of temperature tidal trends from ITAT to support Bay-wide temperature indicator through the CRWG.</p> <p>Investigate usage of ITAT tidal trend parameters as influencing factors indicators for CBP outcomes</p>	<p>STAR, CRWG, ITAT</p>

Additional Actions of interest:

- Increase technical interaction with state agencies and other stakeholders and community groups to identify priority needs to apply monitoring results
- Use results of interaction to plan new analysis to inform milestones
- Enhance analyses of factors affecting trends in major watersheds
- Analyses of using finer scale information on BMPs to detect changes
- Integrate monitoring data and analysis to improve next generation watershed and estuary models

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— Public and Signatory Comment —
[Link](#)

Feedback due by December 31, 2022