***Draft* FY15 GIT Funding Timeline and Process**

**Process Overview:**

The Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Goal Implementation Teams (GITs) will develop project proposals that will enable completion of the Management Strategies developed for the 2014 Chesapeake Watershed Agreement.

The GIT Chairs are responsible for collaborating to form one consensus set of prioritized projects that will utilize but not exceed the available funds. For FY 2015, the approximate total amount available for all projects combined is $840,000.

Following EPA administrative review, the group of consensus projects will be submitted to the Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) along with all information needed for CBT to issue competitive subawards to complete the projects.

**Guidance for Developing Project Proposals:**

EPA is providing this funding for projects that support program goals, outcomes, management strategies, and workplans. Example project categories are (recommended but not limited to):

1. *Management Strategy Implementation and Workplan Development*
   1. Literature searches supporting workplan development
   2. Projects addressing uncertainties and gaps to strengthen workplans
2. *Metric Development and Tracking*
   1. Support for science needed to develop metrics
   2. Metric/indicator development
   3. Performance measure development
   4. Monitoring/tracking program development
   5. Data collection program development
   6. Assessments of data to evaluate progress on metrics
   7. Modeling support
3. *Implementation Projects*
   1. Economic modeling
   2. Database development
   3. Policy research and recommendations
   4. Training
   5. Mapping, lands assessment
   6. Baseline analyses
   7. Meeting facilitation and support
   8. Environmental monitoring
   9. Environmental demonstration projects

**Timeline:**

**June through August** – GITs begin their internal process of developing project ideas and vetting the proposals within each team. Teams will formalize project proposals by using the “FY15 GIT Funding Project Form.”

**September 7** –Deadline for GITs to submit project proposals to Greg Allen and Samantha Watterson. Projects must be submitted in the form of a complete entry in the “FY15 GIT Funding Project Form.”

**September 15** – GIT Chairs will begin a process of prioritizing the projects for funding based on project proposals received from GITs.

**October 9** – The final priority CBP projects are submitted to CBT to begin their Request for Proposal and sub-award process. Technical leads are identified for each project.

**October 30** – CBT notifies EPA of any projects that it proposes to complete in-house.

**December (tentative)** – CBT completes subawards.

**January 2016 (tentative)** – GIT technical leads meet with awardees to commence projects.