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CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM LAND USE WORKGROUP (LUWG) MEETING

Meeting Agenda
September 17, 2025
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 211 080 797 472 7

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1:00 Introductions and Announcements – Arianna Johns, VA DEQ (LUWG Chair) (15 min.)

- New Meeting Security Settings
- **Decision Requested:** Approval of the [June 2025 minutes](#)
- Confirmation of email decision to approve back-cast methods
 - Follow-up on back-cast [comments](#)
 - **Decision:** The LUWG approves the back-cast methods described in the workplan for representing historical land use conditions from 1985-2012 in the Phase 7 suite of models.
- Announcement: Update on the CBLCM historic trend scenario for forecasted data- Sarah McDonald, LUWG Coordinator

1:15 Beyond 2025 Public Comment Period Follow-Up and Next Steps- Jackie Pickford, USGS (10 min.)

Jackie Pickford, USGS, will provide an overview of the comments received on the draft revised Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement Land Use Decision Support Outcome. Time will be made for discussion regarding the transition of the LUWG and next steps.

1:25 Approval of the Phase 7 Aggregation- Sarah McDonald, USGS (LUWG Coordinator) (15 min.)

The 2021/22 LULC data will be aggregated, or rolled-up, from its native 56 classes to 16 classes as input to CAST (excluding Tidal). These 16 classes are an intermediate land use product between the LULC and CAST land uses, referred to as the Phase 7 aggregation. Sarah McDonald, LUWG Coordinator, will walk the group through the final Phase 7 aggregation, incorporating remaining workgroup decisions, and request a vote on the proposed Phase 7 aggregation. Additionally, Sarah will explain the classification of tidal bare shore and ask the group to amend the June decision to include all bare shore.

Decision Requested: Approval of an update to the June 2025 LUWG decisional item to read “the group approved moving **all bare shore (tidal and non-tidal) that is not classified as construction** to the Phase 7 water class”.

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Decision Requested: The LUWG will be asked to approve the aggregation of the High-Resolution LULC data to 16 Phase 7 mapped land use classes.

1:40 Discussion of Review Process of Land Use Time Series- Sarah McDonald, USGS (LUWG Coordinator) and Andy Fitch, USGS (25 min).

Sarah McDonald, USGS, will discuss the review process for land use data entering the Phase 7 Model prior to the year of review and Andy Fitch, USGS, will show the LUWG how to view and download the data using a web app. The group will be asked to provide any feedback on the web app for the upcoming review of finer scale (LRSEG) data.

Feedback Requested: LUWG members will be asked to provide any comments on the time series review process and web viewer. Feedback should be provided to Sarah McDonald (smcdonald@chesapeakebay.net) and Caroline Kleis (kleis.caroline@epa.gov) by Tuesday, September 30th.

2:05 Review of Draft Version of Land Use Time Series from 1985-2022- Sarah McDonald, USGS (LUWG Coordinator) (15 min presentation, 35 min discussion).

Sarah McDonald, LUWG Coordinator, will facilitate an overview of the draft time series from 1985-2022. The group will see recent trends based on the high-resolution data and draft back-cast results at the county scale, including a comparison of trends with Phase 6 back-cast trends.

Feedback Requested: LUWG members will be asked to provide any concerns for their jurisdictions that they would like to see addressed prior to the final back-cast data being delivered to the modelers. Remaining feedback should be provided to Sarah McDonald (smcdonald@chesapeakebay.net) and Caroline Kleis (kleis.caroline@epa.gov) by Tuesday, September 30th.

2:55 Review of Actions/Decisions – Arianna Johns, VA DEQ/Chair (5 min).

3:00 Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 17, from 1:00-3:00PM

Acronym List

CBLCM: Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model

LULC: Land Use / Land Cover

LUWG: Land Use Workgroup

USGS: United States Geological Survey

VADEQ: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality