



Non-Tidal Network Meeting

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Meeting Link*:

<https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=maf7d9a137a3240e3c3818f2b52bae86b>

Meeting Number: 120 256 7419

Password: CBPNTN

Conference Line: +1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 120 256 7419

Meeting Materials:

https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/non_tidal_network_march_2021_meeting

*If you are joining by webinar, please open the webinar first, then dial in.

This meeting will be recorded for internal use to assure the accuracy of meeting notes.

AGENDA

1:00 Welcome, Introductions & Announcements

- Conococheague update - good news to share – **Peter Tango** (USGS@CBPO) & **Mark Nardi** (USGS)

1:10 Addressing the PSC request to improve CBP monitoring networks - **Peter Tango & Scott Phillips**

- Overview of PSC request to improve monitoring and relation to NTN: Scott Phillips
- Developing a work plan to address the PSC request: Peter Tango
- Issues to consider:
 - 9 month time horizon - establishing a process using NTN meetings.
 - This effort will be tied to a broader body of work on network assessment growing across a suite of teams and workgroups in the CBP including: a STAC workshop proposal for tidal monitoring updates (e.g. SAV and light availability assessment, CHLA assessment in Bay), Fisheries Forage Action Team needs for tidal macrobenthic invertebrate assessments, and Citizen science monitoring applications. Also, a development team has been established around analysis updates to work with new data sources (i.e., a 4D water quality estimator development team) for the tidal bay.

1:25 – 2:30 Developing information to improve the NTN – Peter Tango & All

What needs to be done to stabilize station losses due to inflation?

What needs to be done to improve the network?

1:25 *Discussion Question:* How well has the last decade of investment fulfilled collective needs? Round Robin

1:40 *Discussion Question:* What are some of the new science needs that should be considered for the network?

- NRCS-EPA-USGS project update on Ag related BMP effectiveness - Ken Hyer & Mark Nardi
- Common themes from jurisdictional meetings - Jimmy Webber

2:05 *Discussion Question:* What are some of the analysis and next steps should we consider for the network?

- Short term: From our last meeting - Continued need for the vulnerability analysis/stations that funding might be repurposed to address priorities/address at risk stations for funding loss, and inform decisions pending budget and network change considerations – Peter Tango & Ken Hyer
- Team process on evaluating investments into existing protocols over 123 stations, or strategically improving assessments and revising the network and sampling protocol - what resources are available for this work over the next 9 months? – Peter Tango, Joel Blomquist, & Mark Nardi

2:30 Adjourn

Input for future NTN Meetings – Please review the list below on your own time before the next meeting in April. Please share insights on focus topics and issue discussions needed to address information needs supporting program management activities through our work during future NTN meetings. Thank you.

Looking ahead at topics to include in our future 9 months of work regarding our move from Good to Great network operation and effective, management-relevant outputs, do you have other ideas to get on the agenda? Initial list:

- Resource for linking network evolution with science needs in the CBP: Science needs database of the Strategic Science and Research Framework (Breck Sullivan)

- BMP effectiveness and climate influence on performance. (Julie R and/or Mark Bennett)
- Climate change and a watershed temperature indicator: future directions under consideration (Julie R)
 - Also, Around 2015, EPA had developed a draft Climate Change Monitoring Network of 31 sites (as I recall) across our region. Perhaps in a future meeting we can pull this up and examine its potential utility in directing network updates where it converges with the landscape of information needs as we know it today.
- Existing water quality sampling protocol (routine and storms) - are we ready to adapt our protocol for improving insights on assessing watershed response to management actions? (Focus team)
- Improved use of data with improved analyses (Joel B)
- Budget considerations - flat funding, targeted funding, prioritizing station adjustments to improve outputs from the network.
- Potential to speak to work linking living resource assessments at stations with water quality assessments fulfilling multiple needs in research and management. Note: At an ad hoc Balt meeting in 2020, Peter asked the office if there are folks interested in contributing to macrobenthic assessments - there was a strong positive response for interest. There are further ties to CBP outcome needs and ties into USGS living resource pivot/e.g., improve Kelly Maloney benthic model of the watershed. Consider this opportunity as part of network operations and evolution.
- Others

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 21, 2021, 1 PM – 2:30 PM