

Principals' Staff Committee Conference Call
Actions and Decisions
March 12, 2015

CAC letter to the PSC

- Action: The PSC requested that the MB discuss and make recommendations to address concerns raised by CAC in their March 10, 2015 letter to the PSC regarding BMP expert panel verification provisions and transparency practices.
Completed.

Management Strategy Development Timeline

- Decision: Agreed to extend the Management Strategy public input period from 30 days to 45 days.
- Decision: Agreed to extend the due date for final management strategies to June 30—15 days beyond the one-year anniversary of the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement.

Next PSC Meeting

- Decision: Agreed the next face-to-face PSC meeting will be held June 2.

Executive Council Meeting

- Decision: The PSC chair is planning for a July Executive Council meeting at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA.
- Action: Agreed to commence planning the 2014 Executive Council meeting. CBP Communications Director Margaret Enloe will send an email to PSC members requesting they appoint a person to the EC planning team (and identify planning team members from last year).
Planning is underway.

High Resolution Land-Use Cover Data Acquisition

- Decision: Agreed that the CBP Office should move forward with the acquisition of High Resolution Land-Use Cover Data as proposed.
- Action: The PSC recommended that the data be made available in a manner that can help inform and benefit local governments and other local audiences.
An interagency agreement between the EPA and National Park Service (NPS) has been put in place to facilitate the acquisition of watershed-wide high resolution land cover data. The NPS awarded a cooperative agreement to the Chesapeake Conservancy and work is now underway.
- Action: The Chesapeake Bay Program Land Data Team will respond to a concern raised related to the lack of representation of abandoned/reclaimed mine lands as a land use category in the Phase 6 Watershed model, and will attempt to incorporate abandoned mines, soliciting data from the Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation.
In progress.

Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Plan

- Action: USACE requested that jurisdictions look into whether they have the option to cost share to comply with USACE's nonfederal cost share requirements in order to move forward.
In progress.
- Action: USACE requested that each jurisdiction identify a top priority area or watershed within their boundaries to help USACE identify target locations.
Partially complete.
- Action: USACE requested that each jurisdiction identify a point of contact to assist in the development of cost issues and services to provide.
Complete.

Riparian Forest Buffer Progress Update

- Action: Agreed the a letter will be drafted from the Executive Council to USDA requesting that USDA explore how CREP can better help achieve riparian forest buffer goals.
In progress.
- Action: USDA will share information on state task force reports as they become available. They are due on March 20th.
Completed.
- Action: Each jurisdiction is asked to appoint a lead person to act as a liaison with the relevant departments within their jurisdiction to help coordinate with USDA on riparian forest buffer issues and on work with other federal partners.
In progress.