



Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting (STAR) Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 2019

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Conference Line: 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 215-666-475

Webinar*: <https://zoom.us/j/215666475>

Meeting Materials:

[https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/scientific technical assessment and reporting star team meeting november 20](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/scientific_technical_assessment_and_reporting_star_team_meeting_november_20)

Location: Fish Shack

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

AGENDA

Topic:

Bay habitat forecasting applications and coordination strategy on reporting habitat status (e.g., hypoxia)

10:00 **Welcome, Introductions & Announcements – Bill Dennison (UMCES) and Scott Phillips (USGS)- STAR Co-Chairs, Peter Tango (USGS) and Emily Trentacoste (EPA), STAR Co- Coordinator**

Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, Workshops, & Webinars-

- [Maryland Water Monitoring Council Annual Conference](#), Dec 6, 2019. Linthicum, Maryland.
- [Turning a New Leaf Conference](#), December 6, 2019. Harrisburg, PA
- [Ocean Sciences Meeting](#), February 16 – 21, 2020. San Diego, CA.
- [National Watershed and Stormwater Conference](#), April 14-17, 2020, Austin Texas
- [Chesapeake Research Symposium \(ChesR20\)](#), June 8 – 10, 2020. Call for sessions coming soon.
- [The National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration](#) (NCER), August 2 – 6, 2020. Portland, Oregon.
- [World Seagrass Conference & International Seagrass Biology Workshop](#), August 9 – 14, 2020. Annapolis, MD. Session and Workshop abstracts due December 1, 2019.
- [The National Coastal and Estuarine Summit](#), October 4 – 8, 2020. Providence, RI. Call for Proposals opens in January 2020.
- [A Community on Ecosystem Services](#) (ACES), December 14-17, 2020. Bonita Springs, FL.

Announcements:

- **Update on Hypoxia GIT Funded Project – Peter Tango (USGS)**

Primary Topic: Reporting Hypoxia: It's all about The Dead Zone - Peter Tango (USGS)

In light of discussions today, recognize the state of a CBP communications strategy on communicating hypoxia, habitat condition and The Dead Zone. How do we update our approach to meet public information needs? This will be discussed at a near-future STAR meeting.

Today's STAR meeting theme is about hypoxia forecasting and how outputs of forecasting may be used to improve fish and other living resource habitat condition assessments. Key questions:

1. What are the applications of these models and forecasts to fish and habitat decisions?
2. Are there enhancements that could be made to improve their utility for fish and habitat?
3. Are the specific applications of the models and products applicable to the Fish habitat assessment project?
4. Are there products that could be useful from the models for other workgroups?

Action: Following-up from today's discussion will set the stage for a meeting on coordinating a communications strategy for the Chesapeake Bay Program regarding the many hypoxia forecasting and nowcasting results given nearly year-round interest by the public in the condition of the Dead Zone.

10:10 Hypoxia Forecast – Jeremy Testa (UMCES)

Various partners and individuals within the EPA and academic institutions have made a forecast of the anoxic volume during two summer periods in Chesapeake Bay over the past decade. These forecasts have been combined with mean July hypoxia forecasts as part of a package of forecasting, web-based supporting resources, and a summer review of the forecast skill.

10:25 Short – term Hypoxia and Habitat Forecasts for the Chesapeake Bay – Marjy Friedrichs (VIMS)

Marjy will present on the short-term (2 -3 days) hypoxia forecasts.

10:40 Seasonal Hypoxia Forecast – Isabella Bertani (UMCES)

Overview of one of the models used to generate seasonal forecasts of hypoxic volume in the Chesapeake Bay and proposed model updates in preparation for the 2020 forecast.

10:55 Provision of Loading Data – Joel Blomquist (USGS)

Joel will discuss the loads used to support the forecasting.

11:10 Habitat Forecast – Bruce Vogt (NOAA)

Bruce will discuss the linkage from the forecasts to fish and habitat needs. He will bring in references from ongoing research done by NOAA and the Fish Habitat Assessment work. He will also touch on building climate change scenarios and expectations for how that will affect hypoxia.

11:25 Communication strategy planning for reporting Hypoxia: Forecasts and Nowcasts. It's all about The Dead Zone - Peter Tango (USGS)

Peter will circle back to the primary topic of the CBP reporting hypoxia.

11:30 Adjourn

Next Meeting Dates: TUESDAY, December 17, 2019, 9:30 AM – 12 AM