



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Brook Trout Workgroup Spring 2026 Meeting

May 21, 2026
9:00 AM – 1:35 PM ET

Meeting Link: [Microsoft Teams Link](#)

Meeting ID: 235 113 784 176 029 | **Passcode:** uL7RJ2rg

Dial in by phone: +1 469-208-1525,,268958891# | **Phone Conference ID:** 268 958 891#

[Meeting Webpage link](#)

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Please read the following information carefully, as our meeting policies have changed:

- All meeting attendees' cameras and microphones will be muted at the start of the meeting.
- To request access to the microphone and camera, all meeting participants will be required to use the raised hand feature on Teams. Once access has been granted by the meeting organizer, you will then be allowed to unmute your mic and turn on your camera. Unless instructed otherwise, once a participant has microphone or camera access, they will have this permission for the remainder of the meeting.
- Access to chat will be provided as well. Should it be necessary, the Q&A feature on Teams will be utilized to field participant questions.

Compromised Meeting Plan: If the meeting's privacy is compromised, the meeting staffer and coordinator will send an email to all Members, alternates, staffers, coordinators, and interested parties. Within the email, you will find a new meeting link, instructions on sharing this information with external partners, and any necessary adjustments to the meeting schedule. Please do NOT share this information publicly or post it to the Chesapeakebay.net webpage.

Purpose: The main purpose of this meeting is to

- Provide updates since our Fall 2025 Meeting
- Formalize BTAMSs site selection
- Hear a few presentations by our partners

Agenda

I. Welcome, Roll Call & Introductions (9:00 – 9:10)

Requested Action: Non-decisional;

1. Put your [Name, Affiliation] in the meeting chat and
2. Review current membership (as of May 2026) and flag inaccuracies.

Leads: Workgroup Co-Chairs Katie Ombalski (Woods and Waters Consulting) and Dan Goetz (MD DNR)

Materials: [Link to membership spreadsheet](#)

II. Updates and Announcements (9:10 – 9:40)

Updates and announcements since our previous Brook Trout meeting.

Requested Action: Non-decisional: discussion and presentation only.

Leads: Workgroup Co-Chairs Katie Ombalski (Woods and Waters Consulting) and Dan Goetz (MD DNR)

Materials: N/A

- Thriving Habitats, Fisheries, and Wildlife Goal and new goal chairs
- Brook Trout Extirpation Determination Guidance Document
- [How BTWG determines “healthy populations” one-pager](#)
- Finalized [Resiliency Target Baseline Calculation Documentation](#)
- Website Updates: [Draft website update](#)
 - If states/organizational members want to include links to their programs or tools let us know by Thursday, May 28th.
- STAC Workshop Update
 - [Final report](#)

III. Review of New Outcome (9:40 – 10:00)

Refamiliarize with the new outcome’s targets and the workgroup’s plan to track them.

Requested Action: Non-decisional: discussion and presentation only.

Leads: Workgroup Co-Chairs Katie Ombalski (Woods and Waters Consulting) and Dan Goetz (MD DNR)

Materials: [Presentation Link](#)

IV. Brook Trout Abundance Monitoring Sites (BTAMS) Network and Outcome Map (10:00 – 10:45)

Review pre-submitted BTAMS from each jurisdiction’s existing monitoring stations to formalize the Brook Trout Abundance Monitoring Sites network (for the 2025 Brook Trout outcome target).

Requested Action: Decisional - Formalize BTAMS locations

Leads: Workgroup Co-Chairs Katie Ombalski (Woods and Waters Consulting) and Dan Goetz (MD DNR)

Materials: [All sites submitted to date](#)
[Link to pre-decision identified BTAMS sites](#)

Purpose of BTAMSs Network from [draft website revision](#):

Understanding where brook trout is is crucial to then understanding how we can implement management actions to increase their numbers. In 2025, the brook trout workgroup committed to increasing brook trout abundance in at least 10 long-term monitoring sites. To do this, each state designated two primary Brook Trout Abundance Monitoring Sites (BTAMSs) to observe how environmental changes and management actions affect brook trout population numbers. With a better understanding of what actions can be taken to increase brook trout abundance, we can ensure the best populations are thriving and expanding into new habitat.

V. Break (10:45 – 10:55)

VI. Presentation: Spatial Differences between 2017 and 2024 EBTJV Assessments (10:55 – 11:25)

Discuss the locations of where we saw gains and losses in occupancy of brook trout as well as potential limitations to using EBTJV assessments as the way to measure the occupancy target of the brook trout outcome.

Requested Action: Non-decisional: discussion and presentation only.

Leads: Lori Maloney (EBTJV)

Materials: N/A

VII. Presentation: Update on new TU brook trout conservation portfolio (11:25 – 11:40)

Trout Unlimited (TU) will provide an update on incorporating the most recent EBTJV assessment into their conservation portfolio.

Requested Action: Non-decisional: discussion and presentation only.

Leads: Matt Mayfield (Trout Unlimited)

Materials: N/A

VIII. Open Discussion (11:40 – 12:00)

Discussion about EBTJV assessments and Trout Unlimited's brook trout portfolio in relation to the new brook trout outcome.

Requested Action: Non-decisional: discussion and presentation only.

Leads: Workgroup Co-Chairs Katie Ombalski (Woods and Waters Consulting) and
Dan Goetz (MD DNR)

Materials: N/A

IX. Lunch Break (12:00 – 12:30)

X. Member Updates

(12:30 – 1:30)

Hear updates from jurisdictions and NGO partners.

Requested Action: Non-decisional

Lead: Multiple

Materials: N/A

- **MD** (5 minutes)
- **PA** (5 minutes)
- **VA** (5 minutes)
- **WV** (5 minutes)
- **NY** (5 minutes)
- **Federal Partners** (5 minutes)
- **Trout Unlimited** (5 minutes)
- **Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture** (5 minutes)
- **Western PA Conservancy** (5 minutes)
- **Other** (15 mins)

XI. (5 mins) Meeting Debrief and Adjourn

(1:30 – 1:35)

Debrief major decisions and action items from the meeting.

Requested Action: Decisional: Fall Meeting Date

- November 12 or 19th 2026 at PA Fish and Boat Commission Office in Bellefonte, PA

Leads: Workgroup Co-Chairs Katie Ombalski (Woods and Waters Consulting) and
Dan Goetz (MD DNR)

Materials: N/A