

## **Indicators Workgroup (IWG) of the Scientific and Technical Analysis and Reporting (STAR) Team**

### **IWG Scope and Purpose**

The Indicators Workgroup promotes the development of indicators that effectively communicate progress in the restoration of living resources, water quality and habitat in the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. The workgroup provides guidance to Scientific and Technical Analysis and Reporting Team and the other teams and workgroups that have the responsibility for the selection of appropriate metrics and the analysis and interpretation of data for individual indicators. That guidance includes:

A) Develop a framework that relates all Bay Program indicators to each other so that they provide a complete and coherent explanation of the health of living resources, water quality and habitat in the Bay and its watershed, factors impacting Bay and watershed health, and efforts implemented to protect and restore the Bay and watershed.

B) Develop guidelines for the design of indicators to provide the most effective communication with the public.

### **IWG 2012 Workplan**

A) Assist CBP Goal Implementation Teams (GITs) as they identify assessment and accountability metrics that will be used by the GITs and reported to external audiences in 2012. Specifically, the IWG will assist GITs as they:

- Identify which indicators from the 2010 Bay Barometer will no longer be used.
- Identify changes to measures previously reported to the public via CBP assessments.
- Identify measures which need to be developed for public reporting. If a GIT needs support from the STAR to develop the new measure, the STAR and the CBP Management Board need to weigh needs of the collective CBP and determine if/when resources of STAR will be utilized to support the needs of the GIT, especially if new monitoring, modeling and/or data analysis is required.

B) Ensure scientific and technical integrity of assessment and accountability information being used by GITs and being communicated to external audiences.

C) Coordinate with the CBP Communications Workgroup (CWG) as they develop questions and guidance to help GITs identify assessment and accountability metrics for public reporting in 2012. Please refer to Appendix A of “How CBP Will Be Accountable and Communicate Assessment Information to the Public in 2012” for an initial draft.

D) Coordinate with CWG and GITs to develop a timeline of assessment and accountability information that will be made available to the public in 2012, including how the information will be conveyed (e.g. press release, web story, etc.). Refer to Appendix B of “How CBP Will Be Accountable and Communicate Assessment Information to the Public in 2012” for an initial draft.