

Status of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL's Midpoint Assessment Priorities

MPA Priority	Description of MPA Priority	Lead Agency and/or Workgroup(s)	Status
			Not Yet Started / In Progress / Complete
MPA & Phase III WIP Schedule	Develop schedule to achieve an effective balance between sufficient review time for tool revisions/review/ concurrence and sufficient time for target development and implementation planning.	EPA and Modeling Workgroup Contact: Katherine Antos, antos.katherine@epa.gov and Gary Shenk, gshenk@chesapeakebay.net	Complete http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/epa_and_modelingwg_mpa_priority_workplan-schedule_11.26.12.pdf
How to credit 60% by 2017	Bay jurisdictions are seeking clarity from EPA on how EPA will assess if they have met the "60% by 2017" interim target set forth in EPA's expectations dating back to November 2009 and established in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL.	EPA Contact: Katherine Antos, antos.katherine@epa.gov	Complete http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_60percent_by_2017_2.pdf
Forestry Workgroup Workplan for Forests and Air Deposition	Improve communication about the role of forests in attenuating (preventing/reducing) the nutrient loads to Bay tidal waters from air deposition, especially of nitrogen compounds.	Forestry Workgroup Contacts: Sally Claggett, sclaggett@fs.fed.us	Complete http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/fwg_combined_workplans.pdf
Timeline for establishing EPA's expectations for Phase III WIP and setting Phase III WIP planning targets	EPA first laid out its expectations for all three phases of the WIPs in a November 2009 letter from the EPA Regional Administrator to members of the PSC. EPA clarified its expectations for Phase I and II WIPs in short guides distributed in April 2010 and March 2011, respectively, as well as in subsequent communications to the Bay jurisdictions. EPA intends to follow the same process for the Phase III WIPs. In addition, EPA will set the Phase III WIP planning targets in late 2017.	EPA Contact: Katherine Antos, antos.katherine@epa.gov	Not Yet Started (Estimated Start Date: Spring 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_ph_iii_expectations.pdf

Bay TDML Modification – Why, When, How?	EPA, in collaboration with the Partnership, will consider the results of the midpoint assessment and jurisdictions Phase III WIPs to determine whether modification of the 2010 Chesapeake Bay TMDL is necessary and appropriate.	EPA	Not Yet Started (Estimated Start Date: 2019) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18968/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_tmdl_modification_feb_8_2013.pdf
Use Growth Projections to Estimate Offset Demand	In order to prepare for the number of trading and offset credits needed, an estimate of this need should be prepared to insure that the supply is available.	Trading and Offsets Workgroup Contact: Pat Gleason gleason.patricia@epa.gov	Not Yet Started (Estimated Start Date: TBD) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18969/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_offset_demand_2-7-13.pdf
Filter Feeders	The oyster model will be revised as necessary to incorporate aquaculture operations and additional oyster biomass brought about by restoration activities including sanctuaries. Current and projected data on biomass distribution and abundance will be mapped onto the current computational grid and various combinations of restoration and load reductions will be examined.	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lew Linker, llinker@chesapeakebay.net	Not Yet Started (Estimated Start Date: January 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf
Establishment and update of BMP definitions and efficiencies	The reevaluation of prioritized approved BMPs, and the evaluation and establishment of new BMPs to improve their definitions and associated effectiveness values through the partnership approved BMP protocol process.	AgWG and other Source Sector Workgroups Contact: Lucinda Power, power.lucinda@epa.gov	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: None) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18151/agwg_mpa_priority_work_plan_-_establishment_and_update_of_bmp_definitions_and_efficiencies.pdf
Model Data Processing	The evaluation of existing model data processing and the identification and prioritization of improved processing methods to support enhanced analyses and decisions.	AgWG/AMS Contact: Matt Johnston, mjohnston@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: October 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18151/agwg_mpa_priority_work_plan_-_model_data_processing.pdf
Modeling Baseline/Input Data and Assumptions	Provide access to improved baseline/input data and assumptions which are incorporated into functional models that operate collaboratively.	AgWG/AMS Contact: Matt Johnston, mjohnston@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: October 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18151/agwg_mpa_priority_work_plan_-_

			modeling baseline-input data and assumptions.pdf
Develop New Land Use Classifications and Loading Rates	Improve spatial, temporal, and categorical representation of urban, agricultural, federal, and natural land uses and, to the extent possible, assign separate loading rates. Where local data unavailable, develop more accurate distribution of loads.	Land Use Workgroup Contact: Peter Claggett, pclagget@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: April 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/luwg_mpa_priority_workplan_120312_final.pdf
Representation of Federal Lands	Improve the accuracy of federal land boundaries and land use information informing the Phase 6 suite of models.	Land Use Workgroup Contact: Peter Claggett, pclagget@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: October 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/luwg_lowpriority_workplan.pdf
Revisit Watershed Model Calibration Methods	Revisit Watershed Model calibration methods with the goal of improving local watershed results, including revisiting regional factors. This priority also includes activities to extend the simulation period and to revise the Airshed and WQSTMs.	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lew Linker, llinker@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: December 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/modelingwg_mpa_priority_workplan-revisit_wsm_calibration_methods_12-3-12.pdf
Revise Modeling System Structure	Transition to an all PQUAL model, to enhance decision support and to improve transparency, accuracy, and confidence.	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Gary Shenk, gshenk@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2016) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/modelingwg_mpa_priority_workplan-revise_modeling_system_structure_12-3-12.pdf
Climate Change Influence on Bay TMDL	Current efforts are to frame an initial future climate-change scenario based on estimated 2050 conditions. Conditions to be described include land use, rainfall, air temperature, water temperature, sea level rise, and wetland loss due to sea level rise.	EPA with support from UMD, Penn State, and USGS Contact: Lew Linker, llinker@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: December 2017) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf

Conowingo Infill and local impoundments	The Modeling Workgroup will work with the USACE Lower Susquehanna River Watershed Assessment study, and the STAR work plan for the assessment of trapping capacity behind dams, especially the Conowingo, as well as greater representation of local impoundments and reservoirs throughout the Phase 6 Watershed Model domain.	Modeling Workgroup and STAR Contact: Lew Linker, llinker@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2015/2016) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf
Refinement of the Shallow Water Simulation	Refinement of the open water and SAV/clarity water quality standards in shallow-water regions (depth < 2 to 3 m) adjacent to the Bay shoreline is an objective identified in the 2010 TMDL documentation. The refined shallow water simulation would take advantage of data in recent years from the shallow water monitoring program that were unavailable to previous versions of the WQSTM as well as advances in shallow water simulation.	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lew Linker, llinker@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: December 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf
Refined Assessment of James River Chlorophyll-a	This assessment will determine the criteria necessary to meet water quality standards in the James River.	VA DEQ / Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lew Linker, llinker@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2016) (http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf)
Assess and Explain Water Quality Changes in the Bay	Enhance the assessment and explanation of monitoring information as part of the Mid-Point Assessment for the Bay TMDL through an integrated approach that includes three primary pieces of information to assess progress toward water-quality standards: (1) Reporting of water-quality management practices; (2) Trends of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment in the watershed; and (3) Attainment of dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll-a, and water clarity/SAV standards.	STAR Contact: Scott Phillips, swphilli@usgs.gov and Jeni Keisman, jkeisman@usgs.gov	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2016/2017) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_file/s/20936/star_assess_and_explain_water-quality_trends_update_jan_22.pdf
Improved modeling accuracy of land use characteristics,	Improve characterization of urban land use with differentiating loading rates	USWG/LUWG/Modeling Workgroup	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: April 2015)

phosphorus and sediment		Contact: Peter Claggett, pclagget@chesapeakebay.net and Gary Shenk, gshenk@chesapeakebay.net	http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/uswg_mpa_high_priority_workplan-12.3.2012.pdf
Algal Turf Scrubber	Convene an Expert BMP Panel to develop recommendations for the crediting of algal turf scrubbers in the CBP modeling tools.	Watershed Technical Workgroup Contact: Matt Johnston, mjohnston@chesapeakebay.net	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: before October 2015) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/wtwg_mpa_workplan_algal_turf_scrubber_expert_panel_organization_02042013.pdf
Develop Trading and Offset Technical Memorandums	EPA is providing assistance to the jurisdictions by developing several technical memorandums on specific trading and offset topics, such as sector load management, local water quality protection, representative sampling, trading ratios for uncertainty, and credit calculation methodology.	EPA Contact: Pat Gleason gleason.patricia@epa.gov	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: TBD) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18969/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_tms_2-7-13.pdf
Impact of Delivery Factors on Trading and Offset Programs	When delivery factors in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model change, trading and offset program that rely on these delivery factors will need to change, at a minimum, credit calculation methodology.	Trading and Offsets Workgroup and Modeling Workgroup Contact: Pat Gleason gleason.patricia@epa.gov	In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2017) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18969/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_delivery_factors_2-7-13_docx.pdf
Accounting for Trades and Offsets	Designs for trading and offset features have been proposed for BayTAS to support the development of the jurisdictions' trading and offset programs.	EPA and the Bay Jurisdictions Contact: Pat Gleason gleason.patricia@epa.gov	In Progress (Expected Completion Date: 2014) http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18969/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_bay_tas_2-7-13.pdf