

CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday December 9th, 2024
Time: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Eastern Time
Location:

Link:

<https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=m8cbd1511b861d7cab90887840676b011>

Meeting number: 2630 014 7656

Password: WQGIT2024

Join by phone: +1-408-418-9388

Access code: 2630 014 7656



Chesapeake Bay Program

Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Meeting materials: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/water-quality-goal-implementation-team-git-3-meeting-december-2024>

Written announcements or reminders (CTRL + click to jump ahead within document)

Agenda

Topic	Start time (duration)	Item Title <i>Item description</i>	Speaker(s) or presenter(s) Materials
	1:00	<u>Welcome and Introduction</u> <i>We will use Webex for roll call purposes, so please ensure your name and affiliation are accurately captured in the Webex participants list. If not, please enter your correct name & affiliation in the chat box. If multiple participants are joining through the same location, please enter your names in the chat box. Call-in participants are requested to identify themselves verbally.</i>	Suzanne Trevena, EPA, WQGIT Chair
	(20 min)	<u>Announcements & Verbal Updates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinator Updates – Jeremy Hanson, CRC• Progress reporting – Auston Smith, EPA• Workgroup Updates	Materials: Presentation
Phase 7 model development	1:35 (15 min)	<u>Forest harvest in Phase 7</u>	Katie Brownson, USFS

Katie will describe the draft recommendations for forest harvest in the Phase 7 watershed model.

Informational. Questions and feedback welcome.

Phase 7 model development	1:50 (30 min)	<p><u>Proposed River Segmentation for Phase 7</u></p> <p>Bill will describe Virginia DEQ's proposal for Phase 7 to use NHD HUC12 watersheds as a new basis for defining river segments in the next version of the Model. This would replace the current river segments originally developed for the Phase 5 Watershed Model that were carried forward into Phase 6. Q&A to follow the presentation, and a decision will be sought live, if members are comfortable, or else we will seek to confirm consensus offline ahead of the January WQGIT meeting.</p> <p>Note: This proposal would not change the <u>land</u> segmentation for Phase 7; land segments are essentially county or city boundaries. The combination of the land and river segments is what yields the land-river segments used in CAST.</p> <p>[Tentative] Decision requested: Approval to apply proposed methods for defining river segments in the Phase 7 Watershed Model.</p>	Bill Keeling, VA DEQ
	2:20	10-minute Break	
Milestones	2:30 (60 min)	<p><u>Near term milestones</u></p> <p>"Near term" milestones are those milestones that span 2026 through when there are new targets established by the partnership using the Phase 7 modeling tools (approximately 2028 or 2029).</p> <p>Suzanne will present options for the WQGIT based on past discussions. Given the latest outlook for Management Board meetings in early 2025, our goal is to present recommendations/options to the Management Board at its January 16 meeting.</p> <p>Suzanne will lead discussion of the options and based on a pulse check of the group we will either move to a decision or to refine the list of options for the Management Board's consideration.</p> <p>Decision/Input requested: If there is a path to consensus we will either make a decision live or seek to confirm a decision offline; if the pulse check confirms we are not in full agreement we will reduce the list of options for the Management Board to consider in January.</p>	<p>Suzanne Trevena, EPA, WQGIT Chair</p> <p>Materials: Options document</p> <p>See also: Materials from January 2009 PSC meeting</p>

Beyond 2025	3:30 (25 min)	Priority Projects and “Big Question” <i>Jeremy will share updates on the process and status of requests outlined for in the 11/22 email to the WQGIT. The emphasis will be on the timeline for the WQGIT and the draft priorities list.</i> <i>Information or materials on “Phase 2” are now available on the Planning for 2025 and Beyond webpage.</i> <i>Input/Action requested: In flux; will be articulated on the call.</i>	Jeremy Hanson, CRC, WQGIT Coordinator Materials: Slides; draft WQGIT priorities list See also: 11/22 Email to WQGIT and attachments
	3:55	Recap of Actions and Decisions	Sushanth Gupta, CRC
	4:00	ADJOURN	

Written announcements or reminders

- **Announcements or opportunities**
 - In case you missed it: The Chesapeake Bay dead zone was “near average” in 2024. [CBP Press Release](#). [VIMS 2024 Chesapeake Bay Dead Zone Report](#). [MD DNR Hypoxia 2024 Year End Summary](#).
 - **New!** The five small agricultural watershed monitoring stations are live and online! The WQGIT has been briefed on this project previously on this project for “Monitoring the Effectiveness of Conservation Practices in Small Agricultural Watersheds.” The watersheds – two in PA, one each in DE, MD and VA – are described on the USGS website with links to each site’s data viewer here: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/chesapeake-bay-activities/science/monitoring-effectiveness-conservation-practices-small>
 - **New!** The Chesapeake Agroforestry Network (CAN) will be hosting a meeting on January 7th, 2025 at 10:00am. This will be a joint meeting including the Agriculture Workgroup, Forestry Workgroup, and CAN, with presentations relevant to these respective groups. The agenda is forthcoming. If you are interested in attending, please reach out to Ruth Cassilly (rcassilly@chesapeakebay.net) and Katie Brownson (katherine.brownson@usda.gov) for more information.
 - **New!** The Choose Clean Water Coalition 2025 conference will be May 19th-21st in Harrisonburg, VA with the theme “Hills and Valleys: Our Journey for Clean Water.” The Coalition is accepting proposals for presentations and field trips. View the [RFP](#) for more information. Proposals are due January 10, 2025.
 - The next [CRC Roundtable](#) is Wednesday, December 18th from 12-1pm. The topic and speakers are yet to be announced.
 - CAST webinars are on winter break and will return in January.
 - The Pooled Monitoring Initiative’s Restoration Research Award program RFP is out!
 - RFP and program details here: <https://cbtrust.org/grants/restoration-research/>
 - Due date: **January 23rd, 2025**
 - Information session: January 7th, 2025 from 12pm-1pm EST. Register [here](#).

This meeting will be recorded for internal purposes. Current EPA policy does not allow for distribution of the recordings.

Closed captioning will be available for this meeting. To turn on the closed captioning, select the “cc” button in the bottom left corner of the screen. To show a live transcript of the meeting, go to the bottom right-hand corner of the screen and select “captions”.

If you have any other accessibility concerns, please contact Sushanth Gupta (gupta.sushanth@epa.gov).

Acronyms

CAST: [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#)

CBPO: Chesapeake Bay Program Office

CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium

DEQ: [VA] Department of Environmental Quality

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

GIT: Goal Implementation Team

NHD: National Hydrography Dataset

PSC: [Principals’ Staff Committee](#)

RFP: Request for Proposal

USFS: United States Forest Service

USGS: United States Geological Survey

WQGIT: [Water Quality Goal Implementation Team](#)