



Clean Water Goal Team (CWGT)

Monday, June 22nd – Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026

[Visit the meeting webpage for meeting materials and additional information.](#)

In-person participation is held at Maryland Department of the Environment in Baltimore, MD (1800 Washington Blvd Baltimore, MD 21230). Virtual participants can join via the meeting link below. RSVP is required for in-person participants and highly encouraged for virtual participants to plan for breakout rooms and discussions. Venue logistics information will be shared with in-person attendees. Please reach out to Petra (Baldwin.Petra@epa.gov) to receive the RSVP form.

[Join the meeting via Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 280 060 490 831 99 **Passcode:** Xq9QN97p
Call: +1 202-991-0477 **Conference ID:** 649 875 449#

More information on virtual meeting practices and accommodations is at the [bottom of the agenda](#).

Purpose: This is the first hybrid meeting of the Clean Water Goal Team (CWGT) and first hybrid meeting in a long time for the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT). The overall theme of the meeting is: ***Reset and re-center - How do we best engage each other so that we're all informed?***

For this meeting, we will divide our time in two parts:

- Day One: Our shared understanding of the RENPS timeline and the knowledge and decision steps to get there.
- Day Two: Our new structure and governance framework under the revised *Watershed Agreement*, discussions on how best to operate as a Goal Team, and initial Management Strategy considerations.

Day 1: Modeling and Nutrients

Monday, June 22nd | 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Objectives:

- Orient ourselves on the decisions and steps ahead of us.
- Fill or identify steps to fill remaining knowledge or scheduling gaps in our RENPS timeline.
- Use time together to move to deeper shared understanding on planning target development.
- Identify areas of existing alignment and areas that need additional work to resolve and reach consensus on key decisions.

I. Pre-meeting Arrival (9:30 – 10:00 AM)

We welcome anyone joining early in person while we finalize setting up the space. Bring your own breakfast and have a discussion with another early arrival!

II. Welcome & Objectives (10:00 – 10:20 AM)

We will open the virtual meeting room at this time. Lee and Greg will share an overview of the main objectives and agenda for the two-day meeting.

Lead: Lee McDonnell and Greg Sandi, CWGT Co-Chairs

Materials: Presentation

III. Ground Rules and Kick-off Activity (10:20 – 10:50 AM)

Jeremy will lead an interactive activity to kick off the two-day meeting and build a foundation for candid conversations.

Lead: Jeremy Hanson, CWGT Coordinator

Materials: Ground Rules Slides, Activity Instructions

IV. Overview of Upcoming CWGT Decisions (10:50 – 11:15 AM)

Lee will provide an overview of upcoming CWGT decisions, deliverables, and decision roles to ensure a shared understanding of the timeline and priorities ahead.

Requested Action: For feedback and initial agreement on upcoming decisions, timing, and decision-making roles.

Lead: Bo Williams, EPA CBPO

Materials: Presentation, Schedule of Decisions and Deliverables, Decisions Calendar

V. Planning Targets and Tiered Implementation: Setting the Stage (11:15 AM – 12:00 PM)

A plenary to briefly recap what has been presented to the Goal Team over the past few months on these topics and tee up some of the key questions for discussion including how the default method and tiered implementation could work together, what information needs to come together, and what factors need to be considered for a decision.

Lead: Lee McDonnell

Materials: Presentation, Phase III WIP Major Decisions, Tiered Implementation STAC Prospectus

VI. Lunch (12:00 – 1:00 PM)

VII. Planning Targets and Tiered Implementation: Breakout Discussion (1:00 – 2:30 PM)

We will divide into breakout groups, virtually and in-person, to discuss questions posed in the prior plenary session. The objective of these discussions is to hear from partners on their initial perspective for how to approach planning targets, what big questions remain, and what problems or sticking points need to be figured out. Following breakout discussions, we will come together to report out, have discussion as a full group and synthesize key points.

Lead: Jeremy Hanson, breakout group leads

Materials: Presentation, Phase III WIP Major Decisions, Tiered Implementation STAC Prospectus

VIII. Break (2:30 – 2:45 PM)

IX. Base Year: Breakout Discussion (2:45 – 3:45 PM)

After a brief refresher on the status of E3 Scenario development and primer with considerations for base year choices, we will divide into breakout groups, virtually and in-person, to discuss initial perspectives for choice of Scenario Base Year for planning targets, what questions remain, and what problems or sticking points there may be in advance of a decision in September. Following breakout discussions, we will come together to report out, have discussion as a full group and synthesize key points.

Lead: Auston Smith, breakout group leads

Materials: Presentation, Base Year Considerations Handout

X. Hydrologic & Critical Period: Breakout Discussion (3:45 – 4:45 PM)

After a brief refresher on the analysis for the hydrologic period and primer on considerations for choices, we will divide into breakout groups, virtually and in-person, to discuss initial perspectives for choice of hydrologic period for Phase 7, what questions remain, and what problems or sticking points need to be figured out. Following breakout discussions, we will come together to report out, have discussion as a full group and synthesize key points.

Lead: Robin Glas, Lew Linker, breakout group leads

Materials: Presentation, Hydrologic Period Considerations Handout

XI. Wrap Up (4:45 – 5:00 PM)

We will provide a recap of the day's discussions, noting key points where continued discussion is needed, take a look back at the list of upcoming CWGT decisions to remind participants of the path ahead and give an overview of the agenda for Day 2.

Lead: Lee McDonnell, Greg Sandi

Materials: Schedule of Decisions and Deliverables

XII. Optional Social Dinner – Checkerspot Brewing Company (5:15 – 8:00 PM)

Day 2: Goal Team Operations and Management Strategies

Tuesday, June 23rd | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Objectives:

- Understand what has changed with our new structure and governance.
- Discuss focal points for improvement and success as a Goal Team and how we envision ourselves operating going forward.
- Hear initial challenges and management approaches for Management Strategies from Outcome leads and provide feedback to enable drafting to begin.

I. Pre-meeting Arrival (8:30 – 9:00 AM)

We welcome anyone joining early in person while we finalize setting up the space. Bring your own breakfast and have a discussion with another early arrival!

II. Welcome, Day One Refresher & Objectives (9:00 – 9:20 AM)

We will open the virtual meeting room at this time. Lee and Greg will share a brief recap of the first day, give an overview of the main objectives and agenda for the day and provide an outline of the tasks and decisions for the CWGT in the next few months.

Lead: Lee McDonnell and Greg Sandi, CWGT Co-Chairs

Materials: Presentation

III. Review of Member Feedback Conversations (9:20 – 9:40 AM)

Jeremy will share key themes, points of alignment and points of contrast heard from feedback conversations with WQGIT members in the last couple months.

Lead: Jeremy Hanson

Materials: Member Feedback Summary Slides

IV. Goal Team Operations & Structure: Setting the Stage (9:40 – 10:00 AM)

Lee will share the latest updates to CWGT structure and CBP governance and highlight the key remaining points of discussion raised over the last couple months, including an update on discussions about where the function of the Federal Facilities Workgroup should reside.

Lead: Lee McDonnell

Materials: Presentation, CWGT Revised Structure, Workgroup Descriptions

V. Goal Team Operations & Structure: Discussion (10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

A deep dive into discussions as a group on how best our Goal Team can work together. We will structure this by key discussion points, including those listed below, and hold time for a brief break in the middle as time allows.

- The Role of the Goal Team – Given the broader scope than the previous WQGIT, how should the role of the Clean Water Goal Team itself change? What topics and level of detail should come to CWGT meetings? How will we ensure and communicate clear expectations for workgroups?
- Membership – Discussion of membership for goal team and workgroups. What flexibility can exist for workgroups to have membership other than a 9 signatory and 6 at-large

voting member structure? Which groups should this apply to? What is the timeline to convert to this type of structure? How will leadership recruitment for new groups occur?

- Decision Making
 - CWGT decision making.
 - Workgroup decision making.
 - What decisions should be elevated to the CWGT?
- Other points for discussion, as time allows.

Requested Action: Discussion on above points towards reaching consensus; Call for nominations for three at-large CWGT voting member positions for terms through Dec 2027.

Lead: Lee McDonnell

Materials: Discussion Questions, [Governance and Management Framework Draft](#), [Current WQGIT Governance Protocols](#), Current Workgroup Membership Lists

VI. Lunch (12:00 – 12:45 PM)

VII. Management Strategies: Setting the Stage (12:45 – 1:05 PM)

Sarah will give an overview of the expectations and timeline for Management Strategies across the partnership. Jeremy will share initial considerations on the CWGT Management Strategy and outline things to keep in mind for the following discussion and activity.

Lead: Sarah Brzezinski, Jeremy Hanson

Materials: Presentation, Overview of Worksheet Responses

VIII. MS: Challenges & Management Approaches Activity (1:05 – 2:15 PM)

Outcome leads will share out initial challenges and management approaches for their respective Outcome and seek feedback from the Goal Team. We estimate about 15-20 minutes per outcome, followed by discussion on the overarching themes across outcomes that could be focused on in the Goal Team-level Management Strategy.

- Water Quality, Standards Attainment & Monitoring (WQSAM)
- Reducing Excess Nitrogen, Phosphorus & Sediment (RENPS)
- Toxic & Emerging Contaminants (TEC)

Lead: Breck Sullivan, Jeremy Hanson, Keith Bollt

Materials: Presentation, [Outcome Language](#), Compiled Management Strategy Worksheets, Mentimeter

IX. Criteria Assessment Protocol Update (2:15 – 2:45 PM)

Overview of the decision points and timeline for the Criteria Assessment Protocol's work to reach a shared understanding from the CWGT.

Lead: Tish Robertson, CAP Co-Chair

Materials: Presentation

X. Wrap Up (2:45 – 3:00 PM)

We will provide a recap of the day's discussions, noting key points where continued discussion is needed, and take a look back at the list of upcoming CWGT decisions to remind participants of the path ahead. Open time for reflections and remaining considerations from members will occur, as time allows.

Lead: Lee McDonnell, Greg Sandi, Jeremy Hanson

Virtual Meeting Practices

This meeting may be recorded for internal use only to assure the accuracy of meeting notes. To turn on closed captioning, click on the three ellipses (More actions), then click on “Turn on live captions” (preview). To request accommodations, please contact Petra Baldwin at baldwin.petra@epa.gov.

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.
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