



Tidal Monitoring and Analysis Workgroup Conference Call
Thursday, February 7, 2013
10AM – 12PM

<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/18986/>

MINUTES

Participants:

Walter Boynton-UMCES/CBL (Chair)	Liza Hernandez-UMCES/CBPO (Coordinator)	Lea Rubin-CRC/CBPO (Staff)
Peter Tango-USGS/CBPO	Katie Foreman-UMCES/CBPO	Claire Buchanan-ICPRB
Mike Lane-ODU	Ken Moore-VIMS	Don Smith-VA DEQ
Tish Robertson-VA DEQ	Jonathan Kellogg- UMCES/EcoCheck	Cindy Johnson-VA DEQ
Caroline Wicks- UMCES/EcoCheck	Mike Mallonee-ICPRB/CBPO	Jackie Johnson-ICPRB/CBPO
Richard Tian-UMCES/CBPO	Elgin Perry-Statistics Consultant	Bruce Michael-MD DNR

Welcome, introductions, announcements (W. Boynton)

- New STAR monitoring staffer, Lea Rubin
- Katie Foreman's departure
- April ARES Meeting, Williamsburg, VA
- November Biennial CERF Meeting, San Diego, CA
- March 27, 2013 Joint TMAW-NTWG Meeting, for details visit [web link](#)
- April 4, 2013 UCAT Meeting, for details visit [web link](#)
- Dissolved Oxygen seminar/webinar scheduled for Wednesday May 7th, 2013, 10am-3pm
 - Location: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, Annapolis Office
 - For seminar details, visit the [CBP Web Event](#)

Overview of 2013 Workplan (W. Boynton)

[TMAW Workplan](#)

NOTE: Workplan is still subject to further review and change

- l) Priorities as they relate to Indicators
 - a) Sustain the existing Bay Health water quality indicators annually reported by the Chesapeake Bay Program
 - b) Sustain the existing water quality indicators annually reported by EcoCheck's Chesapeake Bay Report Card
 - c) Sustain the EcoCheck Summer Review

- d) Coordinate with Goal Implementation Teams to identify priorities for new indicator development
- II) Priorities as they relate to Criteria Assessment
 - a) Support the Criteria Assessment Protocols (CAP) Workgroup efforts to develop and publish criteria assessment procedures for the remaining dissolved oxygen (DO) criteria currently without Partnership approved and state adopted assessment procedures
 - b) Consider and identify options for next steps related to the completion of the baywide shallow-water monitoring program
- III) Assess and improve methods to better explain water quality conditions
 - a) Identify a strategy to improve our current approach to reporting the status and trends of tidal waters (e.g., Absolute Status work)
 - b) Survey techniques used to calculate hypoxia in the Bay and evaluate the various factors affecting hypoxia
- IV) Further the understanding of water quality conditions across the watershed and tidal waters
 - a) Complete the summary of the lessons learned from the implementation of best management practices (BMP) as they relate to observed water quality changes to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
 - b) Conduct assessments of factors affecting water quality change in key areas (Eastern Shore – Choptank River Basin) and Potomac (2013-2015)
 - c) CERF Storm Effects Session

Discussion and Questions:

- Will TMAW be addressing BIBI and biological indicators as a priority for 2013 under STAR?
 - Roberto Llanso (Versar) and Dan Dauer (ODU) have submitted a proposal for the recalibration of the BIBI and is an initiative under the CAP workgroup workplan
- In the coming years the focus is on forming linkages between the nontidal and tidal systems of the Bay in respect to water quality, but perhaps in the future it should be more habitat focused (e.g., creating a connection between the biology and water quality conditions).
- VA will continue with phytoplankton program regardless of MD's program status.
 - MD continues to seek funding to support the phytoplankton program.
- Study to determine how fisheries would be affected if the TMDL was fully implemented is currently underway and being conducted by EPA out of Washington and Research Triangle; estimates to be provided in upcoming months.

State of the Tidal Monitoring Network (TMN) and future vision of TMN needs based on partner feedback (P. Tango)

[Presentation](#)

P. Tango presented a summary of the status and directions of the tidal and nontidal program in response to the program realignment change in funding, new monitoring stations, and an adjustment in priorities. He also presented findings from partner meetings to determine next steps for the Bay and

basin monitoring networks. P. Tango included recommendations from the 2009 STAC report and the MRAT process.

- **ACTION:** Add effects of climate to the TMN presentation explaining the effect of climate on the evolving monitoring results. (P. Tango)

Discussion and Questions

- NELAC review at CBL provided a rough cost estimate for becoming NELAC compliant. Network labs have been audited by NELAC and have improved their lab practices based on those recommendations while considering budget constraints.

Progress Update on UCAT January Meeting (P. Tango, T. Robertson, E. Perry) [Presentation](#)

UCAT met in January to develop recommendations for assessing the 7-day mean open-water summer dissolved oxygen criterion. E. Perry and T. Robertson evaluated a question that evolved from that meeting, "Is DO more variable in shallow/near-shore habitats compared to deeper/mid-channel habitats?" T. Robertson compared the variability of DO in near-shore vs. mid-channel data from the York River and Rappahannock River from VA monitoring data from 2007-2009.

- The comparative study's outcome supports that 7-day variability tends to be greater in shallow-water environments.
- The outcome will possibly differ when longer time scales are considered.
- **ACTION:** Schedule a conference call to wrap up the 7-Day mean item of the Umbrella Criteria. (L. Hernandez, L. Rubin)

Update on Lessons Learned Report (L. Hernandez, K. Foreman)

K. Foreman and L. Hernandez summarized the process of producing the Lessons Learned Report, including completed steps and current and future steps. Section I of the technical report will include lessons and recommendations of best management practices (BMPs) that are proven to reduce nutrient loads to the Bay. Section II of the technical report addresses the following question: "How do we design and implement BMPs to be more effective and inform the Adaptive Management Cycle?"

- **ACTION:** For information related to Lessons Learned report contact L. Hernandez.

NEXT MEETING:

Joint NTWG-TMAW Meeting
USGS Baltimore Science Center
March 13, 2013
10a-3p