



Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting (STAR) Team Meeting

10:00AM – 12:00PM August 28th, 2014

<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/21551/>

MINUTES

Action Items

- Contact Margaret Enloe if you're presenting or developing a poster for the Restore America's Estuaries conference.
- Lee Currey (MDE), Scott Phillips (USGS), Bill Dennison (UMCES), Bruce Michael (MDNR), and Margaret Enloe (CBP), Choose Clean Water Coalition, and Chesapeake Bay Foundation will meet to discuss communications plans for the LSRWA report.
- STAR and STAC will assign liaisons to the GITs to attend appropriate meetings and help facilitate communication.
- The GITs should invite the STAR and STAC liaisons to working sessions and full GIT Meetings.
- The GITs will review the documents that STAC provided before their quarterly meeting in order to provide feedback to STAC.
- A shared folder with documents related to management strategy development will be created. (Samantha Watterson)

Welcome, Introduction, Updates, and Announcements – William Dennison and Mark Bennett (STAR Co-Chairs)

Announcements:

- [Restore America's Estuaries 7th National Summit](#), November 1st – 6th, 2014.
 - **ACTION:** Contact Margaret Enloe if you're presenting or developing a poster for the Restore America's Estuaries conference.
- [Town Creek Foundation](#) Conferences
 - Topic: Population and Growth – January 2015, Hood College
 - Host: Horton and Blankenship
 - Topic: Innovation in Best Management Practices – TBD
 - Host: UMCES
- Chesapeake Watershed Pre-forum, September 25th, 2014
 - Topic: Discussion with local communities on monitoring resources, needs and capacities.

- [Chesapeake Watershed Forum](#) – September 26th – 28th, 2014, NCTC Shepherdstown, WV
- A [RFP](#) for the integration of citizen monitoring and non-traditional partners into the Bay Program water quality monitoring program was released by the EPA
 - Contact: Tim Roberts, CBPO (roberts.timothy-p@epa.gov)
- [Press Release](#): From the Mountains to the Sea – Randolph-Macon, W&L, VCU & USGS Collaborate to Assess Water Quality in the James River
- MDNR presented a brief update on results from the summer Bay cruises. Information of summer hypoxic volumes in MD can be found at the Eyes on the Bay [webpage](#).

Communications Discussion – All

STAR members discussed communication ideas including upcoming reports, studies, and videos to recommend to the Communications Workgroup.

- **Recommendation:** Communications story or short report on the cost of environmental protection verses the cost of restoration
- The Lower Susquehanna River Watershed Assessment Report will be released soon
 - **ACTION:** Lee Currey (MDE), Scott Phillips (USGS), Bill Dennison (UMCES), Bruce Michael (MDNR), and Margaret Enloe (CBP), Choose Clean Water Coalition, and Chesapeake Bay Foundation will meet to discuss communications plans for the LSRWA report.
- STAC [Review](#) of Agricultural Phosphorus dynamics in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model
- Journal of America Water Resources Association – Don Weller and Kathleen Boomer won best paper of the year. “Using Multiple Watershed Models to Predict Water, Nitrogen, and Phosphorus Discharges to the Patuxent Estuary”.

Communications Workgroup Indicator Needs from STAR – Margret Enloe – Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay/CBPO, Communications Workgroup Coordinator

Margret Enloe discussed the needs of the Communications Workgroup regarding Indicators. Margaret would like to begin the discussion on how the transition from the indicators that are currently displayed on the website to the new indicators of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement/Chesapeake Bay Program will occur.

- The upcoming Bay Barometer will include 2013 data and any 2014 data that is available.
 - Release date: December 2014

STAR/STAC Coordination and Responsibilities during the Development of the Watershed Agreement Management Strategies – STAR Leadership

STAR and STAC convened on Thursday, August 7th, 2014 to define clear roles and responsibilities of STAR and STAC for meeting GIT needs for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. STAR Leadership described the expected roles of STAR and STAC during the development of management strategies over the next year. ([STAC/STAR roles](#))

- **ACTION:** STAR and STAC will assign liaisons to the GITs to attend appropriate meetings and help facilitate communication.
- **ACTION:** The GITs should invite the STAR and STAC liaisons to working sessions and full GIT Meetings.

Continued Conversation from the Coordinator/Staffer Meeting in Regards to Management Strategies of the Watershed Agreement Outcomes – STAR Leadership and GIT Leadership

STAC provided an initial [guidance document](#) for identifying factoring influencing progress towards achieving outcomes. STAC plans to have a working session on the factors with the GITs and STAR at their September meeting. The GITs shared their initial thoughts on their highest priority needs from STAR and STAC.

Habitats –

- Currently the coordinator and staffer are identifying the factors influencing and other key elements to provide to the WG Chairs for a working session before the GIT Meeting in October.

Watersheds –

- Currently the coordinator and staffer are identifying key stakeholders. They are planning a 1-2 day workshop to develop a draft of the key elements for the healthy watersheds outcome. The GIT will also have a workshop for the land-use outcomes.

Water Quality –

- Water quality trends work would be most helpful. The toxic contaminants outcome has been assigned to the Water Quality GIT and will definitely need STAR and STAC liaisons for the workgroup.

Stewardship –

- Currently, the GIT is drafting management strategies from existing documents for the public access, land conservation, and the three environmental literacy outcomes. Additionally, the GIT is developing a workgroup for the citizen stewardship outcome.

Leadership –

- The GIT is heavily involved in management strategy development in general and would find a STAR liaison useful.

Fisheries –

- The Fisheries GIT is currently in the process of identifying leads for each strategy from the GIT membership and workgroups, and does not anticipate an official meeting for at least a couple of weeks. The GIT would welcome a STAC/STAR review of factors influencing once they have developed a draft. The GIT sees STAR/STAC helping the most with the monitoring, assessment, and baselines/current conditions sections.

Climate Resiliency –

- This outcome is under STAR. This strategy affects all other outcomes and therefore there should be a process in place to incorporate all Goal Teams and the Modeling Workgroup while developing this strategy.

Overall Comments –

- **ACTION:** The GITs will review the documents that STAC provided before their quarterly meeting in order to provide feedback to STAC.
- **ACTION:** A shared folder with documents related to management strategy development will be created. (Samantha Watterson)

PARTICIPANTS

| Last Name | First Name | Affiliation | Email |
|-----------|------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Dennison | Bill | UMCES/STAR Co-chair | dennison@umces.edu |
| Bennett | Mark | USGS/STAR Co-chair | mrbenet@usgs.gov |
| Tango | Peter | USGS/CBPO/STAR Coordinator | ptango@chesapeakebay.net |
| Pruzinsky | Amanda | CRC/CBPO/STAR Staffer | apruzinsky@chesapeakebay.net |
| Enloe | Margaret | Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay | menloe@chesapeakebay.net |
| Greiner | Jennifer | USFWS/CBPO | jennifer_greiner@fws.gov |
| Michael | Bruce | MDNR | bmichael@dnr.state.md.us |
| Montali | Dave | WV DEP | David.A.Montali@wv.gov |
| Murphy | Rebecca | UMCES/CBPO | rmurphy@chesapeakebay.net |
| Phillips | Scott | USGS | swphilli@usgs.gov |
| Phillips | Tuana | CRC/CBPO | Phillips.Tuana@epa.gov |
| Shenk | Gary | EPA/CBPO | shenk.gary@epa.gov |
| Walker | Julie | CRC/Stewardship GIT Staffer | julie_walker@partner.nps.gov |