2017 Midpoint Assessment Process

Presentation for WQGIT Land Use Workgroup

☆ ☆ Inaugural Meeting, September 17, 2012 ☆ ☆

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Overview

- ➤ Background on Midpoint Assessment
- ➤ Working Draft of Schedule
- ➤ Guiding Principles
- ➤ Summary of Midpoint Assessment Input to Date
- ➤ How the Land Use Workgroup Can Help the Midpoint Assessment Succeed

Midpoint Assessment

➤ Ultimate Goal:

 Ensure Partnership has all practices in place by 2025 to attain water quality standards in the Bay

➤ How?

- Take stock of the latest science and data, range of available tools and controls, and progress to date
- Findings from Midpoint Assessment will inform Phase III WIPs, which will guide milestones and implementation between 2018 and 2025

Components of Bay TMDL Accountability Framework

1. Watershed Implementation Plans identify nutrient and sediment targets that meet water quality standards.

2. 2-Year Milestones



with programmatic and pollutant reduction

commitments

3.Track and Assess Progress

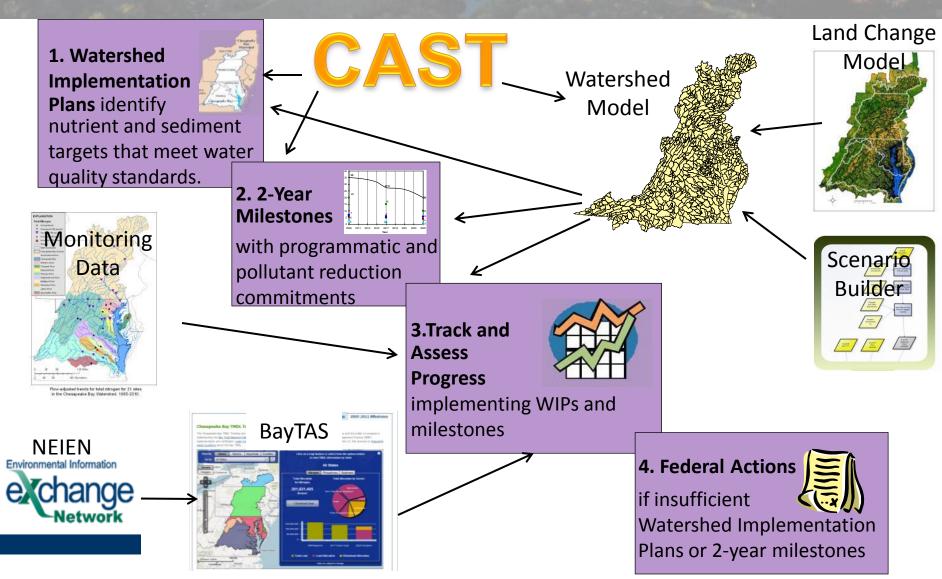


implementing WIPs and milestones

4. Federal Actions if insufficient

Watershed Implementation Plans or 2-year milestones

Informed by Decision Support and Assessment Tools



| Deliverable | Proposed Lead |
|--|---|
| Midpoint Assessment Priorities | Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) |
| Midpoint Assessment Guiding Principles | Principles' Staff Committee, with input from WQGIT and Management Board |
| Midpoint Assessment Deliverables | CBP Partnership. Specific roles for Workgroups, Modeling Team, etc. |
| 2-Year Milestones | Bay Jurisdictions, Federal Agencies |
| Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans | Bay Jurisdictions, with input from local partners |
| Any Possible Revisions to Bay TMDL | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |

Note: Partnership members in addition to the lead may contribute to deliverables

Working Draft of Schedule (Dates Subject to Change)

- ➤ Input for the midpoint assessment from WQGIT, WQGIT Workgroups, Modeling Workgroup, others
 - Identification of topics (August 2012)
 - Priorities (September 18, 2012)
- ➤ WQGIT Meeting to set priorities, flesh out schedule and develop work plan for midpoint assessment (October 22-23, 2012)
 - Use of draft versions of Guiding Principles to scope extent of the midpoint assessment
- > PSC approval of the Guiding Principles (Winter 2013)

Working Draft of Schedule (Dates Subject to Change)

- ➤ BMP expert panel and workgroup findings and recommendations (2012 and on)
- ➤ As appropriate, refinements to decision support tools (2012 and on)
- ➤ Partnership testing of these refinements and, as appropriate, tool modifications in response to this testing (Partners have suggested at least 6 months)
- > Development of Phase III Planning Targets, as necessary
- ➤ Development of draft and final Phase III WIPs that will guide implementation between 2018 and 2025, upon receipt of Phase III WIP planning targets
- > EPA revisions, as appropriate, to the Bay TMDL

Working Draft of Guiding Principles (see attachment; subject to change)

- Keep the focus on implementation and maintain stable tracking and reporting through 2017
- 2. Enhance decision support and assessment tools to enable successful engagement of local partners
- 3. Incorporate verification of practices into existing accountability tools and reporting protocols
- 4. Address emerging issues that may impact current strategies and future plans
- Prioritize midpoint assessment actions and adaptive management to ensure Phase III WIPs meet water quality goals

Summary of Midpoint Assessment Input to Date Related to Land Use

- ➤ Determine appropriate scale of the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) models, taking into account the scale that Partners need and uncertainty associated with various scales
 - Conduct uncertainty analysis
 - Note conflicting comments on whether models should be improved to go local, or models should be focused on larger scale and spend resources on implementation instead
- ➤ Allow local data (land use, local TMDLs, BMP implementation, animal numbers, septic systems, future projections) to be considered for ground-truthing or nested into CBP models
- ➤ Improve methods for simulating current land use, animal numbers, septic data, including incorporating local data and/or annual ag data

Summary of Midpoint Assessment Input to Date Related to Land Use

- Improve methods for accounting for annual change in land use, animal, septic data, including incorporating local data and/or annual ag data. Consider options for verifying change
- ➤ Improve methods for land use, animal, septic, etc projections, including incorporating local data
 - Develop Phase III WIPs in 2025 land use and base conditions
- Improve methods for delineating federal land uses
- Increase categories of urban land uses in order to have more specific loadings associated with each (eg, low density residential should have lower loading than acre of high density urban)
- Add in wetlands land use

How Land Use Workgroup Can Help Midpoint Assessment Succeed

- > By September 18 (2 pm discussion):
 - Identify 2-3 "Tier 1" priorities for midpoint assessment, considering input provided to date
 - Identify 2-3 "Tier 2" priorities for midpoint assessment, considering input provided to date
 - WQGIT will consider these priorities on 9/24 call and in setting 10/22-23 agenda
- > Actively participate in midpoint assessment discussions
- ➤ Take on action items assigned by WQGIT and provide deliverables and reviews on schedule to support midpoint assessment

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