



## Climate Resiliency Workgroup

December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

1:30 – 3:30 PM EST

Join by Webinar:

<https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=m38d8a5560ed85c39284fd4f9ef9e1c32>

Join by Phone:

+1-408-418-9388 and enter access code: 2631 682 2187

Meeting password: TMfCMp58mk2

Event webpage:

<https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/climate-resiliency-workgroup-meeting-december-2023>

*This meeting will be recorded for internal use to assure the accuracy of meeting notes.*

## Agenda

**1:30 PM**      **Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Announcements – Mark Bennett, Co-Chair (USGS), Jackie Specht, Co-Chair (MD DNR) and Julie Reichert-Nguyen, Coordinator (NOAA) [10 Minutes]**

*Focus of meeting:*

- *Share updates on current efforts that support our Climate Resiliency Adaptation Outcome*
  - *GIT-Funded Marsh Adaptation Project*
  - *Effects of Sea Level Rise NOAA Funding Opportunity*
- *Share updates on Beyond 2025 Climate Small Group Talks and discuss role of Climate Resiliency Workgroup*
- *Brainstorm project ideas for next round of Goal Implementation Team Funding*

*Workgroup Announcements:*

- [\*Chesapeake Community Research Symposium 2024\*](#) (June 10-12, 2024) call for presentation abstracts (**due February 1, 2024**). Theme of the symposium is "Chesapeake Bay Restoration: Managing Water Quality for Living Resources in a Changing Climate." We also want to highlight that

*this year, Julie and Jamileh are supporting a session focused on the Rising Water Temperature STAC Workshop Tidal Recommendations, titled “Tackling Ecosystem-Level Impacts from Rising Water Temperatures in the Tidal Waters of Chesapeake Bay.” This session invites research on the above tidal recommendation topics. Talks can range from assessing water quality thresholds and habitat suitability for fish, benthic organisms, and SAV to climate change modeling or model data synthesis related to habitat, living resource response, and/or species community shifts. We welcome presentations on watershed or habitat strategies, particularly research related to mitigating increasing water temperatures in the nearshore tidal waters, reducing other stressors that affect living resources in tidal waters, providing thermal refugia, or protecting key fish-related habitats (e.g., marshes, oyster reefs, SAV). We also encourage presentations on social science research, including communication strategies or behavior change research related to rising water temperature effects on fisheries and habitats or implementation of actions to adapt to changing climate conditions.*

- 1:40 PM      Effects of Sea Level Rise NOAA Funding Opportunity (Vamsi Sridharan, Tetra Tech) [25 Minutes]**  
George Mason University (lead PI), Tetra Tech (co-PI) and NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (co-PI) submitted a letter of intent to the NOAA Effects of Sea Level Rise Funding Opportunity. This project idea addresses a key knowledge gap identified by the CRWG in quantifying the resilience effectiveness of nature-based solutions. Vamsi will update the workgroup on the project idea. Given the strong alignment with progressing the climate adaptation outcome, the CRWG is being asked to provide advisory support on the project.
- 2:05 PM      GIT-Funded Partnership-Building and Identification of Collaborative Tidal Marsh Adaptation Projects Update (Nicole Carlozo, MD DNR) [20 Minutes]**  
Nicole will provide an update on our workgroup-supported GIT-Funded Marsh Adaptation project. Phase 2 of the project is currently underway, and the regional focus areas workshop is planned for mid-January 2024.
- 2:25 PM      Beyond 2025 Climate Small Group Talks Update (Bo Williams, EPA and Breck Sullivan, USGS) [20 Minutes]**  
Bo and Breck will provide an update on the Climate Small Group Talks that are taking place as a part of the Chesapeake Bay Program’s Beyond 2025 Effort. This group is charged with forming recommendations around climate change. After the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee (SC) reviews the recommendations, they will be integrated into the SC’s final product to the Executive Council.

**2:45 PM      Group Discussion: Climate and Beyond 2025 [20 Minutes]**

The Climate Resiliency Workgroup will have the opportunity to discuss the topics presented by Bo Williams in the Climate Small Group Talks update. This will be an opportunity to weigh in on the topics that have been prioritized by the Climate Small Group and propose topics for the small group to consider during future discussions. Furthermore, the workgroup will have the opportunity to provide insight on what aspects of the climate change challenge should be prioritized during the Beyond 2025 effort and envisioning the new Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement.

**3:05 PM      Goal Implementation Team Funding Discussion [20 Minutes]**

We will hold an open discussion to talk about the next round of Goal Implementation Team Funding. The next round of Goal Implementation Team funding has yet to be announced, so we are taking the opportunity to discuss and brainstorm ideas that can be developed for when the next round of funding becomes available.

**3:25 PM      Announcements and Wrap-up [5 Minutes]**

- The Chesapeake Research Consortium (CRC) and the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (NCBO) recently released their summer 2024 internship opportunities. CRC's Chesapeake Student Recruitment, Early Advisement, and Mentoring (C-StREAM) program is focused on recruiting, advising, and mentoring college students from populations who have been historically excluded from the environmental field and are underrepresented in environmental research and management professions. Additionally, NCBO and CRC offer summer internships in a range of fields including fisheries management, habitat assessment, ecology, scientific field support, data analysis, education, community engagement, partnership development, modeling, and environmental policy development. Visit CRC's [website](#) to learn more and read about the available internship positions.
- The National Estuaries Program (NEP) is now accepting proposals for their Watersheds Grants program. The Program is a nationally competitive grants program designed to support projects that address urgent, emerging, and challenging issues threatening the well-being of estuaries within the 28 NEP boundary areas. Awards will range from \$200,000-500,000 and will be completed within a four year period. Letters of Intent are due January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024. For more information, visit the program [website](#).
- The EPA recently released its Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for its Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grant program,

which offers an unprecedented \$2 billion in grants. The Community Change Grants will fund community-driven projects that address climate challenges and reduce pollution while strengthening communities through thoughtful implementation. This historic level of support will enable communities and their partners to overcome longstanding environmental challenges and implement meaningful solutions to meet community needs now and for generations to come. There will be two tracks of funding under this opportunity. Track I will fund approximately 150 large, transformational community-driven investment grants of \$10 million - \$20 million. Track II will fund approximately 20 meaningful engagement grants of \$1 million - \$3 million. Grants cannot exceed 3-years in duration. Please review the [NOFO](#) for further information about the exciting opportunities under the Community Change Grants program and details about the application process.

- Maryland Sea Grant recently released their Marsh Geomorphology Profiles. These summarize the characteristics, capacity for ecosystem services, associated management concerns, and restoration techniques for seven common marsh types in the Chesapeake Bay, based on steering committee guidance and *Large-Scale Marsh Persistence and Restoration in the Chesapeake Bay* workshop participant discussions. To review the profiles, visit their [website](#)!

**3:30 PM**

**Adjourn**