WORKING MEETING: ASSESSING ADAPTATION OPTIONS FOR TIDAL MARSHES IN CHOPTANK RIVER, MD

Meeting Goals

- Share information and data gathered on selected tidal marshes in Choptank River
- Provide feedback on preliminary analyses on marsh vulnerabilities
- Discuss potential adaptation options and information still needed to inform resilience planning

Meeting Details

Logistics: In person greatly preferred. Please message the meeting organizers if you need a virtual option (fuccij@chesapeake.org)

When: October 21, 2025, 10am - 1:30pm

Location: Wharves of Choptank Visitor & Heritage Center, 3 Crouse Park Lane,

Denton, MD 21629

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The Project in Brief

Master students with the University of Michigan SEAS Program are assisting Envision the Choptank to synthesize data and information on selected tidal marshes in the Choptank River, MD to inform marsh adaptation options. Their capstone project includes informational interviews with marsh restoration practitioners and researchers, literature review on sea level rise and ecosystem change, and GIS analyses of past, present, and future marsh condition. The students' most recent project update can be found here.

Why This Project?

Sea level rise is affecting marsh habitats today and will continue to do so into the future. Identifying marsh adaptation options is an important first step in developing projects that maintain ecosystem services and improve community resilience from changing conditions, such as sea level rise. The Choptank's marshes are particularly vulnerable given invasive species (phragmites, emerald ash borer) and limited migration potential.

This working meeting is a continuation of marsh adaptation project efforts being supported by the Chesapeake Bay Program. The initial working meeting on Choptank marshes occurred in 2024 (see summary here).

