



## **Scientific Technical Assessment and Reporting (STAR) Team Meeting**

Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

*Join by Webinar (Microsoft Teams)*

*Or join by phone*

Meeting [Link](#)

Conference Line: +1 469-208-1525

Meeting Number: 282 445 780 644

Access code: 589440998#

**Password:** kv4CXh

Meeting Materials: [Link](#)

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

*Closed Captioning will be available for this meeting. To turn on the closed captioning, click on the 3 ellipses (More actions), then click on “Turn on live captions” (preview).*

### **AGENDA**

**10:00 – 10:05 AM Welcome, Introductions & Announcements – Ken Hyer** (US Geological Survey, USGS), **STAR Chair, Breck Sullivan** (USGS) STAR Coordinator, **Peter Tango** (USGS) CBP Monitoring Coordinator

#### **Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, Workshops and Webinars**

- [2025 Capital Area Natural Resource Management Symposium](#) – August 22, 2025, Washington, D.C.
- [Chesapeake Watershed Forum](#) – November 7-9, 2025, Shepherdstown, West Virginia.
- [Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation \(CERF\) Conference](#) – November 9-13, 2025, Richmond, Virginia.

#### **Announcements**

- [UM-SEAS Master’s Project Proposals](#) due September 29, 2025.

#### **10:05 – 10:15 AM: Defining Indicators – Breck Sullivan (USGS)**

Based on conversation at the [May 22<sup>nd</sup> STAR Meeting](#), participants requested a better understanding of the definitions of indicators, how they are currently defined within the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP), and how they may be revised to fit the new outcome structure with targets. Breck will provide an overview of the current [CBP Indicators](#)

[Framework](#) and insight on the definitions used for indicators in the paper, “[Assessment of Chesapeake Bay Program Selection and Use of Indicators.](#)”

### **10:15 – 10:25 AM: Formal and Informal Indicators – *Peter Tango (USGS)***

CBP outcomes produce information for indicators on [ChesapeakeProgress](#), but they also produce other supporting information to help inform the story on outcome progress. Peter Tango will provide examples of these different types of indicators and the complimentary information as represented through the Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring (WQSAM) Outcome.

### **10:25 – 11:00 AM: Discussion on Defining Indicators and Formal and Informal Indicators – *All***

- How do the current definitions of CBP indicators fit the revised Agreement and outcome structure? Should the definitions be modified?
- What is the relationship between a Watershed Agreement Target and an Indicator?
- What do we want to communicate to our audiences about our work toward these goals and outcomes? What is a formal indicator? Is there space to highlight complimentary information to indicators?

### **11:00 – 11:30 AM: Patterns and Commonalities of Influencing Factors throughout the Partnership – *John Wolf (USGS)***

Using the previously developed [tool](#) on connectivity throughout the partnership, John Wolf has been able to analyze the influencing factors of outcomes and determine which are the most common. The exploration of cross-outcome indicators may help guide Workgroups and Goal Implementation Teams to work together and explore common ground on indicators.

Discussion Questions:

- What are the common influencing factors across outcomes? Do you agree with them? Are any major ones missing?
- How and should we present these factors as indicators?
- How can we communicate these factors and fill the gaps?

### **11:30 – 12:00 PM: Discussion and Exploration on Priority Indicators for Each Outcome - *All***

Each outcome will be encouraged to fill out a shared spreadsheet with their indicators, including type of indicator. Using this data, participants can discuss similarities and nuisances within the indicators for the revised outcomes. If an outcome is not ready to

state what will be their indicators, what questions come up to identify your indicators?  
What discussions or information would help you identify your indicators?

**12:00 PM Adjourn**