



Staffer Updates

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Photo by Will Parson, Chesapeake Bay Program
<https://flic.kr/p/2rJDD4d>

Agenda at a glance

- Welcome & Intro
- Business, Workgroup & Phase 7 Updates
- Foundations for Planning Targets
- Preparing Scenarios to Inform Planning Target Development
- Foundations for Tiered Implementation
- BREAK
- River Input Monitoring Network 2024 Trends
- Future Model Updates
- Co-Chair Nominations *Decisional*
- Planning outlook
- Wrap-Up & Adjourn

Business, News & Reminders

NFWF soliciting proposals: INSR pre-proposals by noon February 12th; Chesapeake WILD proposals by April 9th; SWG proposals by April 12th

STAC at-large nominations open through March 16th

Bay in the Balance conference rescheduled for March 2-4

Chesapeake Community Research Symposium presentation and poster abstracts due February 13th

Reminder to check agenda for more announcements or reminders you may not want to miss!

Phase 7 Decision Tracker Updates

- Update: CSS Harvested Forest for Phase 7 added to implement the WQGIT approved Timber Harvest Task Force recommendations
- Posted version: January 21
- Two versions available
 - Tracker from July- September (final, for reference)
 - Tracker from October-February 2026

<https://www.chesapeakebay.net/projects/phase-7-model-development>

Workgroup updates

Full workgroup updates provided in later slides; please consult posted slides at your convenience

Workgroup Updates (summary)

open to Chairs or Coordinators to add more

Wastewater

Met Jan 22 to discuss improvements to sewer service area data and remaining details for sanitary sewer exfiltration methods.

Next meeting: February 26, 10am-12pm

Watershed Technical

In December, the WTWG voted via email to approve the proposed methodology for allocating feed space acres for Phase 7. January included a presentation on new Progress data storage policies, an update on the mapping of BMPs to load source groups, and an initial look at the draft Phase 7 NEIEN Appendix

Next meeting: February 5th, 10am-12pm

Agriculture

Met on Dec 18th included presentation on the preliminary mapping to BMPs and load source groups, an update on the methodology for the allocation of feed space acres for Phase 7, and a discussion on priority BMPs for efficiency evaluation and remote sensing

Next Meeting: January 29, 10am-12pm

Urban Stormwater

Met Dec 16th and approved an adjustment to the Compacted Pervious Land Use class. They discussed a decision on the mapping of developed BMPs to Load Sources and finalized it via email on Jan 20th. They were briefed on draft "Beyond Bean Counting" report

Next meeting: February 17, 10am - 12pm

Workgroup updates – more details

Agriculture

- The AgWG met on December 18th. This meeting included program updates, a presentation on the preliminary mapping to BMPs and load source groups, an update on the methodology for the allocation of feed space acres for Phase 7, and a discussion on priority BMPs for efficiency evaluation and remote sensing.
- The AgWG will meet again on January 29th (rescheduled from January 15th). At this meeting, the AgWG will review and approve an updated matrix mapping BMPs to load sources, including a list of ag BMPs mapped to solar land uses, before the WTWG votes on its final approval. The group will also receive introductions from nominees for the At-Large and Vice Chair positions, a refresher on the E3 Scenario, and an overview of Water Quality Monitoring efforts in York County, PA. The process for confirming At-Large and Vice Chair positions is paused until additional guidance is received.
- Next Meeting: January 29th, 10am-12pm

Forestry

- **Relevant note: CSS Harvested Forest for Phase 7** - To implement the Timber Harvest Task Force Recommendations (approved by the FWG and the WQ GIT), Phase 7 will include a new “CSS Harvested Forest” land use.
- This land use would only apply if: (1) harvested forest is mapped within the CSS footprint or (2) in the rare circumstances where a given modeling segment does not have sufficient non-CSS harvestable forest (forest patches >10 acres) to apply the amount of harvested forest allocated to that modeling segment. In the case of option 2, CSS Harvested Forest would be pulled from CSS Forest, so if these acres were not needed to meet that modeling segment’s proportional allocation, they would remain as CSS Forest.
- The same BMPs can be applied to both.
- Next Meeting: February 4th, 9am

Workgroup updates – more details

Urban Stormwater

- USWG met Dec 16th and approved an adjustment to the Compacted Pervious Land Use class. They discussed a decision on the mapping of developed BMPs to Load Sources and finalized it via email on Jan 20th.
- Members also heard a presentation on the “Beyond Bean Counting” draft report and provided feedback for the final report.
- The January USWG meeting was canceled.
- Next Meeting: February 17, 10am-12pm

Wastewater Treatment

- WWTWG met Jan 22 to discuss minor improvements to the sewer service area, which the group will review in early February. They also discussed lingering details for the optional inputs to the Sanitary Sewer Exfiltration estimation method and will continue this discussion at their Feb meeting.
- Next Meeting: February 26, 10am - 12pm

Workgroup updates – more details

Watershed Technical

- In December, the WTWG voted via email to approve the proposed methodology for allocating feed space acres for Phase 7.
- The WTWG met on January 8th and heard introductions from Vice Chair and Chair nominees, a presentation on new Progress data storage policies, an update on the mapping of BMPs to load source groups, and an initial look at the draft Phase 7 NEIEN Appendix. The group will pause the confirmation of nominations for vacant Chair, Vice Chair, and At-Large positions until additional guidance is received.
- The WTWG will meet again on February 5th to approve the mapping of BMPs to load sources, discuss updates to the Progress Validation Report, review the draft NEIEN Appendix and a proposed update to Animal Waste Management Systems, and receive an overview of the E3 and No Action Scenarios.
- Next Meeting: February 5th, 10am-12pm

Toxic Contaminants

- TCW met Jan 14th and heard two presentations for mapping tools in the Bay. They also had initial discussions about the future work of the group under the new, combined Outcome.
- Next meeting: March 11, 1-3pm

Workgroup updates – more details

Federal Facilities

- The FFWG canceled their February 10th meeting.
- Next meeting: April 14, 10am-12pm

Land Use

- Update on the review of the draft time series data:
- In the last week of January, Sarah McDonald will be holding meetings with the Jurisdictional representatives to get preliminary feedback on the Time Data Series. Early February will be a rolling test of the web viewer by county, with test counties posted on the updated web viewer as they become available. Office hours will be held on March 3rd for review of updated data and questions. By March 13th, all county data will be reviewed with partial documentation.
- Next Meeting: Time series review office hours (March 3, 1:00-3:00)

Milestones

- Reminder: February 13th is the deadline for 1) reporting to EPA on progress toward achieving programmatic milestone commitments for the prior milestone period (2024- 2025) and 2) submitting draft 2026-2027 milestone commitments to EPA.
- Next meeting: TBD