

CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday February 26th, 2024
Time: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Eastern Time
Location: **Link:**

<https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=m8cbd1511b861d7cab90887840676b011>

Meeting number: 2630 014 7656

Password: WQGIT2024

Join by phone: +1-408-418-9388

Access code: 2630 014 7656



Chesapeake Bay Program

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Meeting materials: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/water-quality-goal-implementation-team-git-3-meeting-february-2024>

Written announcements or reminders (CTRL + click to jump ahead within document)

Agenda

Topic	Start time (duration)	Item Title <i>Item description</i>	Speaker(s) or presenter(s)
	1:00	<u>Welcome and Introduction</u> <i>We will use Webex for roll call purposes, so please ensure your name and affiliation are accurately captured in the WebEx participants list. If not, please enter your correct name & affiliation in the chat box. If multiple participants are joining through the same location, please enter your names in the chat box. Call-in participants are requested to identify themselves verbally.</i>	Suzanne Trevena, EPA, WQGIT Chair
	(15 min)	<u>Announcements & Verbal Updates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WQGIT Coordinator Updates – Jeremy Hanson, CRC• At-Large membership welcome – Suzanne Trevena, EPA• GIT-funding process update and March WQGIT preview	

- *Workgroup Updates (2 min or less, open to workgroup chairs or coordinators)*

Accountability Framework	1:15 (30 min)	<p><u>Accountability Framework in the context of the TMDL</u></p> <p><i>Suzanne and Kelly will review the accountability framework and its components for the GIT. Approximately half the time is reserved for questions and discussion.</i></p> <p>Materials: Presentation</p> <p>Informational.</p>	Suzanne Trevena & Kelly Gable, EPA
Beyond 2025	1:45 (30 min)	<p><u>Beyond 2025 Steering Committee updates</u></p> <p><i>The Beyond 2025 Steering Committee meets on Feb. 28-29 for a 2-day symposium. This will be a chance to brief/update WQGIT members and interested parties on the small groups' emerging recommendations or other salient points ahead of that symposium.</i></p> <p><i>Half of this time block is reserved for the co-leads for the clean water small group (Jill, Lee, and Joe) to share what will be presented at the upcoming Beyond 2025 Symposium and follow up from their Feb. 1 listening session. The remaining time will be for other Small Group leads/participants to share updates.</i></p> <p><i>Please note: the approach and content of this item is still in flux and may change. We greatly appreciate the efforts and flexibility of the speakers, as well as the patience of WQGIT members/participants.</i></p> <p>Materials: Slides or materials TBD</p> <p>Informational.</p>	Jill Whitcomb, PA DEP; KC Filippino, HRPDC; Joe Wood, CBF; Lee McDonnell, EPA CBPO
	2:15 (10 min)	<u>Break</u>	
Phase 7 model development	2:25 (90 min)	<p><u>Phase 7 Detailed Updates and Discussion</u></p> <p><i>The Phase 7 Track Leads will provide detailed updates on progress of their respective areas of the Phase 7 effort. There is time for brief or clarifying questions during each topic area. There will be additional time allotted after all presentations for discussion or cross-cutting questions. Participants are encouraged to enter questions into the chat throughout.</i></p> <p><i>The intended order is listed below, but may be adjusted. The first four items are marked with an asterisk (*) to indicate they will be given additional time</i></p>	Phase 7 Track Leads

while the other three items will be shortened to simpler updates based on relative interest at the Feb. 5th office hours or other conversations with partners.

Criteria Assessment track and 4-D Interpolator* – Peter Tango, USGS
Watershed Model track + CalCAST and data* – Gary Shenk, USGS & Isabella Bertani, UMCES
Land use track* – Peter Claggett, USGS
Optimization track* – Lew Linker, EPA
Estuarine model track – Lew Linker, EPA
CAST – Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting
Agricultural inputs – Tom Butler, EPA

Materials: Presentations; [additional information available on the Phase 7 Development webpage](#)

Informational.

3:55	Recap of Actions and Decisions	Sushanth Gupta, CRC
4:00	ADJOURN	

Written announcements or reminders

- **Announcements or upcoming opportunities that occur prior to our meeting:**
 - **CAST webinar:** This month's CAST webinar will highlight Cost Profiles. We will explain where to find cost data in CAST, and how estimates are calculated. Then, we will demonstrate how to use interactive charts to assess cost-effectiveness and where money is being allocated to fulfill the 2025 WIP targets. Finally, we will share step-by-step instructions on how to create your own, unique cost profile in CAST and apply it to your planning scenarios for the most accurate cost calculation.
 - Topic: Cost Profiles
 - Time: February 15, 2024 at noon EST
 - [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
 - Meeting ID: 820 5119 3297
 - One tap mobile +13052241968,,82051193297#
 - **February's [CRC Roundtable](#)** on Wednesday, February 21st is titled “Assessing stream restoration practices to improve outcomes.” In March 2023, STAC brought together scientific and management experts to assess stream restoration practices. Over the course of three days, the group explored common practices, assessment approaches, and ecosystem

impacts with the goal of improving restoration outcomes. Join speakers Greg Noe (USGS) and Erik Michelsen (Anne Arundel County Dept. of Public Works) to learn about the process and conclusions of the stream restoration workshop, as well as hearing a local perspective about how communities are affected. [Register](#) to add to your calendar and join live.

- Reminder that NFWF is soliciting proposals under the [Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction \(INSR\) Grants](#) program. For 2024, this includes both **INSR Partnership Grants** supporting the coordinated and collaborative efforts of sustainable, regional-scale partnerships implementing proven water quality improvement practices more cost-effectively, as well as **INSR Infrastructure Grants** for projects working to implement critical natural and nature-based watershed restoration infrastructure at scale. **All proposals must be submitted no later than February 21st, 2024.**
- **Additional announcements or opportunities:**
 - **Release of the 2023 Chesapeake Bay Program Bay Barometer**
 - This year's Barometer includes an overview of the 18 Chesapeake Bay Watershed outcomes that were updated in 2023. Barometer [Report](#), Press [Release](#), Blog [Post](#).
 - **USGS [Fact Sheet](#) on Chesapeake Ag Water Quality**
 - This [fact sheet](#) summarizes some important topics about water-quality conditions and drivers in Chesapeake agricultural settings. USGS used feedback from local farmers, NRCS staff, and SWCDs to make sure that the text and visuals in the document would be relevant to farmers and local resource managers.
 - **Enrollment open now for The Nature Conservancy's new agroforestry project: Expanding Agroforestry Production (EAP).**
 - The EAP program is focused on adding new fruit, nut, timber, and biodiversity trees and shrubs through alley cropping, silvopasture, and windbreak practices. For qualified farmers, this project will offer technical assistance, Per-Tree Installation Costs Incentive (average \$30/tree), and Transition Incentive of \$450/acre paid out in three installments. You can find more about the payments here: [Fact sheet on the Incentive Payment Program](#).
 - [Here are the FAQ's](#) about the EAP project.
 - **NFWF Small Watershed Grants (SWG) [Program](#).** The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the federal-state Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partnership, is soliciting proposals through the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund to restore water quality and habitats of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams. **All proposals must be submitted no later than April 3rd, 2024**
 - **NFWF WILD Grant Program.** The RFP is available [here](#) and proposals are due **no later than April 10th, 2024.**

Additional instructions or info:

- **This meeting will be recorded for internal purposes.** Current EPA policy does not allow for distribution of the recordings.
- Closed captioning will be available for this meeting. To turn on the closed captioning, select the "cc" button in the bottom left corner of the screen. To show a live transcript of the meeting, go to the bottom right-hand corner of the screen and select "captions".
- If you have any other accessibility concerns, please contact Jackie Pickford (pickford.jacqueline@epa.gov).

Acronyms

CAST: [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#)

CBF: Chesapeake Bay Foundation

CBPO: Chesapeake Bay Program Office

CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium

[PA] DEP: Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental
Protection
EPA: Environmental Protection
Agency
HRPDC: Hampton Roads Planning
District Commission

NFWF: National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation
STAC: [Scientific and Technical
Advisory Committee](#)
UMCES: University of Maryland
Center for Environmental Science
USFS: United States Forest Service

USGS: United States Geological
Survey
WQGIT: [Water Quality Goal
Implementation Team](#)