



Integrated Monitoring Networks Workgroup (INWG) Conference Call

Thursday, August 21, 2014

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

CBPO Location: Conference Room 303

Conference Line: 1-866-299-3188 Code 410-267-5731

Adobe Connect: <https://epa.connectsolutions.com/tmaw2> (enter as guest)

Meeting Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/21980>

AGENDA

10:00 Welcome, Introductions, Announcements (*Peter Tango – USGS/CBPO*)

- How did everyone do in the record storm???
- Conowingo real time monitoring deployment

10:10 Intro to the new INWG (*Scott Phillips – USGS*)

Peter Tango will review the new STAR structure and some roles and responsibilities of the new Integrated Monitoring Networks Workgroup.

10:20 Renewing the Nontidal Network (NTN) (*Peter Tango – USGS/CBPO*)

The Nontidal Network is approaching the end of the 6-year grant cycle with the 117d grants (requires a minimum of a 5% match in jurisdictions). After the 6-year cycle the funds would have to go through a competitive RFP process to fund the NTN. The INWG will look across all jurisdictions at the opportunity for moving to a 117e noncompetitive grant pool which requires 1:1 matching. The Tidal Networks are currently 1:1 match; we will discuss what lessons we can learn from the Tidal Network transition to apply to the NTN.

- **ACTION:** The possibility of finding matching programs to transition from the 117d to 117e will be reviewed by each jurisdiction to preventing the need for competitive funding next year in order to renew the NTN funding base of support.

10:40 Water Quality Monitoring Grants – Looking Down the Road to Next Year, Needs of the Community (*Peter Tango – USGS/CBPO, All*)

Peter Tango will provide the community with updates on the water quality monitoring grants and changes to the network and network analysis. The jurisdictions will be asked to complete the following Action Items:

- **ACTION:** To deal with uncertainties in our annual budget process, each jurisdiction should review their portion of the long-term water quality monitoring networks and provide prioritization for:

- 1) **NTN** – What stations would be first, second, third to cut and why in case of a loss in funding, and what stations would be first, second, third to be added in the case of gains in funding.
- 2) **Tidal Network** – Consider options for cruise gains and losses, other cost savings, cost cutting efficiencies.
- 3) **Tidal and Nontidal** – Consider the growth potential of integrating new technologies and Citizen/nontraditional partnering to achieve decision support needs.
 - **ACTION REQUESTED BY:** We will return to this issue in the next couple of months to have a prioritization list ready to implement in network decisions pending budget and ask each jurisdiction to review their network to contribute these loss/gain option priorities.

11:00 Building and Sustaining and Integrated Networks (BASIN) Update and Next Steps (*Lea Rubin – CRC/CBPO and Peter Tango – USGS/CBPO*)

Lea Rubin will provide an update on the process and schedule of BASIN work to be carried out in 2014. She will also review the BASIN water quality report outline and timeline for completion. Lea and Peter will discuss BASIN needs with the INWG to accomplish the following:

- **ACTION:** Participants may volunteer for chapter contributions on multiple topics in the BASIN water quality report.
- **ACTION:** Create a Shallow Water Monitoring Action Team to provide a vision for evolving the program into a new phase after completing the round of Bay segment monitoring that has been underway.
 - **Action Team Deliverables:** The team will use the next 3-4 months to provide a short chapter for the BASIN Water Quality Report on the State of the Shallow Water Monitoring Programming 2015-2025.

11:20 INWG Needs and Wrap up (*All*)

Participants will review analysis needs in regards to the Explaining Trends WG, Status and Trends Communications WG (formally Indicators WG) and support needs for the new Bay Agreement. The INWG will discuss topics for future meetings including leadership for INWG.

11:30 Adjourn