2017 Midpoint Assessment Process

Presentation for WQGIT Watershed Technical Workgroup October 1, 2012

Water Quality Team Leader & WQGIT Coordinator
Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Overview

- ➤ Goals of the October 22-23rd WQGIT Meeting
- > Background on Midpoint Assessment
- ➤ Working Draft of Schedule
- ➤ Guiding Principles
- ➤ Summary of Watershed Technical Workgroup Priorities for Midpoint Assessment to Date
- ➤ How the Watershed Technical Workgroup Can Help the Midpoint Assessment Succeed

Big Picture Question for October 22-23

Where do we as a Partnership want to be in 2017 and 2025?

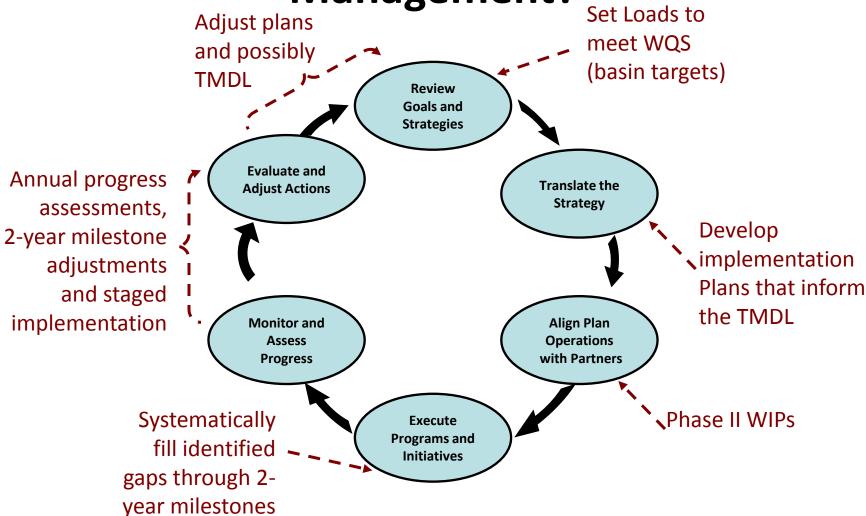
What We Also Need to Be Able to Answer by 4 pm October 23

- How are we addressing adaptive management?
- What is the midpoint assessment?
 - How does it relate to the 60% by 2017 goal?
 - How does it relate to the accountability framework described in the Bay TMDL?
 - Who is the lead for the midpoint assessment and related deliverables?
 - What is the approximate schedule?
- What barriers to implementation need to be addressed to help meet the 60% by 2017 goal or in the midpoint assessment for the Phase III WIPs?
- Guiding Principles What are they and how will they be applied?
- What are the Workgroups' priorities for the midpoint assessment?
 - Do these priorities address the barriers to implementation?
 - How do they relate to the Guiding Principles?
 - Roughly speaking, how much of a difference would it make in load, expected reductions, or implementation decisions in each state? (speaking generally)
 - What resources and how much time would it take to address this priority?
 - Are there downsides to this priority, such as generating confusion with changing numbers?
 - What would happen if this change were <u>not</u> made as part of the midpoint assessment?
 - Based on the above, does the WQGIT agree this should be address in the midpoint assessment?
 - If yes, what are the next steps, who is taking them on, and by when?
- What does the WQGIT need to communicate to the PSC?
- How should the WQGIT communicate issues related to the midpoint assessment to our partners and to the public?

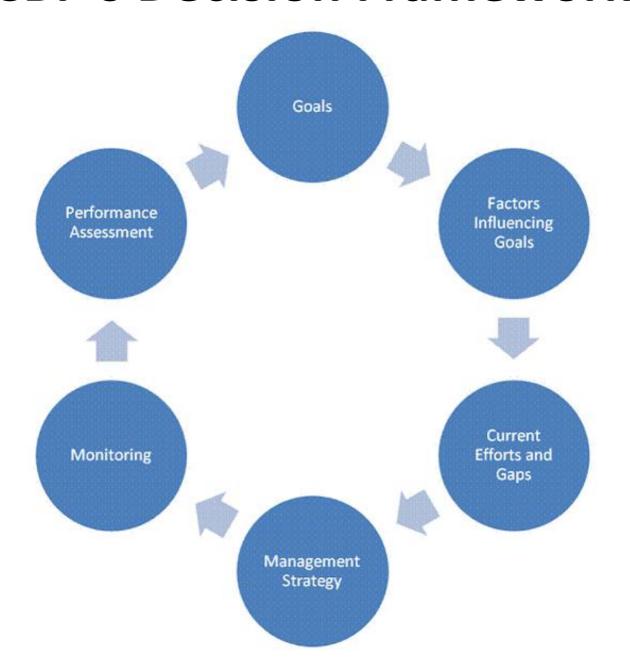
We Can Begin to Answer Some of These Questions Today

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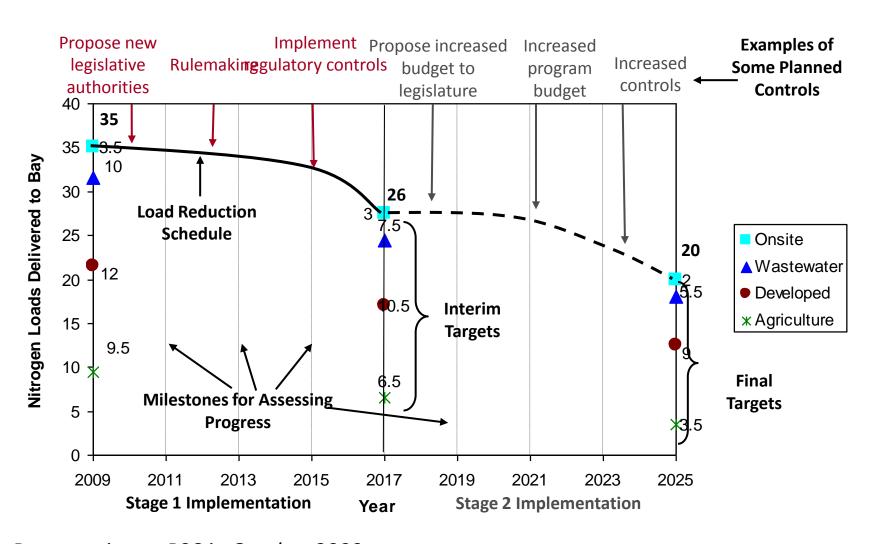
How Are We Addressing Adaptive Management?



CBP's Decision Framework



Staged Implementation



Source: Presentation to PSC in October 2009

What is the Midpoint Assessment?

➤ Ultimate Goal:

 Ensure Partnership has all practices in place by 2025 to attain water quality standards in the Bay

➤ How?

- Take stock of latest science, data, tools (including models),
 BMPs, and lessons learned from progress to date
- Findings from Midpoint Assessment will help jurisdictions to prepare for the Phase III WIPs, which will guide milestones and implementation between 2018 and 2025

How Does the Midpoint Assessment Relate to the 60% goal?

Moving Forward on Parallel Tracks

2010

Implementing 60% by 2017

- 2010: Phase I WIPs
- 2011 & 2012: Phase II WIPs
- 2012-2013 Milestones
- 2014-2015 Milestones
- 2016-2017 Milestones
- Annual progress runs
- Tracked using Watershed Model Phase 5.3.2, with some refinements to include innovative new BMPs as possible (including from panels)

Midpoint Assessment

- 2012: Gather Partnership input and set priorities
- As directed by WQGIT, gather data, develop methods
- As appropriate, refine and test tools
- Set planning targets for Phase III WIPs
- Develop Phase III WIPs and 2018-2019 milestones

2017

How Does the Midpoint Assessment Relate to the Accountability Framework?

1. Watershed Implementation Plans identify nutrient and sediment targets that meet water quality standards.

Components of Bay TMDL

Accountability

Framework

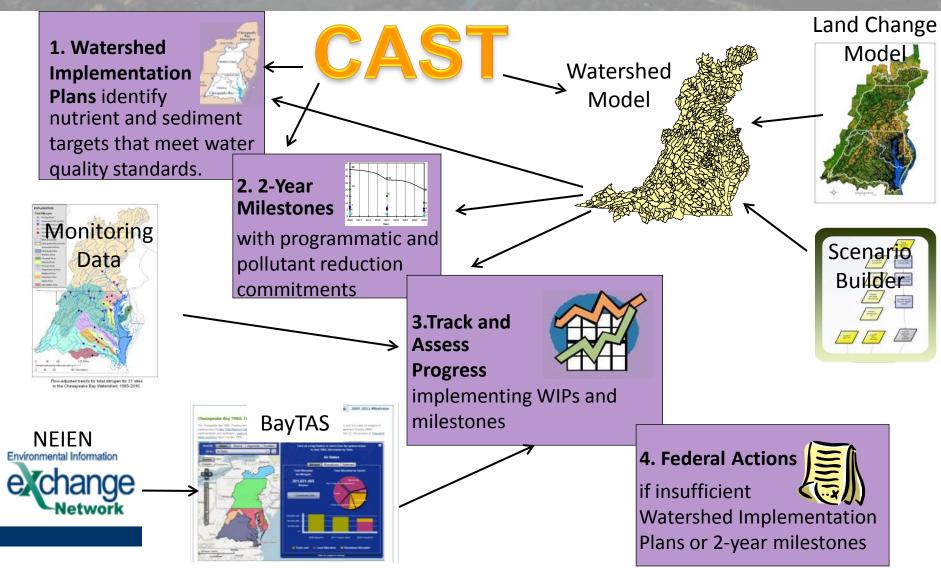
2. 2-Year
Milestones
with programmatic and pollutant reduction commitments

3.Track and Assess
Progress
implementing WIPs and milestones

if insufficient
Watershed Implementation
Plans or 2-year milestones

Source: Chesapeake Bay TMDL Section 7

Framework Informed by Decision Support and Assessment Tools



Who Is the Lead?

Deliverable	Proposed Lead
Midpoint Assessment Priorities	Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT)
Midpoint Assessment Guiding Principles	Principles' Staff Committee, with input from WQGIT and Management Board
Midpoint Assessment Deliverables	CBP Partnership. Specific roles for Workgroups, Modeling Team, etc.
2-Year Milestones	Bay Jurisdictions, Federal Agencies
Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans	Bay Jurisdictions, with input from local partners
Any Possible Revisions to Bay TMDL	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Note: Partnership members in addition to the lead may contribute to deliverables

Working Draft of Schedule (Dates Subject to Change)

- Input for the midpoint assessment from WQGIT, WQGIT Workgroups, Modeling Workgroup, others
 - Identification of topics (August 2012)
 - Priorities (September 18, 2012)
- Partnership development of Guiding Principles:
 - August and September: Discussion and feedback solicited from WQGIT
 - September 12: Discussion and feedback solicited from Management Board
 - September 27: Deadline for Management Board comments on Principles
 - Fall, TBD: Introduce Guiding Principles to PSC
 - Key question: will these Principles help the Partnership set priorities?
- October 9 WQGIT call:
 - Share updated Guiding Principles
 - WQGIT approval of October 22-23 agenda
- October 15: Materials available for October 22-23 meeting
- WQGIT Meeting to set priorities, flesh out schedule and develop work plan for midpoint assessment (October 22-23, 2012)
 - Use of draft versions of Guiding Principles to scope extent of the midpoint assessment
- PSC approval of the Guiding Principles (Winter 2013)

Working Draft of Schedule (Dates Subject to Change)

- ➤ BMP expert panel and workgroup findings and recommendations (2012 and on)
- > As appropriate, refinements to decision support tools (2012 and on)
- Partnership testing of these refinements and, as appropriate, tool modifications in response to this testing (Partners have suggested at least 6 months)
- Development of Phase III Planning Targets, as necessary
- Development of draft and final Phase III WIPs that will guide implementation between 2018 and 2025, upon receipt of Phase III WIP planning targets
 - Some Partners have indicated need 18 months between completion of any model updates and submission of Phase III WIPs
 - In 2010 letter, EPA stated draft Phase III WIPs due June 1, 2017 and final due November 1, 2017
- EPA revisions, as appropriate, to the Bay TMDL

Working Draft of Guiding Principles (see attachment; subject to change)

- Keep the focus on implementation and maintain stable tracking and reporting through 2017 (parallel tracks)
- 2. Enhance decision support and assessment tools to enable successful engagement of local partners
- 3. Incorporate verification of practices into existing accountability tools and reporting protocols
- Address emerging issues that may impact current strategies and future plans
- Prioritize midpoint assessment actions and adaptive management to ensure Phase III WIPs meet water quality goals

Workgroup Priorities and Relation to Guiding Principles

- ➤ See Attachment WG MPA Priorities_9.24.12.pdf and Priority Input by Principle_9.24.12.xls
- Workgroups have similar priorities
- ➤ Most priorities address to Principle 2, enabling successful engagement with local partners, and Principle 4, addressing emerging issues
- Many priorities address multiple principles
- ➤ Before October 22, Chesapeake Bay Program modeling team will estimate level of effort associated with Workgroup priorities

Watershed Technical Workgroup Priorities to Date

- 1. Thorough review process for WSM 6.0 including uncertainty analysis and local groundtruthing
 - Adjust Phase 3 WIP schedule if changes
- 2. Adjust regional delivery factors so that delivered loads represent real world loads
- 3. Incorporate local data on urban and agricultural land uses and loadings
- 4. Where local data not available, create finer scale, more accurate distributions of loads
- Improve simulations of phosphorus and sediment dynamics

How Land Use Workgroup Can Help Midpoint Assessment Succeed

- Prepare Alana to present priorities to WQGIT on Oct 22-23
- ➤ Actively participate in midpoint assessment discussions
- Take on action items assigned by WQGIT and provide deliverables and reviews on schedule to support midpoint assessment

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