

**Chesapeake Bay Program
Management Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 27, 2013**

Program Update

CBPO Calendar

March 4-6 Chesapeake Ag Networking Forum (Staunton, Va.)
March 7 PSC Winter Meeting (SRT Offices, Washington, DC)

Program Updates

Local Government Advisory Committee:

At its December 2012 Meeting, the LGAC held a full day, facilitated, strategic planning session in Annapolis. Results from the session are currently being synthesized and will be reviewed by a small task group of members. A draft plan is expected to be endorsed by the LGAC by March. Chair, Rick Gray, Mayor of Lancaster wrote and distributed an opinion article on behalf of the Local Government Advisory Committee. The piece addresses the recent controversy over local government implementation of the WIPs and issues related to the Conowingo Dam.

LGAC will meet on March 8 in Fredericksburg, VA. The remaining 2013 meeting dates are: June 6-7, Sept 26-27 at the Chesapeake Watershed Forum, and Dec 5-6. For more information please contact Lou Etgen at letgen@allianceforthebay.org or Jessica Blackburn at jblackburn@allianceforthebay.org.

Citizens' Advisory Committee:

CAC will meet on Feb 21-22 in Fredericksburg, VA at the United Methodist Church. The meeting will focus on BMP verification and will include a panel discussion on residential stormwater programs. CAC will send an announcement to area media sources inviting citizens to share brief remarks on local river or Bay clean-up progress. For more information please contact Jessica Blackburn at jblackburn@allianceforthebay.org

Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee:

STAC will hold its fourth quarterly meeting of FY 2012 on March 12-13, 2013 at the Sheraton Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. If you plan on attending this meeting, please send your RSVP to Matt Ellis at ellism@si.edu.

STAC is currently planning two workshops for the upcoming months. These workshops include:

- 1) Designing Sustainable Coastal Habitats - This workshop will be held on April 16-17, 2013 at The Tidewater Inn in Easton, Maryland. The Habitat Goal Implementation Team (GIT) proposed a workshop to convene coastal wetland, living shoreline, black ducks, and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) restoration partners to discuss complementary targeting approaches that will facilitate the development of coastal habitat complexes.

2) Emerging Issues and Opportunities for Improving Performance of Water Quality Credit Trading Programs in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed - This workshop is being planned for May 2013 at an undetermined location. The purpose of the workshop will be to provide an in-depth treatment of important trading issues by utilizing state trading program managers, watershed stakeholders, and academic thoroughly familiar with the Bay watershed.

In addition, STAC held a workshop this week. Below is a description of that workshop:

1) Multiple Models for Management (M3.2) in the Chesapeake Bay – This workshop was held on February 25th and 26th at the Sheraton Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. The workshop gathered stakeholders, modeling experts and regulatory experts to discuss how multiple models have been applied in management situations around the nation, and analyze whether the Chesapeake Bay restoration effort may benefit from multiple models in the future. The workshop report will be released in the next few months.

Finally, STAC completed a report during the first part of 2013. The report is listed below:

Workshop - Exploring the Environmental Effects of Shale Gas Development in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed- April 2012

Full report can be found at: http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/297_Gottschalk2013.pdf

CBP response pending

For additional information about the workshops, contact Natalie Gardner at gardnern@si.edu.

Communications Workgroup:

Working on:

- BMP verification communications strategy for inclusion in BMP verification strategy (for next PSC mtg)
- Media Needs Inquiry: Effort to improve the way CBP Comm communicates with media and meets their needs.

Partner Happenings:

MD

- Jan 31 - MDE announced year-long “[Reclaim the Bay](#)” campaign – highlights implementation of Ph II WiP efforts – visit: www.mde.state.md.us
- Feb: Final Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan to be released w/ a website and social media launch.
- Mar: MDE promoting Brown Water Awareness Week and the Stormwater Symposium

DE

- Launching a campaign concurrently with the new septic system regulations to offer about 250 free pump outs and inspections to people within 1,000 ft of the Nanticoke and other tributaries.
- Issuing fish consumption advisories in the next month.
- March: Event(s) to highlight Ph II WiP efforts

CBP Comm. Office

Bay Barometer Release/Press Event – 1/31 Newport News, VA

[Click here](#) for Bay Barometer online

- Speakers: Nick DiPasquale, Rich Batiuk, Rob O'Reilly (Va Marine Res. Comm)
- Guest experts: VIMS researchers
- Press Release: [Bay Shows Signs of Resilience as Partners Report on Health and Progress toward Local Pollution Reduction Goals](#)
- Media Coverage:
 - o 10 original articles in top media outlets; published via 40 different outlets (paper, radio, tv)
 - o 2 radio interviews w/ Nick DiPasquale

News/features in the works for Feb/early March

- Video: Oyster Restoration in Harris Creek
- Photo Essay: Poplar Island & Waterfowl Habitat
- Winter Waterfowl Survey results
- Press: Environmental Literacy Strategy

Recent News/Features

<i>Original Features</i>	<i>Partner-related news stories – linked out</i>
Video: Bay 101: Striped Bass	National Park Service writes plan to improve public access to rivers, streams, Chesapeake Bay
Critters: Zebra Mussels in the Chesapeake	Report recommends further research to determine effects of “fracking” in Bay watershed
REPORT: Bay Barometer: Bay impaired, but signs of resilience abound	Chemical contaminants persist across Chesapeake Bay watershed
How To: How to Deice the Bay-Friendly Way	
Feature: Restoration Spotlight: Restaurants recycle oyster shells	Pollution trends reflect lag time between restoration efforts, water quality improvement
Video/Feature: Restoration Spotlight: Wastewater overhaul will cut pollution in West Virginia	Chesapeake Bay Foundation report card measures “modest” improvement in Bay health
Feature: Photo Essay: An uncertain future for Tangier watermen	

CBP Sponsorship of Maryland Public Television's *Bay Week*

Through the Communications Office, CBP will be a sponsor of MPT's week-long programming on Chesapeake Bay stories, issues, history – April 21-28. Though programs run on MD stations first, MPT offers the programs for free to public t.v. stations across the Bay region and many in other states run the MPT programs as well. For our sponsorship, we will have a ½ page ad in the April MPT Program Guide, a hot link on the MPT homepage and approx. 65 15-second messages in April.

CBP Logos:**2013 – 30 Year logo**

Since 2013 marks CBP's 30th partnership year, CBP Communications will be using a special 30 yr logo during this calendar year. This special logo will appear on:

- 1) All press and press related materials
- 2) CBP Website header
- 3) Any publications with short-term, 2013 relevancy.

Regular logo

During the development of the 30 year logo, CBP's regular logo has also been updated, too.

Please contact Margaret Enloe in the CBP Comm Office about for the correct logo images and for any questions about the use thereof.

Goal Implementation Team Updates**GIT 1 – Fisheries**

The Fisheries GIT's Executive Committee met on January 28th. At this meeting the Executive Committee heard from Thomas Jordan (SERC), Matthew Kornis (SERC), and Ed Houde (UMCES) on links between land use and its effects on near shore habitats and fisheries. The Goal Team discussed outcomes and next steps from the December full Fisheries GIT meeting, the Invasive Catfish Task Force, submitting STAC workshop proposals, current land use issues and the Charles County Comprehensive Plan, and MB comments on the Fisheries GIT goals.

Key Action Items:

- Put together a fact sheet with the latest land use research information for distribution to interested parties.
- Update the Invasive Catfish Task Force Charge to include some near term action items and management implications.
- Draft STAC workshop proposals.
- Work more closely with MD, DC, and VA on land use issues.
- Draft a comment letter on the current draft Charles County Comprehensive Plan.
- Propose measurable commitments to bolster the third Fisheries GIT Outcome in the GIT goals statement.

The Fisheries GIT set up their meeting schedule for the rest of the 2013 calendar year. The May Executive Committee meeting and the December full GIT meeting dates are still undetermined, but the rest of the schedule is below (all Executive Committee meetings run from 1:00pm-3:00pm):

- February 25th
- March 18th
- April 15th
- June 17th-18th (Full GIT)
- July 15th
- August 19th
- September 23rd
- October 21st
- November 18th

GIT 2 – Habitat

The Habitat GIT is restoring a network of land and water habitats to afford a range of public benefits and to support priority species.

The Habitat GIT is working with STAC to plan a workshop that is titled "Designing Sustainable Coastal Habitats". The goal of the workshop is to design sustainable approaches and initiatives for coastal wetland habitat restoration and protection within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The workshop is scheduled for April 16 and 17 in Easton, Maryland and a draft agenda has been developed.

The Habitat GIT is working with the CBP communications team to develop a video story on American Black ducks. The video will be similar to the Brook Trout video developed in November 2012 and will focus on wetland restoration and land conservation with the main message that Black ducks serve as a symbol of healthy coastal habitats.

GIT 3 – Water Quality

The Water Quality GIT works to evaluate, focus and accelerates the implementation of practices, policies and programs that will restore water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to conditions that support living resources and protect human health.

On February 11, 2013, the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) Workgroup Chairs and Coordinators presented to the WQGIT membership their midpoint assessment low priority work plans, which outlines the specific actions the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership will take to update the data input, modeling, and other decision support tools by 2017. The midpoint assessment high priority work plans were presented to the WQGIT members on December 10, 2012.

As part of the midpoint assessment process, the Agriculture Workgroup is proposing to sponsor a two-day agricultural modeling workshop in early Spring 2013. This workshop will be one of the first steps toward identifying potential opportunities and prioritizing supporting activities within the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership to address and implement the following two high priority midpoint assessment action items: agricultural modeling baseline/input data assumptions and agricultural model data processing.

In addition, the USGS released a report in January 2013 in which an enhanced statistical technique was used to estimate loads and trends of nutrients and sediments to the Chesapeake Bay and assess changes in those loads over time. The new technique will be another tool to examine water quality changes as practices are implemented to reduce nutrients and sediments to the Bay. Findings in this report will be used during 2013 by the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership to consider whether to adopt new goals for reducing inputs of toxic contaminants entering the Bay and watershed. A summary of the results and a link to the report can be found here: <http://chesapeake.usgs.gov/sciencesummary-enhancedstatistical.html>

The Chesapeake Bay Program Office and the Bay jurisdictions have been actively working together on finalizing the jurisdictions' 2012 progress run submissions. Final submissions with any necessary data corrections are due at the end of this month.

GIT 5 – Foster Stewardship

The Fostering Stewardship GIT promotes individual stewardship, supports environmental education for all ages, and assists citizens, communities and local governments in undertaking initiatives to achieve restoration and conservation in the Chesapeake region. It aims to build public support of restoration efforts and increase citizen engagement and active stewardship.

See attached press release.

GIT 6 – Partnering and Leadership

The goal of the Enhance Partnering, Leadership, and Management GIT is to continually improve the governance and management of the CBP Partnership.

GIT 6 continues to be actively engaged with the development of options for new goals, governance, and a potential new agreement. The goal team held a full day brainstorming retreat facilitated by Philipia Hillman on Friday 2/8/13 to develop a list of options addressing all areas of the Chesapeake Bay Program. The options developed at this meeting will be presented to the Management Board at the February 27th meeting.

Recent Meetings and Events

Jan 31	Bay Barometer Year End Report Release
Jan 14	USGS River Data Trends & Sediment Loads Report Release
Jan 14	USGS Extent & Severity of Toxic Contaminant Occurrence Report Release