**Chesapeake Bay Program
Management Board Meeting
Thursday, May 16, 2013**

Program Update

CBPO Calendar

May 22-23	Ag Modeling Workshop (UMD)
June 6-7	LGAC Meeting
June 11-12	STAC Quarterly Meeting (Annapolis, Md)
June 13	Management Board Meeting (Annapolis, Md)
June 27	PSC In-Person Meeting (Washington, D.C.)

Program Updates

Tracking Healthy Watersheds page on ChesapeakeStat

The Tracking Healthy Watersheds page is now on Chesapeake*Stat*. The partnership's healthy watershed tracking system is a three-legged stool that supports healthy watershed protection: maps of state-identified healthy watersheds, the best available assessments of the vulnerability of those watersheds to threats such as land use change, and the most current information on protections that are in place to assure long-term sustainability of watershed health. This information establishes public accountability for healthy watershed protection and provides useful information to support targeting of conservation efforts and local action. http://stat.chesapeakebay.net/?q=node/131
Contact: Doreen Vetter, vetter.doreen@epa.gov

Citizens' Advisory Committee

As a result of the last CAC meeting in February, a CAC workgroup has been drafting on a letter to follow-up on BMP verification and transparency. CAC decided to learn more about the programs in the Bay watershed that address toxic contaminants with the intention to learn whether it is appropriate for the Bay Program to adopt a toxics goal. They will host a panel on toxics at a future CAC quarterly meeting. CAC next's meeting will be on Kent Island on May 30-31. The meeting will focus on habitat, living resources and land use impacts of climate change.

CAC welcomed two new members: Matthew Ehrhart with the Stroud Research Center in PA and Scott Fickbohm with the Ostego Soil and Water Conservation District in Cooperstown, NY. We are continuing to look for members to represent WV and DE. Contact: Jessica Blackburn, jblackburn@allianceforthebay.org.

Local Government Advisory Committee

LGAC met in Fredericksburg, VA on April 11-12. The committee discussed their priority actions from their strategic plan which include: increasing regular communications among the LGAC delegations and their governors and staff; working with communications professionals to develop key local messages for elected officials to use for communication with their constituents and colleagues; and participate in local government organizational meetings to engage them in dialogues on watershed issues, policies and local success stories. An outcome of the meeting was that LGAC sent a letter to the EPA Acting Administrator encouraging increased support for green infrastructure approaches in the proposed EPA Rulemaking to Address Stormwater Management. Additionally, LGAC will send a letter to the PSC Chair requesting LGAC's interest to help draft the language in new Bay agreement to ensure that

the hard work, commitment, and leadership of local governments across the watershed is acknowledged. Local governments are a critical link in the success of achieving clean water plans as well as maintaining healthy watersheds.

The new LGAC coordinator's, Mary Gattis-Schell, first day at the Alliance is May 1, 2013. She will work out of the Camp Hill, PA Alliance office. The next LGAC meeting will be June 5-6 following the conclusion of the Choose Clean Water Conference in Baltimore, MD. For more information about LGAC contact mgattis@allianceforthebay.org.

Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee:
STAC will hold its first quarterly meeting of FY 2013 on June 11-12, 2013 at an undetermined location 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 one workshop for the upcoming months. This workshop includes:

> 1) *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 14, 2013 at The Sheraton hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. 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 last month. Below is a description of that workshop:

> 1) *Designing Sustainable Coastal Habitats* - This workshop was 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. A workshop report will be distributed this summer.

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

Finally, STAC held its fourth quarterly meeting of FY 2012 on March 12-13, 2013. STAC heard seven FY 2013 workshop proposals presented at the meeting. STAC members did NOT vote to approve, or disapprove the RFPs. Instead, STAC members will form an assessment committee to develop evaluation criteria that would bring all the current (and future) proposals up to the quality/level of information STAC needs to evaluate them. FY 2013 RFPs will be re-presented to STAC at the June 11th and 12th quarterly meeting.

Communications Workgroup:
Working on:
- Innovative ways to promote the 30th anniversary of CBP. Needs to incorporate messages into the presentation, not just a visual. Please contact Margaret with any ideas.
- E-news communications revamp
- Restoration Spotlight: Agriculture BMPs in West Virginia

Partner Happenings:
NPS
- Chesapeake campaign events are coming up for Star Spangled Banner National Historic Trail.

MDE
- Final release of the green house gasses plan due out soon.
- Spring regional workshops on the WIPs are starting soon

NOAA
- The field team and computer modeling team are developing a work plan primarily for Little Choptank for enhanced monitoring and analysis of pre and post oyster restoration work.

CBP Comm. Office:
News/features in the works for April/May
- Restoration Spotlight: Agricultural BMPs in West Virginia
- From the Field: Winter Dredge Survey
- April 30th: News release and blog post: Reducing Pollution Indicators
- Restoration Spotlight: Largemouth bass spawning

Recent News/Features

Original Features	*Partner-related news stories – linked out*
Feature: Project Clean Stream photo essay	Maryland Public Television celebrates Chesapeake Bay Week
Critters: Jack-in-the-Pulpit	Chesapeake Bay's underwater grasses decline in 2012
Blog Post: Ten invasive species of the Chesapeake Bay	Maryland's oyster population continues to rise
Indicator posted: Underwater Grasses	Half of nation's rivers and streams are in poor health
Feature: Living shorelines photo essay	Federal agencies outline progress towards Chesapeake Bay cleanup

Contact: Margaret Enloe, menloe@chesapeakebay.net

Goal Implementation Team Updates

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 and STAC led a workshop titled "Designing Sustainable Coastal Habitats" on April 16-17, 2013 in Easton, MD. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together scientists, habitat restoration specialists and policy makers to assess the current status and trending condition of coastal ecosystems and to identify those habitat components that will be sustainable under increasing human impacts and a changing climate. Workshop participants produced more than 25 recommendations related to the resiliency of coastal habitats that will be captured in a workshop report to be released in July 2013. The workshop also recommended actions that can be taken quickly by partners to begin restoring high priority coastal habitats.
The Habitat GIT hosted a USGS webinar titled "Shale gas development and brook trout: scaling Best Management Practices to anticipate cumulative effects" on April 23, 2013. David Smith (USGS, Leetown Science Center) presented the webinar.
Webinar Summary: Best management practices (BMPs) are typically implemented at the local-scale (e.g., well pad distance from stream) but brook trout may respond to the cumulative effects of disturbance at the landscape-scale. We used decision analysis techniques to develop a framework for

landscape-scale BMPs which account for uncertainty in the predicted responses of brook trout to Marcellus shale development. Our results indicate that (1) Efficient well pad density is critical for landscape-level BMPs, regardless of uncertainty in brook trout dose-response models; (2) With less efficient well pad placement, uncertainty among dose-response models becomes more important; (3) Resolving dose-response models through research has value for optimizing brook trout conservation and oil/gas extraction.

The Habitat GIT has initiated wetland focused discussions in VA and MD to determine potential priority restoration projects. The Maryland meeting, led by Jana Davis (CBTrust, Habitat GIT Vice Chair), was on April 22, 2013 and the Virginia meeting, led by Jennifer Greiner (FWS, Habitat GIT Coordinator), was on May 1, 2013. The GIT hopes to convene a similar meeting in PA later in May.

The Habitat GIT has been working closely with funders like National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) to target BMPs that link habitat restoration and water quality improvements. NFWF's 2013 Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund will award approximately $8 million - $10 million in grants in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Program to restore the habitats and water quality of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams. To further that effort NFWF has targeted watershed watersheds where there are significant opportunities to benefit species habitats such as in brook trout in headwater stream or create spawning opportunities for river herring. NFWF will be holding a webinar for applicants on Friday May 3 at 11:00 to discuss the RFP and targeting restoration. The link for the webinar is https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/123468041.
Contact: Jennifer Greiner, Jennifer_greiner@fws.gov

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 April 30, 2013, the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership released 2012 information on partners' progress to reduce pollution to the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Data shows that pollution from nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment has been reduced over the past three years due to actions taken by the Bay jurisdictions. This information is posted online and can be accessed via the Press Center at http://www.chesapeakebay.net/presscenter for full release and photos/videos.

In addition, the Agriculture Workgroup will be hosting an Ag modeling workshop at the University of Maryland at the end of May to address priorities raised through the midpoint assessment. This workshop brings together representatives from the industry, private, federal, state, and academic sectors.

The Chesapeake Bay Program has recently updated our table of the "BMP Expert Panels Approved, Underway, or Planned" on ChesapeakeStat. This update includes additional information about the status, next steps, and report-out dates of the expert panels and will be updated on a monthly basis. The table can be accessed here: http://stat.chesapeakebay.net/q=node/130&quicktabs_10=3
Contact: Lucinda Power, power.lucinda@epa.gov

GIT 4 – Healthy Watersheds
The goal of the Maintain Healthy Watersheds Goal Implementation Team (GIT 4) is to maintain local watershed health across a range of landscape contexts. With this goal, GIT 4 intends to bring attention to the challenge of protecting streams and watersheds that are healthy today. This initiative complements the "dirty waters" approach which focuses on restoring impaired waters.

In an April 22nd meeting, the Maintain Healthy Watersheds GIT (GIT4) focused on CBP and state healthy watershed vulnerability assessment capabilities and metrics. We have published state-identified

healthy watershed layers on [ChesapeakeSTAT](#), where visitors can view maps of state-identified healthy waters and watersheds in relation to their vulnerability to urban growth, and in relation to protected lands. Also, the GIT has submitted two proposals to the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay for healthy watershed-themed sessions at the annual Chesapeake Watershed Forum. And in the near future, we will host a GIT4 conference call to brainstorm proposals for Watershed Forum PLUS local workshop activities for which GIT4 also will collaborate with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.

The goal of GIT 4 is to maintain local watershed health across a range of landscape contexts. With this goal, GIT 4 intends to bring attention to the challenge of protecting streams and watersheds that are healthy today, as identified by the CBP partner states. This initiative complements the "dirty waters" approach which focuses on restoring impaired waters.

GIT 4 has three principal strategies: 1) to provide a forum for mutual learning and exploration of scientific and management issues; 2) to develop and disseminate key information resources, including a capability to track healthy watershed protection, and advocacy communications; and 3) to find and apply the best available science that supports our mission.

Contacts: Mark Bryer, TNC, GIT4 Chair; Dan Baldwin, MDP, GIT4 Vice-Chair; Mike Fritz, EPA, GIT4 Coordinator; Anna Stuart Burnett, CRC, GIT4 Staffer

GIT 6 – Partnering, Leadership, and Management
The goal of the Enhance Partnering, Leadership, and Management GIT is to continually improve the governance and management of the CBP Partnership.

In response to the goals & governance options selected at the April 17th PSC meeting, GIT 6 is moving forward with leading the process for the development of a proposed new Chesapeake Bay Agreement (agreement).

GIT 6 has been working with the other GITs for several months aiding with the development of their goals and outcomes, which are to be included in the agreement. These goals and outcomes will be presented at the May 16th MB meeting, and the GIT members will explain the rationale behind each. GIT 6 is currently focused on developing structure and wording for the mission, vision, and principles sections of the new agreement. After receiving input from the May 16th MB meeting, GIT 6 will develop the draft wording and details of the mission, vision, and principles segments of the new agreement based upon the guidance received from the MB. These draft mission, vision, and principles sections will then be brought back to the MB during their June meeting for further discussion and review prior to the next PSC meeting.

GIT 6 is currently developing a timeline outlining the proposed steps and deadlines for all appropriate stakeholders needed to reach a new agreement by the Fall 2013 Executive Council Meeting. Other work will include revising the CBP Governance document and aiding with the development of management strategies, which will likely be referred to in the new agreement.

Recent Meetings and Events
April 11-12   LGAC Meeting (Fredricksburg, Va)
April 16-17   STAC Designing Sustainable Coastal Habitats Workshop (Easton, Md)
April 17   PSC Conference Call
May 8-10   Chesapeake Bay Commission Meeting
May 14   STAC Emerging Issues and Opportunities for Improving Performance of Water Quality
                 Credit Trading Programs in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Annapolis, Md)