Chesapeake Bay Program
Management Board Meeting
Thursday, June 13, 2013

Program Update

CBPO Calendar

June 27	PSC In-Person Meeting (Washington, D.C.)
July 11	Management Board Meeting (Annapolis, Md)
August 22-23	CAC Meeting (PA)
September 27	LGAC Meeting (WV)

Program Updates

CAFO Rulemaking Changes

EPA is not proposing revisions to regulations for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) under an agreement reached with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. EPA will instead work cooperatively with states and the agricultural community in the Chesapeake Bay watershed to continue the significant progress made since 2010 in approaches and actions to reduce water pollution from animal agriculture.

Over the next several years, EPA will conduct assessments of animal agriculture programs for each of the states in the Chesapeake Bay watershed to evaluate effectiveness and consistency with the Clean Water Act. EPA will also review a sampling of animal agriculture permits and operations to ensure compliance with legal obligations, and will continue to provide assistance through grants to states and farmers to help them meet their goals. In 2018, EPA will reassess progress in reducing pollution from animal agriculture and if necessary reconsider revisions to CAFO regulations. This alternative approach will more quickly and comprehensively address environmental issues posed by animal agriculture in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Local Government Advisory Committee

LGAC met twice since our last report to the Management Board. They began implementing their strategic plan, focusing primarily on improving communications. Members are committed to hosting facilitated discussions with local government officials at state conferences as a means of conveying information to and gleaning feedback/input from local governments. This work is being supported by the new LGAC Coordinator, Mary Gattis.

At its June quarterly meeting, LGAC formed a committee to participate in drafting the new Bay Agreement. LGAC members strongly support inclusion of language that recognizes the vital role of local governments in achieving the goals of the new agreement. They believe that the Partners' primary focus should be on enabling, empowering and facilitating local implementation.

LGAC's next meeting will be held on September 27, 2013 in West Virginia. They are working with the Environmental Finance Center to offer Leadership Training for local governments on September 26, 2013.

Citizen's Advisory Committee:

The Citizens Advisory Committee met on May 30-31 in Stevensville, M. CAC discussed the Bay Agreement, hosted a Climate Change Panel, learned about the progress on developing a toxics contaminants goal and the progress on developing outcomes for environmental education goal. CAC learned that NOAA's B-WET (Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education and Training) funding for hands-on learning experiences for students and teachers in the Bay Watershed is proposed to be eliminated in the President's Budget. B-WET is the only federal funding dedicated to environmental education in the Bay Watershed. CAC plans to send a letter to the Executive Council to alert them that the $2 million for B-WET will be terminated and urges the members to voice their opinion or concerns on how this will impact achieving the watershed's environmental education goals and commitment. CAC will be in PA on Aug 22-23. For more information please contact Jessica Blackburn at jblackburn@allianceforbay.org

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 will hold its Spring 2013 meeting on Tuesday, June 25th from 1:00-4:00PM. This will be a "virtual meeting" in webinar format that will focus on the new Chesapeake Watershed Agreement and updates from the Habitat GIT workgroups.

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 May 22nd and 23rd, the Agriculture Workgroup hosted an Ag modeling workshop at the University of Maryland to address priorities raised through the midpoint assessment. This workshop brought together representatives from the industry, private, federal, state, and academic sectors. Additional information can be found here:
http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/20725/building_a_better_bay_model_a_workshop_for_a griculture_partners_annotated_051713.pdf
In addition, on May 30th, EPA provided its interim assessments to the seven Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions' on their progress toward meeting their 2012-2013 Milestones and Watershed Implementation Plan goals. In addition, EPA provided an interim assessment to the federal agencies of progress toward meeting their 2012-2013 water quality milestones set forth under the Chesapeake Bay Executive Order 13508 strategy. These goals and milestones outline steps the Bay jurisdictions and

federal agencies are taking toward having all the pollution control measures in place by 2025 to fully restore the Bay. The interim assessments are available on the [EPA Chesapeake Bay TMDL website](#).

Finally, the Water Quality GIT approved during their May 13th conference call the final report entitled, "Recommendations of the Expert Panel to Define Removal Rates for Individual Stream Restoration Projects". The Expert Panel conducted an extensive review of recent research on the impact of stream restoration projects in reducing the delivery of sediments and nutrient to the Bay. The Report describes four general protocols to define the pollutant load reductions associated with individual stream restoration projects.

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.

Program Alignment:

In response to decisions related to the goals & governance options that were made at the April 17th PSC meeting, GIT 6 is moving forward with the agreed process to develop a new agreement for the partnership.

GIT 6 established section leads and has had extensive participation from members leading to the first draft of the agreement, which is tentatively titled "Chesapeake Watershed Agreement". This draft was distributed to Management Board (MB) members for review on June 6th and will be discussed at the June 13th MB meeting.

GIT 6 will proceed with additional drafting of the agreement based upon feedback received from the June 13th MB meeting. The final first draft will be presented to the PSC for comment at their July meeting.

The GIT Chairs met on June 6th to discuss revisions to the list of GIT goals & outcomes. These updated GIT goals & outcomes will be presented at the June 13th MB meeting. GIT members will explain the rationale behind each goal and outcome.

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)
May 16	Management Board Meeting (Annapolis, Md)
May 22-23	Ag Modeling Workshop (UMUC)
May 30-31	CAC Meeting (Stevensville, Md)
June 5-6	LGAC Meeting (Baltimore, Md)
June 6	GIT Chairs Meeting (Annapolis, Md)
June 11-12	STAC Quarterly Meeting (Annapolis, Md)