



**Chesapeake Bay Program
Management Board Meeting
August 14, 2014**

Program Update

CBPO Calendar

Aug. 21-22	CAC Quarterly Meeting (Harrisburg, PA)
Sept. 7	Sen. Ben Cardin field hearing (Annapolis, MD)
Sept. 9-10	STAC Quarterly Meeting (Annapolis, MD)
Sept. 11	Management Board meeting (Annapolis, MD)
Sept. 22	PSC meeting (Washington, DC)
Sept. 25-26	LGAC Quarterly Meeting (Shepherdstown, WV)
Sept. 26-28	Chesapeake Watershed Forum (Shepherdstown, WV)
Oct. 9	Management Board conference call
Oct. 21-22	Habitat Goal Team Meeting

Program Updates

Field Hearing on new Agreement Scheduled for September 8

U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD) has expressed an interest in holding a field hearing on September 8 in Annapolis, MD. The hearing will focus on the recently signed Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. Representatives from the Chesapeake Bay Program and its jurisdictional and federal partners are expected to participate as witnesses.

Contact: Greg Barranco, (410) 267-5779, barranco.greg@epa.gov

Army Corps of Engineers' Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Plan Scoping Kick-off

On August 5, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) held a kick-off meeting on the Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Plan during the Chesapeake Bay Commission's meeting in Annapolis. USACE received FY14 funding to scope efforts to complete the plan and the FY15 budget includes funds for the USACE to begin the effort. USACE explained the current status, shared ideas and sought input on products to include in the plan. Chesapeake Bay Program Office (CBPO) Director DiPasquale attended along with representatives from other Chesapeake Bay Program partners including Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia, as well as the Northeast Midwest Institute, Chesapeake Conservancy and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Contact: Nick DiPasquale, (410) 267-5710, dipasquale.nicholas@epa.gov

MACO Panel on the new Chesapeake Bay Agreement for Local Governments

On August 13, Maryland DNR Deputy Secretary Frank Dawson and CBP Director Nick DiPasquale participated in a panel presentation for local government leaders during the Maryland Association of Counties (MACO) Summer Conference in Ocean City, MD. Other members of the panel were CBP Local Government Advisory Committee member Dave Dunmyer, and representatives from the Maryland Departments of Environment, Natural Resources and Planning. The presentation included an overview

of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement's Goals and Outcomes and a discussion about the role of Local Governments in its implementation.

Contact: Nick DiPasquale, (410) 267-5710, dipasquale.nicholas@epa.gov

WashCOG Annual Bay and Local Water Quality Forum

CBPO Director Nick DiPasquale participated in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Annual Bay and Local Water Quality Forum on July 18 in Washington, D.C. The forum featured discussions about the Bay TMDL, the new Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, permitting and other regulatory matters, as well as highlights of local accomplishments and challenges. Other members of EPA Region 3, Maryland, Virginia and the District also participated in the meeting.

Contact: Nick DiPasquale, (410) 267-5710, dipasquale.nicholas@epa.gov

Advisory Committee Updates

Local Government Advisory Committee

The purpose of the LGAC is to advise the Executive Council on how to effectively implement projects and engage the support of local governments to achieve the goals of the Bay Agreement.

LGAC hosted roundtables on the new Bay Agreement at the PA State Association of Township Commissioners and Maryland Association of Counties conferences. Additional roundtables are being planned. LGAC and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay are hosting a workshop to develop strategies for expanding the use of monitoring as an education and implementation tool for local governments. The workshop is scheduled for September 25 in Shepherdstown, WV in conjunction with LGAC's quarterly meeting and the Chesapeake Watershed Forum. Anyone interested in receiving information about LGAC meetings or events should contact LGAC Coordinator, Mary Gattis

Contact: Mary Gattis, mgattis@allianceforthebay.org or 717-475-8390

Citizens' Advisory Committee

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is charged with responsibility for representing residents and stakeholders of the Chesapeake Bay watershed in the restoration effort and advising the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership on all aspects of restoration.

The Citizens Advisory Committee will meet in Harrisburg, PA on August 21-22. Topics for discussion will include updates from PA DEP, a review of the 2012-2013 Two-Year Milestone Progress, updates on fracking, a discussion about the PA Nutrient Trading Program, and session on Environmental Education including a briefing on the Model My Watershed tool and a demonstration of the PA Farm Bureau's Mobile Ag Education Science Lab. Working sessions will include a discussion on CAC's role in outreach and subcommittee break-outs to discuss how CAC's work priorities align with the Agreement Outcomes.

Contact: Jessica Blackburn, jblackburn@allianceforthebay.org

Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) provides scientific and technical guidance to the Chesapeake Bay Program on measures to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay.

STAC will hold its second quarterly meeting of FY 2014 on September 9-10, 2014 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.

An *ad hoc* group of STAC members developed a guidance document (spreadsheet) to assist the GITs in identifying factors influencing outcomes in the Bay agreement. STAC invites any members of the GITs to participate in a working session at the September quarterly meeting where STAC members will review and discuss the GIT identified factors.

STAC and STAR leadership met on August 7, 2014 at the Chesapeake Bay Program offices in Annapolis to define clear roles regarding interactions with the Goal Implementation Teams (GITs) during development of management strategies, indicators, and monitoring plans to implement the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Agreement. Those roles will be clearly articulated to the GITs in the near future.

STAC is currently planning five workshops that will take place before May 31, 2015:

- 1) Exploring Applications of Behavioral Economics Research to Environmental Policy-making in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.
- 2) Re-plumbing the Chesapeake Watershed: Improving roadside ditch management to meet TMDL water quality goals.
- 3) Comparison of Shallow Water Models for Use in Supporting Chesapeake Bay Management Decision-making.
- 4) Assessing the Chesapeake Bay Forage Base: Existing Data and Research Priorities.
- 5) Evaluating Proprietary BMPs: Is it time for a State, Regional, or National Program?

For additional information about the workshops above, contact Natalie Gardner at gardnern@si.edu or visit the STAC Workshop webpage at http://www.chesapeake.org/stac/stac_ws.php.

STAC is in the process of finalizing three activity reports. Below is a list of reports that STAC will distribute over the next few weeks.

- 1) A Review of Agricultural P-dynamics in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model
- 2) In my Backyard: An Innovative Look at the Advances of Onsite Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems
- 3) Management Effects on Water Quality Trends

STAC approved two review requests from the Partnership over the last few months. Those reviews and deadlines are below:

- 1) Final Report of the Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team Invasive Catfish Task Force
– The final review report is due from STAC on October 31, 2014.

- 2) Lower Susquehanna River Watershed Assessment Report – The final review report is due from STAC on August 23, 2014.

Contact: Natalie Gardner, gardnern@si.edu

Goal Implementation Team and STAR and Communication Workgroup Updates

GIT 1 – Fisheries

The Sustainable Fisheries GIT focuses on advancing ecosystem-based fisheries management by using science to make informed fishery management decisions that cross state boundaries.

- Fisheries GIT leadership is developing plans that will guide the development of the management strategies for each fisheries outcomes and identify stakeholders that need to be involved in the process.
- STAC's review of the Invasive Catfish Task Force's final report is ongoing and is set to be complete in October 2014.
- The Fisheries GIT's STAC workshop titled "Assessing the Chesapeake Bay Forage Base: Existing Data and Research Priorities" is scheduled for November 12-13, 2014 at the Chesapeake Biological Lab in Solomons, MD. Tom Ihde (STAC member) and Ed Houde (Chesapeake Biological Lab) are co-chairing this workshop. The workshop Steering Committee has been holding regular conference calls to plan the workshop.
- The Fisheries GIT Executive Committee will have their next monthly conference call on Monday, August 18th.

Contact: Bruce Vogt, bruce.vogt@noaa.gov

Habitat Goal Implementation Team

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 next Habitat GIT meeting is being planned for October 21-22 in Pennsylvania. Directed efforts to engage state fish and wildlife agency executives in a watershed-wide habitat strategy are underway.

Brook Trout

- A proposal to present the Pilot Brook Trout Habitat Prioritization model for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed was accepted for the Restore American Estuaries (RAE) Summit, November 1-6, 2014 in Washington, DC. The first planning session is scheduled for August 14th.

Wetlands

- The Wetland Expert Panel is underway and being coordinated by Neely Law, CWP.
- A Wetland Workgroup meeting is scheduling for September 11. New members are being recruited.
- Wetland Work Group members are working on Farm Bill funding opportunity under Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species

- The winter 2014 meeting has been scheduled for December 10-11 in Virginia.

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.

- The WQGIT approved the On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems BMP Expert Panel report on July 14.
- Upcoming BMP panel reports for WQGIT review include Riparian Buffers, Shoreline Management and Oyster Restoration.
- The WQGIT finalized revisions to the BMP Protocol in July.
- In July, WQGIT members approved the decision-making process on when to update background conditions and incorporate new data into the modeling tools within a particular milestone period.
- In early fall the WQGIT will be approving the Phase 6.0 land use classifications proposed by the Land Use Workgroup.
- A face to face WQGIT meeting will be held in October 2014 to review progress and determine next steps toward the 2017 Midpoint Assessment.

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.

- The Healthy Watersheds GIT is committed to developing a management strategy for the Healthy Watersheds outcome in the new Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. GIT leaders have initiated the first steps of management strategy development (e.g., GIT staff are working on filling out a draft of Key Elements of the Management Strategy).
- The Team is excited that the land use outcomes in the new Agreement have been initially assigned to the GIT because they are very relevant to the GIT's outcome. The GIT is committed to working cooperatively with the Water Quality GIT's Land Use Workgroup to incorporate the land use outcomes into the GIT's management strategy. The Team recognizes that this will require a great deal of cross-GIT communication and collaboration, and is committed to overseeing these outcomes, as well as bringing diverse perspectives (e.g., local government, planners, etc.) to strategy development.
- The Local Engagement Workgroup's next conference call will be on August 12.
- The Tracking Workgroup's next conference call will be on August 25.
- GIT leaders and select members will present a Healthy Watersheds session at the 2014 Watershed Forum scheduled to take place September 26–28 in Shepherdstown, WV. In addition to this session highlighting the work to date of the GIT, the GIT's workgroups are developing specific questions

aimed at engaging more diverse participants that are at the forum and soliciting input related to the healthy watershed goal.

Contact: Tuana Phillips, Phillips.tuana@epa.gov

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.

Environmental Literacy

Environmental Literacy Group is finishing Beta testing of Environmental Literacy Tracking tool. The group is in the process of reviewing comments about the tool, and planning next steps for full implementation. Sustainable schools group will meet on Oct. 1-2 at NCTC to discuss the status of sustainable schools within each state, and collaborate to develop management strategies. The Education Workgroup leadership retreat will be held Oct. 27-28 at NCTC, and will be centered on revising the MWEE definition, and development of management strategies.

Public Access

Governor Terry McAuliffe will dedicate a new canoe-in campground Aug. 22 at Caledon State Park in King George County. The campground is the newest public access point on the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.

Land Conservation

Large Landscape Collaborative (LLC) Steering Committee will be meeting and Sept. 3 at George Washington Birthplace, with a full LLC meeting to follow up on Oct. 3-4 at NCTC. These meetings will be used to further develop the partnerships initiatives as well provide a foundation for the Partnership's work to inform and develop the management strategy for land protection.

Contact: Amy Handen, ahanden@chesapeakebay.net

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.

Governance Document

The new Governance Document was accepted as final by the Management Board and sent to the PSC Chair on July 16 as a living document that will incorporate changes in a defined process. GIT 6 will begin maintaining a running log of potential revisions. In six months, GIT 6 will hold a meeting to review this list and begin a process of deliberative revision. GIT 6 is also collecting current governance documents from individual GITs to be linked to the CBP Governance Document.

Annual Assessment

GIT 6 is currently in the process of developing a set of options for future MB consideration on the concept of an annual program performance evaluation meeting. These options will be presented to MB in fall or early winter.

GIT Funding

GIT 6 staff collected, compiled, and organized all FY14 GIT funding proposals. GIT 6 submitted two proposals 1) cross-GIT facilitation and support for Management Strategy development and 2) an assessment of existing local leadership development programs in order to more fully develop a management strategy for the new local leadership outcome with an emphasis on considering the role of a CBP leadership institute. There have been several iterations of the funding proposals and meetings with the Goal Team Chairs to determine the prioritization of the proposals. Potential funding mechanisms for each proposal have recently been identified and actions are being taken to pursue these funding mechanisms. Goal Team Chairs will likely be notified in the coming weeks regarding the funding of their proposals.

New Financing Workgroup

GIT 6 has proposed the formation of a new Financing Workgroup that would provide support on a range of issues related to funding with an overall purpose of continually improving coordination and innovation on budgeting in the Bay Program. This workgroup would go beyond EPA funding, and would also consider how to coordinate on state and federal budget issues. GIT 6 hopes to propose this workgroup to the MB this fall.

Contact: Greg Allen, allen.greg@epa.gov

Scientific, Technical Assessment, and Reporting Team

The purpose of STAR (Scientific, Technical Analysis and Reporting) is to facilitate productive deployment of scientific resources, to provide timely, quality information to managers, and to expand communication between workgroups.

STAC and STAR leadership met to define clear roles regarding interactions with the Goal Implementation Teams (GITs) and development of management strategies, indicators, and monitoring plans to implement the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. To be most effective, STAC and STAR plan to collaborate in order to help the GITs during the entire management strategy development. A timeline and document were prepared to clearly define the roles and action items of each group.

Contact: Peter Tango, ptango@chesapeakebay.net

Communication Workgroup

The Communications Workgroup provides strategic planning and expert advice to support the the communication needs of the Chesapeake Bay Program partners, and spur public action through consistent messaging, expanded media coverage, use of multimedia and online tools, comprehensive branding and promotion, outreach to stakeholders, and coordinated internal and external communications.

Communications Workgroup is actively working on:
BMP Verification Framework communications strategy

Management outreach strategy

CBP Communications Editorial Calendar: August

- 07.29 (Tues.): [How to Pick a Crab](#)
- 07.30 (Wed.): [Ten boats of the Chesapeake Bay](#)
- 07.31 (Thurs.): [Letter from Leadership: Wide Net, huge heart](#)
- 08.01 (Fri.): Critter of the Month: [Bull Shark](#)
- 08.01 (Fri.): [Chesapeake Currents](#)
- 08.04 (Mon.): Blog Post: [East Coast to experience more 'nuisance floods' as sea levels rise](#)
- 08.05 (Tues.): River Health Report Cards
- 08.06 (Wed.): [Photo Essay: Finding the Chesapeake's dead zone](#)
- 08.07 (Thurs.): [List: Facts about Vibrio](#)

Contact: Margaret Enloe, menloe@chesapeakebay.net

Recent Meetings and Events

- Aug 5 USACE Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Plan meeting (Annapolis, Md.)
- July 21 Charles Co Planning Commission (LaPlata, Md.)
- July 18 WashCOG