

Forage Action Team Quarterly Meeting
Thursday, February 16, 2017; 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Chesapeake Bay Program Office, Room 305
410 Severn Avenue, Annapolis MD 21403

Call-In: (877) 921-8911; Pass Code: 7762916

Webinar: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2601499867127806979>

Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/24883/>

I. Introduction and Status Update (2:00-2:10pm)

- Bruce Vogt will provide an overview of the agenda and meeting goals.

II. Factors Influencing Forage in the Chesapeake Bay (2:10-2:40pm)

- Ryan Woodland will present the status and preliminary findings of the GIT-funded study by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science to investigate the factors influencing population trends in Chesapeake Bay forage.

III. Striped Bass Health (2:40-3:10pm)

- Jim Uphoff will provide a presentation on Maryland DNR's work on striped bass indicators.
- Monitoring of Striped Bass health (1998-2014), relative abundance (1983-2014), natural mortality (1987-2014), and forage relative abundance in surveys (1959-2014) and fall diets of Striped Bass (2006-2014) provided five indicators that were summarized into a single score to assess forage status and Striped Bass well-being in Maryland's portion of Chesapeake Bay. Annual scores indicated that threshold (very poor forage conditions) or near threshold conditions prevailed during 1998-2007; favorable conditions (near target to meeting target) predominated during 2008-2010; and status has hovered between avoiding threshold and near threshold conditions, with considerable scatter among individual indicators, through 2016.

IV. Forage Strategy and Workplan Progress (3:10-3:50pm)

- Emilie Franke will present a proposal incorporating Forage Action Team documents and science results into a single strategy. Team members will contribute recommendations how to use the suggested strategy and how it can be applied to priority species.
- Decision:
 - Agree to strategy proposal

V. Meeting Recap (3:50-4:00pm)

- Bruce will close the meeting with a recap of key points and action items from the presentations and discussions.