Fish Habitat Management Strategy Action Team Meeting

Chesapeake Bay Program Office
Joe Macknis Memorial Conference Room (Fish Shack)

410 Severn Avenue Annapolis, MD 21403

February 10, 2015 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Conference Line: (866) 299-3188 **Conference Code**: (267) 985-6222

Meeting Materials: http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/22408/

Webinar: https://epa.connectsolutions.com/fishhabitat/ (Note: Enter as a guest with your name and affiliation)

Agenda

I. Welcome, Introductions

Chesapeake Bay Program Science, Restoration, Partnership.

(10:00 - 10:15)

Jennifer Greiner (USFWS) and Bruce Vogt (NOAA)

• Update on status of management strategy

II. State Priorities and Current Efforts

(10:15 - 11:40)

VA, DC, MD, DE, PA (15 min each)

- Overview of state priority habitats and species and most significant threats.
- Description of current initiatives to address those priorities.
- Description of spatial data/tools that are used.

III. Group Discussion on State Priorities

(11:40 - 12:00)

Full group

- What are the commonalities among the state priority habitats? Species?
- What are the biggest threats identified? Further prioritize the "Factors Influencing" section of the strategy?
- How should the strategy and management approaches be structured around these current efforts? Regional or state approaches?
- Are there common priorities that this CBP management strategy should focus on?
 Conservation vs restoration?

Lunch (12:10 - 12:40)

IV. Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership: Species-Habitat Matrix

(12:40 - 1:00)

Lisa Havel (ASMFC) and Julie Devers (USFWS)

- Overview of this initiative by ACFHP to prioritize habitats by life stage.
- Focus on Chesapeake Bay species.

V. Habitat Spatial Data and Tools

(1:00 - 1:30)

- In addition to the state-identified tools, discuss examples of other tools and data layers that are specific to various fish species and/or habitat quality or characterization.
- TNC Prioritization Tools, Landscape Conservation Cooperative Data, CBP Priority Species Habitat Maps, Landscope Chesapeake

VI. Group discussion on Prioritization and Spatial Data

(1:30 - 2:45)

Full group

- Based on what we have discussed so far, can we further refine the management approach section of the strategy?
 - o 1. Compile Data
 - o 2. Identify threats
 - o 3. Prioritize challenges and opportunities
 - o 4. Improve awareness and local engagement
- How do we use the information we have now to target areas improve fish habitat?

VII. Wrap-Up and Next Steps

(2:45 - 3:00)

Jennifer Greiner (USFWS) and Bruce Vogt (NOAA)

- Next steps for completing the management strategy in time for the March 16th public input period.
- Development of a STAC workshop proposal.
- Adjourn.