Decision Leads for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL's Midpoint Assessment Priorities

MPA Priority	Description of MPA Priority	Lead Agency and/or Workgroup(s)	Decision Lead(s)
MPA & Phase III WIP Schedule	Develop schedule to achieve an effective balance between sufficient review time for tool revisions/review/ concurrence and sufficient time for target development and implementation planning.	EPA and Modeling Workgroup Contact: Jenn Volk, jennvolk@udel.edu, Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov, and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**PSC** in collaboration with MB *Status: Complete*
How to credit 60% by 2017	Bay jurisdictions are seeking clarity from EPA on how EPA will assess if they have met the "60% by 2017" interim target set forth in EPA's expectations dating back to November 2009 and established in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL.	EPA Contact: Jon Capacasa, capacasa.jon@epa.gov	**EPA** *Status: Complete*
Forestry Workgroup Workplan for Forests and Air Deposition	Improve communication about the role of forests in attenuating (preventing/reducing) the nutrient loads to Bay tidal waters from air deposition, especially of nitrogen compounds.	Forestry Workgroup Contacts: Rebecca Hanmer, rwhanmer@yahoo.com	**Forestry Workgroup** *Status: Complete*
Timeline for establishing EPA's expectations for Phase III WIP and setting Phase III WIP planning targets	EPA first laid out its expectations for all three phases of the WIPs in a November 2009 letter from the EPA Regional Administrator to members of the PSC. EPA clarified its expectations for Phase I and II WIPs in short guides distributed in April 2010 and March 2011, respectively, as well as in subsequent communications to the Bay jurisdictions. EPA intends to follow the same process for the Phase III WIPs. In addition, EPA will set the Phase III WIP planning targets in late 2017.	EPA Contact: Katherine Antos, antos.katherine@epa.gov	**EPA**, in collaboration with watershed jurisdictions, WQGIT, MB, and PSC *Status: Not Yet Started*

Bay TDML Modification – Why, When, How?	EPA, in collaboration with the Partnership, will consider the results of the midpoint assessment and jurisdictions Phase III WIPs to determine whether modification of the 2010 Chesapeake Bay TMDL is necessary and appropriate.	EPA Contact: Jon Capacasa, capacasa.jon@epa.gov	**EPA**, in collaboration with watershed jurisdictions, WQGIT, MB, and PSC *Status: Not Yet Started*
Use Growth Projections to Estimate Offset Demand	In order to prepare for the number of trading and offset credits needed, an estimate of this need should be prepared to insure that the supply is available.	Trading and Offsets Workgroup Contact: David Foster dafoster@aol.com	**Trading & Offsets Workgroup**, in collaboration with LUWG *Status: Not Yet Started*
Filter Feeders	The oyster model will be revised as necessary to incorporate aquaculture operations and additional oyster biomass brought about by restoration activities including sanctuaries. Current and projected data on biomass distribution and abundance will be mapped onto the current computational grid and various combinations of restoration and load reductions will be examined.	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: Not Yet Started*
Establishment and update of BMP definitions and efficiencies	The reevaluation of prioritized approved BMPs, and the evaluation and establishment of new BMPs to improve their definitions and associated effectiveness values through the partnership approved BMP protocol process.	Source Sector and Habitat Workgroups Contact: Jenn Volk, jennvolk@udel.edu and Mike Slattery, michael_slattery@fws.gov	**WQGIT and Habitat GIT** in collaboration with source sector workgroups & WTWG Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: Ongoing*
Model Data Processing	The evaluation of existing model data processing and the identification and prioritization of improved processing methods to support enhanced analyses and decisions.	AgWG/AMS Contact: Curtis Dell, Curtis.Dell@ARS.USDA.GOV	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT, AMS and AgWG *Status: In Progress*
Modeling Baseline/Input Data and Assumptions	Provide access to improved baseline/input data and assumptions which are incorporated into functional models that operate collaboratively.	AgWG/AMS Contact: Curtis Dell, Curtis.Dell@ARS.USDA.GOV	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT, AMS and AgWG *Status: In Progress*

Develop New Land Use Classifications and Loading Rates	Improve spatial, temporal, and categorical representation of urban, agricultural, federal, and natural land uses and, to the extent possible, assign separate loading rates. Where local data unavailable, develop more accurate distribution of loads.	Land Use Workgroup Contact: Jenny Tribo, jtribo@hrpdcva.gov and Karl Berger, kberger@mwcog.org	**WQGIT** (classifications) and **Modeling Workgroup** (loading rates) Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress*
Representation of Federal Lands	Improve the accuracy of federal land boundaries and land use information informing the Phase 6 suite of models.	Land Use Workgroup Contact: Jenny Tribo, jtribo@hrpdcva.gov and Karl Berger, kberger@mwcog.org	**WQGIT**, in collaboration with Federal Facilities Team and LUWG Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress*
Revisit Watershed Model Calibration Methods	Revisit Watershed Model calibration methods with the goal of improving local watershed results, including revisiting regional factors. This priority also includes activities to extend the simulation period and to revise the Airshed and WQSTMs.	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT – *Status: In Progress*
Revise Modeling System Structure	Transition to an all PQUAL model, to enhance decision support and to improve transparency, accuracy, and confidence.	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**PSC** in collaboration with MB and WQGIT *Status: In Progress*
Climate Change	Current efforts are to frame an initial future climate-change scenario based on estimated 2050 conditions. Conditions to be described include land use, rainfall, air temperature, water temperature, sea level rise, and wetland loss due to sea level rise.	EPA with support from UMD, Penn State, and USGS Contact: Lew Linker, llinker@chesapeakebay.net	**PSC** in collaboration with MB and WQGIT *Status: In Progress*
Conowingo Infill and local impoundments	The Modeling Workgroup will work with the USACE Lower Susquehanna River Watershed Assessment study, and the STAR work plan for the assessment of trapping capacity behind dams, especially the Conowingo, as well as greater	Modeling Workgroup and STAR Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov	**PSC** in collaboration with MB and WQGIT *Status: In Progress*

	representation of local impoundments and reservoirs throughout the Phase 6 Watershed Model domain.	and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	
Refinement of the Shallow Water Simulation	Refinement of the open water and SAV/clarity water quality standards in shallow-water regions (depth < 2 to 3 m) adjacent to the Bay shoreline is an objective identified in the 2010 TMDL documentation. The refined shallow water simulation would take advantage of data in recent years from the shallow water monitoring program that were unavailable to previous versions of the WQSTM as well as advances in shallow water simulation.	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress*
Refined Assessment of James River Chlorophyll-a	This assessment will determine the criteria necessary to meet water quality standards in the James River.	VA DEQ / Modeling Workgroup Contact: Arthur Butt, Arthur.Butt@deq.virginia.gov	**Virginia**, in collaboration with PSC, MB, and WQGIT *Status: In Progress*
Assess and Explain Water Quality Changes in the Bay	Enhance the assessment and explanation of monitoring information as part of the Mid-Point Assessment for the Bay TMDL through an integrated approach that includes three primary pieces of information to assess progress toward water-quality standards: (1) Reporting of water-quality management practices; (2) Trends of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment in the watershed; and (3) Attainment of dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll-a, and water clarity/SAV standards.	STAR Contact: Scott Phillips, swphilli@usgs.gov, Jeni Keisman, jkeisman@usgs.gov, and Joel Blomquist jdblomqu@usgs.gov	**PSC** in collaboration MB, STAR, and WQGIT *Status: In Progress*
Improved modeling accuracy of land use characteristics, phosphorus and sediment	Improve characterization of urban land use with differentiating loading rates	USWG/LUWG/Modeling Workgroup Contact: Jenny Tribo, jtribo@hrpdcva.gov, Karl Berger, kberger@mwcog.org, Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with the WQGIT Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress*

		and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	
Algal Turf Scrubber	Convene an Expert BMP Panel to develop recommendations for the crediting of algal turf scrubbers in the CBP modeling tools.	Watershed Technical Workgroup Contact: Ted Tesler, thtesler@pa.gov	**WQGIT**, in collaboration with WTWG *Status: In Progress*
Develop Trading and Offset Technical Memorandums	EPA is providing assistance to the jurisdictions by developing several technical memorandums on specific trading and offset topics, such as sector load management, local water quality protection, representative sampling, trading ratios for uncertainty, and credit calculation methodology.	EPA Contact: Pat Gleason gleason.patricia@epa.gov	**EPA**, in collaboration with watershed jurisdictions and Trading and Offsets Workgroup Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress*
Impact of Delivery Factors on Trading and Offset Programs	When delivery factors in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model change, trading and offset program that rely on these delivery factors will need to change, at a minimum, credit calculation methodology.	Trading and Offsets Workgroup and Modeling Workgroup Contact: David Foster dafoster@aol.com	**WQGIT**, in collaboration with Trading and Offsets Workgroup and Modeling Workgroup *Status: In Progress*
Accounting for Trades and Offsets	Designs for trading and offset features have been proposed for BayTAS to support the development of the jurisdictions' trading and offset programs.	EPA and the Bay Jurisdictions Contact: Pat Gleason gleason.patricia@epa.gov	**EPA** and the **watershed jurisdictions** *Status: In Progress*