

Wetland Workgroup Meeting

OCTOBER 18, 2019

Welcome & Introductions

- NAME, ORGANIZATION, TITLE OR AREA OF EXPERTISE

September 2019 Meeting Progress

Pam Mason

BMP Expert Panel Report Update

Pam Mason & Carin Bisland

Today's Agenda

- Welcome & Opening Comments
- A Second Look: What Keeps Us from Getting Wetland Acres in the Ground?
- Our Steps to Achieving Our Goals
- The Way Forward
- Adjourn (1:00pm)

Our Meeting Purpose & Goals

Purpose: Have a robust conversation about **current efforts, gaps, and new actions**

Objectives:

1. Review the incomplete actions and decide if they address the new barriers identified in our last meeting
2. To inform updates to the Wetlands Workgroup **Logic & Action Table**

Wetlands Outcome

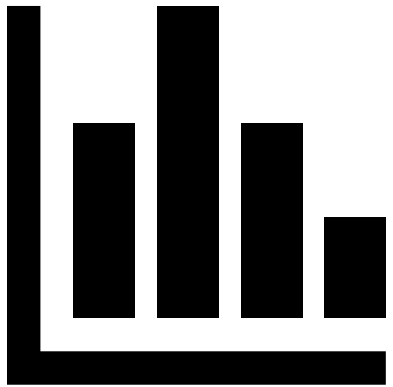
Continually **increase the capacity of wetlands** to provide **water quality and habitat benefits** throughout the watershed.

Create or reestablish **85,000 acres** of tidal and nontidal wetlands and enhance the function of an additional **150,000 acres of degraded wetlands** by 2025.

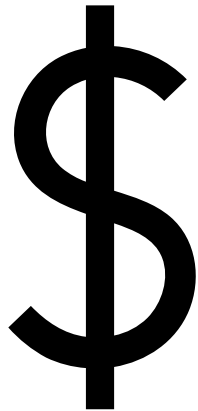
These activities may occur in any land use (including urban) but **primarily occur in agricultural or natural landscapes**.

Four Ways to Approach Our Goals

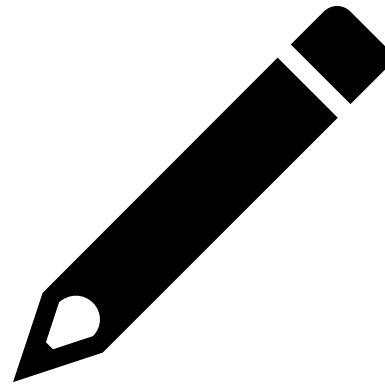
DATA



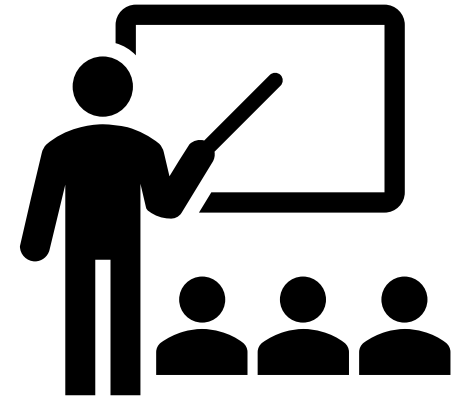
FUNDING



**EDUCATION &
OUTREACH**



**TECHNICAL INFORMATION
TRANSFER**



Factors Influencing Success

Communication

- *Landowners*
- *Decision-makers*
- *Practitioners*

Leadership and commitment

Funding and incentives

Data and reporting

****Each action must target one of these factors****

Completed Actions

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
2.1	Identify barriers to willingness for agricultural landowners.	Completed	Wetland Workgroup, OpinionWorks and UMD, CBT	Maryland, Pennsylvania	Dec-15
2.2	Based on Landowner Survey, develop marketing strategies for increasing restoration program participation	More refined marketing and outreach recommendations to engage landowners, contact Chesapeake Communications Workgroup to seek input and support.	Wetland Workgroup	Watershed wide	Mar-16
3.2	Conduct investigations of factors affecting wetlands	1. Model wetland loss and migration due to sea-level rise with emphasis on black duck habitat	USGS (Guntenspergen)	Blackwater	2016
				Additional tidal areas	2017
		2. Assess vulnerability of freshwater wetlands	USGS (NOE)	Lower Eastern Shore	2016-2017
5.1	STAC Workshop - "Linking Wetland Work Plan Goals to Enhance Capacity, Increase Implementation"	Develop a framework for enhancing the Wetland Workgroup's capacity to meet the Wetland Outcome goals	Wetland Workgroup, Other Partners	Watershed wide	14-Jan-16

Our Steps to Achieving Our Goals

What is getting in the way of addressing these barriers?

What is the current situation in addressing these barriers?

What do we need to do to address these barriers?

Do incomplete actions still apply?

Visual Discussion!

- Use Mentimeter to provide input to our two questions.
 - Obtain Wifi access
 - Go to www.menti.com
 - Type in code:
 - Submit your response(s)
 - Assess our responses



Communication with Landowners

- Menti open-ended questions:
 - *What gets in the way of communicating with landowners?*
 - *What is the current situation for communicating with landowners?*
 - *What do we need to do to address communicating with landowners?*

Communication with Landowners

- **Incomplete actions:**

- Implement select solutions from TNC/DU Stakeholder report to address barriers and improve outreach.
- Identify/ create “Wetland Outreach Coordinators” in each state/ priority area that will identify key outreach opportunities, find funding for the right programs, and provide a way to address competing messages. Rather than waiting for farmers to come forward with opportunities, such outreach could be conducted in critical areas to get farmers interested. This could be tied to existing structures already used by farmers, with care given to avoid giving inconsistent messages
- Develop inventory of wetland programs and demonstration projects that fund wetland restoration in each state. Determine how to disseminate this information to key practitioners that interact with landowners.

Do these still apply?

Communication with Decision-makers

- Menti open-ended questions:
 - *What gets in the way of communicating with decision-makers?*
 - *What is the current situation for communicating with decision-makers?*
 - *What do we need to do to address communicating with decision-makers?*

Communication with Decision-makers

- **Incomplete action:**

- The Chesapeake Bay Commission will work collaboratively with the Bay Program partners to identify legislative, budgetary and policy needs to advance the goals of the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement. We will, in turn, pursue action within our member state General Assemblies and the United States Congress. See CBC Resolution #14-1 for additional information on the CBC's participation in the management strategies.

Does this still apply?

Communication with Practitioners

- Menti open-ended questions:
 - *What gets in the way of communicating with practitioners?*
 - *What is the current situation for communicating with practitioners?*
 - *What do we need to do to address communicating with practitioners?*

Communication with Practitioners

- **Incomplete actions:**

- Continue to include technical presentations at Wetland Workgroup meetings
- Develop inventory of wetland programs and demonstration projects that fund wetland restoration in each state. Determine how to disseminate this information to key practitioners that interact with landowners.

Do these still apply?

Leadership and Commitment

- Menti open-ended questions:
 - *What gets in the way of leadership and commitment?*
 - *What's the current situation with leadership and commitment?*
 - *What do we need to do to address leadership and commitment?*

Leadership and Commitment

- **Incomplete actions:**

- Explore ways for wetlands that are performing higher function to receive greater credit in the Bay Model.
- Develop inventory of wetland programs and demonstration projects that fund wetland restoration in each state. Determine how to disseminate this information to key practitioners that interact with landowners.
- The Chesapeake Bay Commission will work collaboratively with the Bay Program partners to identify legislative, budgetary and policy needs to advance the goals of the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement. We will, in turn, pursue action within our member state General Assemblies and the United States Congress. See CBC Resolution #14-1 for additional information on the CBC's participation in the management strategies.

Do these still apply?

Funding and incentives

- No incomplete actions
- Menti open-ended questions:
 - *What gets in the way of funding and incentives?*
 - *What's the current situation with funding and incentives?*
 - *What do we need to do to address funding and incentives?*

Data and Reporting

- Menti open-ended questions:
 - *What gets in the way of data and reporting?*
 - *What's the current situation with data and reporting?*
 - *What do we need to do to address data and reporting?*

Data and Reporting

- **Incomplete actions:**

- Identify opportunities to restore large wetland acreages.
- Coordinate with black duck workgroup
- Collaborate with Wetland Expert Panel and Modeling Team to improve wetland mapping for Chesapeake Bay Watershed.
- Streamline NEIEN data collection for each State.
- Confirm the accuracy of information reported.
- Explore ways for wetlands that are performing higher function to receive greater credit in the Bay Model.
- Identify areas where wetland restoration would greatly benefit water quality and habitat
- Improve mapping of tidal wetlands to document loss due to sea level rise and other factors

Do these still apply?

The Way Forward

- Future agenda topics
- Our progress and next steps
- Future meeting date(s) and process

Points of Contact

- **Pam Mason**, Wetland Workgroup Chair, mason@vims.edu
- **Jennifer Greiner**, Habitat GIT Coordinator, jennifer_greiner@fws.gov
- **Megan Ossmann**, Habitat GIT Staffer, ossmann.megan@epa.gov

Thank you for your participation!