



Habitat Goal Implementation Team Fall 2018 Meeting

November 8th-9th, 2018

[Cacapon State Park](#) – Fairfax Room

818 Cacapon Lodge Drive,
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Conference Line: (605) 472-5622

Conference Code: 158437

Adobe Connect: <http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/habgit/>

(Note: Enter as Guest with your name and affiliation)

Theme: Linking decision support tools and data with funding opportunities to implement habitat restoration/protection in shared priority areas.

Thursday, November 8th

10:00 am **Welcome and Introductions**

10:15 am **GIT Funding Project Updates**

Review of GIT Funding process, timeline and updates on past and upcoming GIT Funding projects.

i. 2018 Projects to be Funded

1. **Cross-GIT: Fish Habitat Assessment Update** – Gina Hunt, MD DNR
2. **Habitat GIT: Culvert Assessments for Fish Passage in the Opequon Watershed of WV** – Alana Hartman, WV DEP

ii. Past Project Updates

1. **Targeted Outreach for Wetland Protection and Restoration (2017)** – Mitch Hartley, USFWS
2. **Review of Statutes and Regulations that Protect Submerged Aquatic Vegetation in the Chesapeake Bay (2017)** – Becky Golden, MD DNR
3. **Development of Citizen Scientist Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Monitoring Protocol/Manual and Training/Certification Program (2017)** – Brooke Landry, MD DNR

11:30 am **Break**

11:45 am **Wetland Outreach Website Demo** – Dan Brellis, UMCES

Demo of website product from 2016 Habitat GIT Funding Project “Increasing landowner participation in wetland programs through improved information access and program staff cross-training”.

- 12:15 pm** **Lunch** – Group lunch at Cacapon State Park’s on-site restaurant
- 1:30 pm** **GIT Funding Project Information Use and Decision-Making Discussion** – Jennifer Greiner, USFWS
Discussion: Members’ thoughts on next steps to applying information from GIT-funded projects, using it for decision-making, to fill gaps in workplans, and to manage adaptively (science, funding, communication needs).
- 2:00 pm** **Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Engagement Action Team (WEAT)** – Deborah Klenotic, PA DEP
Summary of outreach on BMPs/Co-Benefits as they relate to habitat, and messaging/marketing materials being developed for this effort. Discussion: How can HGIT members contribute to/champion/utilize the results of this effort?
- 2:45 pm** **Break**
- 3:00 pm** **Linking Conservation Tools and Data with Financing Opportunities** – Christine Conn, MD DNR
Summary of current efforts and discussion on focusing the surplus of tools available, linking tools and data with funding opportunities to implement habitat restoration/protection projects in priority areas.
- 4:00 pm** **Designing Fish-Friendlier Road-Stream Crossings** – Doug Kirk, WV DOH
Discussion on evolution of WV DOH decision making and design standards for fish friendly road crossing design; set stage for Friday culvert site visit.
- 4:30 pm** **Action Items and Wrap Up**
- 4:45 pm** **Adjourn**

Friday, November 9th

- 8:00 am** **Gather and Transport to Site Visit**
- 11:00 am** **Adjourn for Travel home**