

## **ICW: Tributary-Specific Management Subcommittee**

Progress Report, June 2021

Chair: Margaret Whitmore, VDWR

Original action items:

- Prioritize tributaries to focus on first based on potential impacts
- Gather harvest/creel data for each tributary to better understand catfishing interests
- Consider developing and distributing an angler survey to understand interests in each tributary
- Develop list of local stakeholders in each tributary with whom we can work
- Create a plan for dealing with inter-jurisdictional tributaries (e.g. Nanticoke)

Progress:

- Prioritize tributaries to focus on first based on potential impacts
  - Ongoing discussions on how to prioritize tributaries based on:
    - Invasion stage
    - Completed and ongoing research and monitoring efforts
- Metadata collection and stakeholder list:
  - Harvest and creel metadata has been compiled for MD and VA
  - Ongoing effort to compile list of tributaries by jurisdiction and stakeholders by tributary
  - Deliverable: GIS map that includes harvest/creel data available by tributary, link to agency/data sharing information, stakeholder list, and data resources collected by the SRS subcommittee
    - NOAA intern, Joshua Ramirez, will take the lead on development through mapping project
- Consider developing and distributing an angler survey to understand interests in each tributary:
  - Develop standardized creel survey and/or standardized questions to tack onto existing surveys
  - Survey would be available to groups attending events where there will be interactions with anglers or charters
    - Potential for survey to be distributed electronically
  - Will build upon existing angler surveys and include input from Human Dimensions specialists
  - Potential to reach groups that are typically under-represented in creel surveys (e.g. charters)
  - Could help address issues with managing inter-jurisdictional tributaries by providing a standardized approach
- Development of Fisheries Management Plan guidance
  - Prescriptive approach to FMP development that could be used to streamline the process
  - Standardized list of goals and objectives with associated management actions to reach those goals and objectives
  - Could utilize invasion stage as a starting point with goals and objectives recommended based on stage

- Would be flexible to accommodate uses and management goals that vary spatially (e.g. eradication vs. trophy fishery management)
  - Could provide useful tool for inter-jurisdictional tributary management
- Discussion, recommendations, and feedback welcome on utility of FMP guidance and standardized angler survey