



Maintain Healthy Watersheds GIT Meeting April 10, 2023

11:00 am-1:30pm

[Meeting Materials](#)

[Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 996 9309 3418 **Passcode:** GIT4

Conference Line: 301-715-8592 **Password:** 416261

This meeting will be recorded for internal use to assure the accuracy of meeting notes

11:00 AM **Welcome and Updates** – Jeff Lerner, HWGIT Chair, Partnerships Program
Branch Chief within EPA's Office of Wetlands Oceans and Watersheds'

11:10 PM **The State of the Science and Practice of Stream Restoration in the Chesapeake** ([STAC Workshop](#), March 21-23, 2023) - Scott Stranko, MD DNR

This workshop convened a diverse cross-section of experts and stakeholders in the field of stream restoration to review and distill lessons learned from past stream corridor restoration projects to improve restoration outcomes. Scott shared some outcomes of the workshop and opportunities with the Healthy Watersheds GIT. (Management Approach 5: Improved cooperation, coordination and integration, [Action 1.5](#), 15)

Discussion on stream restoration and healthy watersheds occurred.

11:30 PM **Hub for Chesapeake-Related Data and Tools** – Chigo Ibeh and Eric Ashcroft – Blue Raster

This resource (in development) coalesces various content, such as data, project documentation, training resources, and applications, that have been developed or promoted by the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Partnership. Blue Raster provided some background on the site development and a Healthy Watersheds topic page that has been created. Members were invited to share input and recommendations. (Management Approach 4: Support State-based efforts, [Actions 4.2](#) and 4.3; Management Approach 5 Improved cooperation, coordination and integration, Action 5.1)

11:50 AM **Update on the Land Use outcomes SRS process, progress, and next steps-** Renee Thompson, HWGIT Coordinator USGS

Renee gave an update on the Land Use Options and Evaluation and Land Use Methods and Metrics Outcomes SRS presented to the Management Board on March 9th. Group reviewed the outcomes and next steps ([Actions 1.2](#) Develop vulnerability information, 2.1 Outreach, Translation, Communication, 11)

12:20 PM **Capacity Building for Local Planning Discussion** – Renee Thompson and Jason Dubow, MDP will lead the discussion.

How can we better incentivize and build out capacity for locals to build in watershed protection into local planning efforts. What barriers exist? E.G., data needs, learning to use tools, convincing local planning boards, understanding decision frameworks at the local level and across regional entities, cost of plan updates, outreach, and education. What are the opportunities or needs regarding to financing and capacity building? **Members were asked to come prepared to discuss their current programs and policies for assisting local governments to integrate watershed protection into local planning efforts. Members are also requested to think about what questions they may have related to financing opportunities and barriers to accessing funding for watershed protection.** (Management Approach 2: Local Leadership – strengthen local commitment and capacity to protect their healthy watersheds [Actions 2.2](#), 2.3; Management Approach 3: Federal and State Leadership 3.1 leverage funding)

1:00 PM Adjourn