



## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BROOK TROUT WORKGROUP CO-CHAIR

After eight years leading the Chesapeake Bay Program's Brook Trout Workgroup (BTWG, also known as the "Brook Trout Action Team"), Stephen Faulkner (USGS) will be stepping down as Workgroup Co-Chair, effective October 1, 2023. The Habitat Goal Implementation Team (HGIT) is currently looking to fill one co-chair position to assist the current Co-Chair, Katie Ombalski (Woods and Waters Consulting) in leading this Workgroup.

### **BROOK TROUT WORKGROUP INFORMATION:**

The goal of the Workgroup is to facilitate brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) conservation and restoration to help restore and sustain naturally reproducing Brook Trout populations in Chesapeake Bay headwater streams in order to meet the 2025 [Chesapeake Bay Agreement](#) Outcome of an eight percent increase in occupied habitat by 2025. This is achieved by working with partners and stakeholders to identify causes of habitat loss and degradation, science needs, and actions needed to achieve the outcome including protecting highly functional allopatric brook trout patches and connecting habitats that have a high likelihood of sustaining stable wild Brook Trout populations.

Current Workgroup members include federal agencies, coldwater fisheries biologists with state natural resource agencies, NGO's and universities. The Workgroup works closely with the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) to ensure close alignment of brook trout goals and objectives.

More information on the Workgroup can be found at the [Brook Trout Workgroup](#) webpage, as well as on [Chesapeake Progress](#), and in the most recent [Management Strategy](#) and [Logic & Action Plan](#).

### **CO-CHAIR DESCRIPTION:**

The expected workload for this position is approximately 2- 3 hours per week. Work includes participation in the biannual HGIT Chairs and full HGIT meetings (a total of four meetings a year), preparation and presentation of [Strategic Review System](#) materials, developing project ideas for the competitive annual GIT Funding cycle, organizing and leading at least 1-2 workgroup meetings per year, engagement with Bay Program partners as necessary, and development of communication messages. Co-chairs will coordinate with the EBTJV and other partners to update progress towards the Outcome and provide data to the Bay Program to update Chesapeake Progress.

### **REQUIRED CO-CHAIR QUALIFICATIONS:**

Ideally, the co-chair should have knowledge of freshwater fisheries and brook trout ecology. However, experience leading a diverse team, setting objectives and action items to achieve a common goal is equally, if not more, important. There is already considerable brook trout knowledge and management experience within the current BTWG membership. The co-chair should be prepared to assist Workgroup members with project implementation and outreach strategies. Experience in these areas, along with familiarity with the Chesapeake Bay Program is preferred.

**If you are interested in filling this co-chair position or if you'd like more information, please contact:**

Chris Guy ([chris\\_guy@fws.gov](mailto:chris_guy@fws.gov)), Gina Hunt ([gina.hunt@maryland.gov](mailto:gina.hunt@maryland.gov)), and Bill Jenkins ([Jenkins.bill@epa.gov](mailto:Jenkins.bill@epa.gov)). **We are expecting to fill the co-chair position by October 1, 2023.**