

Vital Habitats Goal Implementation Team Co-Chair Position Description

The Vital Habitats Goal Implementation Team (GIT) of the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership seeks a co-chair to lead the Vital Habitats GIT alongside current chair Bill Jenkins, Senior Advisor, Laboratory Services and Applied Science Division, U.S. EPA, Mid-Atlantic Region. The Vital Habitat Goal is to *“Restore, enhance and protect a network of land and water habitats to support fish and wildlife and to afford other public benefits, including water quality, recreational uses and scenic value across the watershed”*. The Habitat GIT coordinates the efforts of six (6) workgroups/action teams responsible for the Wetlands, Black Duck, Stream Health, Brook Trout, Fish Passage and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation outcomes.

The GIT is requesting Management Board nomination of a State partner with both the passion and expertise to advance these living resources outcomes across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The primary roles of this position include:

1. Represent the interests of workgroups/action teams with the Management Board and the Chesapeake Bay Partnership Office (CBPO) to identify solutions and resources for achieving outcome goals and overcoming implementation challenges.
2. Coordinate efforts among Habitat GIT workgroups and other Goal Implementation Teams to leverage existing resources, create synergies that achieve multiple benefits and promote landscape scale restoration and conservation of vital habitats, fish and wildlife.
3. Make funding decisions on behalf of the GIT to support implementation of outcome workplans.
4. Advance GIT science priorities through the efforts of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and the Scientific, Technical Assessment & Reporting (STAR) team.
5. Special projects at the discretion interest of the Co-Chair.

The Habitat GIT is supported by a permanent US Fish and Wildlife Service coordinator and two (2) staffers who work directly with workgroups, action teams, other GITs and the CBPO. The GIT co-chair is expected to attend monthly Management Board meetings (3 – 5 hours), weekly Habitat GIT coordinator/staffer check-in meetings (1 hour), quarterly day-long coordination retreats with other GIT chairs and support staff, an annual funding meeting and other occasional events as they arise.

This is an opportunity to lead, expand professional networks and positively impact the future health and vitality of Chesapeake Bay habitats and living resources.

Nominations are due by the August Management Board Meeting scheduled for August 13th, 2020.

Candidates are encouraged to contact Bill Jenkins and Christine Conn for more information.

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