



Protected Lands Workgroup Meeting

Wednesday July 26th, 2023

3:00pm – 4:00pm Video call [link](#)

3:00 – 4:00pm

Or dial: (US) +1 731-435-3160 PIN: 643 120 139#

Attendees

Aurelia Gracia	Anthony Bobo	Britt Slattery
Cheryl Wise	Coral Howe	Joel Dunn
John P Rowe	Kerri Batrowny	Peter Claggett
Sara E. Coleman	Steve Storck	Wendy O’Sullivan
Katherine Brownson	Wuillam Urvina	Faren Wolter
Ben Alexandro	Renee Thompson	

Summary

This document contains the meeting minutes for the Protected Lands Workgroup Meeting on July 26th, 2023. The meeting covered several topics, including NASA's workforce efforts, building a diverse workforce, and Chesapeake Bay conservation/restoration. The participants engaged in discussions on various issues related to these topics, such as how to increase accessibility, how to recruit and retain a diverse workforce, and how to measure success in people-focused goals.

- Workgroup members shared updates on their current projects and funding opportunities. This suggests that the workgroup is focused on collaboration and communication, as members are encouraged to share their progress and seek assistance from others in the group.
- The Strategy Review System (SRS) timeline may be adjusted, potentially requiring the workgroup to present in May 2025 and develop a new Logic & Action Plan. This is a significant development that could impact the workgroup's priorities and activities in the coming years. Further discussion and planning will be necessary to ensure that the workgroup is prepared to meet these new requirements.
- The Protected Lands Indicator showed a decrease in federal land due to improvements in federal footprint and removal of lands not managed for conservation purposes, which may require careful messaging. The data presented in this section could have important implications for the group's communication and outreach efforts, as it suggests that a nuanced

approach may be necessary to explain the changes to stakeholders.

- The group discussed important messaging related to the interpretation of the data and timeline for briefings and public release. This indicates that the group is aware of the importance of clear and effective communication, and is actively working to develop strategies for sharing information with stakeholders.
- Next steps include scheduling workgroup meetings, sending out a poll to determine the best time for meetings, and beginning to think about actions the states are interested in. These action items suggest that the workgroup is focused on maintaining momentum and making progress towards its goals. By scheduling regular meetings, the group can stay on track and work towards shared objectives. Additionally, by considering the actions that individual states are interested in, the workgroup can ensure that its activities are aligned with the needs and priorities of its members.

Overall, the Notion document suggests that the workgroup is engaged in a complex and dynamic process of collaboration, planning, and communication. Its members are working together to address important issues related to land conservation and management, and are taking steps to ensure that their efforts are effective and impactful.

3:00 Introductions (Wuillam)

- Round Robin – Workgroup members highlight what you’re working on and what assistance you may need from the individuals in this workgroup.
- Cheryl Wise: Catching them in the middle of their goal setting for the new fiscal year. Will definitely reach out if they need help.
- Katherine Brownson: The forest service recently announced forest legacy grants and awarded over 180 million dollars in funding. One project is in Virginia and another project in West Virginia.
- Anthony Bobo: BLM is working with the director’s office to have focal areas in the eastern states of BLM. They are suggesting that the Chesapeake Bay be one of the focal areas for the IRA allotment. They are still working on the budget.

3:15 Strategy Review System (Britt)

- Timeline adjustment may require our workgroup to present in May 2025 (tentative)
 - Proposed revised engagement with the Management Board
 - New timing for the adaptive management process, including the Logic and Action Plan (progress review and developing new plan), and development of materials for the next cycle of the process.
 - Britt Slattery: It is looking like the timeline for the SRS process is being adjusted. One of the proposed changes is for us to go in May of 2025 (nearly two years from now). Under this change, we would go out of order and develop a new Logic & Action Plan. Hopefully the workgroup members would be a part of that process. When the review comes up in May 2025, we would be able to present on

the new plan. We do have the opportunity to present the new Protected Lands Indicator to the Management Board in October of this year and we would talk about the progress towards our outcome.

- o There is also another proposed change to have the cycle be every 3 years instead of every 2 years. There is a possibility that they will draft out a longer term schedule, which would mean we would have a different date (later than May 2025).
 - o Either way, we need to work on a new Logic & Action Plan.
- Discuss creation of a new Logic and Action Plan with Workgroup members
 - o When is the best time/ target completion month?
 - o When would be a good time to work on the new Logic & Action Plan?
 - o What is the most effective/ efficient means to identify priorities and develop the plan?

3:35 Protected Lands Indicator (John W.)

- Update on the data and progress towards the outcome.
- Previously presented on Chesapeake Progress and how they tracked the data.
- They have been able to finalize the data but this has resulted in messaging issues. Most land type categories showed general increases. However, the amount of federal land has shown a significant decrease due to the following:
 - o Improvements to Federal footprint based on PAD-US
 - Clean up of DoD lands
 - Removal of inholdings
 - Removal of reservoirs
 - Federal lands not managed for conservation purposes
- Proposed Approach
 - o Recognize improvements in Federal landholdings extent in 2022 as a better portrayal of reality
 - o Revise federal footprint for previous data sets
- In absolute numbers, there has been a decrease and this is something that will result in messaging and communication issues.
- Wendy O'Sullivan: If we backtracked all the way to 2010, would it still show a drop in conserved lands?
 - o John Wolf: It fairly does.
- Aurelia: This could be a talking point towards having a more standardized process for reporting conserved land.

- Ben Alexandro: Caution folks not to go to the presses yet until the data is up and running and that messaging is agreed upon. Is there a need to help with communication and messaging?
 - Joel Dunn: The CBP is in the driving seat for the messaging.
- Discuss important messaging related to the interpretation of the data.
- Timeline for briefings and public release (**Aurelia**)

3:55 Next Steps (Wuillam)

- Email confirmation with SRS details
- Scheduling for workgroup meetings (bi-monthly?)
 - Seems that bi-monthly works. Aiming for September or October, will be sending out a poll. 2 hour meeting.
- Begin thinking about some actions your state is interested in

4:00 Adjourn