



**Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting Team  
(STAR) Meeting**

**Theme: Increasing our capacity and growing our networks through collaboration**

Thursday, August 22, 2024

**10:00AM – 12:00 PM**

Join Virtually by Webinar: [Link](#)

Meeting ID: 284 592 702 31

**Password:** hsTLbw

Or join by phone: Dial +1 469-208-1525 and enter Access code: 231 707 489#

[Meeting materials link](#)

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

*\*Closed captioning will be available for this meeting. To turn on the closed captioning, click on the 3 ellipses (More actions), then click on "Turn on live captions" (preview).*

**AGENDA**

**10:00 AM**     **Welcome, Introductions & Announcements – Ken Hyer (USGS) and Kimberly Van Meter (Penn State) - STAR chair and vice chair, Breck Sullivan (USGS) STAR Coordinator, Peter Tango (USGS) CBP Monitoring Coordinator**

**Announcements**

- Welcome Gabriel Duran, new STAR Staffer!

**Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, Workshops and Webinars**

- [Potomac River Conference](#) – October 17, 2024, Lorton, Virginia.
- [Watershed Forum](#) – October 18-20, 2024, Shepherdstown, West Virginia.
- [American Planning Association \(APA\) Maryland 2024 Conference](#) – October 22-24, 2024, Ellicott City, Maryland.
- [12<sup>th</sup> US Symposium on Harmful Algae](#) – October 27-November 1, 2024, Portland, Maine.
- [14<sup>th</sup> National Monitoring Conference](#) – March 10-12, 2025, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

**10:15 AM**     **Making Monitoring More Accessible: The Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative's Case Studies Map and Community Connection Chart – Matthew Kierce (IWLA)**

The Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative (CMC) is continuing to capture and build out community water monitoring success stories through our Case Studies Map. In addition to

highlighting monitoring wins across the watershed, the CMC has been prioritizing making the complexities of water monitoring more accessible through resources such as a Community Connection Chart.

**10:35 AM      University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS) Masters' Program collaboration opportunity – *Breck Sullivan (USGS), Dede Lawal (CRC)***

UM-SEAS Master's Projects are applied research projects for client organizations addressing a sustainability research need or related problem, over a one-and-a-half-year timeframe, with teams of approximately five graduate students spanning multiple disciplines of study within the SEAS master's degree program. Teams receive back-end support through a UM/SEAS faculty advisor while working directly with client organizations. Students have worked with the Chesapeake Bay Program Wetlands Workgroup on a wetlands communication project. The application for clients is due September 29th.

STAR has compiled a list of science needs along with communication/engagement needs from SET to assist in identifying proposals (posted on the calendar page). This time is reserved for discussing the opportunity and which projects to pursue.

**11:05 AM      STAC Synthesis Request for Proposals - Discussion/Brainstorming of Cross-GIT project proposals.**

The Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and the Chesapeake Research Consortium (CRC) are now accepting proposals (due December 2<sup>nd</sup>) to support a science synthesis project related to effectively managing for climate change at the intersection of impacts to water quality, people, and living resources within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and Estuary. Appropriate topics for a STAC-sponsored science synthesis project are those where a thoughtful analysis and synthesis of available data and/or previously published results would identify, characterize, and suggest means of addressing important knowledge gaps, inform additional research, and place scientific information into a management-relevant context.

STAR has compiled a list of science synthesis needs to assist in identifying proposals (posted on the calendar page). This time is reserved for discussing which projects to pursue and how best to collaborate across GITs for these project proposals.

**11:40 AM      STAR Poll: Engagement**

STAR participants will take a poll asking what challenges they are having engaging with audiences they're trying to reach, and what topics around engagement they want to discuss. This poll will inform future joint meetings between STAR and the Strategic Engagement Team (SET) and help us determine how best to assist the GITs in your goals for strategic engagement.

It will also help inform SET's proposed GIT funded project on Network Science, which will provide training and technical assistance on network science to build the collaborative infrastructure and enhance the existing capacity of the partnership and accelerate achievement of our goals and outcomes. The training and technical assistance will increase our partnership impact through adoption of network science principles and best practices that enable us to intentionally design, cultivate and sustain relationships and connections among our partners and stakeholders who have similar purpose and values.

**12:00 PM      Adjourn**

**Next meeting: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**