

Status and Trends Workgroup Agenda

June 13, 2017 from 1:00-3:00 PM

CBPO Fishshack

Conference Line: 866-299-3188, access code 267-985-6222

Adobe Connect: <http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/stwg/>

Website: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/24687/>

1:00-1:05 pm Opening (Laura Free, 5 minutes)

- Welcome and introductions
- Action Items from May meeting:

ACTION: Additional thoughts re: the Stewardship Indicator should be provided thru email to Amy Handen or Laura Free within the next three weeks (as of May 8 th).	The group COMPLETED
ACTION: Laura added that future meetings and emails on the release of the Stewardship indicator should include participants in today's discussion.	Laura Free COMPLETED
ACTION: Re: Stewardship Indicator: Rachel discussed that a draft of the press release will be worked up, to be presented to the group, to allow for feedback.	Rachel Felver and Comm. Team IN PROGRESS

1:05-1:50 pm Building Out the Attainment Story (Peter Tango and Qian Zhang, 45 minutes)

Description: The Water Quality Standards Attainment team will discuss several options for further assessment or analysis to compliment the [Water Quality Standards Attainment indicator](#). The team is seeking feedback, particularly from communications professionals in the Bay Program and in the states, about what pieces of information would make our measure of attainment more meaningful.

Desired Outcome: The Water Quality Standards Attainment team receives feedback on what is easily understood about the indicator and metrics, what is difficult to understand, and recommendations on prioritizing next steps for future presentation of results, improved messaging, and extending the analyses to support messaging on water quality attainment. Feedback will be used to support a recommendation on work plans to improve messaging attainment and the water quality attainment indicator during a presentation to the Water Quality GIT on June 26, 2017.

[SEE Water Quality Attainment Presentation.](#)

Discussion

Caroline asked when fluorescence is used. Peter answered for water clarity and kd values.

Catherine asked what criteria are used for migratory fish spawning. Peter answered DO is the criteria for it.

John asked the reason for surface area weighting as opposed to using the volume of each segment.

Peter answered that it is a more consistent measurement.

Howard asked, why are you only interested in chlorophyll in certain areas? Peter answered that VA and DC set numeric standards, everywhere else set narrative standards.

Carin commented about using georuns and this data to inform what is happening in the watersheds and how it is changing over time.

Zoe asked how close the modeling and monitoring efforts are aligned to inform one another. Peter answered that they do inform each other and are used together, we can take this data to see if upper segments are improving first like the model predicts. Zoe asked if monitoring data is used to calibrate the model. Peter answered, yes, water quality data is the basis for the Bay water Quality model.

Carin asked if there is a delisting and attainment methodology. She commented we need to keep track of attainment indicators and how we discuss delisting based on being in attainment because there is a communication issue regarding the difference.

Qian asked the group which next steps they would like to see happen?

Kristin asked if there are areas where we want to see attainment happen more quickly based on priorities other than water quality (oysters, for example) and if there is a connection between priority areas and attainment areas. Peter responded, we can use the model and monitoring efforts, in addition to this data to determine that connection and inform decisions.

Catherine said, from a communication standpoint she is interested in next steps #4 and #7. She asked if anyone has started to map percent to attainment. The answer was no.

Carin said the maps with different levels of attainment and percent to attainment in the presentation could serve as good communication pieces, and that negative/deficit language is harder to convey and for people to grasp.

Doreen asked, how long does something stay close to attainment, is there information or patterns that might help inform that, can we describe how segments progress in a time scale? Qian responded that that information is available, the question is how to analyze and relay it.

Peter asked Catherine/the Communications group if there are preferred ways to describe change over time. Catherine said she's not sure.

Caroline commented that we haven't seen a clear story in terms of whether Bay segments are moving toward attainment and we're still exploring the data. She said publishing all this data about percent to attainment and beyond attainment would be great place to start.

Catherine commented that attainment doesn't look like it's going up, and that information on why it looks like it's not changing would be helpful for the communication team because it's a major challenge for them. Caroline said maybe the most recent results (2013-2016 data) would help or could show an increase in attainment. [Note: data through 2016 on binary attainment is available on Chesapeake Progress, but many of Qian's slides that referenced Mindy Ehrich's work on percent to attainment used data through 2013 for that analysis.]

Zoe said they are working on climate indicators; one that will be coming out shortly looks at sea surface temperatures in estuaries; figuring out long term trends with that could be used to communication. She said like at a modeling team meeting asked about open water, deep water, and shallow water definitions and how they are changing, which is good to keep in mind. She commented that timing and seasonality of monitoring is important for understanding changes in temperature and DO.

Carin said Peter and Qian might want to hook up with Emily Trentacoste; she did a presentation on the Choptank which could be helpful for them when thinking about examples.

(The "Counting Types of Protected Lands" discussion has been postponed. More details on this indicator forthcoming at another Status & Trends meeting.)

1:50-1:55 pm Timeline Review (Laura Free, 5 minutes)

*Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting (STAR) Team
Chesapeake Bay Program*

Description: This standing agenda item will confirm data updates completed in the last month and list data updates occurring within the next month.

Laura went over which indicators are coming out soon. There's links in the Management Board Program updates

1:55-2:00 pm Report Out of Action Items (Katherine Wares for Melissa Merritt, 5 minutes)

ACTION	LEAD
Peter and Qian will incorporate feedback for WQGIT materials, and will talk with the communication team to determine communication production which could also inform future work.	Peter Tango, Qian Zhang
Peter and Qian will look through Mindy's report.	Peter Tango, Qian Zhang

Adjourn (Next meeting scheduled for July 11, 2017 Fishshack).

Participants

Carin Bisland	Bay Program managers	bisland.carin@epa.gov
Catherine Krikstan	Chesapeake Stat team	ckrikstan@chesapeakebay.net
Cindy Johnson	VA	Cindy.Johnson@deq.virginia.gov
Claire Buchanan	Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB)	cbuchan@icprb.org
Doreen Vetter	Chesapeake Stat team	vetter.doreen@epa.gov
Howard Weinberg	GIS team	hweinber@chesapeakebay.net
Jeff Sweeney	(Water Quality)	jsweeney@chesapeakebay.net
Kristin Saunders	Cross-GIT Coordinator	ksaunders@umces.edu
Kyle Runion	Habitat Staffer	runion.kyle@epa.gov
Laura Free	Indicators Coordinator	free.laura@epa.gov
Lea Rubin	Izaak Walton League of America	lrubin@iwla.org
Peter Tango	STAR Coordinator	ptango@chesapeakebay.net
Rachel Felver	Communications Director	rfelver@chesapeakebay.net
Stephanie Smith	Communications Workgroup leadership	ssmith@chesapeakebay.net
Zoe Johnson	Climate Resiliency	zoe.johnson@noaa.gov
Paige Hobaugh	Habitat Staffer	hobaugh.paige@epa.gov
Joan Smedinghoff	Communication Staffer	jsmedinghoff@chesapeakebay.net
Laurel Abowd	Management Board Staffer	abowd.laurel@epa.gov
John Wolf	GIS	JWolf@chesapeakebay.net
Qian Zhang	STAR analyst	qzhang@chesapeakebay.net
Drew Pizzala	Stewardship Staffer	drew_pizzala@partner.nps.gov

Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting (STAR) Team
Chesapeake Bay Program

Caroline Donovan
Katherine Wares
Emily Trentacoste

UMCES IAN
Healthy Watersheds
CBPO Detail

cdonovan@ca.umces.edu
kwares@chesapeakebay.net
trentacoste.emily@epa.gov