

**MIDPOINT ASSESSMENT PRIORITY WORK PLAN:
PHASE III WIP EXPECTATIONS
LEAD: EPA**

Full Title of Priority: Timeline for establishing EPA's expectations for Phase III WIP

High / Low Priority: Low (0 votes)

Short Description of Priority: EPA first laid out its expectations for all three phases of the Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) in a November 2009 letter from the EPA Regional Administrator to members of the Principals' Staff Committee (PSC). EPA clarified its expectations for Phase I and II WIPs in short guides distributed in April 2010 and March 2011, respectively, as well as in subsequent communications to the Bay jurisdictions. EPA intends to follow the same process for the Phase III WIPs.

Supporting Partners: WQGIT, Management Board, and Principals' Staff Committee members will have the opportunity to provide input on EPA's expectations, similar to Phase I and II.

Necessary Datasets, Analyses, or Decisions: Decisions by Senior EPA Management

Start Date: Fall 2016

Interim Deliverables, Including Lead and Deadlines: (Based on *Guiding Principles: The 2017 Chesapeake Bay TMDL Midpoint Assessment*, Appendix I – Actions and Schedule. Additional deadlines in italics)

- **Evaluate progress through 2017 and attainment of the “60% by 2017” goal** (Completion by March 2018)
- Refine decision-support tools, as appropriate, to enhance the evaluation of progress and crediting of actions on the ground (Underway, completion estimated by September 2016)
- *EPA presents preliminary expectations and seeks initial input from WQGIT and its workgroups on expectations for Phase III WIPs (October 2016)*
- *EPA presents preliminary expectations and seeks input from Management Board on expectations for Phase III WIPs (December 2016)*
- Calibrate “proposed final” modeling updates (Completion by 3 months after Step 5, estimated December 2016)
- *EPA presents preliminary expectations and seeks input from PSC on expectations for Phase III WIPs (Winter - February or March - 2017)*
- *EPA presents preliminary expectations and seeks input from PSC on expectations for Phase III WIPs (Winter - February or March - 2017)*
- *EPA presents updated expectations and seeks input from WQGIT and Management Board on expectations for Phase III WIPs (March – April, 2017)*
- *EPA presents updated expectations and seeks input from PSC Board on expectations for Phase III WIPs (May 2017)*

*Midpoint Assessment Lower Priority Work Plan:
Phase III WIP Expectations
February 4, 2013*

- Test any refinements and, to the extent possible, assess model certainty and scope for using modeling tools within the WIP and milestone process (Completion by 6 months after Step 6, estimated June 2017)
- Based on input from the Partnership, **EPA provides expectations for scope and content of Phase III WIPs** (June 2017)
- Make any final modifications in response to Step 7 testing and **set Phase III WIP planning targets** (Continuous, completion by 6 months after Step 7, estimated December 2017)
- Develop 2018-2019 Milestones (Completion by early 2018)
- **Develop draft and final Phase III WIPs** based on criteria for scope and content that may vary across jurisdictions due to implementation progress (Draft WIPs completed by 6 months after Step 9 and Final WIPs completed by 12 months after Step 9, **estimated June 2018 and December 2018, respectively**)

Completion Date: June 2017 (with Final Phase III WIP estimated due date of June 2018)

Level of Effort for Lead and Supporting Partners, Including (as relevant) CBPO Modeling Team: Minimal effort to provide input for Phase III WIP expectations. Developing Phase III WIP planning targets will require medium to high level of effort from CBPO modeling team (depending on WQGIT, Management Board, and PSC input). Developing Phase III WIPs will require medium to high level of effort from Bay jurisdictions.

Potential Conflicts with Other Priorities: If other deliverables within midpoint assessment fall behind, could shorten time available for development of Phase III WIPs or planning targets.

Issues Requiring Input from Full WQGIT: Input on EPA's expectations for Phase III WIPs

Issues Requiring Input from Management Board and/or Principals' Staff Committee?
Input on EPA's expectations for Phase III WIPs

Other Notes: As noted in *Guiding Principles: The 2017 Chesapeake Bay TMDL Midpoint Assessment*, EPA's expectations for the scope and content of the Phase III WIPs may vary by jurisdiction depending on their implementation progress through 2017.