



Coordinator updates

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July 28, 2025



Purple coneflower in a rain garden in Lancaster, Pa., on June 14, 2019.
<https://flic.kr/p/2grNKRc> Photo by Will Parson, Chesapeake Bay Program



Agenda at a glance

- Announcements & Updates
 - **DECISION REQUESTED:** Confirmation of Nanci Sonti, USFS, as Co-Chair for Forestry Workgroup
- Phase 7 Decision Planner & Topics for Office Hours
- BREAK
- 2024 Progress Review
- Phase 7 CAST Segmentation – Land River Segments
 - **DECISION:** The WQGIT has consensus to use Option B (New Shoreline Version) for segmentation in Phase 7, with registered disagreement on minimum size thresholds and a desire to continue discussing how to treat BMPs in small segments.

Forestry Workgroup Co-Chair confirmation: Nanci Sonti, USFS

Management Board, July 10th

Reminder to check agenda for more announcements or reminders you may not want to miss!

Beyond 2025 public feedback period open until September 1st

WQGIT Newsletter coming soon

Management Board, August 14th ; PSC, August 20th

Business, News & Reminders

Workgroup Updates (source sectors)

open to Chairs or Coordinators to add more

Wastewater

Multiple decision points at July 24 meeting, including sanitary sewer exfiltration methods, and consensus to not pursue SSO loads for Phase 7, though kept opening for MTM areas.

Next meeting: August 28, 10AM

Forestry

At July meeting, began discussion on drafting numeric targets under new outcome, and briefed on Agroforestry EPEG. Will be asked to approve EPEG report at their August 6 meeting. FWG nominated and approved co-Chair nomination, Nancy Sonti, USFS.

Next meeting August 6, 9AM – 11 AM

Agriculture

At July meeting, adopted their planning document. Heard a number of presentations on CBP monitoring efforts, including how monitoring data informs CAST, the TMDL Indicator, METRIC tool, and monitoring study in small ag watersheds.

Next meeting August 21, 10AM – noon

Urban Stormwater

July meeting discussed the P7 timeline, and an update on MS4 areas for Phase 7. August meeting canceled.

Next meeting: September 16, 10am – noon

Workgroup Updates (others)

open to Chairs or Coordinators to add more

Watershed Technical

July meeting was canceled.

Next meeting August 7, 10am – noon

Toxics

July and August meetings canceled.

Next meeting September 10 at 1PM

Federal Facilities

wrapping up two ongoing discussions related to Phase 7: 1) updating the federal facilities data layer and 2) discussing whether to track and credit currently unassigned federal land uses/BMPs types.

Next meeting August 12, 10AM – noon

Land Use

Since June meeting, the group has been working to vote on the back-cast methods via email. Held an optional office hours session on the methods in July. The final land use aggregation will be voted on in September.

Next meeting September 17th, at 1PM

Milestones

Did not meet in July. A Draft Near Term Milestones Expectations document is being worked on and will be shared with the workgroup soon.

Next meeting TBD

Workgroup updates – more details

Agriculture

- At the July meeting, the group voted to formally adopt the final version of their planning document.
- Given that one of the priority areas that came out of the planning document discussions was water quality monitoring, the group heard from a variety of speakers focused on Chesapeake Bay Program monitoring. Presentations included an introduction to Chesapeake Bay Program water quality monitoring, an overview of how monitoring data informs CAST, a presentation on the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) indicator and Monitored and Expected Total Reduction Indicator for the Chesapeake (METRIC) tool, and updates about a study designed to monitor water-quality conditions in small agricultural watersheds. The group will continue to explore priority topics and items outlined in the approved planning document at future meetings.
- Next Meeting: Thurs, August 21st

Forestry

- During the July 8th meeting, the Forestry Workgroup began discussions on drafting numeric targets for the new forest conservation sub-target under the new Healthy Forests and Trees Outcome. This topic will be discussed more in depth at the next meeting on August 6th, awaiting more guidance following the end of the public comment period on September 1st. The Workgroup also received a briefing on the draft recommendations from the Agroforestry Expert Panel Evaluation Group (EPEG). The Workgroup will be asked to approve the final recommendations at the August 6th meeting.
- FWG has nominated and approved its new Community Co-chair position - Nancy Sonti, USFS
- Next Meeting: Wed, August 6th

Workgroup updates – more details

Urban Stormwater

- The USWG met in July and heard an overview of the proposed Phase 7 timeline extension and key decisions that will be needed by the USWG, including approval of the Urban Nutrient Management (UNM) expert panel report and a review of MS4 areas. The workgroup heard an update on the MS4 areas and provided additional data and contacts to update this input layer for the Phase 7 model.
- The UNM Panel also met in July to discuss the literature review of new research since the 2013 Expert Panel. The panel will begin drafting the expert panel report and meet again to have something to share with the workgroup in the September USWG meeting.
- August meeting canceled, next meeting Tuesday September 16th from 10-12.

Wastewater Treatment

- At the June WWTWG meeting, Joseph shared another update on the SSE method focused on how to best account for attenuation. The SSO Small Group shared a summary of SSO data available from jurisdictions and preliminary analysis of SSO loads for sample areas, tentatively proposing to not pursue SSO loads given the limited data available from jurisdictions and the small percentage of urban load from the data received so far.
- At the July WWTWG meeting, WWTWG reached consensus on approving the SSE estimation method and decided not to pursue SSO loads in Phase 7, though allowed for exploration of inclusion in multiple tributary models for some areas. The vote will be finalized by email to account for members not present. The workgroup also heard an update on the septic/sewer model and sanitary sewer areas, which will be finalized in a vote by email after some additional backcast data is shared with members.
- Next Meeting: Thurs, August 28th

Workgroup updates – more details

Watershed Technical

- The July WTWG meeting was canceled.
- The August WTWG meeting will include a variety of decisional and discussional items including approval of the Agroforestry EPEG technical appendix, decisional items related to the methodology for construction acres in Phase 7, approval of the proposed method for buffer upland credit in Phase 7, a way to handle cover crop excess in Phase 7, and a review of the draft 2025 NEIEN Appendix.
- Next Meeting: August 7th from 10-12

Toxic Contaminants

- The July and August TCW meetings were canceled.
- Next meeting: Wed, September 10th

Workgroup updates – more details

Federal Facilities

- The Federal Facilities Workgroup is wrapping up two ongoing discussions related to Phase 7: 1) updating the federal facilities data layer and 2) discussing whether to track and credit currently unassigned federal land uses/BMPs types.
- During the next meeting on August 12th, the FFWG will discuss any final questions or concerns regarding this topic, in addition to holding a vote to approve the final updated federal facilities data layer for Phase 7.
- Next Meeting: August 12 from 10-12

Milestones

- The Milestones workgroup did not meet in July. A Draft Near Term Milestones Expectations document is being worked on and will be shared with the workgroup soon.

Workgroup updates – more details

Land Use

- Following the June LUWG meeting, the group has been working to vote on the back-cast methods via email. In July, LUWG leadership also held an optional office hours session on the back-cast methods.
- The final land use aggregation will be voted on at the September LUWG meeting.
- Next Meeting: September 17 from 1-3