

CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday June 24th, 2024
Time: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Eastern Time
Location: **Link:**

<https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=m8cbd1511b861d7cab90887840676b011>

Meeting number: 2630 014 7656

Password: WQGIT2024

Join by phone: +1-408-418-9388

Access code: 2630 014 7656



Chesapeake Bay Program

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Meeting materials: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/water-quality-goal-implementation-team-git-3-meeting-june-2024>

Written announcements or reminders (CTRL + click to jump ahead within document)

Agenda

Topic	Start time (duration)	Item Title <i>Item description</i>	Speaker(s) or presenter(s) Materials
	1:00	<u>Welcome and Introduction</u> <i>We will use Webex for roll call purposes, so please ensure your name and affiliation are accurately captured in the WebEx participants list. If not, please enter your correct name & affiliation in the chat box. If multiple participants are joining through the same location, please enter your names in the chat box. Call-in participants are requested to identify themselves verbally.</i>	Bryant Thomas, VA DEQ, WQGIT Vice Chair
	(20 min)	<u>Announcements & Verbal Updates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">WQGIT Coordinator Updates – Jeremy Hanson, CRC<ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome Caroline Kleis, new CRC WQGIT Staffer!6/13 MB & 6/25 PSCGIT Funding	Materials: Presentation

- Workgroup Updates (2 min or less, open to workgroup chairs or coordinators)
 - Forestry: Forest Harvesting BMP

Priorities: policy and implementation	1:20 (25 min)	<p>Partner spotlight [tentative]</p> <p>As discussed at the April WQGIT meeting, WQGIT leadership wants to include sharing of lessons and successes as a recurring agenda item. Pennsylvania and Virginia went first on May 13. The approach for this agenda item may evolve based on feedback or discussion. This month we are struggling to find a volunteer and are allotting time for one spotlight. [As of 6/17 we are awaiting confirmation of a spotlight presenter; if you are able to fill-in on short notice, please reach out to Jeremy and Sushanth (hansonj@chesapeake.org and Gupta.sushanth@epa.gov) in case our outstanding requests fall through]</p> <p>Each partner has 15 minutes to share up to three items in response to the prompt: “What are the stories, examples or lessons you are most proud of, or excited to share with your peers, with respect to Chesapeake Bay watershed and clean water work in recent years?” WQGIT leadership suggested some themes, and a focus on cases since 2010 or more recent.</p> <p>We want this to be conversational, but the intention is to let the presenter complete their planned content (10-15 minutes) and have ~10 minutes for discussion.</p> <p>Materials are not required, but anything shared by the presenting partner will be posted on the calendar page.</p> <p>Informational presentation, with discussion and exchange of ideas encouraged.</p>	<p>TBD</p> <p>[As of 6/17 we are awaiting confirmation of a spotlight presenter; if you are able to fill-in on short notice, please reach out to Jeremy and Sushanth (hansonj@chesapeake.org and Gupta.sushanth@epa.gov) in case our outstanding requests fall through]</p>
Beyond 2025	1:45 (30 min)	<p><u>Beyond 2025 Update</u></p> <p>KC will summarize the latest developments and schedule for the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee, which most recently met on May 30th. Discussion and presentations at that meeting included reviewing the ERG considerations and feedback on the draft synthesis narrative.</p>	<p>Materials: Slides or materials TBD</p> <p>KC Filippino, HRPDC; Joe Wood, CBF & WQGIT Leadership</p>

The schedule for the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee continues to move quickly, so this is a chance for interested WQGIT or workgroup members to catch-up or understand what comes next with respect to the Beyond 2025 process.

WQGIT leadership will use any remaining time to discuss how the WQGIT can proceed in support of its Steering Committee representatives or the overall schedule.

Informational.

Materials: Refer to materials posted on the [May 30th](#) meeting page

	2:15	10-minute Break	
SRS	2:25 (60 min)	<p>SRS Planning Follow-Up and Outlook</p> <p><i>There will be follow up on SRS and the WQGIT's long term planning based on feedback received at the May WQGIT meeting.</i></p> <p><i>At the May 13 WQGIT meeting there was discussion of a possible request to hold or pause the SRS process while Beyond 2025 carries on. The omission of this from the 5/13 recap was an oversight and WQGIT Leadership will describe the correction to the Actions & Decisions document. WQGIT leadership also sought input from SRS and GIT6 leadership and will brief the WQGIT on available options with respect to a suggested pause, which include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A) Request a 1-year delay for the 2025 WIP outcome and/or Clean Water Cohort. The request would go to the SRS Workgroup (GIT6) before going to the Management Board. * The WQGIT would document the level of consensus if this option is preferred by the WQGIT members.</i> <i>B) Follow SRS schedule, developing a 1-year workplan this year and a full 2-year workplan next year.</i> <i>C) Follow SRS schedule, developing a 2-year workplan this year and gaining the option to revise the workplan or not the following year.</i> <p><i>*This process would likely take us into July-August.</i></p> <p><i>There will be adequate time for discussion of flexibilities within the options.</i></p>	<p>WQGIT Leadership</p> <p>Materials: TBD</p>

Decision requested: A pulse check will be taken to assess the preferred option. If Option A is the preferred choice, a roll will be taken to document the level of consensus.

3:25 (25 mins)	<p><u>Flex time</u></p> <p><i>This agenda item is to allow for continued discussion or revisiting parking lot items based on the meeting to this point.</i></p> <p><u>Land Use Strategy:</u> This document was referenced during the 5/13 Management Board QPM for the Healthy Watersheds Cohort. The WQGIT will want to discuss it and what, if any, steps may be needed following the MB discussion.</p> <p><i>Parking lot items or items from the group</i></p>	
3:50	Recap of Actions and Decisions	Sushanth Gupta, CRC
4:00	ADJOURN	

Written announcements or reminders

- **NEW Announcements or opportunities**
 - **Share alert! RFP Open Now until Thursday July 18th for the Capacity Building Grant Program.** An initiative of the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network managed by the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Download the RFP [here](#) (links to RFP downloadable as .docx).
 - Who can apply? Requests are encouraged from non-profit organizations, and tribal or local governments who:
 - Provide services within the Chesapeake watershed in one or more of the following Chesapeake Bay watershed jurisdictions: DE, DC, MD, NY, PA, VA, and WV.
 - Non-profits must also have:
 - >1 and < 50 staff. At least one staff member must be employed full-time (defined as >35 hours per week). If a paid staff member is not in place, the applicant may substitute a dedicated volunteer position in which the individual contributes at least 35 hours per week.
 - A water and/or natural resource-focused component within their mission
 - An active Board of Directors
 - For all eligibility requirements refer to the RFP.
 - How much can be awarded? Requests are typically no higher than \$30,000 for non-profits but may be higher (up to \$150,000 if applying for the local government track) with justification for both non-profits and local governments.
 - How much is available in the program? Approximately \$800,000

- More information available on the CBT website [here](#). Questions and support: Kacey Wetzel, Director of Outreach and Education Programs, kwetzel@cbtrust.org, (410) 974-2941 x 104
- Notice of Funding Opportunity: Landscape characterization and monitoring in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (EPA-R3-CBP-24-01).
 - Find more information at <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grants-your-region-information-specific-epa-region-3>
 - Information session on [June 25th, 3:00-4:00PM](#); no advance registration needed
 - Application deadline: **July 19th, 2024**
- CESR “Report in Brief” now available. This summarizes the CESR report in 12 visually engaging pages; available [here](#).
- **Additional announcements or opportunities:**
 - **June CRC Roundtable** on Wednesday, June 12th, noon to 1:00pm, is titled “*UninHABitable: Harmful Algal Blooms Across the Watershed.*” Live from Chesapeake Community Research Symposium. Harmful algal blooms (HABs) threaten waters from the upper reaches of our rivers to the estuaries of the Chesapeake Bay. HAB species can release toxins, reduce dissolved oxygen, form extensive bottom mats, and cloud the water – all with impacts on aquatic animal species, recreation, and even human and companion animal health. Our speakers this month will touch on what conditions make for a toxic bloom, how it affects other species, and how we can improve monitoring and detection. Moderator: R Christian Jones, Professor at George Mason University, Director of the Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center (PEREC), Speakers: Margaret Mulholland, Professor at Old Dominion University; Rosalina Christova, Assistant Professor at George Mason University; Judy O’Neil, Associate Research Professor at University of Maryland Center for Environmental Research. **Recording available at this link:** https://youtu.be/SvjUTY7iJ88?si=LqloFvhVOjn3_Z4k.
 - **CAST webinars:** On summer break, webinars will resume in September.
 - **Restore America’s Estuaries 2024 Coastal & Estuarine Summit – October 6th-10th, 2024.** Join Restore America’s Estuaries in Washington, DC for the 2024 Coastal & Estuarine Summit, the premier event for coastal restoration policymakers, practitioners, and managers in the United States. Register [here](#). **Early bird registration is available until August 2nd, 2024.**

This meeting will be recorded for internal purposes. Current EPA policy does not allow for distribution of the recordings.

Closed captioning will be available for this meeting. To turn on the closed captioning, select the “cc” button in the bottom left corner of the screen. To show a live transcript of the meeting, go to the bottom right-hand corner of the screen and select “captions”.

If you have any other accessibility concerns, please contact Sushanth Gupta (gupta.sushanth@epa.gov).

Acronyms

BMP: Best Management Practice
 CAST: [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#)
 CBF: Chesapeake Bay Foundation

CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium
 DEQ: [VA] Department of Environmental Quality

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency
 GIT: Goal Implementation Team
 HRPDC: Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

MB: [Management Board](#)
PSC: [Principals' Staff Committee](#)
QPM: [SRS] Quarterly Progress
Meeting

RFP: Request for Proposal
SRS: Strategy Review System
UMCES: University of Maryland
Center for Environmental Science

WQGIT: [Water Quality Goal
Implementation Team](#)