

CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday March 27, 2023
Time: 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM Eastern Time
Location:

Link:

<https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=mfd7823b90cb70f3956d087ca74ceb44d>

Meeting number: 2626 261 4765

Password: WQGIT2023

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

Access code: 262 626 14765



Chesapeake Bay Program

Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Meeting materials: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/water-quality-goal-implementation-team-git-3-meeting-march-2023>

Written announcements or reminders

- **Opportunities closing before our meeting:**
 - The Oyster BMP panel report is available for review. Feedback was requested by March 10. If you have outstanding questions or requests, please contact the panel Coordinator, Olivia Caretti at oysterBMPresponse@oysterrecovery.org.
 - The panel report materials and webinar recordings can be found on the [February 7](#) and [February 14](#) calendar entries. The two webinars focused on the panel's recommended enhanced denitrification and oyster assimilation protocols, respectively.
 - The first [draft technical appendix](#) is available with requested feedback by March 23 (Olivia Caretti at oysterBMPresponse@oysterrecovery.org). A revised appendix will be brought to the WTWG in April with a goal for the WTWG to approve the technical appendix in May.
 - This month's CRC Roundtable is **Wednesday, March 15, from noon-1:00pm** Eastern Time, titled "**Implementing clean water solutions for agriculture in Pennsylvania.**" Lara Fowler (Penn State) and Jill Whitcomb (PA DEP) are the featured speakers who will engage in the roundtable about the creative ideas and conversations in Pennsylvania following the latest Pennsylvania in the Balance conference in 2022. Learn more and register [here](#) for the free Roundtable conversation. Past CRC Roundtable recordings are available on YouTube (@CRCRoundTable)
 - **CAST webinar Thursday, March 16, noon-1:00pm** Eastern Time and will highlight **Conowingo and Climate Change WIPs**. Olivia and Helen will define and dive into the background of these WIPs and demonstrate how to use tools in CAST to quantify the differences between the Conowingo Baseline and Conowingo WIP scenarios.
 - [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

- Meeting ID: 849 6994 9957
- We are delaying the next edition of the WQGIT newsletter by approximately 2 weeks; it will land in your inboxes in early April.
- New maps on [CAST](#):
 - Agricultural BMP Targeting Maps: [Nitrogen](#), [Phosphorus](#), [Sediment](#)
 - Urban BMP Targeting Maps: [Nitrogen](#), [Phosphorus](#), [Sediment](#)
- **EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office Request for Proposals for Advancement of Partnership Forest Buffer, Urban Tree Canopy, and Wetlands Goals:** a non-competitive FY2023 RFA open to Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions focused on advancement of partnership forest buffer, urban tree Canopy, and wetlands goals. Projects that help to implement strategies developed by the CBP Wetland and Forestry Workgroups, as well as projects that advance the partnership's DEIJ goals, will receive priority consideration.
 - At least \$1 million in funding is available in FY23. The CBP expects to fund multiple projects ranging from \$100,000 - \$300,000. Jurisdictions may submit applications for multiple, unique projects so long as each individual project does not exceed the \$100,000 to \$300,000 funding range. To ensure equitability in the selection process CBPO will waive match for this funding. Funding for this RFP is provided by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
 - Please provide your requests for funding and associated estimates to Matt Robinson (robinson.matthew@epa.gov) by **March 31, 2023**. Jurisdictions will be notified of the award of funds for their proposals by April 28, 2023. Funding for selected projects will be awarded as part of the jurisdiction's Infrastructure grants that currently support Most Effective Basins funding. Funding awarded through this RFP does not have to support projects implemented in areas identified as Most Effective Basins.
 - If you have any additional questions, comments, or concerns please reach out to Matt Robinson (robinson.matthew@epa.gov).
- **EPA Region 3 RFA for Multiple Tributary Models** is open, **closing April 7th**. Direct link to the RFA [here](#). More info: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grants-your-region-information-specific-epa-region-3>
- NFWF reminders and opportunities
 - Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund is currently soliciting proposals under two programs:
 - **Small Watershed Grants (SWG) Program**, delivered in partnership with EPA and the CBP partnership. Projects within the Chesapeake Bay watershed that promote voluntary, community-based efforts to protect and restore the diverse and vital habitats of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams.
 - The Chesapeake **Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense Grants (WILD) Program**, delivered in partnership with FWS. Projects that conserve, steward, and enhance fish and wildlife habitats and related conservation values in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
 - **Proposals are due by Thursday, April 20, 2023.** NFWF is holding an informational webinar for prospective applicants on Friday, March 3, 2023. Interested applicants must register in advance [here](#) to participate. NFWF will also record and post the webinar to the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund [webpage](#) shortly after its conclusion.

Agenda

Topic	Start time (duration)	Item Title <i>Item description</i>	Speaker(s) or presenter(s)
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	1:00	<p><u>Welcome and Introduction</u></p> <p><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></p>	Suzanne Trevena, EPA Region 3, WQGIT Vice-Chair
	(20 min)	<p><u>Announcements & Verbal Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WQGIT Coordinator Updates – Jeremy Hanson, CRC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New WQGIT Staffer intro: Sushanth Gupta • Management Board and “2025 and Beyond” update – Lee McDonnell or Lucinda Power, EPA CBPO • Workgroup Updates (2 min or less, open to workgroup chairs or coordinators) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Placeholder] WTWG and PSC Decision #3 	
Indicators & Progress	1:20 (60 min)	<p><u>Integrated Watershed TMDL Indicator</u></p> <p><i>Gary and Qian previously presented this to the WQGIT in November 2022. The draft documentation (“analysis and methods” document) for Chesapeake Progress is posted along with slides and a spreadsheet for advance consideration and review by WQGIT members. Following a WQGIT decision in support of the proposed indicator, it will be available on Chesapeake Progress in addition to existing indicators, such as the “reducing pollution indicator” for TN, TP and TSS that is the primary indicator for the 2025 WIP Outcome.</i></p> <p><i>Materials (posted for advance review to facilitate requested decision): Presentation; draft Analysis & Methods document; data file for the proposed indicator (.xlsx)</i></p> <p>DECISION Requested: WQGIT support for adding the proposed indicator to Chesapeake Progress.</p>	Gary Shenk, USGS; Qian Zhang, UMCES
	2:20 (10 min)	<p><u>BREAK</u></p>	

Phase 6 CAST	2:30 (25 min)	<p><u>Revisiting Schedule and Road Ahead for Phase 6 CAST</u></p> <p><i>The PSC approved the Phase 7 development timeline in March 2022. Since then, the status of CAST21 and other factors may warrant amending the timeline plans for Phase 6 CAST updates. Lee will describe the context and pros/cons for a proposed change to the timeline.</i></p> <p><i>Materials: Presentation</i></p> <p>ACTION: Input and discussion are requested verbally and through the Webex chat. Consensus for a WQGIT recommendation to the Management Board and subsequently the PSC will likely be sought in April.</p>	Lee McDonnell, EPA CBPO
Phase 6 CAST	2:55 (30 min)	<p><u>Eutrophication Units and CAST</u></p> <p><i>In recent months the Watershed Technical Workgroup has discussed adding a new feature to CAST that would allow users to more easily use existing information that combines nutrient reductions in terms of dissolved oxygen. This information already exists through the exchange ratios, which are available on CAST (see Planning Targets excel workbook available on the Planning Targets page), but the requested feature may prove helpful for jurisdictional or other partners. The WTWG supports this feature and its addition is not expected to impact other CAST priorities. Currently the feature is expected by the end of 2023. Since the information is not novel and this can be accommodated without impacts to other CAST priorities a WQGIT decision is not requested. Instead, this is a briefing for the WQGIT and a chance to ask clarifying questions.</i></p> <p><i>Bill Keeling (VA DEQ) will describe the information using Virginia as an example.</i></p> <p><i>Materials: Presentation slides</i></p> <p>ACTION: Live input through discussion and volunteers.</p>	WTWG leadership; Bill Keeling, VA DEQ
	3:25	<u>Recap of Actions and Decisions</u>	Jackie Pickford, CRC
	3:30	ADJOURN	

Additional instructions or info

- 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 Jackie Pickford (pickford.jacqueline@epa.gov).

Acronyms

BMP: Best Management Practice

CAST: [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#)

CANF: Chesapeake Agricultural Networking Forum

CBF: Chesapeake Bay Foundation

CBP: Chesapeake Bay Program

CBPO: Chesapeake Bay Program Office

COB: Close of business

CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium

CSN: Chesapeake Stormwater Network

C-StREAM: [Chesapeake Student Recruitment, Early Advisement, and Mentoring](#) Program

DC DOEE: District of Columbia Department of Energy & Environment

DEIJ: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice

EPA CBPO: Environmental Protection Agency - Chesapeake Bay Program Office

FWS: [United States] Fish and Wildlife Service

MB: [Management Board](#)

NFWF: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

PA DEP: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

PSC: Principals Staff Committee

RFA: Request for Applications

SWG: Small Watershed Grants (NFWF Grants Program)

TMDL: Total Maximum Daily Load

TN: Total Nitrogen

TP: Total Phosphorus

TSS: Total Suspended Sediment

UMCES: University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

USGS: United States Geological Survey

USWG: [Urban Stormwater Workgroup](#)

VA DEQ: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

WILD: Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense (NFWF Grants Program)

WIP: Watershed Implementation Plan

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