

# CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

## Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday September 23, 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**

*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

Meeting materials: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/water-quality-goal-implementation-team-git-3-meeting-september-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	<b><u>Welcome and Introduction</u></b>  <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 &amp; 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>	Suzanne Trevena, EPA, WQGIT Chair
	(20 min)	<b><u>Announcements &amp; Verbal Updates</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Coordinator Updates – Jeremy Hanson, CRC</li><li>Quick Recap: Management Board and Principals’ Staff Committee</li><li>Workgroup Updates (2 min or less, open to workgroup chairs or coordinators)</li></ul>	<b>Materials:</b> Presentation

Phase 7 model development	1:20 (15 min)	<p><b><u>Phase 7 development timeline</u></b></p> <p><i>Auston will walkthrough an example of the more detailed version of the timeline as mentioned in August.</i></p> <p><b>Informational.</b></p> <p><b>Action requested: Review and feedback on the draft timeline is requested, deadline will be stated during discussion.</b></p>	<p>Auston Smith, EPA CBPO</p> <p><b>Materials:</b> Presentation</p>
Priorities: policy and implementation	1:35 (25 min)	<p><b><u>Partner spotlight: New York and Upper Susquehanna Coalition</u></b></p> <p><i>As discussed at the April WQGIT meeting, WQGIT leadership wants to include sharing of lessons and successes as a recurring agenda item. Pennsylvania, Virginia, and District of Columbia have presented so far since April. The approach for this agenda item may evolve based on feedback or discussion.</i></p> <p><i>Each spotlight includes 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 from 2010 onwards.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>Materials are not required, but anything shared by the presenting partner will be posted on the calendar page.</i></p> <p><b>Informational presentation, with discussion and exchange of ideas</b></p>	<p>Cassie Davis, NYS DEC &amp; Emily Dekar, USC</p>
Planning	2:00 (25 min)	<p><b><u>WQGIT feedback poll results</u></b></p> <p><i>WQGIT Leadership will review results and feedback provided by WQGIT members and interested parties. An initial sense of priorities and the road ahead will be described.</i></p> <p><b>Informational.</b></p>	<p>WQGIT Leadership</p> <p><b>Materials:</b> Presentation</p>
	2:25	10-minute Break	

Beyond 2025	2:35 (20 min)	<b><u>Beyond 2025 Update</u></b> <i>Doug and KC will give a brief overview of <a href="#">comments received</a> during the feedback period that ended on August 30<sup>th</sup>. They will describe next steps for the Steering Committee and the timeline for approval up through the MB, PSC and EC.</i>	KC Filippino, HRPDC; Doug Bell, EPA CBPO  <b>Materials:</b> Presentation
Milestones	2:55 (1 hr)	<b><u>Milestones retrospective</u></b> <i>Suzanne will review the history and evolution of milestones within the partnership’s accountability framework. This will be a foundation for forthcoming conversations at the WQGIT regarding the approach to near term milestones, per last month’s decision:</i>  <i><b>Decision [<a href="#">WQGIT August 2024</a>]:</b> The WQGIT agreed to hold discussions on Milestones within the WQGIT for the “near term” milestones. “Near term” milestones are those milestones between 2026 and when there are new targets established by the partnership using the Phase 7 modeling tools. The WQGIT will develop recommendations for duration and piloting new ideas for the “near term” milestones. The WQGIT may also decide to delegate long term follow up items for milestones to the Milestones Workgroup.</i>  <i>Suzanne will also share an initial timeline for upcoming WQGIT discussions on this topic and deliver recommendations or updates to the MB or PSC for a decision, as appropriate.</i>  <i><b>Primarily informational, but we have allotted plenty of extra time to encourage questions and discussion.</b></i>  <i><b>Action requested: Thoughts and input to inform upcoming discussions is welcome via email or during discussion. For example, pros or cons for various time durations/frequencies of near term milestones, or ideas on how to add innovation and flexibility into the milestones.</b></i>	Suzanne Trevena, EPA, WQGIT Chair  <b>Materials:</b> Presentation
	3:55	Recap of Actions and Decisions	Sushanth Gupta, CRC
	4:00	ADJOURN	

## Written announcements or reminders

- **Announcements or opportunities**
  - The [CRC Roundtable](#) is back! The next roundtable is Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 12-1pm is titled “Flotsam and Jetsam: Fighting Debris in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.” Register to join this free session and hear speakers **Kelly Somers** (Senior Watershed Coordinator, EPA Region 3 Water Division and Co-chair, Chesapeake Bay Program Plastic Pollution Action Team) and **Renee Sanders** (Senior Marine Scientist, Center for Coastal Resources Management, Virginia Institute of Marine Science) discuss litter and derelict fishing gear in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.
  - **CAST webinars are back!** This month's CAST webinar will discuss how the model can be used for performance-based financing applications. Conservation Innovation Fund (CIF) will share examples of how they have used CAST to estimate and report pollutant reductions for various projects in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and elsewhere, including MD Clean Water Commerce Account Program, MS4 permitting, and USDA Climate Smart Commodities Grants. Hosts will demonstrate how to create a scenario to quantify the load reductions from specific practices for estimating funding opportunities. Then, they will discuss adding carbon reduction estimates to CAST.
    - Topic: Pay for Performance
    - Time: **September 19, 2024 at noon EDT**
    - [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
    - Meeting ID: 881 6009 3011
    - One tap mobile +13017158592,,88160093011#
  - The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the federal-state Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partnership, is soliciting proposals under the [Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction \(INSR\) Grants](#) program. For 2025, this includes both **INSR Partnership Grants** supporting the coordinated and collaborative efforts of sustainable, local and regional-scale partnerships working to implement proven water quality improvement practices more cost-effectively, as well as an **INSR Infrastructure Grants** opportunity for projects working to implement critical natural and nature-based watershed restoration infrastructure at scale.
    - **All proposals must be submitted no later than noon, November 5, 2024.** NFWF will host an optional applicant webinar at **2:00PM on Thursday, September 12**. Interested parties must register for the webinar [here](#). For those who cannot participate, a recording of the webinar will be posted to NFWF's website by Monday, September 16.
    - Including funds made available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, NFWF estimates awarding \$25-30 million in grants through the INSR program in 2025, contingent on the availability of funding. Major funding for the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Chesapeake Bay Program Office, with other important contributions by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, and Altria Group.
    - NFWF strongly encourages all prospective INSR applicants to consult with NFWF program staff prior to submitting applications and **no later than October 30, 2024**. These consultations help to ensure eligibility and competitiveness of proposed projects and allow NFWF program staff to provide constructive feedback to

strengthen proposed projects, consistent with program priorities. **Prospective applicants can schedule consultations with NFWF program staff using [this link](#).** Prospective applicants are also encouraged to contact CBSF field liaisons to vet potential project ideas prior to contacting NFWF staff directly.

- **The Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and the Chesapeake Research Consortium (CRC) have released a request for proposal (RFP) for their Science Synthesis Project.** Click [here](#) for an overview of the synthesis project and click [here](#) to view the RFP. Proposals are due to STAC by Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please email Meg Cole, STAC coordinator, ([colem@chesapeake.org](mailto:colem@chesapeake.org)), or Larry Sanford, STAC chair, ([lsanford@umces.edu](mailto:lsanford@umces.edu)) with additional questions.
- **Beyond 2025 Public Feedback Period is closed.** The full compilation of comments is available at the bottom of the <https://chesapeakebay.net/beyond2025> webpage. [Direct link to Beyond 2025 comments](#).
- **Restore America's Estuaries 2024 Coastal & Estuarine Summit – October 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 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](#).

**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](mailto:gupta.sushanth@epa.gov)).

## Acronyms

CAST: [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#)

CBPO: Chesapeake Bay Program Office

CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium

EC: [Executive Council](#)

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

GIT: Goal Implementation Team

HRPDC: Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

MB: [Management Board](#)

MS4: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

NFWF: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

NYS DEC: [New York State] Department of Environmental Conservation

PSC: [Principals' Staff Committee](#)

RFP: Request for Proposal

USC: Upper Susquehanna Coalition

USDA: United States Department of Agriculture

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