



Criteria Assessment Protocols (CAP) Workgroup

Conference Call

August 12, 2015, 1 – 3 PM

Meeting Materials:

<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/22949>

Participants: Mark Trice (MDNR), Tish Robertson (VADEQ), Tom Parham (MDNR), Will Hunley (HRSD), Peter Tango (USGS/CBPO), Richard Tian (UMCES/CBPO), Lea Rubin (CRC/CBPO), Cindy Johnson (VADEQ), Donald Smith (VADEQ), Ken Moore (VIMS), Matt Carter (VADEQ), Mark Barath (EPA), Matt Stover (MDE), Bruce Michael (MDNR), Dave Parrish (VIMS)

MINUTES

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements (Peter Tango, Chair)

- [Ecological Society of America](#) (ESA) – Currently taking place, Baltimore, MD
- [Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation](#) (CERF) – November 8-12, 2015, Portland, OR
- [Maryland Water Monitoring Council](#) (MWMC) – November 13, 2015, North Linthicum, MD
- [National Water Quality Monitoring Council](#) (NWQML) – May 2-6, 2016, Tampa, FL

Update on the Criteria Assessment Technical Addendum (Peter Tango, Chair)

The Addendum is currently out for review by STAC and EPA. Peter outlined the review process for the Technical Addendum currently underway. He also highlighted important changes to the Addendum in his [presentation](#). Chapter 2: Assessing Dissolved Oxygen Criteria Attainment: Short-Duration Criteria Attainment Assessments includes the greatest number of modifications, and Peter asks that the CAP Workgroup focus on this chapter during review.

ACTION: Peter is requesting that the CAP Workgroup review the Addendum. Comments will be received until **September 18, 2015**.

Discussion

- **ACTION:** Circulate the names of the STAC members on the review team to the Workgroup. (Peter Tango)

Review of Chlorophyll a Criteria and Assessments Protocols (Tish Robertson and Will Hunley)

Tish Robertson (VADEQ) [presented](#) an overview of James River chlorophyll assessment procedure and proposed modifications. Slide 13 examines the biggest weaknesses to the

assessment procedure observed by Elgin Perry (Independent Statistics Consultant) and Claire Buchanan (ICPRB). The presentation continued with the proposed modifications.

Major changes suggested for modifying the present method include:

- Eliminating the interpolation of data using the CBP Interpolator, and in its place, use observation averages within “zones”.
- Proposing the usage of DEQ station data, and additional partners to leverage more data for higher quality assessments, in addition to the current CBP stations.

Discussion

- The zones are parameter specific. The zones identified in Tish’s presentation are specific for chlorophyll, and these zone could not be used for other criteria assessments.
- This procedure would require the continuation of Dataflow monitoring.
- Continuous monitoring would add a lot of information to this assessment.
- A similar “zoning” of the James River was attempted using turbidity, however, clear zones could not be identified. (@ VIMS)
- Zoning might vary by season and flow.

Will Hunley (HRSD) [presented](#) an overview of an analysis in progress to determine how representative surface water samples are of a water column for chlorophyll a assessments as well as future considerations. HRSD and ODU have been conducting research to gain a better understanding of the dynamics of algal blooms. HRSD and ODU are using vertical profilers, Dataflow cruises, CONMON, Diurnal (12 and 24 hour) profiles, and rain water nutrient sampling (bloom triggers) to hopefully indicate water column structure of chlorophyll.

Discussion

- The length of the research will be based on the continuation of funding next year and need for the products of this study.
- **ACTION:** Will Hunley will update the CAP Workgroup as the study matures.