



## Scientific, Technical Assessment & Reporting Team Meeting

### TOPIC: Draft Presentations of Water-Quality Related Outcomes

April 24, 2018  
10:00AM – 12:30PM  
Fish Shack, CBPO

Conference Line: 202-991-0477 Code: 9037008

Adobe Connect: <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/starmeting/>

Event webpage:

[https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/scientific\\_technical\\_assessment\\_and\\_reporting\\_star\\_team\\_meeting\\_april\\_2018](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/scientific_technical_assessment_and_reporting_star_team_meeting_april_2018)

#### Minutes

**10:00**      **Welcome and Introductions-** *Bill Dennison, Scott Phillips and Mark Bennett – STAR Co-Chairs, Peter Tango, STAR Coordinator*

**Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, Workshops, & Webinars-**  
**Chesapeake Research and Modeling Symposium 2018**

- ✓ Three documents are due by Friday to Laura for the SRS presentations at the upcoming May Management Board meeting: The Logic Table, Answers to Questions, Power Point presentation.
- ✓ Bill D presented the SAV synthesis report published through the National Academy of Sciences. He recommended to post more articles than the online journal article since newspaper picked up his articles, which really help get message out to the public. Bill is in the process for finalizing a factsheet for CCMP conference.
- ✓ SAV results from the annual survey are being released today.
- ✓ Scott added that registration for CCMP conference is still open.

**10:05**      **Water Quality GIT SRS Outcome Presentations (Dry runs)-** *see below for presenters*  
A representative from each outcome will provide the presentation, incorporating cross-GIT mapping, planned for the May 10 Management Board meeting. Participants at the STAR meeting will provide constructive feedback on each presentation.  
Presentations:

- **Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention Outcome–Greg Allen, EPA, Toxic Contaminants Workgroup Chair**

This presentation is provided by three presenters: Michelle Williams, Doug Austin, and Scott Phillips. Doug and Michelle will give this presentation while Greg Allen is out. The first part is background information of PCB and PCB in the CB watershed presented by Doug Austin. He reviewed facts about their use and load into wastewater, stormwater, and deposition. There is a legacy pollution problem, but also new sources are a problem, even though they are outlawed. Washington and Oregon have sued Monsanto for costs to clean up.

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The second part is toxic contaminant policy and prevention presented by Scott Phillips. Scott reviewed the goal and outcome of the Toxics workgroup and began the official template of the SRS presentation for Toxics Policy and Prevention. The request for MB is to support the Toxic Contaminant workgroup to investigate a possibility of PCB consortium.

Michelle reviewed PCB impairments in the watershed, driven by fish consumption advisories, on a GIS story map she created, which also outlines the challenge of achieving the PCB related outcome. Scott continued to present the progress, gaps, and possible factors influencing the success of this outcome. He further presented some possible cross outcome projects with Wastewater Treatment WG and Climate Resiliency Workgroup and Diversity Workgroup.

- Discussion:

- ✓ Kristen Sanders asked is there any value in not just asking for researching the possibility of having a PCB consortium, but also asking the MB or some of the members to lead or identify, participate, or as a champion in the Consortium? Carin added that Delaware representative is not very active since John S retired. Greg responded that a contingency will also be needed. The next step should be to ask the MB to identify a person. Carin agreed that we can ask MB to identify someone or point you the right direction.
- ✓ Dave commented that this presentation is great but too long, and needs to be abbreviated, especially with the technical slide. This slide can be included at the end. Under the second ask, with acknowledgement in the WIP, some people will interpret this as a new regulatory requirement. There may be strong pushback for this. Be prepared to explain this. Be prepared to get push back from MB of your second ask related to the acknowledgement. MB is not willing to modify the Phase III WIPS. MB have had this discussion before.
- ✓ Jennifer Greiner pointed out that “acknowledgement” under the second ask is unclear. How receptive are the states to this idea? Carin added that it can be replaced with co-benefits. Dinorah added that at the last MB meeting, this idea of language in the WIPs regarding PCBs was raised. Other terms included “identify to the extent possible management practices or BMPs that would also address toxic contaminate goals”. But yes, it was conveyed to be very cautious about coming across as regulatory.
- ✓ Bill asked why are we trying shy away from the discussion to regulate PCB. Greg responded that they’re already regulated. Carin added that the flipside for stormwater management, is that it’s more cost effective to review control of PCBs while also reviewing nutrients and sediment.
- ✓ Bill mentioned using different colors for the WIP template. He added that human health implications and sources of PCBs and related solutions were not incorporated in this discussion. Scott added that maybe this could go under the management approach section of the group under conceptual diagram. Dinorah pointed out that TMDL do not identify the sources except atmosphere deposition and recent data is needed on this part, such as sources or BMP efficiencies. This will add strength to the consortium idea of info gathering.
- ✓ Renee pointed out that WIP template is answering some of these questions, you can reference your WIP template. She added that the story map is good but try to minimize the tab and try to full screen the map. It may be helpful to condense some of the layers to have it all shown at once. Toward the end related to the cross outcome, add a screen shot of the WIP template. Contact Darius to add a diversity workgroup of map from EJ screen with some of toxics layers with demographics.
- ✓ Greg added that a new fish consumption risk map will be available today and will make it pdf available for those who on the phone.

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- ✓ Dinorah added that not a lot of data related PCBs is available to be put into the TMDL.

- [Toxic Contaminants Research Outcome – Scott Phillips, USGS, Toxic Contaminants Workgroup Vice-Chair](#)

The second presentation is toxic contaminants research outcome. Two main concern with toxic contaminants are threats to human lives and degradation to fish and wildlife. There are three asks related to this outcome. Challenges include too many contaminants and mixtures and lack of implications and synthesis. Mercury related MB options is for trend, amount and implications analysis. MB is asked to develop actions for co-benefits, more analysis on contaminants in source sectors, and options with mercury.

- Discussion:
  - ✓ Bill D asked for clarification that if persistent compound don't go away easily asked if it is more related to co-benefits than more to the risks. Bill argued it's about being smarter of the pathways of how these contaminants move through the environment.
  - ✓ Carin commented that two-year milestones should be emphasized and not just focused on WIP3. Colors with the progress is helpful.
  - ✓ Dave commented that for the presentation, place the asks upfront. Get some feedback from May 10 and come back in June. Scott asked if it would help to have a discussion slide right after the presentation to help discussion going.
  - ✓ Bruce asked if the workgroup is consolidating the current study on trend analysis or establishing new study. Scott added that they're aware of a few datasets but they need to determine if trend analysis is possible.
  - ✓ Emily added that one colorful slide is great but it is also text-heavy so try to minimize text for ease of viewing.
  - ✓ Carin added that co-benefits of trend analysis for other outcomes should be added.
  - ✓ Renee pointed out one typo for microplastics

- [Forest Buffers Outcome: Rebecca Hamner, Forestry Workgroup Chair](#)

- Discussion:
  - ✓ Dave commented that the first bullet is under on the asked for the MB is unclear. Rebecca responded that it is the disconnect of the tech assistance and funding availability. Dave said you should explain the logic behind it.
  - ✓ Carin added that "county level" isn't needed. Carin commented that NIWIP is focused on the regional approach and incentivize it. National Soil and Water Conservation board could provide assistance. Rebecca responded that the delivery approach mechanism might be tricky. Rebecca added that that we can easily technical support from other agencies if funding is available. The other question is maintenance, how to track and maintain.
  - ✓ Kristen commented that this presentation should not be focus on agriculture. Some of the ask is really targeting the Agriculture sector. Bridge the gap between agriculture and forestry. Rebecca asked if broaden the targets should be added down at the slides.
  - ✓ Scott added that ending with all of the "what we want' slide was overwhelming. These bullets should be discussed at the end during the discussion, with more concise bullets during the presentation.

- ✓ Dave reminded that you will come back in June.
  - ✓ Carin added that wanting “leadership” is not specific enough but should be accompanied with examples.
  - ✓ Rebecca continued that these asks are almost more appropriate for PSC, because this goal is very tied up with bureaucratic red tape.
  - ✓ Carin commented that specify leadership in your presentation. Rebecca responded we need a leader to push and make progress.
- [Watershed Implementation Plans: James-Davis Martin, Water-Quality Goal Team Co-chair](#)  
There are two water quality outcomes: 2017 WIP outcome and 2025 WIP outcome. The MB asks included retiring 2017 WIP outcome and seek funding for WIP implementation, and focusing on phase III WIP development. The 2017 progress for nitrogen indicated that we are behind the 2017 goals. Much of the shortfall comes from Pennsylvania. However, 2017 target for phosphorous has been achieved.
  - Discussion:
    - ✓ Timing is 16:23 minutes.
    - ✓ Scott commented that your co-benefits should directly related to the outcome. James responded that all of the co-benefits are interrelated.
    - ✓ Bill commented that a map of progress by jurisdiction should be added to the Nitrogen graph.
    - ✓ Carin is concerned with the first ask, and reasons should be laid out as well. The reason related to mid-point assessment should be added. Instead, say that it’s being retired because it’s being reviewed on Phase 5.3.2 model, and from here it will go into phase 6 with the midpoint assessment. It makes more sense to tie it to the midpoint assessment. “We think it should be retired because the midpoint assessment is complete.”
    - ✓ Dave recommended to rephrase the third asks. With the second ask, Dave is unclear how can the partnership add on to that.
    - ✓ Rebecca commented that it is not a question of funding availability but is a question of getting funding more effectively.
    - ✓ Jennifer pointed out one typo: remove of under the first ask.
- [Water Quality Standards and Attainment Outcome– Peter Tango, STAR Coordinator](#)
  - Discussion:
    - ✓ Timing is 14:20 minutes
    - ✓ Dave commented that MB would like to see MOU and the second ask is unclear. Peter responded that the second ask was about accounting for the use of citizen monitoring data in addition to the long term monitoring program in water quality assessments. Bruce added that it takes time and we would like to see more and more data.
    - ✓ Scott added that the challenge of inconsistency between modeling and monitoring is too big
    - ✓ Kristen commented that the progress slide is too much. These points do not need to all be on the screen. OR just breaking it up in two slides.
    - ✓ James is unsure why modeling is telling one thing and monitoring telling the other way. Mark added that you need to ask the MB to get more resources to investigate why there are the differences between these two sources.

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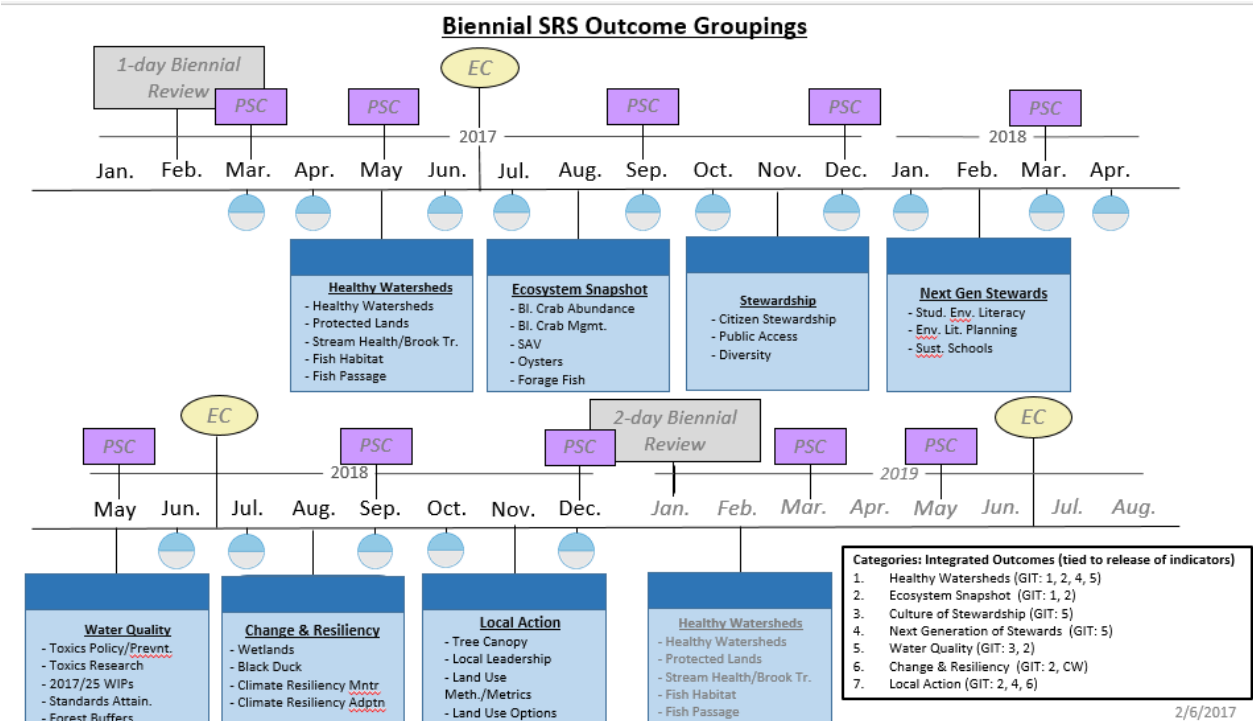
- ✓ Renee pointed out pictures should be changed since there are four slides with same pictures
- ✓ Scott asked Peter and James to talk privately to better align the goals in terms of better explaining trends and monitoring. Carin concurred.

**12:30**

**Adjourn**

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Meeting Participants	
Alexandra Fries	John Wolf
Bill Dennison	Katherine Wares
Carin Bisland	Kristen Sanders
Catherine Krikstan	Laura Drescher
Cuiyin Wu	Laurel Abowd
Dinorah Dalmasy	Liz Chudoba
Doug Austin	Margot Cumning
Emily Bialowas	Mark Bennet
Emily Freeman	Melissa Merritt
Greg Allen	Michelle Williams
Greg Barranco	Paige Hobough
Howard Weinberg	Peter Tango
James David-Martin	Rebecca Hamner
Jeni Keisman	Renee Thompson
Jennifer Greiner	Sally Claggett
Joan Smedinghoff	Scott Philips



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