**Monitoring Meeting 1/22/25 Agenda**

**9:00AM**  **Welcome**

Workgroups are compiling information that will help the Chesapeake Bay Program revise the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. The Management Board (MB) refers to this information as answering the “Big Question.” This meeting will focus on the Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring (WQSAM) Outcome.

* **Outcome Assessment:** The Management Board has asked that each Outcome be assessed based on their “Big Question.” This question is in reviewing each outcome, provide advice “to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes.”
* **Timeline:** The WQSAM Outcome Assessment will be due on February 13th. This assessment will then be presented to the Management Board on February 27th.
* This presentation will need to answer the “Big Question” while remaining concise and incorporating community feedback. **The Management Board is not asking for revised language at this time.**

**9:05AM** **WQGIT Office Hours Feedback Overview**

* Review feedback and discussions from last week’s [WQGIT Office Hours](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/beyond-2025-office-hours-for-water-quality-and-forestry-outcomes-wqgit) on the WQSAM outcome.

**9:20AM** **Discussion**

**9:35AM** **WQSAM Outcome Review and Two-Pager**

* Review initial response to Big Question for the WQSAM Outcome based on feedback.

**9:50AM** **Kudos & Announcements**

* **Allison is here! Welcome!**
	+ Hi everyone! I am Allison Welch, the new STAR Staffer, and I am so excited to be part of the team! A little bit about me, I graduated from Penn State in 2024 with a degree in Earth Sciences. While at Penn State, I got to join the CRC team as a C-StREAM Fellow. I was paired with the Izaak Walton League of America and got to experience volunteer monitoring firsthand. I am so excited to be back in the Bay and working with you all!
* **We have a new ORD ORISE intern!** Welcome Ashley Dann! Ashley is working on a study of 6PPDQ in the region – a chemical that has been linked to impacts on salmonid success with as et unquantified impacts to brook trout. Lab tests suggest Brook Trout are sensitive to it, inquiring minds want to know if there is evidence for it being another challenge affecting the success of Brook trout population persistence and expansion in our region.
* **Gabriel! Thank you** for bridging the divide of holding us together during the transition from August to Allison – we could not manage without you! 😊
* **The 4D Interpolator rises!!!** OMG!!! If you missed the BORG meeting on 1/15/2025, you missed one of the most incredible meetings of this decade!!! Outstanding! A presentation by Jon Harcum (TTech) of the work he, Rebecca, Elgin, and Wes Slaughter have been noodling at since around the start of COVID has come to life as shown as provided in an amazing presentation. My heroes!!! What was only a dream in the mid-2000s has life in 2025 😊. Congratulations on the progress! Brilliant work!!! Pressure is on to take on assessing all DO criteria now – work to develop the rule set to use the 4D outputs looms for us in 2025-26.
* **Tier 3 Community Science Monitoring reaches new heights**. With Durga’s QA guidance and Liz Chudoba’s vision and perseverance, working with the States, protocols are being approved for use by States of Community science generated data for select water quality parameters. That is huge! Congratulations Durga and Liz. This is wonderful and important work 😊.
* **2024 GIT funding projects are being funded**. CBT is finishing up the accounting of the proposal competition in 2024 including the monitoring design work.
* **2025 GIT funding however will not happen**. At the PSC meeting on 1/16/25 it was announced that there will be no GIT funded work in the new year.
* **Finishing up existing GIT funded activities from 2023** – we should be seeing some closure to the Nutrient Limitation and Satellite-based SAV assessment studies! Stay tuned! Maybe we can have each of them either present for our monitoring team, or more likely in a venue like STAR or the Staffer/Coordinator meeting.
* **National Water Quality Monitoring Conference** – hopefully you were able to make early bird registration for the March event in Green Bay, WI. Room reservations are now into overflow hotels with government blocks and going fast.
* **CERF sessions** – Thank you Qian for organizing the submissions of 2 sessions on monitoring and assessment/modeling water quality of the Bay. We look forward to that meeting being held in Richmond, VA in November.
* **Monitoring Team brings on the new science** – **before Christmas several science papers from our team were making their way into the publishing world and deserve congratulations to everyone involved – you all are amazing!**
	+ Zhang, Q., R. R. Murphy, R. Tian, and P. J. Tango, 2025. “Geography, trajectories, and controls of coastal water quality: More rapid improvement in the shallow zone of the Chesapeake Bay,” Environmental Science & Technology, in press, doi: 10.1021/acs.est.4c07368.
	+ Pan, Z., Y. Zhang, L. Ma, J. Zhou, Y. Wang, K. Wu, Q. Zhang, and D. Chen, 2025. “Spatiotemporal variations of cropland phosphorus runoff loss in China.” Journal of Hydrology, 648:132419, doi: 10.1016/j.jhydrol.2024.132419.
	+ Tango, P. J., Q. Zhang, R. Tian, R. R. Murphy, B. M. Sullivan, M. E. Mallonee, D. Ghosh, A. Goldfischer, and K. S. Gootman, 2025. “Adaptive monitoring for change: Record low hypoxia in Chesapeake Bay in 2023.” Ocean-Land-Atmosphere Research, 4:0076, doi: 10.34133/olar.0076.
	+ Zhang, Q., R. R. Murphy, R. Tian, K. S. Gootman, and P. J. Tango, 2024. “Dissolved oxygen criteria attainment in Chesapeake Bay: Where has it improved since 1985?” Science of the Total Environment, 957:177617, doi: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.177617
	+ **A special shout out of congratulations to Qian** - from 2024 and what has landed as early Jan 2025 (we’ll call them 2024…😊), Qian by my accounting has 9 new publications!!! That is a remarkable achievement! I am honored and at the same time so proud and pleased that the new science supporting our community is blossoming and available - kudos everyone, special kudo’s for your outstanding leadership and contributions Qian 😊.
* **New Bay Agreement outcome work** continues – **Breck and Ken** continue outstanding leadership on the outcome developments. We will be involved in this work throughout 2025. Stay tuned!

**10:00AM** **Adjorn**