



## **GIT 5: Fostering Stewardship Meeting**

Join via [Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 266 600 529 632

Passcode: CfJqNU

**Monday March 27, 2023**

**1:00 - 3:00 pm Virtual meeting**

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Mar 27, 2023 |  GIT 5 Meeting

Attendees		
Ben Alexandro	Carin Bisland	Aurelia Gracia
Amy Handen	Lauren Imgrund	John Wolf
Laura Cattell Noll	Lisa Gutierrez	Wendy O'Sullivan
Brittany S Omoleye-Hall	Rachel Felver	Britt Slattery
Michael Gerard Weyand	Bo Williams	Jess Blackburn
John Griffin	Mike Bonnell	Wuillam Urvina
Jimmy Looper	Julie Lawson	Ashley Traut
Elise Trelegan	Kristin Saunders	

### **Welcome/ Introductions 1:00 – 1:10**

- Goal Implementation Team Background (Wendy O'Sullivan - NPS)
- Lauren Imgrund will be joining the NPS and leaving MD DNR
  - Co-Chair position for the GIT will be opening up

### **Updates from Workgroups 1:10 – 1:40**

- Public Access
  - PAWG meeting held recently. Working on data call for 2022: inventory of all new public access sites. Benefits and Barriers project from OpinionWorks near completion.
    - Project looks at benefits and barriers of underserved communities accessing public water sites. Call to learn visitors' personalities, not just demographics.

- Lisa Gutierrez now the new PAWG chair after the previous chair retired. Moving forward with a Logic and Action plan.
- Protected Lands Workgroup
  - Anthony Bobo new chair. New members from most of the bay states except New York. Meeting soon to coordinate and go over responsibilities.
  - Difference between PLWG and CCP: CCP nested relationship. PLWG to leverage CCP networks for outcome and Logic and Action Plan.
  - Federal Funding Mapping Tool
- Stewardship Group
  - GIT funded project solicited: Stewardship Network Study and Asset Mapping
    - Aims to analyze and map networks of stewardship practitioners and connections to other content areas. that could benefit from better engaging stewards (tree canopy, stream health, riparian buffers, wetlands...).
- Education Workgroup
  - 2022 Data back from ELIT: decreases across region due to pandemic, but less severe than expected. Found interesting indicators for setting up partnerships.
  - Successful Environmental Literacy Forum held at NCTC in January.
  - MWEE - Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences, embeds environmental care into traditional education.
- Strategic Engagement Team
  - Meets quarterly to make connections across outcomes and focus on the people side of the program.
- Workforce Action Team
  - To fill the lack of post high-school green career guidance. Identifying and filling workforce gaps across CBP. Looking at existing and emerging jobs, training programs, etc.
- Diversity Workgroup
  - Two new co-chairs: Brittany Hall and Amanda Knobloch.
  - Effort towards DEIJ implementation plan. DEIJ coordinator contracted to focus on critical components that require more support. Planning workshops customized to CBP needs.
  - Open detail to fill for Diversity Coordinator.
  - Equitable Grant-making workshops ongoing.
- Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
  - Study on funding sources on private and government grant opportunities. CBT provided a response and other organizations asked to do the same. CAC provides middle ground for grant-making issues.

## **Q&A, DISCUSSION, Exchange of ideas 1:40 – 2:00**

- Tree Canopy Roundtable: Making an effort to combat historical redlining & the urban tree cover associated with underserved communities. Additionally, big focus on climate change. Lots of crossover with the GITs goals

- Project Idea -> Redlining to Greening, identify areas of targeted outreach that are most in need of green infrastructure (living shorelines, urban tree cover etc)
- Great opportunity to get change moving on the ground
- The Diversity WG had a guest speaker last week that highlighted that there is such a thing as Rural Redlining. Where communities of color or immigrant communities were pushed to areas that were least desirable lands - for example already wet and now more at threat from climate impacts. And these communities have not been able to be incorporated as towns and that results in lack of access to funding and resources. There is an important nexus across all of our workgroups that communities are still facing challenges in rural and urban spaces

## **Chesapeake Bay: 2025 and Beyond 2:00 – 2:20**

- 2022 Executive Council Charge
  - Recommend “a critical path forward that prioritizes and outlines the next steps for meeting the goals and outcomes of the Watershed Agreement leading up to and beyond 2025.”
- Reaching 2025 (making sure we are looking at all the outcomes and where they are. Looking to see if they're on track or not as well as the why or why not?)
  - What kind of communication strategy should we take to turn it around when talking about not meeting targets but still making progress
- 2025 & Beyond
  - Key focus areas
    - Science
    - Restoration
    - Partnership
- Biennial Meeting in May 2023
  - Looking to make it a face to face meeting but still looking at the logistics
  - We are hoping to have all of the workgroups overseeing outcomes participate
  - Maybe we should throw some of these concepts out so we can get input beforehand?
  - This is the beginning of the planning for 2025 & beyond
- Considering options for how to approach developing the recommendations
  - Option 3: Task force hybrid
    - 3 task forces, multi-disciplinary (mix of Outcomes)
    - Led by a steering committee (SC)
    - SC reports up the leadership chain
    - Ex. Task Forces: Living Resources, Water Quality, Stewardship
  - CBP is considering the process
  - We want to make sure that CBP is adding value to existing efforts; we need to make sure we are being as inclusive as possible when it comes to the larger CBP partnership
- Priority to hear from a diversity of workgroups representing a variety of outcomes and a diverse range of people representing those outcomes.

## **Discussion: Chesapeake Bay: 2025 and Beyond 2:20 – 2:45**

- Priority should be given to infrastructure (water-based infrastructure, green infrastructure, etc.)
- Recreational access is important but there has not been a focus on the economic, transportation, and safety side of blue infrastructure
- When we ask for community feedback it does not fall into pre-established concerns and pollutants
  - Potentially goals could be more people focused, as not all goals fall into “Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Sediment”
  - Are we going to start seeing some of the outcomes that are qualitative instead of quantitative start getting sidelined and receive less attention
- For Diversity - moving away from the counting bodies for measuring diverse representation to measuring impact on communities; directing resources to historic disinvestment; reframing on public health; using the strong arm of the government to influence the private sector (development!)
  - Our outcome is focused on quantifying diverse representation based how many people are employed in CBP
  - It is important to diversity the workforce but that will not be enough to make the impact we are trying to make
  - Possibly reframing our purpose as public health could lend us more flexibility
  - Using “strongarm” of the government to engage the private sector across all levels
- We have heard some interesting thoughts from the fisheries and climate folks who are thinking about how we might frame our work in an integrated way so we describe the outcomes/goals as holistic ecological improvements or outcomes we are striving for rather than silo driven individual outcomes. The public health comment from Brittany could be viewed similarly.
- Stewardship outcome is becoming very specific and targeted in its intention
  - This can come across as presumptuous, elitist, missing more inclusive pieces
  - We should be more open to what stewardship is in regards to the future and beyond 2025
  - How do we become more engaging

## ***On the Horizon / Announcements 2:45 – 3:00***

- There are some thoughts around the tools that connect us and are around
- Equity mapper that is helping identify gaps in green space in the communities that need it the most
- CCP is considering making a map where land trusts work and where they don’t across the watershed
- Could all of these things be located in one space to make it easier to cross-use and locate?
- Next time for meeting: September a poll will be sent out
- Thank you to Lauren for being a leader at the GIT level
- Thanks to everyone for their time and commitment