CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday January 27th, 2025
Time: 1:00 PM – 3:45 PM Eastern Time
Location: Link: Join the meeting now
                      Meeting ID: 276 520 141 757
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Meeting materials: Calendar Link
                      Please note this and future meetings will be on Teams and not WebEx

Written announcements or reminders *(CTRL + click to jump ahead within document)*

Agenda

Topic	Start time (duration)	Item Title / *Item description*	Speaker(s) or presenter(s) Materials
	1:00	**Welcome and Introduction** *We will use Teams for roll call purposes, so please ensure your name and affiliation are accurately captured in the participants list. If not, please enter your correct name & 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.*	Suzanne Trevena, EPA, WQGIT Chair
	(20 min)	**Announcements & Verbal Updates** • *Coordinator Updates – Jeremy Hanson, CRC* • *2024 Progress Updates – Auston Smith, EPA* • *MB/PSC recaps* • *Workgroup Updates*	**Materials:** Presentation
WQGIT Governance	1:20 (20 min)	**WQGIT at-large membership & leadership confirmations** *Thank you to all our nominees for their willingness to contribute as WQGIT members or leadership!* *At-large member nominees include:*	Suzanne Trevena, EPA, WQGIT Chair & Jeremy Hanson, CRC, WQGIT Coordinator

- *Emily Dekar, Upper Susquehanna Coalition*
- *KC Filippino, Hampton Roads Planning District Commission*
- *Joe Wood, Chesapeake Bay Foundation*
- *Tom Howard, Resolve Hydro LLC*

Each at-large nominee present will have opportunity to give brief remarks and then the sitting WQGIT members (9 signatory + 2 at-large not up for re-nomination) will be asked to complete a quick online form to rank nominees. There are a total of 4 at-large vacancies to fill: three openings for a full two-year term, and one pre-existing vacancy that is open for one year. The top three will be given the two-year spots and the other will be selected for one year. As always, at-large members are eligible to be re-nominated for the following term.

To allow time to process the form responses we may proceed on the agenda before circling back with the results.

Decision request: Confirmation of at-large members to four vacancies.

Nominee for Vice Chair: Greg Sandi, MDE

Greg will have opportunity to give brief remarks. There are no other nominees and we will call for the WQGIT to confirm him as Vice Chair. Per Bay Program governance, we will seek Management Board concurrence of his role as WQGIT Vice Chair at the next opportunity.

Decision request: Confirmation of Vice Chair for remainder of current term (1 year).

Phase 7 model development	1:40 (20 min)	**Forest harvest BMP in Phase 7** *This is a follow-up to Katie's December [presentation](#) to the WQGIT, where she presented background and justification for recommendations for the forest harvesting BMP efficiencies/credit duration in Phase 7.* *ACTION from December: "WQGIT Members with comments on the Forest Harvesting BMP recommendations should email Katie Brownson, USFS (Katherine.brownson@usda.gov). Katie will work to*	Katie Brownson, USFS

		address Lew and Dave's comments and bring the recommendations back to the WQGIT for approval at a future meeting."	
		The WTWG has since approved the technical appendix and WQGIT approval is now requested for the Phase 7 recommendations. Katie will briefly re-summarize the supporting materials, answer questions and seek a decision from the WQGIT to accept the revised BMP efficiency for nitrogen (50% → 60%) and credit duration (1 year → 3 years) for Phase 7. *Decision request: WQGIT approval of recommended changes to the forest harvesting BMP for Phase 7.*	**Materials:** Technical appendix; slides TBD
	2:00	10-minute Break	
Beyond 2025	2:10 (90 min)	Beyond 2025 Outcome Assessment for Water Quality and Forestry Outcomes *For this meeting we will focus on relevant outcomes that are in the second round of Management Board review (i.e., materials are due Feb. 13 and the MB meets on Feb. 27). At our February 24 meeting we will cover the two Toxics outcomes under the Toxic Contaminants Goal, which are in the third round of MB review (materials due Feb. 27 and MB meets Mar. 13).* *Outcome leads for the outcomes under the Water Quality Goal (WIP outcomes & Water Quality Standards Attainment & Monitoring) will review feedback heard during the January 14 Office Hours and preview their current thinking for discussion with participants.* *We will also hear from Katie Brownson about the Forestry Workgroup's two outcomes (Tree Canopy & Riparian Forest Buffers).* *A draft outcome assessment template may not be available for each outcome during the meeting. Outcome leads will present the current thinking, feedback heard thus far, and the likely response to the "Big Question." We will discuss each outcome and seek additional input as time allows.* In reminder, the "big question" from the November Management Board retreat is: "*what advice do you have for the Management Board on how to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes within your Cohort/GIT*" *Discussion and Input requested.*	Suzanne Trevena, EPA, WQGIT Chair Jeremy Hanson, CRC, WQGIT Coordinator Breck Sullivan, USGS, STAR Co-Coordinator Katie Brownson, USFS, FWG Coordinator **Materials:** Slides; Jan. 14th Office Hours Mentimeter results; other materials TBD *Background reference materials*: outcome review 2-pager template; outcome review presentation template; outcome review guidance; Beyond 2025 webpage

3:40	Recap of Actions and Decisions	Caroline Kleis, CRC
3:45	ADJOURN	

Written announcements or reminders

- Announcements or opportunities
    - o **New!** The Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) is accepting proposals for STAC sponsored workshops for Fiscal Year 2025.
        - Proposals are due to STAC Coordinator, Meg Cole (colem@chesapeake.org), by **COB February 10, 2025.**
        - For more information, view the [RFP.](#)
    - o **New!** The January Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST) webinar took place on January 16th and focused on Modeling Conservation. Ben Alexandro, guest speaker and Chesapeake Conservation Partnership Program Director, offered examples and insight into conservation work in the watershed. Time was made to show how CAST data can be used to quantify nutrient reduction benefits to preserving existing natural land.
        - To view additional training videos and to see January's webinar recording, please visit the "Develop a Plan" section of the [free training videos page](#) on CAST.
    - o **New!** Chesapeake Stormwater Network's Best Urban BMP in the Bay Awards (BUBBAs) now accepting submissions! These awards honor best practices being implemented in urban areas of the Chesapeake Bay. Awards fall into five categories: Habitats and Streams, Residential Stewardship Practice, Resilient/Renewed: Green Infrastructure, Stormwater Controls, & Retrofits, Education & Outreach Impact, and Stormwater Program Pioneers.
        - For additional information and to view submission instructions, view the [BUBBAs 2025 Contest Packet](#)
        - Deadline for Submissions: **February 21, 2025**
    - o The Pooled Monitoring Initiative's Restoration Research Award program RFP is out!
        - *RFP and program details here:* https://cbtrust.org/grants/restoration-research/
        - *Due date:* **January 23rd, 2025**

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 closed captioning, click on the "More Actions" button. Next, hover over the "Language and Speech" button, and click "show live captions".

If you have any other accessibility concerns, please contact Caroline Kleis (kleis.caroline@epa.gov).

Acronyms

CAST: [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#)	CBPO: Chesapeake Bay Program Office	CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium

DEQ: [VA] Department of Environmental Quality
EPA: Environmental Protection Agency
GIT: Goal Implementation Team
MB: Management Board
MDE: Maryland Department of the Environment

NHD: National Hydrography Dataset
PSC: Principals' Staff Committee
RFP: Request for Proposal
STAC: Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
USFS: United States Forest Service

USGS: United States Geological Survey
WQGIT: Water Quality Goal Implementation Team