



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Wetlands Workgroup Update

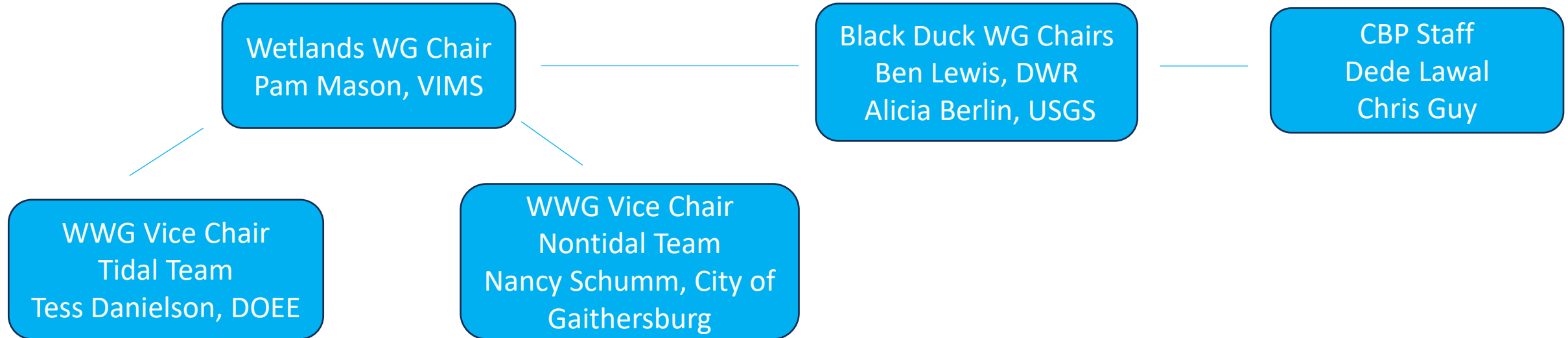
October 2, 2024

Wetlands Outcome

Continually increase the capacity of wetlands to provide water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed.

Create or reestablish 85,000 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and enhance function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands by 2025. These activities may occur in any land use (including urban), but primarily occur in agricultural or natural landscapes.

Workgroup Structure



- Each team met once every other month to discuss their priorities and the wetlands outcome.
- The joint Tidal and Nontidal team meeting occur twice a year, next one is in October
- Black Duck WG joins joint meetings

Wetlands Challenges

Tracking

There needs to be a system in place to track wetlands lost and long-term monitoring of restoration projects.

Funding

There is a lack of financial drivers to increase wetland restoration at the scale necessary to meet goals.

Lack of Consistency

There is a need for a list of practices that count towards restoration and enhancement with guidance on how to calculate acres restored.

Capacity

There is a need for long term capacity/more expertise in wetland design, permitting, and implementation.

Outreach

Outreach and education geared towards landowners.

Wetlands Workgroup Progress

- Beyond 2025 Outcome Discussions & Data Gathering
- GIT Funded Project
 - Increasing Effectiveness of Landowner Engagement to Accelerate Wetland Restoration Across the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
 - The intersection of tidal emergent (E2EM) wetland mowing with wetland protection laws, regulations and policies in Virginia and Maryland
- Information Sharing

Progress through Coordination

- Climate WG-Sea Level Rise Coastal Wetland Impact Indicator
- Chesapeake Bay Trust- Tidal Wetlands Strategic Plan
- STAC- Final Report: Evaluating an Improved Systems Approach to Wetland Crediting
- University of Michigan SEAS students- Wetland Communication Strategy
- Franklin and Marshall College Summer Intern- Wetland Definitions Synthesis White Paper

Wetlands Workgroup Next Steps

- Continue to discuss the wetlands outcome
- SRS in December





Questions?



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