

**Scientific, Technical Assessment, & Reporting Team Meeting**  
**TOPIC: Climate Resiliency**

October 22, 2015

10:00AM – 1:00PM

Joe Macknis Memorial Conference Room (Fish Shack)



Conference Line: 1-866-299-3188 Access Code: 410-267-5731  
Adobe Connect: <https://epa.connectsolutions.com/star/>  
Event webpage: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/22938/>

**GOAL:** Discuss the current efforts and needs of the Climate Change Workgroup and how STAR and STAC can help support the work outlined in the two-year workplans for Adaptation and Monitoring & Assessment.

**AGENDA**

**10:00 AM Welcome, Introduction, and Announcements** (Bill Dennison, Scott Phillips, and Mark Bennett – STAR Co-Chairs)

Upcoming Conferences & Meetings

- [Geological Society of America](#) (GSA) – November 1-4, 2015, Baltimore, MD
- [Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation](#) (CERF) – November 8-12, 2015, Portland, OR
- [Maryland Water Monitoring Council](#) (MWMC) – November 13, 2015, North Linthicum, MD
- [Eastern Regional Climate Preparedness Conference](#) – April 4-6, 2016, Baltimore, MD
- [National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration](#) (NCER) – April 18-22, 2016, Coral Springs, FL
- [National Water Quality Monitoring Council](#) (NWQML) – May 2-6, 2016, Tampa, FL
- [International Society for Ecological Modelling Conference](#) – May 8-12, 2016, Baltimore, MD
  - Abstract Deadline: October 30<sup>th</sup> – [Chesapeake Ecological Models Session](#)
- [CCMP's Chesapeake Modeling Symposium](#) – spring/summer 2016
- [Citizen Science Association](#) (CitSci2017) – February, Raleigh, NC

**10:10 AM Communications** (All)  
STAR will notify the communications team of upcoming publications and projects.

**10:25 AM Water Quality GIT Approach to address Climate Change for the Mid-Point Assessment** (Mark Bennett – STAR Co-Chair)  
Mark will provide an update on the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team and the Modeling Workgroup's efforts to approach the impacts of climate change in the 2017 Mid-Point Assessment, including expected workshops and thought process.

**10:45 AM Climate Resiliency Workplan and STAR/STAC Support Needs** (Zoe Johnson – Climate Change Coordinator)  
Zoe Johnson will review the draft Climate Resiliency Workplans and highlight opportunities for STAR and STAC support. One of the highest priority key actions included in the Workplan is the development of a science-based framework to engage one-on-one with GITs to identify, assess, evaluate and revise, as necessary, climate-

related elements of individual management strategies. GIT funding has been awarded for the development of a Climate Resiliency Analysis and Decision-Making matrix and implementation methodology to analyze climate-related factors for 24-independent Management Strategies. Starting with two pilot projects, the Protected Lands, and Wetlands Outcomes. Zoe will provide an overview of this project.

**ACTION:** STAR will engage in discussions with Zoe Johnson to brainstorm how some of the priority key actions steps can be accomplished with STAR and STAC support.

**11:50 AM      Modeling Team and Climate Change**

Kyle will present the modeling team's preliminary results of projected climate change scenario output.

**12:00 PM      Lunch** (Bring a lunch or \$10 cash for a Jimmy John's Box Lunch)

**12:00 PM      STAR Seminar Presentation: Chesapeake Bay Sentinel Site Cooperative**

*Sarah Wilkins – Chesapeake Bay Sentinel Site Cooperative Coordinator, MD Sea Grant Extension*

**Abstract**

The Chesapeake Bay Sentinel Site Cooperative (CBSSC) is a partnership among local, state and federal agencies as well as academic institutions, non-profit organizations, local communities and regional organizations. The Cooperative brings together experts from scientific, resource management, and environmental stewardship organizations to inform local management decisions relating to coastal flooding and sea level rise. The CBSSC is made up of six core ecological Sentinel Sites each collecting long-term data including marsh elevation, water levels, water quality, and vegetation type and distribution. The Cooperative also connects to and relies on broader observing networks such as the National Water Level Observation Network, or NWLON, and the Virginia Estuarine and Coastal Observing System (VECOS).

The CBSSC strives to better coordinate existing resources among partners while reducing redundancy and increasing effectiveness in understanding sea level rise and coastal flooding. A cooperative, by definition, is jointly owned and run by its members, who share in the mutual benefits generated from collaborative work. By using this collaborative model, the hope is to bring both traditional and non-traditional partners together around the common issue of flooding and sea level rise to better understand and mitigate the impacts to both the natural environment and coastal communities.

**Presenter Biography**

Sarah Wilkins, recently hired by Maryland Sea Grant Extension, is the first ever full-time coordinator for the Chesapeake Bay Sentinel Site Cooperative (CBSSC). Before coming to Maryland Sea Grant Extension, Sarah spent a year with NOAA's National Ocean Service as a John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellow. She has a Master of Science in Conservation Biology & Sustainable Development from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Vermont in Environmental Science. Sarah has worked all over the country on coastal and estuarine projects for non-profit, academia and governmental agencies. She is thrilled to get back to place-based and issue-driven work relating to climate change impacts throughout the Chesapeake Bay. Sarah is based out of Annapolis at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

**1:00 PM      Adjourn**