Climate Resiliency Workgroup Meeting

Monday, September 20, 2021
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Webinar*:
https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=m105bfb638d777959f88960d7afa0f10b

Password: CRWG

Conference Line: +1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 2624 865 4984
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Meeting Materials:
https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/climate_resiliency_workgroup_crwg_september_2021_meeting

This meeting will be recorded for internal use to assure the accuracy of meeting notes.

AGENDA

1:30 PM **Welcome and Meeting Overview – Chair Mark Bennett (USGS) and Coordinator Julie Reichert-Nguyen (NOAA)**
Focus of meeting:

- Presentations from organizations on how they are utilizing coastal wetland/marsh mapping, marsh migration models, and sea level rise scenarios to inform adaptation decision-making.
- Aligns with action items 1.3b and 2.2a in the CRWG Logic & Action Plan.

1:35 PM **Announcements:**

- Welcome new STAR staffers: Alex Gunnerson & Amy Goldfischer
- Request for Applications - CBP 2025 Tidal Water Model for the Assessment of 2035 Climate Change Risk to the Chesapeake Bay TMDL Cooperative Agreement with EPA, 6 years from expected start date of 12/5/2021, estimated funding of $1,650,000, **Application Submission Deadline: September 20, 2021**
- FY21 CBP GIT Funding Program Manual HERE
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources' Grants Gateway is open for FY23 resilience and restoration funds. Proposals are due by December 15, 2021.

https://news.maryland.gov/dnr/2021/07/19/grants-gateway-open-for-fy23-resilience-and-restoration-funds/

1:40 PM **GreenPrint - Rachel Marks (MD Department of Natural Resources)**

Rachel Marks will share information on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources' GreenPrint/Parcel Evaluation Tool. This tool was created to evaluate the conservation benefits and ecosystem value of parcels of land across Maryland. Updates to the tool includes removal from the prioritized targeted ecological areas, parcels that will be subject to sea-level rise inundation by 2050 to avoid spending limited funding in areas likely to be submerged. Predictive models were also used to determine priority "Wetland Adaptation Areas," or corridors where wetlands will migrate inland as sea level rises. Wetlands provide a natural buffer against the impacts of coastal hazards such as sea-level rise and storm surge, ecological functions, such as critical fish and wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, water filtration, as well as recreation.

2:10 PM **ConserveVirginia – Joe Weber (VA Department of Conservation and Recreation)**

Joe Weber will share information on ConserveVirginia, which is a key tool for determining conservation investments. It provides a map of Virginia's highest conservation value lands based on nine parameters, including floodplains and flooding resilience and protected landscapes resilience. Mapped priorities include those wetlands identified as above average and far above average resilience indicating the greatest long-term potential for adaptive response, based on a projected rise in sea level of six feet. Coastal resilience is also addressed via wetlands identified by the VIMS model that represent the highest class in estuarine and freshwater areas that provide the highest ecological services and provide for the highest marsh migration potential to adjacent natural lands.

2:40 PM **Delaware Bay Estuary Project – Anna Hamilton (Tetra Tech) & Jordan West (US EPA)**

Anna Hamilton will share information on the Relative Wetlands Vulnerability Framework (RWVF) Coastal Pilot Study, a collaborative effort with the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary. This study assessed relative marsh vulnerabilities to SLR and storm surge while considering marsh condition. The SLAMM model was used to assess gains and losses of marsh habitat in response to SLR, considering the protection status of adjacent dry land and related possibility for marsh migration. The application of vulnerability results to marsh management decisions was considered.

Jordan West will summarize the draft structure for a coastal resilience workshop being planned for spring 2022, which will explore lessons learned across various adaptation research and application projects in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. She is interested in feedback from the workgroup on their interest in the workshop and ideas for topics and content.

3:20 PM **Wrap Up**

3:30 PM **Adjourn**

Next Meeting: October 18, 2021

This will be a special cross-workgroup meeting with the Urban Stormwater Workgroup to discuss BMP climate resilience work.