

## FY19 GIT Funding projects

*Projects that are directly related to DEIJ:*

### 1. Increasing Diversity In The Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership Through Cultural Competency Training

This project is intended to build the momentum that has been created thanks to the Diversity Workgroup and the previous GIT Funding project which led to the creation of a Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Strategy\* for the Chesapeake Bay Program. Last year's project ends with several trainings designed to build cultural competency within CBP. This project proposes additional trainings in order to broaden the reach and impact of DEI in the partnership. The 2 trainings of 30 people each would be accompanied by a transferability package for even greater reach.

*\*To be completed in Fall 2019*

### 2. Developing a Regional Outdoor Learning Network to support MWEE implementation:

This proposal seeks to establish a "Regional Outdoor Learning Network" to build the capacity of school district and nonprofit partners to advance environmental education through systemic environmental literacy programs in school districts. Specifically, the funding would be used to establish a network of local school districts and their partners to share information, coordinate efforts to overcome barriers to systemic implementation, and connect with existing regional and state networks.

- Diversity Workgroup connection: This initiative will prioritize the education and establishment of MWEE ambassadors in **economically disadvantaged and disenfranchised communities** which is consistent with the goals of the Diversity Workgroup.

### 3. Public Access Survey - Benefits and Barriers Across the Watershed

This project will design and conduct a randomly sampled general population survey to determine how residents of the watershed utilize public access sites. The information collected through this survey will help jurisdictions understand more about residents that do not utilize access and what then might be done to address them. In the second phase of this project, the contractor would organize and convene three to four focus groups in populations that are identified through the survey as being underserved or not utilizing access sites.

### 4. Targeted Local Outreach for Green Infrastructure in Vulnerable Areas

For many local governments, the benefits of living BMPs go far beyond meeting TMDL requirements. Indeed, the co-benefits of these projects, including improvements to public infrastructure, increased community livability, opportunities for environmental education and more, might be the primary motivators for local elected officials.

- **From Diversity Workplan:** Diversity workgroup to work with climate resiliency to help identify potential sites in diverse communities that might be in areas vulnerable to climate change impacts.

## **5. Improved technical service delivery to landowners: Achieving multiple CBP outcomes**

A coordinated system is needed that provides multidisciplinary cross-training and communication networks across the technical service provider (TSP) community. Through this project, three workshops will be held across the Bay watershed within distinct geographic areas (Eastern Shore, Susquehanna River Basin, lower Western Shore) that also align with state identified healthy watersheds. The objectives are to convene regional TSPs, share knowledge of landowner attitudes, **the demographics of landowners reached**, barriers to adoptions and effective incentives and financial resources, identify commonalities and differences among various habitat and water quality BMPs and develop a conceptual model, that is sustainable and reproducible for improving holistic, integrated service delivery to farm and forest land owners. Cross-GIT benefits include: **improved coordination and inclusion of less connected audiences/under-served communities**; increasing capacity of local leaders and citizen stewards through TSPs.

- **From Diversity Workplan:** Bay Program will partner with funding organizations and grass roots organizations to partner with to organize: 1. Awareness building, 2. Grant writing training, and 3. capacity building to address restoration

## **6. Correctional Conservation Collaborative: Achieving PA Forestry Goals through Workforce Development**

As PA begins to ramp up implementation of forestry practices, many are finding that contract installers and maintainers of riparian forest buffers (RFBs) and community tree projects are lacking. An overlooked potential source of new contractors may be inmates at correctional facilities. Through training populations in need of work (like soon-to-be-released, low-risk incarcerated individuals) in these high demand jobs, we can meet both workforce development goals, societal goals, and overcome hurdles to achieving Bay goals at the same time.

*Projects that are tangentially related to diversity, or have an education/engagement component that could reach or affect underserved and other diverse stakeholders:*

## **7. Building a Baywide Scorecard to Track Climate Resilience for Watershed Communities**

This project would benefit and enhance the successful work already completed by the Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool (RAFT) by developing an outline for a scorecard that can be implemented and distributed Baywide. Scorecards for localities provide a more personal representation of climate resilient adaptations occurring within that area which helps leaders and citizens understand how their local actions combat a more complex global issue. In return, this will allow them to know which management actions or policies increase climate resiliency and encourage them to promote more actions to build resilience according to their needs.

## **8. Phase II of Scenic Landscape Impact Assessment Project: Training for Practitioners**

Phase I of the Scenic Landscape Impact Assessment Methodology project is currently funded and underway. Phase I will pilot development and application of a standard methodology for assessing and quantifying visual impacts to scenic landscapes that ultimately can be broadly applied by Chesapeake jurisdictions and conservation organizations. Phase II will include training sessions for state and local officials and nongovernmental organizations who will employ the new methodology.

**9. Developing communications and guidance on shoreline protection options for coastal landowners**

This project will develop more accessible and easily understandable information designed for the coastal landowner on shoreline protection options including education about nature-based alternatives, and guidance on permitting steps required in each jurisdiction, contributing to increased awareness among coastal landowners considering shoreline erosion control projects.

**10. Development of a Protocol and Technical Guidance Manual for Small-scale SAV Restoration in the Chesapeake Bay**

This project will develop protocol and guidance for small-scale SAV restoration. A component of the project is the educational and outreach opportunities inherent to the seed collection, grow out, and planting events, so educational and outreach materials will also be developed as part of this project. The Diversity Workgroup could be involved in this component of the project.

**Other Projects:**

**11. Piloting the Development of Probabilistic Intensity Duration Frequency (IDF) Curves for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed**

**12. Chesapeake Bay striped bass nursery habitat assessment**

**13. Implementation of Chesapeake Healthy Watersheds Assessment in Maryland's Tier II Watersheds**

**14. Development of the "Maryland Stream Crossing Design Guidance": a Fish-Friendly Stream Crossing Design Handbook**