Decision Leads for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL's Midpoint Assessment Priorities

MPA Priority	Description of MPA Priority	Lead Agency and/or Workgroup(s)	Decision Lead(s)
MPA & Phase III WIP Schedule	Develop overall timeline for key strategic issues to achieve an effective balance between sufficient review time for tool revisions/review/ concurrence and sufficient time for target development and implementation planning. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/epa_and_modelingwg_mpa_priority_workplan-schedule_11.26.12.pdf and http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/19044/attachment_iv.a._-_guiding_principles_working_draft_11.26.12.pdf	EPA and Modeling Workgroup Contact: Jenn Volk, jennvolk@udel.edu, Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov, and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**PSC** in collaboration with MB *Status: Complete* *(Note that a more detailed schedule will be developed and reviewed by the partnership)*
How to credit 60% by 2017	Bay jurisdictions are seeking clarity from EPA on how EPA will assess if they have met the "60% by 2017" interim target set forth in EPA's expectations dating back to November 2009 and established in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_60percent_by_2017_2.pdf	EPA Contact: Jon Capacasa, capacasa.jon@epa.gov	**EPA** *Status: Complete* *(Note that further clarification may be provided)*
Forestry Workgroup Workplan for Forests and Air Deposition	Improve communication about the role of forests in attenuating (preventing/reducing) the nutrient loads to Bay tidal waters from air deposition, especially of nitrogen compounds. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/fwg_combined_workplans.pdf	Forestry Workgroup Contacts: Rebecca Hanmer, rwhanmer@yahoo.com	**Forestry Workgroup** *Status: Complete*
Timeline for establishing EPA's expectations for Phase	EPA first laid out its expectations for all three phases of the WIPs in a November 2009 letter from the EPA Regional Administrator to members of the PSC. EPA clarified its	EPA Contact: Katherine Antos, antos.katherine@epa.gov	**EPA**, in collaboration with watershed jurisdictions, WQGIT, MB, and PSC

III WIP and setting Phase III WIP planning targets	expectations for Phase I and II WIPs in short guides distributed in April 2010 and March 2011, respectively, as well as in subsequent communications to the Bay jurisdictions. EPA intends to follow the same process for the Phase III WIPs. In addition, EPA will set the Phase III WIP planning targets in late 2017. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_ph_iii_expectations.pdf		*Status: Not Yet Started (Estimated Start Date: Spring 2015)*
Bay TDML Modification – Why, When, How?	EPA, in collaboration with the Partnership, will consider the results of the midpoint assessment and jurisdictions Phase III WIPs to determine whether modification of the 2010 Chesapeake Bay TMDL is necessary and appropriate. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_tmdl_modification_feb_8_2013.pdf	EPA Contact: Jon Capacasa, capacasa.jon@epa.gov	**EPA**, in collaboration with watershed jurisdictions, WQGIT, MB, and PSC *Status: Not Yet Started (Estimated Start Date: 2019)*
Use Growth Projections to Estimate Offset Demand	In order to prepare for the number of trading and offset credits needed, an estimate of this need should be prepared to insure that the supply is available. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18969/mpa_lower_priority_workplan_-_offset_demand_2-7-13.pdf	Trading and Offsets Workgroup Contact: David Foster dafoster@aol.com	**Trading & Offsets Workgroup**, in collaboration with LUWG *Status: Not Yet Started (Estimated Start Date: TBD)*
Filter Feeders	The oyster model will be revised as necessary to incorporate aquaculture operations and additional oyster biomass brought about by restoration activities including sanctuaries. Current and projected data on biomass distribution and abundance will be mapped onto the current computational grid and various combinations of restoration and load reductions will be examined. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: Not Yet Started (Estimated Start Date: January 2015)*

Establishment and update of BMP definitions and efficiencies	The reevaluation of prioritized approved BMPs (including their impact to model calibration), and the evaluation and establishment of new BMPs to improve their definitions and associated effectiveness values through the partnership approved BMP protocol process. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/agwg_mpa_priority_work_plan_-_establishment_and_update_of_bmp_definitions_and_efficiences.pdf	WQGIT Source Sector and Habitat Workgroups Contact: Jenn Volk, jennvolk@udel.edu and Mike Slattery, michael_slattery@fws.gov	**WQGIT** in collaboration with source sector workgroups, Habitat GIT & WTWG Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: Ongoing, although data inputs for Ph6 are due October 2015*
Model Data Processing	The evaluation of existing model data processing and the identification and prioritization of improved processing methods to support enhanced analyses and decisions. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/agwg_mpa_priority_work_plan_-_model_data_processing.pdf	AgWG/AMS Contact: Curtis Dell, Curtis.Dell@ARS.USDA.GOV	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT, AMS and AgWG *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: October 2015)*
Modeling Baseline/Input Data and Assumptions	Provide access to improved baseline/input data and assumptions which are incorporated into functional models that operate collaboratively. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/agwg_mpa_priority_work_plan_-_modeling_baseline-input_data_and_assumptions.pdf	AgWG/AMS Contact: Curtis Dell, Curtis.Dell@ARS.USDA.GOV	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT, AMS and AgWG *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: October 2015)*
Develop New Land Use Classifications and Loading Rates	Improve spatial, temporal, and categorical representation of urban, agricultural, federal, and natural land uses and, to the extent possible, assign separate loading rates. Where local data unavailable, develop more accurate distribution of loads. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/luwg_mpa_priority_workplan_120312_final.pdf	Land Use Workgroup Contact: Jenny Tribo, jtribo@hrpdcva.gov and Karl Berger, kberger@mwcog.org	**WQGIT** (classifications) and **Modeling Workgroup** (loading rates) Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: April 2015)*
2025 Land Use Projection	The LUWG will explore the development of a 2025 land use dataset if jurisdictions or the WQGIT desire a 2025 land use	Land Use Workgroup	**PSC**, in collaboration with MB, WQGIT, and EPA

	to inform their Phase III WIPs or offset strategies. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/luwg_mpa_priority_workplan_120312_final.pdf	Contact: Jenny Tribo, jtribo@hrpdcva.gov and Karl Berger, kberger@mwcog.org	*Status: Not Yet Started (Estimated Completion Date: April 2015)*
Representation of Federal Lands	Improve the accuracy of federal land boundaries and land use information informing the Phase 6 suite of models. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/luwg_lowpriority_workplan.pdf	Land Use Workgroup Contact: Jenny Tribo, jtribo@hrpdcva.gov and Karl Berger, kberger@mwcog.org	**WQGIT**, in collaboration with Federal Facilities Team and LUWG Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: October 2015)*
Revisit Watershed Model Calibration Methods	Revisit Watershed Model calibration methods with the goal of improving local watershed results, including revisiting regional factors. This priority also includes activities to extend the simulation period and to revise the Airshed and WQSTMs. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/modelingwg_mpa_priority_workplan--revisit_wsm_calibration_methods_12-3-12.pdf	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT – *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: December 2015)*
Revise Modeling System Structure	Transition to an all PQUAL model, to enhance decision support and to improve transparency, accuracy, and confidence. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/modelingwg_mpa_priority_workplan--revise_modeling_system_structure_12-3-12.pdf	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**PSC** in collaboration with MB and WQGIT *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2016)*
Climate Change	Current efforts are to frame an initial future climate-change scenario based on estimated 2050 conditions. Conditions to be described include land use, rainfall, air temperature, water temperature, sea level rise, and wetland loss due to sea level rise.	EPA with support from UMD, Penn State, and USGS Contact: Lew Linker, llinker@chesapeakebay.net	**PSC** in collaboration with MB and WQGIT *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: December 2017)*

	http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf		
Conowingo Infill and local impoundments	The Modeling Workgroup will work with the USACE Lower Susquehanna River Watershed Assessment study, and the STAR work plan for the assessment of trapping capacity behind dams, especially the Conowingo, as well as greater representation of local impoundments and reservoirs throughout the Phase 6 Watershed Model domain. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf	Modeling Workgroup and STAR Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**PSC** in collaboration with MB and WQGIT *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2015/2016)*
Refinement of the Shallow Water Simulation	Refinement of the open water and SAV/clarity water quality standards in shallow-water regions (depth < 2 to 3 m) adjacent to the Bay shoreline is an objective identified in the 2010 TMDL documentation. The refined shallow water simulation would take advantage of data in recent years from the shallow water monitoring program that were unavailable to previous versions of the WQSTM as well as advances in shallow water simulation. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf	Modeling Workgroup Contact: Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with WQGIT Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: December 2015)*
Refined Assessment of James River Chlorophyll-a	This assessment will determine the criteria necessary to meet water quality standards in the James River. (http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18968/modeling_workgroup_workplans_2-13.pdf	VA DEQ / Modeling Workgroup Contact: Arthur Butt, Arthur.Butt@deq.virginia.gov	**Virginia**, in collaboration with PSC, MB, and WQGIT, with **EPA** approval of any Water Quality Standards revision *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2016)*
Assess and Explain Water Quality Changes in the Bay	Enhance the assessment and explanation of monitoring information as part of the Mid-Point Assessment for the Bay TMDL through an integrated approach that includes three primary pieces of information to assess progress toward	STAR Contact: Scott Phillips, swphilli@usgs.gov, Jeni Keisman,	**PSC** in collaboration MB, STAR, and WQGIT

	water-quality standards: (1) Reporting of water-quality management practices; (2) Trends of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment in the watershed; and (3) Attainment of dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll-a, and water clarity/SAV standards. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/20936/star_assess_and_explain_water-quality_trends_update_jan_22.pdf	jkeisman@usgs.gov, and Joel Blomquist jdblomqu@usgs.gov	*Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: 2016/2017)*
Improved modeling accuracy of land use characteristics, phosphorus and sediment	Improve characterization of urban land use with differentiating loading rates. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18151/uswg_mpa_high_priority_workplan-12.3.2012.pdf	USWG/LUWG/Modeling Workgroup Contact: Jenny Tribo, jtribo@hrpdcva.gov, Karl Berger, kberger@mwcog.org, Lee Currey, lee.currey@maryland.gov and Dave Montali, david.a.montali@wv.gov	**Modeling Workgroup**, in collaboration with the WQGIT Informational briefings for MB & PSC *Status: In Progress (Estimated Completion Date: April 2015)*