STAR Integrated Monitoring Networks Workgroup

2015 Work Plan

2015 Work Plan for the Chesapeake Bay Program Integrated Networks Workgroup

Mission Statement: To provide support and guidance on the development and maintenance of monitoring programs that promote Chesapeake Bay Program adaptive management and effective decision making by tracking status and trends for key environmental indicators.

Purpose: Workgroup members will work together to determine feasibility of STAC recommended monitoring needs. Based on STAC recommendations, work with the GITs to identify the current capacity of the monitoring programs and gaps in monitoring. Work with GITs on opportunities for implementing additional monitoring through partnerships with more science providers.

Objectives:

- Manage Chesapeake Bay Water Quality Monitoring Program Networks.

  Status: Budget sustained. Funding anticipated for reinstating one watershed monitoring station that lost funding but has been sustained by the partnership this year. Match challenges loom for next year (VA), and SAV monitoring support has multiple champions working to cover gap funding.
- Coordinate monitoring supporting the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Agreement outcomes.

  Status: The Indicator Framework Action Team completed its task of establishing a framework. The Indicator Assessment Action Team completed a gap analysis with the GITs and their workgroups that is being used to address networking support to meet their needs through avenues such as STAC workshops that were provided support in 2015 to be carried out in 2016.
- Build upon Citizen Science and other networks to sustain and grow monitoring program support.

  Status: Coordination is growing with the new Citizen Science program under the Alliance for the Chesapeake. Citizen Science group inventories are being completed, data calls are planned, integrating groups on focus projects is also planned.
- Use BASIN process to help refine monitoring approaches and opportunities for new outcomes

  Status: The Building Environmental Intelligence report was completed in December 2015 and planned for release in early 2016. Recommendations for sustaining and growing monitoring programs are being used in STAC workshops as well as investments by CBPO to enhance the use of Citizen Science in meeting information needs that provide decision support.
- Work with Goal Teams to identify and collaborate with additional partners

  Status. Ongoing.

2015 Priorities:

- Establish a Chair to the workgroup.
- Establish membership of the workgroup.

- Complete and publish with CBP the BASIN II report.

- Complete and publish the Enhanced Monitoring summary of the Global Monitoring Seminar
  Series that has informed the BASIN II process.

- Initiate a BASIN III process using STAC recommendations and working with the GITs to identify and document the existing monitoring program designs and support monitoring to track 2014
  Chesapeake Bay Agreement outcomes.

- Provide guidance to the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay on specific project selection that fosters development of Chesapeake Bay and watershed citizen science and nontraditional monitoring program.

- Conduct one or more STAC workshops using recommendations from the 2014 Advanced Monitoring Workshop (BASIN II support workshop) and continue to develop monitoring program support and design identified in the outputs of the workshop effort.

STAR Integrated Monitoring Networks Workgroup
2016 Work Plan

Mission Statement: To provide support and guidance on the development and maintenance of monitoring programs that promote Chesapeake Bay Program adaptive management and effective decision making by tracking status and trends for key environmental indicators.

Purpose: Workgroup members will work together to determine feasibility of STAC recommended monitoring needs. Based on STAC recommendations, work with the GITs to identify the current capacity of the monitoring programs and gaps in monitoring. Work with GITs on opportunities for implementing additional monitoring through partnerships with more science providers.

Objectives:

- Manage Chesapeake Bay Water Quality Monitoring Program Networks.
- Coordinate monitoring supporting the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Agreement outcomes.
- Build upon Citizen Science and other networks to sustain and grow monitoring program support.
- Work with Goal Teams to identify and collaborate with additional partners.
- Use BEI process to help refine monitoring approaches and opportunities for new outcomes.

Priorities:

- Establish a Chair
- Develop a Water Quality Monitoring Strategy that addresses the need and application of continuous monitoring sensor technologies in the Bay and watershed. (*December 2016*)
- Conduct the Integrated Monitoring STAC Workshop as a pilot of integrating and leveraging existing networks. (*Spring 2016*)
- Continued integration of the Chesapeake Bay and watershed citizen science and nontraditional monitoring program. (*Throughout 2016*)
    - Establish Tiered Framework for data classification and use.
    - Identify workgroup priorities where opportunities exist for the integration of nontraditional monitoring data collection (geographical locations, parameters, etc.) to support their analyses, indicator assessment, and other decision-support needs.
- Assist with filling the Goal Teams' list of monitoring needs. Types of support to include finding data from other sources and ongoing projects, combining/integrating monitoring programs, finding expertise, and providing analysis support.

    - Potential tasks and plans include:

      Task: Funding plans to continue aerial surveying of SAV
      Plan: Outreach for funding opportunities - ongoing.

      Task: Agree to brook trout tracking indicator
      Task: Sampling support for assessing brook trout patches
      Plan: Potential need to hold a workshop, working session or Action Team activity to review the brook trout action plan and assess the status of support for their recommendations on a brook trout patch tracking indicator. Is this in action? Is the

recommended monitoring support in place? Are there alternative reporting metrics for tracking (e.g. not just wild brook trout only patches but brook trout patch occupancy regardless of allopatric or sympatric)?
Plan: Collaborate with partners for established monitoring of brook trout.

Task: Oyster monitoring and metrics
Plan: Evaluate leveraging opportunities at the STAC Integrated Networks Workshop Spring 2016. Collaborate with partners for monitoring parameters on/above reefs

Task: Toxic concentration sampling, especially PCBs in fish tissue
Plan: Data analysis, mapping, and finding partner sampling data
Plan: Invite Ft. Meade Lab personnel to STAR for planning session on potential EPA support of toxics assessment needs.

Task: Monitor additional stream health metrics
Plan: Pull in expertise and other partner data

Task: Formation of a cross-GIT tracking workgroup to track health of the state-identified healthy watersheds in future: identify metrics
Plan: Planning support and expertise to make up this group