



Climate Change Workgroup

Kick-Off Meeting

[Sheraton Annapolis Hotel](#)

December 10, 2014

1 PM – 3PM

MINUTES

Welcome & Introductions (*Zoe Johnson, MDNR – Workgroup Chair & Mark Bennett, USGS – STAR Co-Chair*)

Zoe Johnson and Mark Bennett introduced the new Climate Change Workgroup. This is a new workgroup under the Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific, Technical Assessment, and Reporting Team. The workgroup was formed in response to the new [Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement \(2014\)](#) goal for Climate Resiliency. The first charge of the Climate Change Workgroup is the development of a Climate Resiliency Management Strategy to measure progress toward Adaptation and Monitoring & Assessment, two outcomes of the Watershed Agreement.

GOAL: Increase the resiliency of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, including its living resources, habitats, public infrastructure and communities, to withstand adverse impacts from changing environmental and climate conditions.

Monitoring and Assessment Outcome: Continually monitor and assess the trends and likely impacts of changing climatic and sea level conditions on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem, including the effectiveness of restoration and protection policies, programs and projects.

Adaptation Outcome: Continually pursue, design and construct restoration and protection projects to enhance the resiliency of Bay and aquatic ecosystems from the impacts of coastal erosion, coastal flooding, more intense and more frequent storms and sea level rise.

Overview of the Climate Resiliency Goal, Outcomes, and Management Strategy Process (*Zoe Johnson, MDNR – Workgroup Chair and Mark Bennett, USGS – STAR Co-Chair*)

[Presentation](#) by Zoe Johnson

Zoe Johnson presented a review of the climate resiliency goal and outcomes in the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the proposed structure for the management strategy, the timeline for management strategy development, and the expectations of the workgroup members. The management strategy must be ready for public review by March 16, 2015.

Supplementary Materials:

[Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement \(2014\)](#)

[Key Elements of Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement Management Strategies](#)

[2008 STAC Report “Climate Change and the Chesapeake Bay: State-of-the-Science Review and Recommendations”](#)

Comments, Questions, & Discussion (All)

- It is important to define the term “resiliency” for the strategy.
- A helpful document is the 2008 STAC Report: [Climate Change and the Chesapeake Bay State-of-the-Science-Review and Recommendations](#).
- A participant noticed the lack of human health components to the Climate Change conversation in the Chesapeake.

Breakout Discussion for Each Outcome (*Facilitators for Breakout Groups: Monitoring and Assessment – Mark Bennett and Adaptation – Zoe Johnson*)

Breakout Discussion Questions

- 1) What resources/reports/tools are out there relevant to each Outcome?
- 2) Who else should we be involving in this process?
- 3) Identify the process and timeline for the development of each management strategy and volunteers to contribute including roles and responsibilities.

The breakout discussions can be found in the document: [Current Climate Change Efforts & Resources](#)

Wrap-up and Next Steps (All)

Participants were asked to complete a survey regarding their desired level of participation and to notify the workgroup of other climate change efforts and resources to support the development

of the climate resiliency management strategy. Drafting teams will be formed to write elements of the management strategy relating to adaptation and monitoring & assessment of climate resiliency.

NEXT

[Adaptation Drafting Meeting](#) – January 7th, 2015

[Monitoring & Assessment Drafting Meeting](#) – January 12th, 2015