The Chesapeake Bay TMDL's Midpoint Assessment WQGIT Meeting

October 7-8, 2014 Liberty Mountain Resort

Tuesday, October 7

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10:00 am	We	elcome & Introductions	Jenn Volk (DE), WQGIT Chair
10:15 am	Goals for the Meeting		James Davis-Martin (VA),
	A.	Clarify overall priorities, identify steps forward to move forward, and outline schedule	WQGIT Vice-Chair
	В.	Clarify overlaps and intersections among MPA work efforts	
	C.	Decisions needed during this meeting	
		1. New Phase 6 Land Use Classifications	
		2. Land use projections for 2014 progress	
		 Confirmation of MPA Priorities: Agreement on overall MPA schedule and decision making process; refinements to be identified and agreed upon 	
10:30 am	Midpoint Assessment Timeline, Major Elements, and Related Work		Lucinda Power (EPA),
	A.	Watershed-wide Progress Snapshot: 1985-2025 and where we are today	WQGIT Coordinator
	В.	Review of 2012 WQGIT Face-to-Face Meeting Decisions, Schedule, and Actions	
	C.	Schedule and Timeline of Midpoint Assessment Priorities and Related Work (Management Strategies & Verification)	
11:15	am	MORNING BREAK	
11:30 am	Modeling Workgroup, WQGIT & STAR: Roles and Responsibilities in Midpoint Assessment		James Davis-Martin (VA), WQGIT Vice-Chair
	A	. Clarify role of WQGIT, Modeling Workgroup, and STAR in midpoint assessment decision-making process	and Lee Currey (MD), Modeling Workgroup Co-Chair
	В.	Understand what decisions will be decided by whom	

C. Articulate clear communication and coordination processes

12:00 pm LUNCH DAY ONE

Presentation & Discussion of Midpoint Assessment Priorities: Lead, Overview, Status, Schedule, Decision Points, Dependencies, Discussion, and Where to find more details

1:00 pm Use of Monitoring / Factors Affecting Trends

Purpose: STAR and the CBP monitoring team will discuss progress to date and next steps on the use of monitoring data in nontidal streams and in the estuary to measure progress and work underway to analyze trends of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment in the watershed.

Scott Phillips (USGS) and Jeni Keisman (USGS)

2:00 pm Revising Modeling System Structure – Phase 6

Purpose: The Modeling Workgroup and the CBPO Modeling Team will discuss efforts to date in transitioning to a PQUAL Model and improving model accuracy of the hydrologic network, with the overall objective being to ensure the land use input load/export sensitivities are set in a reasonable manner and it provides loads to the tidal Bay and state-basin loads similar to Phase 5.3.2. The ways in which enhancing these decision support tools will improve transparency, accuracy, and confidence will also be discussed.

Gopal Bhatt (Penn State) and Gary Shenk (EPA)

<u>**Decision Point**</u>: WQGIT approval on approach and schedule to complete and calibrate Phase 6 model.

3:00 pm AFTERNOON BREAK

3:15 pm Improve Land Use

Purpose: The Land Use Workgroup has developed a master list of proposed new land uses for Phase 6. This involves backcasting land use over the calibration period for the Watershed Model and forecasting land use to 2017. An update on local land use information received to date; future land use projections; and progress on developing federal land boundaries will also be provided. This work has significant implications for assisting state and local jurisdictions with WIP implementation (states/locals sharing and confirming data) and reporting of progress (improved accuracy of data).

Karl Berger (MWCOG) and Jenny Tribo (HRPDC), Land Use Workgroup Co-Chairs and Peter Claggett (USGS), Land Use Workgroup Coordinator

<u>Decision Point</u>: WQGIT approval of new land use classifications

Decision Point: WQGIT decision of land use projections for 2014 progress

4:30 pm Day One Wrap Up

- A. Review of Day One Decisions
- B. Participants share their insights from the day's discussions
 - 1. Key take-away messages
 - 2. Questions and/or concerns
 - 3. Follow up actions

5:00 pm Social Gathering

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Wednesday, October 8

9:00 am

Welcome & Review of Day Two

Jenn Volk (DE), WQGIT Chair

Presentation & Discussion of Midpoint Assessment Priorities: Lead, Overview, Status, Schedule, Decision Points, Dependencies, Discussion, and Where to find more details

9:15 am Trapping Capacity of Dams and Local Impoundments

Purpose: Lew Linker will discuss the status of the Modeling Workgroup's collaboration with the US Army Corps of Engineers Lower Susquehanna River Watershed Assessment study 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.

<u>Decision Point</u>: WQGIT approval of the path forward and an understanding of future decisions needed in order to reduce the level of impairment in the Chesapeake Bay due to Conowingo.

Lew Linker (EPA), Modeling Workgroup Coordinator

Bay Jurisdictions; CBC;

and Workgroup Chairs

9:45 pm James River Chlorophyll-a

VA TBD

Purpose: An update will be provided on the status of the James River Chlorophyll-a criteria assessment. This assessment will determine the criteria necessary to meet water quality standards in the James River.

10:15 am

Model Data Processing & Modeling Baseline

Purpose: The Ag Modeling Subcommittee (AMS) of the Agriculture Workgroup is working on the development of new datasets to enable and support enhanced analyses and decisions. Updates to fertilizer and manure application are areas of particular focus. The AMS has prioritized the list of potential updates to Scenario Builder based on their impact on modeled nutrient and sediment loads and are currently discussing land use definitions.

Curtis Dell (USDA),
Agricultural Modeling
Subcommittee Chair
and Matt Johnston
(UMD), Agricultural
Modeling
Subcommittee
Coordinator

11:00 am

MORNING BREAK

11:15 am

Watershed Model Calibration Methods

Purpose: The Modeling Workgroup will discuss revisiting the Watershed Model calibration methods with the goal of improving local watershed results, including revisiting regional factors. This work also includes activities to extend the simulation period and to revise the Airshed and Water Quality Sediment Transport Models.

Lee Currey (MD) and Dave Montali (WV), Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs

12:00 pm

LUNCH DAY TWO

1:00 pm

Historic Data Cleanup

Purpose: The Watershed Technical Workgroup and the CBPO Modeling Team are actively working to clean up the historical record of BMP implementation. An overview of the schedule driving this work, and how it relates to the schedule for the Phase 6 calibration, will be discussed.

Ted Tesler, Watershed Technical Workgroup Chair

<u>**Decision point:**</u> Agreement on the schedule for historical data cleanup, particularly as it relates to the Phase 6 calibration.

1:30 pm Atmospheric Deposition Lew Linker (EPA),

Purpose: The Phase 5 precipitation, meteorology, and atmospheric deposition data covered the period 1984-2005. In order to take advantage of intensive shallow water estuarine data, new watershed stations, and recent Conowingo data, Lew Linker will discuss how the watershed simulation will need to be extended.

Modeling Workgroup Coordinator

2:00 pm AFTERNOON BREAK

2:15 pm Climate Change

Purpose: EPA and other partners are developing the tools to quantify the effects of changes in watershed flows, storm intensity, and changes in hypoxia due to increased temperatures and sea level rise in the estuary. 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.

Lew Linker (EPA), Modeling Workgroup Coordinator

<u>Decision Point</u>: WQGIT approval on path forward and an understanding of the future decisions needed to determine how and when to incorporate climate change conditions for implementation.

2:45 pm **Decisions/Next Steps**

- A. Review of decisions
- B. Discussion of next steps
- C. Future meetings:
 - 1. 2017 Progress Evaluation
 - 2. Expectations for Phase III WIPs
 - 3. Possible Modifications to WIP Planning Targets & Bay TDML
 - 4. 2025 Land Use Projections
 - 5. BMP Verification

Jenn Volk (DE), WQGIT Chair

3:00 pm Meeting Concludes – Thank you!