

CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM
WATER QUALITY GOAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM
DECEMBER 9, 2013 CONFERENCE CALL
CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

ACTION ITEMS & DECISIONS

ACTION: The evaluation of two-year milestones and annual progress will be brought back to the WQGIT at a future call. In the meantime, an email will be sent out to the WQGIT from EPA requesting additional suggestions for milestone and progress reporting.

MINUTES

1. Welcome/Confirm Call Participants and Updates

- Jenn Volk, Vice-Chair, welcomed everyone to the call and confirmed call participants.

2. Instantaneous Minimum Dissolved Oxygen Criteria

- Peter Tango, USGS, presented initial recommendations from the Tidal Monitoring and Analysis Workgroup's recent workshop discussions of alternative instantaneous minimum criteria.
 - The CAP workgroup will return to the WQGIT in 2014 to follow up on finalizing decisions from the Instantaneous Minimum Workshop action items.

3. Partnership Assessment Tools

- Olivia Devereux gave an update on the partnership's MAST, CAST, VAST and FAST tools.
 - Results from the planning tools are very close to results from the watershed model.
 - FAST is currently being developed as a federal facilities tool.
- Lee Currey (MD): In which sectors is there less comparability between the watershed model and tools?
 - Devereux: There is a table in the tools, which will show where the tool results differ from the watershed model.
- Lee Currey (MD): Given that the task of adding cost of implementation was put aside to work on FAST, when will cost feature be complete?
 - Cost analysis will not take long to complete, and all the preliminary work is done. The FAST tool will be complete in early 2014, and after that point cost can be completed by April or May.
 - James Davis-Martin (VA): Why was FAST prioritized higher than building in cost?
 - Jeff Sweeney (EPA): An additional funding source was available for FAST.
 - Lee Currey (MD): Is the WQGIT able to weigh in on prioritizing the tasks involved with the planning tools?

- Devereux: The Watershed Technical workgroup has been involved with prioritizing the list.

4. Update of Nutrient and Sediment Trends and Yields in the Bay Watershed

- Joel Blomquist and Scott Phillips (USGS) summarized the results of the annual updates of yields, as well as the long-term and 10 year trends for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment from sites in the non-tidal water-quality network.
- James Davis-Martin (VA): How should jurisdictions use this information in implementation planning or policy development?
 - Blomquist (USGS): The information on yields can be used to understand which areas have the most nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment. The information on concentration will indicate whether the practices are working.
 - Davis-Martin (VA): Is the yield information at edge of stream?
 - Blomquist (USGS): Yield is measured at a sampling location, which indicates the mean yield for the entire upstream area for a given point.
 - Ron Entringer (NY): Recommend showing the size of watershed contributing to the sites. Request teasing out trends from other contributing factors.
 - Blomquist (USGS): These results are intended to be as truthful to the monitoring data as possible, while still providing a summary of conditions.
- Matt Johnston (UMD): How often will this report be made available?
 - USGS: It will be published annually.
- Davis-Martin (VA): How do the simulated loads compare to the monitoring loads?
 - Blomquist (USGS): The simulated loads are calibrated using the monitoring data, so they should be closely calibrated.
- Scott Phillips (USGS) gave an update on the next steps involved in addressing the monitoring funding shortfalls. The WQGIT will be asked to provide monitoring priorities.
- Entringer (NY): How much time is needed to establish trends?
 - Phillips (USGS): Yields require 5 years of data and trends require at least 10 years.

5. James Davis-Martin (VA): Noted that by not addressing the 2013 land use projections now, the partnership is limiting their options for reconsidering the land use projection methodology.

- Lee Currey (MD): The WQGIT should address the comparability of the model from year to year, in order to decide how to move forward with making changes while still communicating progress.
- Norm Goulet (VA): Recommended that the Watershed Technical Workgroup take on the model consistency issue.
 - Suzanne Trevena (EPA): EPA is still determining the best approach; however it will be helpful for the jurisdictions to weigh in.
 - Volk: EPA will be sharing these discussions with the group over email or at the January meeting. The Watershed Technical workgroup will be kept in the loop as well.
 - Recommend that the Modeling workgroup be kept in the loop as well.
- Davis-Martin (VA): What will happen this year with 2013 progress?

- Sweeney (EPA): All changes agreed to by the partnership up to this point will be used for progress. These and other changes, such as new BMPs, are affecting the year to year progress. EPA is trying to figure out the best way to move forward.
 - WQGIT members requested to weigh in and offer suggestions.
- Volk: WQGIT Members may need time to think of suggestions. Recommend that the request for recommendations be sent out over email to WQGIT members.

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Adjourned

Next WQGIT Conference Call:

January 13, 2013

1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Participants

Beth McGee, CBF
 Bruce Michael, DNR
 Chris Brosch, VT-VADCR
 Dana York, Green Earth Connection
 Dave Koran, USACE
 Dinorah Dalmasy, MDE
 George Onyullo, DDOE
 Alana Hartman, WVDEP
 Helen Stewart, MD DNR
 James Davis-Martin, VA-DEQ
 Jeff Sweeney, EPA
 Jen Sincock, EPA
 Jenn Volk, UD
 Jim George, MD
 John Schneider, DE
 Karl Blankenship, Bay Journal
 Katherine Antos, EPA
 Kim Snell-Zarcone, Conservation PA
 Lee Currey, MDE
 Lisa Ochsenhirt, VAMWA
 Liza Hernandez, UMCES
 Marel Raub, CBC
 Norm Goulet, Northern VA Regional Commission
 Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting
 Pat Gleason, EPA
 Ross Mandel, ICPRB
 Sally Claggett, USFS
 Sarah Diebel, DoD
 Scott Phillips, USGS
 Joel Blomquist, USGS

Suzanne Trevena, EPA
Teresa Koon, WV
Peter Tango, USGS
Gary Shenk, EPA
Lucinda Power, EPA
Matt Johnston, UMD
Jeremy Hanson, CRC
Emma Giese, CRC
PADEP
Greg Albrecht, NY