

COLLECTIVE GIT 4 ACTIVITIES FOR 2013

2/5/13

Consensus guiding principles:

1. manage adaptively: reflect on the GIT 4 goal, identified key factors affecting achievement of the goal, selected strategies, and progress toward desired outcomes; consider lessons learned from prior-year activities;
2. proceed incrementally; this is not intended to be a comprehensive or perfect strategy;
3. include *both* the key actions that individual partner agencies (state, federal and NGO) will take separately *and* the key actions that the GIT will take together, collectively;
4. the emphasis of collective actions should be to support and enhance partner (primarily *state*) healthy watershed identification and protection programs;
5. partners differ from each other in terms of program priorities, needs and resource constraints on participation in the listed collective activities, therefore inclusion of a collective action in this strategy does not assume that all partners will necessarily dedicate staff or other resources to every listed collective activity;
6. measurable outcomes and activities should not create new, expensive monitoring demands;
7. partners should creatively apply existing, available programmatic tools and resources toward the GIT's goal.

Strategy 1 - Provide a forum:

1. **Output and Activity:** Convene four quarterly GIT 4 meetings in 2013 to collaborate on GIT 4 projects and share learning

Planning Question: Are there particular areas of emphasis for which we want outside speakers in 2013? Case studies or example programs?

Suggestions for Discussion:

- State vulnerability assessments relevant to state-identified healthy watersheds
- Discuss State's planned use of 319 Non-Point Source grant funding for healthy watershed protection. (Use of 319 funds for protection is encouraged in the new 2012 national 319 program guidance)
- Discuss how healthy watershed threat and protection assessments can support the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture
- Discuss TNC-funded College of William and Mary project to analyze local provisions for healthy watershed protection

Strategy 2 - Develop information resources and support communications:

Communication Workgroup Activities (listed in priority order):

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1. Host a session or workshop on healthy watershed themes at Chesapeake Watershed Forum, building on success at 2012 Forum
2. GIT 4 Chair give presentation to LGAC (consider timing, reference success story from the CAC)
3. Provide messages and resources to CPB Communications staff as part of their “emergency” communications strategy (media placements on/ in reaction to weather or other situations that make CBP’s work particularly relevant in the moment)
4. Coordinate with the CBP Communication Office to pitch blog and/or video concepts for development.
5. Assess the utility of the following two potential activities:
 - a. Share presentations, slides, pictures, graphics, to help *partner agency staff* prepare presentations, reports, etc. with effective healthy watersheds messages.
 - b. Develop a healthy watershed “toolkit” for local champions, with focus on local benefits (drinking water, backstop for pollution reduction, cost avoidance, tourism, brook trout, etc.) (scope this out with LGAC)

Other Communication Activities:

1. Complete the collection of state-identified healthy watershed data layers and publish them on the CBP web site and through Landscape Chesapeake
2. Develop a proposal to make healthy watershed protection initiatives eligible for NFWF small watershed grants (need initial scoping with Nick DiPasquale)
3. Use the GIT4 forum to collaborate with the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) to explore ways to:
 - a. Provide local models of healthy watershed protection to EBTJV constituents
 - b. Amplify public communications to raise local awareness of the existence of and protections for healthy watersheds inhabited by brook trout
4. Collaborate with EPA Region 3 for mutual (EPA- State – NGO) support on healthy watershed communications, including communications within EPA R3

Strategy 3 - Promote the science:

Output 1: A healthy watershed tracking framework developed, populated and maintained to publicly account for healthy watershed identification and protection

Activities:

1. Use the GIT4 forum for discussion of state healthy watershed tracking practices and exploration of ways to improve and communicate the information
 - a. Publish state identified healthy watershed layers
 - b. Look into options for vulnerability assessments of state identified healthy watersheds using existing data
 - c. Develop a pilot project for vulnerability assessment in one or more of the states

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2. Use the GIT4 forum for discussion of how the adequacy of protection could be assessed
 - a. Consider William and Mary pilot project
 - b. Consider examples of index development for application to individual watersheds
 - c. Consider examples of report card development for individual healthy watersheds
3. Use the GIT4 forum for dialogue about whether and how the EBTJV could be an opportunity to do some pilot-level work on threat and protection assessment for EBTJV-identified target waters, through collaboration with GIT2 and with CBP STAR support

Output 2: A GIT4 recommendation concerning possible incorporation of protected land values into Bay TMDL accounting

Activities:

1. Coordinate with the Water Quality Goal Team to follow up on the 2012 STAC Workshop Report recommendations. (WQ GIT lead)
2. Collaborate with the Chesapeake Bay Commission to evaluate the potential to incorporate protected land values into Bay TMDL accounting. (CBC lead)