2017 - 2019 Calendar of the Key Midpoint Assessment Decisions to be Made by the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team, Management Board and Principals' Staff Committee

January 9, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING**: EPA presents final draft Phase III WIP expectations for Partnership feedback.

January 23, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

- **BRIEFING and DECISION:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs present the proposed process for conducting the review of and criteria for determining fatal flaws in the suite of Phase 6 modeling tools.
- **DECISION** on the responses to the STAC Climate Change Peer Review Panel's findings and recommendations.
- **PRESENTATION** of <u>very preliminary scenario implications</u> for the Phase III WIP planning targets, using the current Beta 4 version of the Phase 6 modeling tools. This includes a **DECISION** on the base year for establishing the Phase III WIP planning targets.
- **PRESENTATION** on the regional scale explanation of observed trends to support development of the Phase III WIPs in 2017-2018.

February 2017 Webinar Topics for Upcoming Partnership MPA Decisions

- **WEBINAR** by the Modeling Workgroup on the Partnership's full suite of Phase 6 models and other supporting decision support tools, including how the Partnership is simulating and assessing lag times related to nitrogen in groundwater and phosphorus storage in soils.
- WEBINAR by the WQGIT's Land Use Workgroup Chair and Coordinator on the potential use of 2025 forecasted conditions for use in development the Phase III WIPs to ensure new pollutant loads continue to be offset through 2025. This also includes a discussion of the forecasting methodology that is currently in place for the two-year milestone process and that would be used for establishing the 2025 forecasted conditions.

February 9, 2017 Management Board Meeting

• **BRIEFING:** Presentation by STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs of the regional scale explanation of observed trends to support upcoming Midpoint Assessment decisions and development of the Phase III WIPs.

February 13, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

- **PRESENTATION** by the STAR Climate Resiliency Workgroup Co-Chairs presenting the findings from the full suite of climate change scenarios run following the Partnership approved assessment procedures.
- **BRIEFING/UPDATE** from the STAR Modeling Workgroup on the Phase 6 development schedule.
- **BRIEFING** by the WQGIT's Land Use Workgroup Chair and Coordinator on the results of state-specific 2025 forecasted projections.

February 27, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs present the results for the latest round of scenarios requested by the WQGIT on developing the draft Phase III WIP planning targets.

- Results from running No Action, WIP2, and E3 Scenarios on Phase 6 Beta 4.
- o Initial, preliminary, first cut draft at the Phase III WIP planning targets
- **PRESENTATION** by the STAR Team's Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs on findings from the further analyses of the effects of lower Susquehanna River watershed, Conowingo Dam and reservoir nutrient and sediment loads on upper Chesapeake Bay water quality following the Partnership approved assessment procedures.

(Early) March 2017 Webinar Topics for Upcoming Partnership MPA Decisions

- **WEBINAR** by the Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs on the fatal flaw review period of the Phase 6 suite of Partnership modeling tools.
- WEBINAR by the STAR Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs presenting the findings from the further analyses of the effects of lower Susquehanna River watershed, Conowingo Dam and reservoir nutrient and sediment loads on upper Chesapeake Bay water quality.
- **WEBINAR** by the STAR Climate Resiliency Workgroup Co-Chairs presenting the findings from the full suite of climate change scenarios run following the Partnership approved assessment procedures.

March 1, 2017 Principals' Staff Committee Meeting

• **BRIEFING:** Presentation by STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs of the regional scale explanation of observed trends to support upcoming Midpoint Assessment decisions and development of the Phase III WIPs.

March 13, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

- **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs present the results for the latest round of scenarios requested by the WQGIT on developing the draft Phase III WIP planning targets.
- **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs present findings from the calibration of Beta 4 Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.

March 27, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Meeting

- **DECISION** on recommendations for consideration by the Management Board on when and how to incorporate climate change considerations into the Phase III WIPs as the partners work on the draft Phase III WIP planning targets due in June 2017.
- **DECISION** on recommendations for consideration by the Management Board on how to fully offset the additional nutrient and sediment loads coming over Conowingo Dam due to the Conowingo Reservoir reaching its capacity to trap nutrients and sediments.
- **DECISION** proposed approach to ensuring all future new pollutant loads are offset to the Management Board at their April 13th meeting.

April 10, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **DISCUSSION** of any identified fatal flaws in the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools and possible resolutions of the identified flaws.

April 13, 2017 Management Board Meeting

• **BRIEFING:** STAR Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs presentation of any identified fatal flaws in the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools and recommended resolutions of the identified flaws.

- **PRESENTATION** of very preliminary model scenario findings and implications for the draft Phase III WIP planning targets.
- **DECISION** on recommendations for consideration by the Principals' Staff Committee on how to fully offset the additional nutrient and sediment loads coming over Conowingo Dam due to the Conowingo Reservoir reaching its capacity to trap nutrients and sediments.
- **DECISION** on recommendations for consideration by the Principals' Staff Committee on when and how to incorporate climate change considerations into the Phase III WIPs as the partners work on the draft Phase III WIP planning targets due in June 2017.
- **DECISION** on presenting the WQGIT's proposed approach to ensuring all future new pollutant loads are offset to the Principals' Staff Committee at their May 17-18, 2017 retreat for a final decision.

May 8, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

- **DECISION** on the preliminary draft Phase III WIP planning targets to recommend to the Management Board.
- **DECISIONS** on the recommended resolution of any identified fatal flaws in the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools
- **DECISION** on approval of the Phase 6 suites of Partnership models and other decision support tools for management application by the Partnership and the individual partners based on resolution any identified fatal flaws in the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools.

May 11, 2017 Management Board Meeting

- **DECISION** on the preliminary draft Phase III WIP planning targets to recommend to the Principals' Staff Committee.
- **DECISIONS** on the WQGIT's recommended resolution of any identified fatal flaws in the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools.
- **DECISION** on approval of the Phase 6 suites of Partnership models and other decision support tools for management application by the Partnership and the individual partners based on resolution any identified fatal flaws in the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools.

May 17-18, 2017 Principals' Staff Committee Retreat

- **DECISION** on the Management Board's proposed draft Phase III WIP planning targets.
- **DECISION** on approval of the Phase 6 suites of Partnership models and other decision support tools for management application by the Partnership and the individual partners based on resolution any identified fatal flaws in the Phase 6 suite of modeling tools.
- **DECISIONS** on how to fully offset the additional nutrient and sediment loads coming over Conowingo Dam due to the Conowingo Reservoir reaching its capacity to trap nutrients and sediments.
- **DECISIONS** on when and how to incorporate climate change considerations into the Phase III WIPs as the partners work on the draft Phase III WIP planning targets due in June 2017.
- DECISION on the proposed approach to ensuring all future new pollutant loads are offset.

June 12, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

- **PRESENTATION** by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs of more regionally specific monitoring trends and explanations of those trends to support development of the Phase III WIPs.
- **BRIEFING** by EPA on the final Phase III WIP expectations document that was revised to reflect PSC policy decisions on Conowingo, climate change, and accounting for growth.

June 26, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **DECISIONS** on how to proceed forward with what suite of scenarios and which parallel sets of programmatic analyses directed towards informing Partnership decisions on the final Phase III WIP planning targets by December 2017.

July 2017 Webinar Topics for Upcoming Partnership MPA Decisions

• WEBINAR by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs presenting the latest findings from the ongoing work on explaining the long terms water quality trends observed throughout the Bay's watershed and the Bay's tidal waters.

July 11, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs and Coordinators present the results of the initial round of requested scenarios to help inform the development of the final Phase III WIP planning targets.

July 13, 2017 Management Board Meeting

- **PRESENTATION** by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs of more regionally specific monitoring trends and explanations of those trends to development of the Phase III WIPs.
- **BRIEFING** by EPA on the final Phase III WIP expectations document that was revised to reflect PSC policy decisions on Conowingo, climate change, and accounting for growth.

August 14, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs and Coordinators present the results of the next round of requested scenarios to help inform the development of the final Phase III WIP planning targets.

September 11, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs and Coordinators present the results of the next round of requested scenarios to help inform the development of the final Phase III WIP planning targets.

September 14, 2017 Management Board Meeting

• **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs and Coordinators present the results of the key scenarios to help inform the development of the final Phase III WIP planning targets.

September TBD 2017 Principals' Staff Committee Meeting

- **PRESENTATION** by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs of more regionally specific monitoring trends and explanations of those trends to development of the Phase III WIPs.
- **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs and Coordinators present the results of the key scenarios to help inform the development of the final Phase III WIP planning targets.

October 9, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING:** Modeling Workgroup Co-Chairs and Coordinators present the results of the requested scenarios to help inform the development of the final Phase III WIP planning targets.

November 13, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

- **DECISION** on the proposed final Phase III WIP planning targets to recommend to the Management Board.
- **BRIEFING**: Each jurisdiction presents an overview of their progress in developing and conducting local engagement strategies as part of their jurisdictions' Phase III WIP development.

November 16, 2017 Management Board Meeting

- **DECISION** on the final Phase III WIP planning targets to recommend to the Principals' Staff Committee.
- **BRIEFING**: Each jurisdiction presents an overview of their progress in developing and conducting local engagement strategies as part of their jurisdictions' Phase III WIP development.

December 8, 2017 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING** by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs on station by station explanations of the observed long term water quality monitoring trends and SAV segment specific monitoring trends to support the jurisdictions' and their local partners' development of their Phase III WIPs during 2018.

December TBD 2017 Principals' Staff Committee Meeting

- **DECISION** on the final Phase III WIP planning targets.
- **BRIEFING**: Each jurisdiction presents an overview of their progress in developing and conducting local engagement strategies as part of their jurisdictions' Phase III WIP development.

January 2018 Webinar Topics for Upcoming Partnership MPA Decisions

• **WEBINAR** by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs presenting the latest findings from the ongoing work on explaining the long terms water quality trends observed throughout the Bay's watershed and the Bay's tidal waters.

January TBD 2018 Management Board Meeting

• **BRIEFING** by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs on station by station explanations of the observed long term water quality monitoring trends and SAV segment specific monitoring trends to support the jurisdictions' and their local partners' development of their Phase III WIPs during 2018.

February TBD 2018 Principals' Staff Committee Meeting

• **BRIEFING** by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs on station by station explanations of the observed long term water quality monitoring trends and SAV segment specific monitoring trends to support the jurisdictions' and their local partners' development of their Phase III WIPs during 2018.

March 12, 2018 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING**: EPA presentation the results of jurisdictions achievement of their 60% by 2017 interim targets.

June 11, 2018 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING** by the ITAT's Watershed and Tidal Waters Explaining Trends teams on more in-depth station by station explanation of the observed trends along with more information of trends in local sources and local yields connections with the station specific trends to support finalizing the jurisdictions' Phase III WIPs.

July 2018 Webinar Topics for Upcoming Partnership MPA Decisions

• WEBINAR by the STAR's Integrated Trends Analysis Team Co-Chairs presenting the latest findings from the ongoing work on explaining the long terms water quality trends observed throughout the Bay's watershed and the Bay's tidal waters.

August TBD 2018 Management Board Meeting

• **BRIEFING** by the ITAT's Watershed and Tidal Waters Explaining Trends teams on more in-depth station by station explanation of the observed trends along with more information of trends in local sources and local yields connections with the station specific trends to support finalizing the jurisdictions' Phase III WIPs.

September 10, 2018 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING**: The seven Bay watershed jurisdictions present their draft Phase III WIPs.

September TBD 2018 Management Board Meeting

• **BRIEFING**: The seven Bay watershed jurisdictions present their draft Phase III WIPs.

September TBD 2018 Principals' Staff Committee Meeting

• **BRIEFING** by the ITAT's Watershed and Tidal Waters Explaining Trends teams on more in-depth station by station explanation of the observed trends along with more information of trends in local sources and local yields connections with the station specific trends to support finalizing the jurisdictions' Phase III WIPs.

October 8, 2018 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• BRIEFING: EPA presents its evaluation findings of the seven jurisdictions' draft Phase III WIPs.

October TBD 2018 Management Board Meeting

• **BRIEFING:** EPA presents its evaluation findings of the seven jurisdictions' draft Phase III WIPs.

January 14, 2019 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Conference Call

• **BRIEFING:** The seven Bay watershed jurisdictions present their final Phase III WIPs.

January TBD 2019 Management Board Meeting

• **BRIEFING:** The seven Bay watershed jurisdictions present their final Phase III WIPs.