



**Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting (STAR)
Experimental Working Meeting**
**Theme: Unpacking Science Needs from the
Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response (CESR) Report**

Thursday, August 24, 2023
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
In-Office Location: Black Duck Room
-Or-

Join Virtually by Webinar:

<https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=maca5098547d1cda6b68acb8c16083070>

Meeting Number: 2623 631 3090

Password: KwRHPMsM223

Or join by phone: +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 2623 631 3090

Meeting Materials: [Link](#)

This meeting will be recorded for internal use only to assure the accuracy of meeting notes.

**Closed captioning will be available for this meeting. To turn on the closed captioning, select the "cc" button in the bottom left corner of the screen. To show a live transcript of the meeting, go to the bottom right-hand corner of the screen and select "captions".*

AGENDA

10:00 AM **Welcome, Introductions & Announcements – *Bill Dennison (UMCES), Ken Hyer (USGS) and Kimberly Van Meter (Penn State) - STAR co-chairs and vice chair, Breck Sullivan (USGS) STAR Coordinator, Peter Tango (USGS) CBP Monitoring Coordinator***

Announcements

Strategic Engagement Team Update - *Marisa Baldine (CRC)*

Beyond 2025 Steering Committee Update – *Ken Hyer (USGS) and Peter Tango (USGS)*

[STAR Accessibility Survey](#)

Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, Workshops and Webinars

- [University of Maryland Symposium on Environmental Justice and Health Disparities](#) – September 11-12 ([virtual](#)) and September 14-16 ([in person](#)), University of Maryland, Stamp Student Union.
- [Chesapeake Studies Conference](#) – September 15-16, 2023, Salisbury University, Salisbury, MD.
- [Potomac Conference](#) – September 21, 2023, Lorton, VA.
- [Virginia Water Monitoring Conference](#) – September 26, 2023, Henrico, VA.

- [Chesapeake Watershed Forum](#) – November 3-5, 2023, Shepherdstown, VA.
- [CERF 2023 Conference: Resilience & Recovery](#) – November 12-16, 2023, Portland, Oregon.
- [National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration](#) – April 14-19, 2024, Albuquerque, New Mexico. [Abstracts](#) are due September 1, 2023.
- Chesapeake Community Research Symposium – June 10-12, 2024, Annapolis, Maryland. Special session proposals due October 2, 2023 – email allison@greenfinstudio.com

10:10 AM Brief Reminder of CESR’s Key Findings and Implications – Denice Wardrop (CRC), Kurt Stephenson (Virginia Tech)

To inform the main discussions in the meeting, Denice and Kurt will quickly review the key findings and implications from CESR. More detailed information can be found in the [report](#) and in the various presentations on CESR compiled [here](#).

10:15 AM Science to Address Key Findings and Implications in CESR – All

Based on the key findings and implications in CESR, STAR will begin the discussion on structuring science recommendations to pursue and identify what work is currently being done to address those recommendations and what science needs still need to be addressed. This exercise will help STAR identify the critical uncertainties for the CBP, assess what tools and resources are available or needed, and start implementing the learnings in CESR.

- What are the critical uncertainties (Those uncertainties which, if resolved, may potentially alter the course of action.)? How can they drive science needs?
- Where do GITs see their work aligning with science needs from CESR?
 - Is there work currently going on to address it?
 - Is there a new effort you would like to lead to address a science need?

11:15 AM Responding to the Chesapeake Bay Commission's (CBC) Homework Request for CESR – All

One of the big themes that came out of CESR was the idea of reimagining Most Effective Basins (MEB), i.e., targeting resources to a series of places that are important relative to a challenge. The current version of MEBs is the EPA targeting resources to watersheds based on their Phase III WIP agricultural

nitrogen commitments through 2025

(<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6770277260a2416085f37f7fe026f1bf>).

When the CESR team presented to CBC, they asked them to identify five areas across PA, MD, and VA, three of which must be tidal for targeting resources.

If we were to move forward in implementing the learnings of CESR, a way to “reimagine” MEBs would be to direct them to answer one or multiple critical uncertainties compiled in the previous discussion.

- How would you reimage MEBs?
 - What criteria would you use?
 - How would you prioritize the criteria?

- How could the reimagined MEBs implement key findings and address science needs from CESR?

12:00 PM Adjourn

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 28th, 2023