



Maintain Healthy Watersheds GIT Meeting

June 13, 2022

11am-1pm

[Meeting Materials](#)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 996 9309 3418 Passcode: GIT4

Conference Line: 301 715 8592 Password: 416261

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

11:00 AM **Welcome and Introductions** – *Jeff Lerner, HWGIT Chair, Partnerships Program Branch Chief within EPA's Office of Wetlands Oceans and Watersheds'*

11:05 AM **Announcements and Updates** *Renee Thompson, USGS*

11:10 AM **Monitoring Very-High Resolution Land Use/Land Cover Change**, *Sarah McDonald, USGS*

These data update the 2013-14 [High-Resolution Land Cover and Land Use Data Project](#), provide new land use and land cover data captured in 2017-18 and include a new data product that describes the changes in land use and land cover throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed from 2013-14 to 2017-18. The new 2017-18 dataset includes a more detailed land use/land cover classification with enhanced technical and scientific information that was not previously available for the 2013-14 data products. To complement these updated and new datasets, change data is being offered for the very first time. (Supports [Actions](#) 1.2, 1.4 and 5.1)

11:40 AM **MD Healthy Watershed Assessment**, *Nancy Roth Tetra Tech*

The Chesapeake Healthy Watersheds Assessment provided a set of metrics characterizing multiple aspects of watershed health, in broad categories of landscape condition, hydrology, geomorphology, habitat, biological condition, and water quality. Geospatial analyses leverage data from Chesapeake Bay high-resolution land use / land cover and other regional data sources. Recent updates for a Maryland Healthy Watersheds Assessment pilot include integration of new data for land use / land cover, flow alteration, and streambank sediment, along with several state-specific metrics and a refined definition of riparian areas. Predictive power of candidate metrics is being tested using Maryland Biological Stream Survey bioassessment data as response variables. The assessment framework, metrics, and geodatabase created in this state-specific refinement are intended to be useful for a variety of management applications, primarily to support strategies to protect and maintain the health of Maryland's Tier II waters. (Supports [Actions](#) 1.2, 1.4 and 5.1)

12:10 PM **Pennsylvania Unassessed Waters Initiative** - Jennifer Orr-Greene, Eastern Policy Director, Trout Unlimited.
Ms. Orr-Greene will share experiences working with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and Department of Environmental Protection, to upgrade waterways to High Quality and Exceptional Value status. (Supports [Actions](#) 1.1, 1.4 and 4.1)

12:40 PM **Protected Lands Indicator Update** - Jake Leizear, Chesapeake Conservancy

An accurate Chesapeake Bay watershed protected lands geospatial dataset is essential for tracking progress toward multiple Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement goals, including the land protection goal itself. It is also crucial for ensuring state and local governments and non-governmental organizations have accurate annual land protection data on which to base projections included in Bay TMDL Watershed Implementation Plans. The [Protected Lands Indicator](#) is in the process of being updated and revamped to be on an automation cycle that allows for up to date land conservation indicator progress and mapping and visualization when new datasets are released.
(Supports [Actions](#) 1.3, 2.2 and 5.1)

12:50 PM **Closing remarks**