QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING – AUGUST 2022 Chesapeake Bay Program



Toxic Contaminants Research Outcome

Emily Majcher, USGS, vice-chair Toxic Contaminant Workgroup $Through \,the \,Chesapeake \,Bay \,Watershed \,Agreement, the \,Chesapeake \,Bay \,Program \,has \,committed \,to \dots$

Goal: Ensure that the Bay and its rivers are free of effects of toxic contaminants on living resources and human health

Outcome: Continually increase our understanding of the impacts of and mitigation options for toxic contaminants through research.

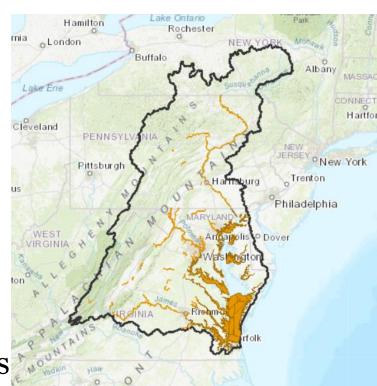


Learn

What have we learned in the last two years?



- •MA1: Supply information to make fish and shellfish safe for human consumption **Mercury and PCBs**
- <u>Success</u>: Further consideration of mercury coordinated monitoring
- <u>Success</u>: Updates on PCB science (best practices source investigations)
- <u>Challenge</u>: Interaction with SFGIT on fish consumption advisories/story maps





- •MA2: Understanding the influence of contaminants in degrading the health, and contributing to mortality, of fish and wildlife
- •<u>Success</u>: Effects of EDCs on fish conditions, relationships between fish health, land use, estrogenicity, risk
- •<u>Challenge</u>: Interfacing with SFGIT to consider contaminants in fish habitat assessments



- •MA3: Document the occurrence, concentrations, and sources of contaminants in different landscape settings
- <u>Success</u>: PFAS inventory effort
- •Challenge: Examine the cooccurrence of toxic contaminants with nutrients and sediments to inform cobenefit analysis





•MA4: Science to help prioritize options for mitigation to inform policy and prevention

Success: management relevant timelines – response to BMPs,
 WW source tracking
 Challenge: Identifying appropriate method to link BMP science to stakeholder tools



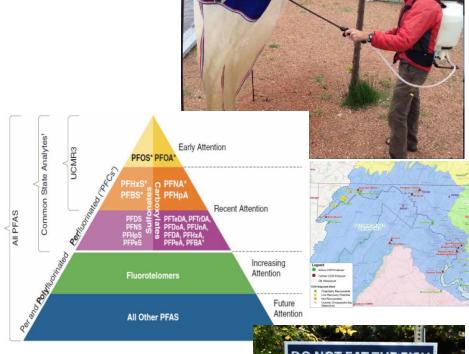


•MA5: Gather information on issues of emerging concern

Success: PFAS workshop

Success: PPAT briefing

•Challenge: Even with reduced number of emerging issues, challenge to address all (limited transfer related to chloride/road salt)



Menti Question 1

- Given the outcomes of the TMDL roundtable, what new/addition efforts should TCW prioritize related to PCB TMDL implementation in the watershed?
 Review summary and comparison of forthcoming PMP and source trackdown guidance documents and EPA TMDL 2.0 (including ARP)
- Technical exchange related to science advancements including microcatchment modeling (DC) and subwatershed screening approach (MD)

Menti Question 1- cont.

- ^aAnnual TMDL roundtable update revision to synthesis document and monitoring summaries
- Tracking and communication of lessons learned from DRBC, Delaware ARP, Anacostia Sediment Project, and other watershed restoration program cross-collaboration
- ^eClimate implications (e.g., flooding, temperature)
- Geographically-specific collaborations and actions (e.g., Anacostia)
- Enhanced monitoring proposal to PSC

Menti Question 2

•How should TCW facilitate PFAS science and policy updates in the watershed?