Status and Trends Workgroup

Meeting Agenda: April 10, 2017 from 1-3 pm

CBPO Room: 305
Conference Call Line: 202-991-0477 code: 1781450
Adobe Connect: http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/stwg/

1:00   **Opening and Introductions** (Laura Drescher, 10 minutes)

1:10   **GIS and Mapping for Indicators** (John Wolf, 30 minutes)

- Ways that GIS can be used to illustrate indicators
  - o Current examples
  - o Possible future options
- Potential connection with staffer skill development projects
- See Presentation.

o Past indicator maps show indicators as points
o Now showing indicator progress on Chesapeake progress
    o 20 some organizations contribute to the data, illustrating the complexity that can be involved in maintaining these datasets.
o Originally indicators were around to show the percent of goal achieved. These indicators of course assumed there was a specific or numeric goal to work towards. We know now that is not always the case.
o Howard reviewed the current maps and data that are visualized now.
    o Examples of straightforward: Protected Lands, Public Access
    o Trends of Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Sediment.
    o Time-enabled – SAV shows from the baseline to current year.
    o Oyster – starts out with points to show tributaries. Zoom in to see polygons of the tributaries. What changes are mostly attributes – text that the states provide.
    o Fish Passage – don't get stream miles this year. Contractor needs to update.
    o Maps aren't really indicators—should we be showing maps that show more percent toward outcome?
o Questions for indicators – what are the maps supposed to do? Status & Trends workgroup and subject matter experts should weigh in.

o Howard Weinberg's replacement will be the contact for indicators mapping and staffer GIS involvement
o Would be nice to see staffers that want to be more involved with the mapping of their indicators – strengthen ties between subject matter experts and GIS mapping
o Mapping could relate to the decision making of the SRS process
o Could be a good time to increase conversation between GIS and Chesapeake Decisions
o Could be helpful to have maps of indicator baselines (example: SAV)
o How can mapping be used to address the "trends" part of Status and Trends

Discussion

Kristin asked about a previous ChesapeakeDecisions presentation, which did not include mapping at all, so should this dialogue start or increase at all? John agreed that this conversation should begin. ChesapeakeDecisions has grown in its support of the GITs, and

mapping will be needed with this increased role. The involvement of mapping happens more on a goal team by goal team basis. Doreen added that the mapping hasn't come up yet because the business case for ChesapeakeDecisions is to support the current Strategy Review System. However, there has never been a question of the inevitable involvement of mapping in making decisions.

Laura added that for outcomes that have a baseline, it is important to talk about progress. We often don't talk about the Trends in the Status and Trends workgroup. John added that adding too much information is overload, and often there is more data available than what is being shown due to the audience. Laura added that maybe this information would just be documented elsewhere.

1:40   **Criteria for Developing an Indicator** (Laura Drescher and Peter Tango, 30 minutes)

In developing new indicators, groups have asked for guidance on what criteria indicators should meet. The Indicators Coordinator would like the Status & Trends workgroup to weigh in on this draft list of questions to consider in developing indicators.

- Are these the right questions?
- Are any questions missing?
- Is more detailed information (e.g. some kind of ranking) needed?
- See document.

o   Mapping could be included – something good to consider, maybe not criteria
o   Would be a guide for groups considering an indicator
    DISCUSSION
o   John agreed that mapping should be a consideration on how and should the indicator be mapped. John asked how this document would be used? Laura responded that it would be a guide for groups thinking of developing an indicator. It might help the group determine how the indicator is connected to the program, to their progress, and to the data.
o   Kristin added that this document reflects information such as considerations rather than criteria. Continued that a stronger link should be added to factors. How does the indicator in development relate more to factors influencing outcomes?
o   It was also suggested to have a straightforward question about need. Is this indicator needed?
o   With shrinking budgets and resources – we need to determine what's really needed (and what's not).
o   "Is the proposed indicator necessary" – for the first bullet…
o   Goal: create a document the group could use as questions for informing their development of an indicator.
o   Action: have STAR review working guidance and put in front of more eyes
    o   Bring forth for the May STAR meeting
    o   Laura will send out a draft with deadline for feedback before bringing to STAR

2:00   **Update: Climate Resiliency Indicators** (Chris Lamie, ERG, 30 minutes)

The Climate Resiliency workgroup secured GIT funding to propose a suite of climate resiliency indicators to track climate trends, ecological and social impacts, and adaptation response. The contractor is working to develop some into the suite into indicators reflected on

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ChesapeakeProgress. This agenda item will update the workgroup on the proposed suite, which of those are being developed under the current project, and the status of that development.

- o Top eight indicators likely to be developed: protected lands, restored habitat, air temperature, coastal flooding, precipitation, sea level, stream water temperature, upstream flooding. It should be noted that these indicators were chosen based on the availability of the data, not a prioritization.
- o Climate workgroup will influence the priority of the remaining indicators
- o Status and Trends group could act as a champion when climate indicators are proposed for GIT funding
- o Rachel, Catherine, Joan, and Laura will work on communicating the developed climate indicators
    - o As the communications strategy is developed there will be periodic check-ins with interested members of the Status & Trends work group

2:30 **Round Robin of Indicator Updates** (Coordinators and Staffers, 20 minutes)

This new repeating agenda item will ask Coordinators and Staffers present to share information about any indicators in their workgroups being developed, or current indicators that will have new data available for update in the next quarter.

- Updates to Current
    - o Blue Crab Abundance and Management
    - o SAV- *prelim data gathered. Update soon.*
    - o Oysters
    - o Reducing Pollution Indicator- *publish in June dependent on EC meeting*
    - o Population
    - o Shad

- In Development
    - o Black Duck
    - o Brook Trout
    - o Tree Canopy-
    - o Local Leadership
    - o Climate Resiliency
    - o Healthy Watersheds- *working on tracking framework*
    - o Forage Fish-*will use data that already exists.*

2:50 **Update on Factors Indicators Workshop** (Laura Drescher, 10 min)

- o STAC approved the Factors Indicator Workshop
    - o Will need to think seriously about constraints on resources to commit to organizing the workshop
    - o Workshop will need to be convened by May 2019
    - o Laura will contact members of the steering committee to start planning

- o Claire Buchanan: last week, held a two day workshop on developing the baseline for the stream health indicator. The group has identified the current biological indicator, but there is a possibility of many others. The report will be coming out in the next couple weeks.

3:00 **Adjourn**

Participants

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