

**CBP Goal Implementation Team
 Water Quality Goal Implementation Team
 Toxic Contaminants Workgroup
 Call Summary (Pre-Meeting Briefing for July 18)**



Date: Wednesday, July 11, 2018
Calendar Page: [Link](#)

Agenda Item and Desired Outcome	Time	Background Docs, Notes, and Action Items
<p>1. <u>Preview July 18 All-Day Meeting</u> – Greg Allen Overview of July 18 agenda and meeting logistics, noting items workgroup members should be prepared to discuss.</p>	1:00	<p><u>Documents:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> July 18 Agenda <p>Action: Greg Allen will find and post the overall schedule for SRS deadlines related to review and publication of management strategies and workplans.</p>
<p>2. <u>Policy and Prevention Management Strategy</u>–Greg Allen Detailed review of potential changes and flagged items for review of management strategy for policy and prevention outcome.</p>	1:10	<p><u>Documents:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation slides of potential changes and flagged items for management strategy revision Policy and Prevention Management Strategy with mark-up 2016-2017 Policy and Prevention Workplan (December 2017 Status update) <p>Action: Marked-up strategies and workplans for Research and Policy & Prevention will be posted prior to the July 18 meeting for review.</p> <p>Action: Michelle Williams will follow up with George Onyullo to discuss potential ways to quantify the narrative shown in the PCB story map.</p> <p>Action: More detailed discussion of including potential additional contaminants (i.e. PAHs) in the Policy & Prevention Management Strategy will take place at the July 18 all-day TCW meeting.</p>
<p>3. <u>Research Management Strategy Revisions</u> –Scott Phillips Detailed review of potential changes and flagged items for review of management</p>	1:30	<p><u>Documents:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation slides of potential changes and flagged items for management strategy revision Research Management Strategy with mark-up

Agenda Item and Desired Outcome	Time	Background Docs, Notes, and Action Items
strategy for research outcome.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2016-2017 Research Workplan (January 2018 Status update) <p>Action: Scott Phillips will reach out to former research partners on mercury (Hg), including Cindy Gilmour (SERC) as part of the proposed assessment of Hg trends in the Chesapeake watershed.</p>
4. <u>PCB Consortium Framework for Management Board Review</u> –Greg Allen	1:50	<p><u>Documents:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCB Consortium concept (submitted to Management Board) Summary presentation slides <p>Action: Greg Allen will reach out to representatives from the wastewater community for representation in the PCB consortium exploration and development.</p>
5. <u>Placeholder: GIT Funding Ideas</u> – Greg Allen Update on submitted GIT funding project ideas from the Toxic Contaminants workgroup, including a proposal for a PCB Resource Center. The deadline to submit project ideas for WQGIT review and voting is COB TODAY . Michelle Williams (williams.michelle@epa.gov) is collecting project ideas.	2:10	<p><u>Documents:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIT Funding Project Proposal Guidance PCB Resource Center GIT Funding Project Idea
<u>Wrap up and Adjourn</u>	2:30	

1. Introductions and Announcements: Greg Allen, EPA CBPO

- Preview of July 18 In-Person Meeting:
 - o Greg will track down the exact dates for when we need to have revised and commented workplans and management strategies published on Chesapeake Progress.
 - o Overview of agenda for July 18: Hoping to do detailed review of management strategies and workplans

- Discussion of tomorrow's Management Board meeting
- Discussion of Sealant proposal for GIT project funding

Action: Greg Allen will find and post the overall schedule for SRS deadlines related to review and publication of management strategies and workplans.

2. Review of Management Strategy for Policy and Prevention: Greg Allen, EPA CBPO

- Greg Allen: Especially, review where jurisdiction activities are listed in management strategies, we will ask jurisdictions to try to review and update these sections themselves where applicable.
- Scott Phillips: We will try to post marked up strategies and workplans for review before next week's meeting.
- Doug Austin: Reminder that we want to include lessons learned from the last two years in this update to the management strategy.
- Greg Allen reviewed the proposed highlighted items for review and changes to the new version of the Prevention management strategy: new factor influencing success, and new approach for PCB Consortium. Greg also discussed potential to include findings from new science such as inadvertent production of PCBs, and discussing whether and how to update table of regulatory approaches in conjunction with workplan/logic table.
- Allen: Next week we will take a detailed look at the management strategy and we will be able to delegate parts of the revisions to different partners.
- Scott Phillips: One decision we will have to make is how detailed we want to update the management strategy for current efforts, as opposed to putting that effort towards the workplan and simply referring to the workplan for that information on current efforts.
 - o Allen: We at least need to update the current efforts and gaps section.
 - o Phillips: Perhaps we could keep that to the high-level highlights, and save the intricate details for the workplan?
 - o Allen: I would like to make sure we have all the information collected here, and we may need to update the efforts and gaps. We do need to discuss things we have accomplished and what we have learned, for instance the PCB story map.
- George Onyullo: For the story map, I think we need to go beyond the simple narrative that is shown in the story map and be able to quantify what we are telling with the story map.
 - o Michelle Williams noted that this could be a direction to focus on for further conversation offline—especially as we get more years worth of PCB TMDL data and a more extensive time series to assess.
- Scott Phillips: There has also been more focus on policy around PAHs as well as PCBs, and perhaps that's something we can also discuss in the MS, about pivoting towards PAHs.
 - o George Onyullo: We chose PCBs because we already have widespread contamination and jurisdiction efforts on PCBs, so I would caution against leaving that to move towards PAHs.
 - o Allen: Perhaps we can add some language to the management strategy to say that we are open to pursuing other contaminants in addition to PCBs.
 - o Scott suggested discussing this in more detail at the July 18 meeting.
 - o Aaron Waters suggested that TCW take time to prioritize one or two additional contaminants by the end of the fiscal year.

- Allen: Yes, we want to be open to opportunities to work on other contaminants as those opportunities come up. For instance, we have PAH focused GIT project idea that will be submitted by DOEE for this year's round of funding (Coal tar sealant certification program)

Action: Marked-up strategies and workplans for Research and Policy & Prevention will be posted prior to the July 18 meeting for review.

Action: Michelle Williams will follow up with George Onyullo to discuss potential ways to quantify the narrative shown in the PCB story map.

Action: More detailed discussion of including potential additional contaminants (i.e. PAHs) in the Policy & Prevention Management Strategy will take place at the July 18 all-day TCW meeting.

3. Research Management Strategy Revisions: Scott Phillips, USGS

- Scott Phillips gave an overview of the research outcome and goal. Management approaches include fish and shellfish, fish and wildlife effects, occurrence, concentrations and sources, assessing relative risk and options for mitigation, issues of emerging concern. Challenges to the original approaches included too many contaminants and mixtures, findings not well synthesized for Policy and Prevention side and options for mitigation, and not much progress on Hg.
- Lessons learned include focus more on co-benefits of practices, and working from a source-sector approach rather than doing risk assessment with focus on individual contaminants.
- New management approaches include:
 - Work on Hg and shellfish
 - Other biological end points, such as oysters, multi-state issues
 - Focus on source sectors and collaboration with WQGIT source sector workgroups
 - Discussion of moving away from risk assessment and moving more towards co-benefits
 - New topics in issues of emerging concerns.
- Phillips: We will share a revised version of the Management Strategy to review by next week, but would like to know if the workgroup has any more questions or comments that were not included in the presented highlights for the Research Management Strategy
- Scott Phillips also presented the proposal to the Management Board for a summary of current efforts and potential next steps for trend analysis and suggested next steps for Management Board consideration. Jurisdictions other than MD are also encouraged to look at trends within their jurisdictions, with support from the CBPO monitoring and trends analysis team if needed. If trends do not show reductions of Hg, then next steps could involve a synthesis of status
 - Fred Pinkney: Are we communicating with Cindy Gilmour and others to keep in touch with regional/global trends in Hg as we look at local trends?
 - Phillips: When John Sherwell at MDNR retired, we lost those connections with other Hg researchers in the area.
 - Fred Pinkney suggested reaching out to regional partners to present state of the research so far to the TCW.

- Allen: Our hypothesis of a downward trend is based on both regulatory requirements on air emissions of Hg from coal-fired power plants, as well as market forces that are affecting replacement of coal-combustion with natural gas for energy production.

Action: Scott Phillips will reach out to former research partners on Hg, including Cindy Gilmour (SERC) as part of the proposed assessment of Hg trends in the Chesapeake watershed.

4. PCB Consortium Overview: Greg Allen, EPA CBPO

- Greg gave an overview of the history of the work that led to the conclusion of widespread PCB contamination, need for interstate collaboration, and interest in convening a forum around PCB policy and prevention.
- Greg reviewed the partners for the consortium:
 - Fred Pinkney suggested including representatives from the WW community.
 - Allen: Yes, we will look into that.

Action: Greg Allen will reach out to representatives from the wastewater community for representation in the PCB consortium exploration and development.

6. GIT Funding Proposal Discussion: Greg Allen, EPA CBPO

- Greg Allen gave an overview of the proposed GIT funding idea: "Pavement Sealant Protocol Development: Identifying New High-PAH Pollution Sources". DC has a new law to limit coal tar-based sealants, but there is concern with other sealant alternatives also containing high PAHs. Developing a protocol for lab testing and certification for PAH analysis in pavement sealants is proposed. DC has many contamination issues with PAHs and does not have many practices in place to limit PAH contamination in the District. This GIT funding would not go towards certifications themselves, that would be the responsibility of industry to sample against the protocol that this project would develop, and then conducting outreach to publicize and encourage adoption of this protocol in DC. Other local jurisdictions in the watershed, including Anne Arundel County, Montgomery County, PG County have PAH limits in place and are interested in this approach. CBC is also interested in this approach. Success with this program may also help launch similar proposals in other areas of the watershed and other regions in the US.
- Marel King: There are other areas in the country with those PAH standards implemented, but those other areas do not currently have programs in place to implement their standards as well?
 - Allen: Yes, those areas do not have any sampling and identification programs in place. They may be doing limited sampling like DC has done, but it is not enough to develop a full PAH limiting program. There might be some discussion of whether those areas might be able to collaborate on funding this project, but the case can be made that this is a good opportunity where funds are available so why not use them?
- Aaron Waters: Other jurisdictions have problems with enforcement that we don't have here in DC. This would also allow us to streamline the process where, in other cases, we might have to form collaborative coalitions with other jurisdictions around the country in a very slow-moving project. This is just a way for us to be able to move faster on this using this funding source.

Call Participants:

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