



DoD CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM JOURNAL

Edited by the DoD Chesapeake Bay Program Team

PROTECTING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY FOR MILITARY READINESS, FOR OUR COMMUNITY, FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The deadline for nominations for the 2024 Secretary of Defense (SecDef) Environmental Award is February 23, 2024!

By Ashley Kelly and Angela Jones, DoD CBP

The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment (OASD EI&E) is accepting installation and individual/team nominations for the 2024 SecDef Environmental Awards for the award period of FY 2022-2023. Please refer to the office of the SecDef, Environmental Awards Nomination Guidance, for additional details. We know installations are doing outstanding work to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay while supporting existing and future missions, and that these activities merit recognition at the highest levels. We hope you consider applying and are able to join Aberdeen Proving Ground and Fort Meade in the list of SecDef Environmental Award winners.

The Department of Defense (DoD) established SecDef Environmental Awards to celebrate Military Service members and civilians for their exceptional commitment to protecting human health and the environment while advancing the military mission. Since 1962, the SecDef has honored installations, teams, and individuals yearly for outstanding achievements in DoD environmental programs. The specific awards are on a 2-year cycle; specifically, large/small and non-industrial/industrial installations compete in alternate years. The 2024 awards cycle encompasses an achievement period from October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2023 (FY 2022-2023).

2024 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Categories

Installation	Individual/Team
Natural Resources Conservation, Small	Natural Resources Conservation
Environmental Quality, Non-Industrial	Environmental Quality
Sustainability, Industrial	Environmental Restoration
Environmental Restoration	Environmental Excellence in Weapon Systems Acquisition
Cultural Resources Management, Large	

Installation awards recognize the accomplishments of installation and command environmental programs, including the accomplishments of their program staff. Team awards recognize extraordinary accomplishments of specific project teams, special collaborative teams, cross-functional or cross-organizational teams, or other groups of individuals whose work and collaboration on an environmental issue exceed the traditional responsibilities of installation and command environmental programs.

Nominations for the 2024 SecDef Environmental Awards, for the award period of FY 2022-2023, are due to the OASD(EI&E) by February 23, 2024. Each Military Service or Defense Agency (DoD Components) may submit one nomination for each of the nine award categories listed for accomplishments during the period FY 2022-2023. The window to submit nominations to OASD(EI&E) will be open from February 12 through February 23, 2024. Before submitting nominations, please email EnvironmentalAwards@bah.com to request file-transfer instructions. All nomination materials should be unclassified and cleared for public release upon submission to OASD(EI&E). For additional details and award guidance visit www.denix.osd.mil/awards.

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Commander's Corner: The DoD Launches its First Ever Climate Resilience Portal

By Kevin Du Bois, DoD CBP

Executive Order (EO) 14008 requires the Department of Defense to consider the implications of climate change in the National Defense Strategy. The 2021 DoD Climate Action Plan calls all Service personnel to build a climate-informed workforce to integrate climate considerations into critical mission planning and operations as well as the ecosystem services, installation resilience, and community partnerships that align with DoD Chesapeake Bay Program efforts. The new DoD Climate Resilience Portal provides DOD personnel with a “one-stop shop” to gain access to authoritative and actionable climate change information to inform decision-making and build enduring advantages for our military.

EO 14008¹, on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, called for the Secretary of the Department of Defense (DoD) to submit an analysis of the security implications of climate change to the President and to consider these implications in developing the National Defense Strategy, Defense Planning Guidance and other relevant strategy, planning and programming documents and processes. EO 14008 also established a National Climate Task Force, including representation from the DoD, to facilitate the organization and deployment of a government-wide approach to combat the climate crises. It also required the head of each federal agency to submit an action plan that describes steps the agency can take, with regards to its facilities and operations, to bolster adaptation and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change. Following these directives, the DoD Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP)² was released on September 1, 2021.

The DoD CAP included five strategic lines of effort (LOE) with focus areas; three align closely with the work of the DoD Chesapeake Bay Program (Figure 1). LOE 1 detailed the DoD’s vision for Climate-Informed Decision Making and Climate Intelligence. LOE 3 detailed Resilient Built and Natural Infrastructure including installation resilience and ecosystem services. LOE 5 detailed the DoD’s goal to Enhance Adaptation and Resilience through collaboration, focusing on interagency, intergovernmental, and community resilience partnerships. Across all lines of effort, climate literacy and building a climate-informed workforce were seen as key enablers for integrating climate considerations into all activities—from day-to-day operations to long-term sustainable and climate-resilient installation planning—through the development of joint policy and doctrine that takes climate change into consideration.

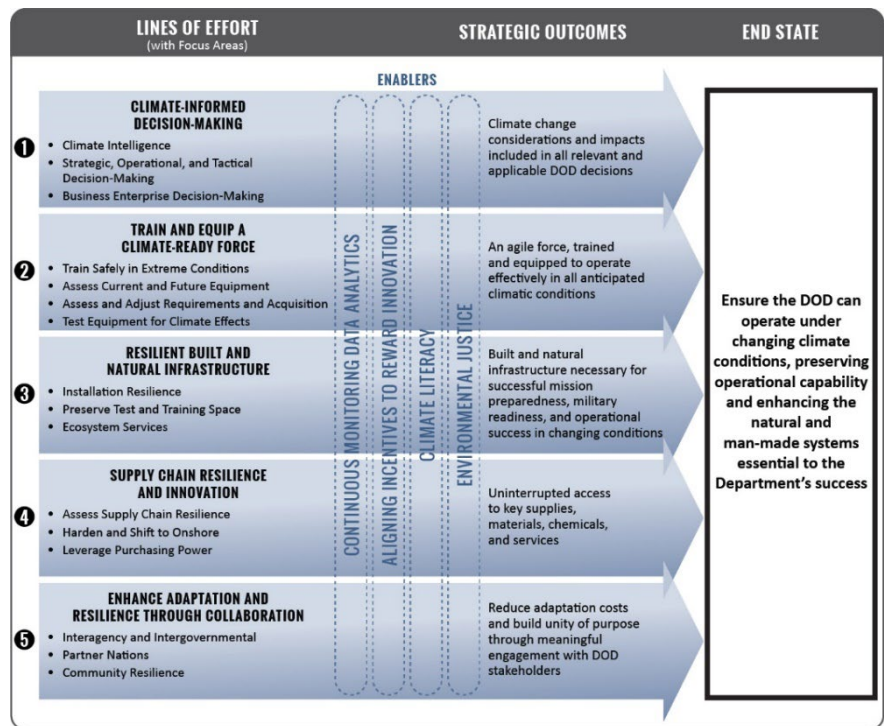


Figure 1. DoD Climate Adaptation Strategy Framework for Current and Future Force Decisions

To support the DoD CAP lines of effort and build a more climate-informed workforce, on October 31, 2023, the Department launched the DoD Climate Resilience Portal (www.climate.mil). The portal includes a public-facing website that centralizes the availability of key climate resources, reference documents, and climate terms and definitions, with links to some Common Access Card-enabled websites with expanded capabilities for military personnel. The portal’s homepage includes information on:

- The DoD Climate Assessment Tool – that can be used to understand installation climate threats
- The DoD Regionalized Sea Level Change & Extreme Level Scenarios (DRSL) — to acquire screening-level vulnerability assessments for DoD coastal and tidally influenced sites
- Real-time U.S. Air Force weather data including precipitation, lightning, and tropical cyclones that could impact mission operations
- Navy meteorological information on waves, currents, or other data that could be useful for planning and executing at-sea operations
- A useful list of Climate Resilience Considerations including themes where DoD can anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from climate disruptions. Themes include: Operations, Installations,



Infrastructure & Systems, Intelligence & Security, Energy & Environment, Training, Exercises & Wargaming, Resources & Budgeting, Strategy, Plans & Policy, Personnel Health and Readiness, and Partnerships.

- Current news stories on DoD action on climate topics

The portal has a wealth of valuable information and future capabilities, to be rolled out in phases throughout FY24, will include additional education and training resources and other materials to further guide DoD practitioners in considering climate change factors in ways appropriate for their mission, function, and role. Installation Commanding Officers and their staff can play a key role in building awareness of the portal and its value should be socialized throughout the enterprise as one of the first of many efforts to achieve the goal of a climate-informed workforce.

For more information:

¹“Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad”. The White House. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/27/executive-order-on-tackling-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad/>

²Department of Defense, Office of the Undersecretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment). 2021.

Department of Defense Draft Climate Adaptation Plan. Report Submitted to National Climate Task Force

and Federal Chief Sustainability Officer. 1 September 2021. <https://www.sustainability.gov/pdfs/dod-2021-cap.pdf>

Tree Planting Providing Multiple Benefits at Defense Supply Center Richmond

By Adam Berry, Defense Logistics Agency

Defense Supply Center Richmond (DSCR) is the aviation demand and supply chain manager for the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and is the primary source of supplies for more than 1.2 million repair parts and operating supply items, supporting 2,200 major weapon systems across the Department of Defense (DoD). Since 2020, DSCR has planted over 200 trees on 611 acres to support the goals and outcomes of Executive Order 13508 for protecting and restoring the Chesapeake Bay, reducing stormwater runoff and nutrient pollution, increasing native plant biodiversity, and enhancing air quality. Planting trees also supports the goals of the DoD Climate Action Plan by sequestering carbon and mitigating the future effects of climate changes.

In its most recent effort DSCR planted 50 trees native to Virginia across the installation. The trees, mostly planted near the East Gate entrance and southeast perimeter are a mix of columnar oaks, red oaks, red maples, and dogwoods. The suite of native trees was specifically selected for their environmental attributes and installed to connect woodlands, create wildlife habitat corridors and enhance air quality. Studies estimate that the installation’s trees remove 1,763 pounds of air pollution—including ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size (DSCR 2021). Trees also enrich and stabilize the soil, intercept and transpire precipitation, and their root systems promote infiltration and storage of precipitation in the soil. These qualities reduce nutrient-laden runoff discharging into Falling Creek, the James River, and the Chesapeake Bay. Additions to DSCR’s tree canopy also soak up carbon dioxide with studies estimating that the installation’s tree population stores 2,246 tons of carbon (DSCR 2021). While there are 48 species of trees on the installation, white oaks provide superior carbon sequestration ability, and they represent 44% of the tree population at DSCR. Oak trees are also recognized for their long-term resilience. They exhibit slow growth, resistance to drought and pollution and the ability to thrive in diverse soil conditions, while also providing a display of vibrant fall colors.

It is estimated that the installation’s oldest tree is likely a maple, since this species can live up to 300 years, and if so, the tree may reside in the elk pastures or near the former Officers’ Quarters (now the East Gate area). Near Building 201 grows one tree that is something of a miracle—or a survivor, depending on one’s view. This is the installation’s lone elm tree, the last one standing after a bout of Dutch elm disease decimated the elm tree population. Trees planted near the installation’s perimeter provide a privacy screen and enhance the installation’s community appearance. As this article demonstrates, the DSCR Environmental Division is attuned to the health and well-being of its diverse and native tree population. Base contracts provide for the pruning of existing trees and removal of dead trees, which helps maintain forest health and encourages new growth. Enhancing the installation’s tree canopy demonstrates DSCR’s commitment to EO 13508 and protecting and restoring the Chesapeake Bay’s air and water quality and mitigating the threats posed by a changing climate.

References

DSCR. 2021. Final Urban Tree Survey – 2020 and 2021. Prepared by HDR. Richmond, VA. September 2021.



DSCR staff engaged in tree planting.

IMAGE PROVIDED BY JACKIE ROBERTS, DLA



Assessment of Climate and Population Changes Predicted to Impact Progress Toward the Chesapeake Bay TMDL

By Elizabeth Karivelil, Brown and Caldwell

Future changes in precipitation, temperature, population, and resulting land use are projected to increase nutrient and sediment loads negatively impacting the Chesapeake Bay’s water quality. The Chesapeake Bay Modeling Workgroup estimates that an additional 5 million pounds per year of total nitrogen and 6,000 pounds per year of total phosphorus beyond the Phase III planning targets will be needed to account for the effects of climate change alone. In response, Bay jurisdictions are assessing predicted total maximum daily load (TMDL) progress beyond 2025 and are considering increased load reduction goals across the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership (Partnership) to meet current TMDL targets. A study in the Journal of the American Water Resources Association provides an overview of future stream flow and pollutant load trends in the Bay due to multiple drivers. Installations will need to understand how these changes will impact stormwater flows in order to plan for and make climate-informed decisions that protect installation assets and missions. Choosing stormwater best management practices (BMPs) that address anticipated increases in stormwater flows and provide co-benefits for natural resources, carbon sequestration, or other mission objectives are a wise use of limited resources.

2017 TMDL Midpoint Assessment and Future Prediction Analysis

In 2017, the Partnership conducted a TMDL Midpoint Assessment that informed the development of updated, Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP). This assessment also evaluated the climate change risks to Chesapeake Bay water quality standards. During the analysis, researchers compared the effects of climate change relative to the 2010 TMDL baseline loads and assessed nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollutant loads from 1995–2025. The predicted 30-year change in climate was then applied to the Partnership’s modeling datasets to assess water quality changes within the next 60 years. Researchers noted precipitation, air temperature, land use, and population growth directly impact the amount and timing of loads to the Bay. Climate change impacts were defined as the impacts of precipitation, temperature, and carbon dioxide. Land use changes (LUC) and population growth were assessed as additional factors. Through the 2017 TMDL Midpoint Assessment, jurisdictions understood how climate change affected the Chesapeake Bay’s water quality standards; however, the quantification of additional load reductions was not established until 2021. To evaluate climate change impacts for 2025, 2035, 2045, and 2055, researchers used different methodologies to develop precipitation and temperature trend estimates. Projections from the Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model were used to estimate future changes in land use and population growth.

Key Findings

An evaluation of trends for 2025, 2035, 2045, and 2055 reveals a consistent increase in mean annual precipitation and air temperature even when compared to high flow years between 1993 and 1995. Figure 1 illustrates the projected increase in mean annual precipitation volume for each of the respective years in relation to 1995 data. An increasing trend in percent change can be seen. Additionally, the assessment of stream flow and pollutant load delivery occur within two scenarios: 1) climate change only, and 2) climate change, population growth, and land use.

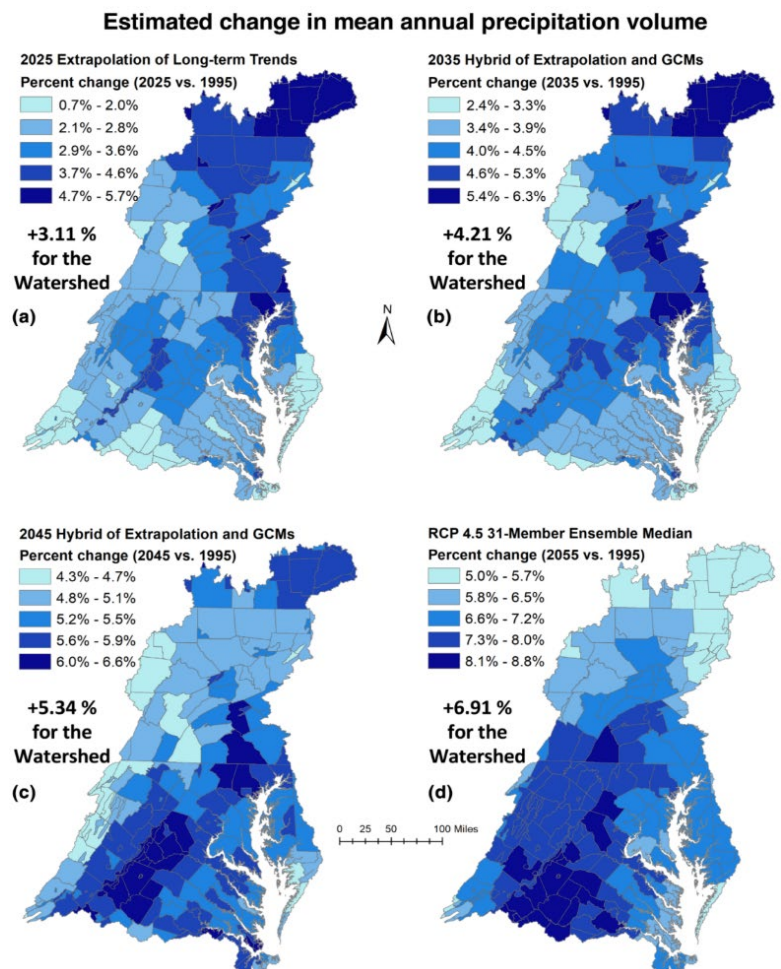


Figure 1. The estimated change in mean annual precipitation volume for the respective periods analyzed compared to 1995 data. (Bhatt et al., 2022)



Scenario 1: Climate change only. Trends for 2025, 2035, 2045, and 2055 all depict increasing precipitation (volume, intensity, and frequency), air temperature, and carbon dioxide levels. As a result of these estimated changes, the delivery of average annual stormwater flow is expected to increase and cause more erosion and the delivery of additional nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment loads through all four periods. These changes are expected to impact all major pollutant source sectors, including the developed and natural sectors where the DoD is assigned loads. **Table 1** shows the simulated percent change of pollutant loads in load-per-unit-acre relative to 1995 loads by jurisdiction between 2025 and 2055. Compared to the 1995 data, the model indicates an increase in all pollutant loads across all jurisdictions by 2055. The results emphasize the impact of geographic variability, as climate change effects were influenced by differences in geographic settings, climate, and land use. Sediment loads display the most significant percent change across all jurisdictions, with West Virginia experiencing the greatest percent change by 2055.

Table 1. Climate-induced Percent Change in Pollutant Loads from 2025 to 2055 Relative to 1995 Pollutant Loads

	Washington, DC	Maryland	Virginia	Pennsylvania	West Virginia	New York
Nitrogen (2025–2055)	0.26–0.53%	2.32–7.76%	2.81–15.69%	2.62–8.00%	-0.52–22.94%	6.94–7.14%
Phosphorus (2025–2055)	0.55–1.67%	2.88–13.10%	5.27–37.27%	3.05–12.96%	1.98–47.06%	7.53–10.52%
Sediment (2025–2055)	4.43–12.87%	1.69–8.00%	4.27–25.59%	7.30–24.38%	3.49–54.70%	15.47–23.97%

Scenario 2: Climate change, population growth, and land use combined. The addition of future LUC and population growth as influencing factors increases the delivery of stream and pollutant loads within the 2035, 2045, and 2055 model projections. Scenario 2 captures the changes relative to 2025 instead of 1995. Pollutant loads for phosphorus and nitrogen depict percent changes similar to those visualized in the climate-change-only scenario. An increase in loads as the result of LUCs can be attributed to the conversion of surfaces to impervious cover (as a result of urban development), as it increases surface runoff that enters the Bay. Population growth also follows an increasing trend over the 30-year period. However, researchers note that the impacts of LUC and population growth were relatively smaller on stream flow and sediment loads than those caused by climate change.

Takeaways for DoD Installations

As the Partnership continues to define future TMDL progress to account for climate change, LUCs, and population growth, installations are likely to see new WIPs and federal planning goals that account for the additional loads associated with these drivers. Virginia and Pennsylvania have indicated that the DoD portion of jurisdiction-required load reductions will be increased. To support state jurisdictions in their TMDL commitments beyond 2025 and their own efforts to maintain regulatory compliance, installations must understand how these drivers of change will affect stormwater flows and anticipate flooding impacts to critical built and nature-based assets. By focusing on implementing green infrastructure and BMPs with climate resilience co-benefits, installations can work to offset the additional loads caused disproportionately by climate change while providing cost-effective secondary benefits for natural resources, carbon sequestration, and warfighter health and welfare. DoD’s Climate Adaptation Plan, as required by Executive Order 14008, specifically describes the DoD’s commitment to preserving operational capabilities despite the negative impacts of climate change. The DoD Climate Assessment Tool serves as a resilience-planning tool that helps foster awareness of climate exposure specific to installations. Installations should incorporate these critical informational resources into their daily decision-making processes to enhance adaptation and resilience, make climate-informed decisions, and ensure current and future missions are sustainable.

For More Information

Bhatt, Gopal, et al., “Water quality impacts of climate change, land use, and population growth in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.” *JAWRA Journal of the American Water Resources Association* (2023): <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/1752-1688.13144>

Bhatt, Gopal, et al., “Modeling Climate Change Effects on Chesapeake Water Quality Standards and Development of 2025 Planning Targets to Address Climate Change.” CBPO Publication Number 328-21. (2021).

DoD Climate Adaptation Plan: <https://www.sustainability.gov/progress.html>



Naval Air Station Oceana EV Staff and DoD CBP Participate in Air Show STEM Event

By Angela Jones, DoD CBP

Department of Defense (DoD) Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) and the Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana, Virginia, staff teamed up to provide static environmental literature and interactive exhibits for the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) event at the NAS Oceana Air Show. More than 6,000 5th-grade students from the cities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach, Virginia, along with civilian and veteran families, were in attendance.

IMAGE PROVIDED BY ANGELA JONES, DOD CBP



Kevin Du Bois explains the rules of the recycling relay to the students and chaperone at the Oceana Air Show STEM event.

Students tested their recycling knowledge and sped through a competitive relay by sorting recyclable items from items meant for trash disposal. Students learned the importance of recycling and proper waste disposal to help reduce waste, conserve our natural resources, and prevent trash from entering our waterways. “Sorting plastic waste to avoid recycling stream contamination is tricky and it’s great to reinforce proper disposal techniques,” DoD CBP Coordinator Kevin Du Bois said. “The recycle relay is a fun activity and it provides a great opportunity for student and adult learning.”

Through a hands-on watershed model called an Enviroscope, students discovered how different land uses can potentially contribute to stormwater pollution, including residential, industrial, and agricultural activities. Pollutants, such as pet waste, oil, fertilizer, detergents, sediment, and others, have an impact on water quality and can detrimentally impact recreational water activities such as fishing and swimming. “It is always so inspiring to see these kids become engaged in learning about stormwater pollution prevention and what we can do to keep our waterways clean,” Oceana Water Program Manager Tara Fisher said. “Many times, the students were eager to tell us what they do (or don’t do) at home in preventing pollutants from making their way downstream.”



IMAGE PROVIDED BY KEVIN DU BOIS, DOD CBP

Tara Fisher talks about how our stormwater runs downstream.

Another hands-on activity involved a mobile spill kit provided by Oceana Waste Program Manager Jefferson Ghent, where students deployed oil-absorbent fabric to simulate oil spill clean-up in aquatic and marine environments. These activities help fulfill stewardship and literacy goals embodied in the White House’s Executive Order 13508 for Chesapeake Bay Protection and Restoration.

“It was wonderful being a part of the STEM event,” Regional Environmental Coordination Director, Blake Waller said. “Hopefully, we helped build on their classroom’s science learning foundation and made lasting connections with the next generation of scientists and engineers. We look forward to continuing this engagement in 2024.”

The students were excited to interact with the hands-on exhibits and learn how they can be good stewards of their environment and help protect it for future generations. For more information about this and future events, please contact Angela Jones at angela.s.jones7.civ@us.navy.mil.

IMAGE PROVIDED BY ANGELA JONES, DOD CBP



Jefferson Ghent explains how absorbent material aids in cleaning up spills.



Chesapeake Bay Action Team (CBAT) Updates

By Aditi Kumar, Brown and Caldwell

Members of the (CBAT) convened for its quarterly meeting on October 26, 2023, and reviewed ongoing Chesapeake-Bay-related service and installation projects and activities. A presentation provided participants with key takeaways from the 2022 DoD Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Progress Evaluation and 2025 DoD Implementation Plan, and a video on the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative was shown. A Q&A session followed.

Chesapeake Bay Service Lead and Installation Roundtable Discussion

The discussion centered on installations in Maryland (MD) and their experiences in submitting as-built surveys for Best Management Practices (BMP). The as-built survey submission effort is ongoing in MD, led by Jason Rinker from the Army Corps of Engineers (Baltimore, MD). It was noted that Naval Support Activity (NSA) Annapolis has submitted as-built surveys for newly constructed BMPs and is working on submitting those for historical BMPs. The NSA Annapolis Installation Environmental Program Director, Matt Klimoski, offered to be a point of contact for questions regarding the submissions. A second discussion focused on a new iteration of the MS4 permit in Maryland which proposes a 10 percent increase in the impervious acre restoration requirement, which could significantly affect installation budgeting processes. Finally, participants were informed that Amy Guise, Chief of the Baltimore Planning Division, is the temporary the Army Corps of Engineers' point of contact for their Chesapeake Bay Program until they fill the position permanently.

Presentation 1: 2022 DoD Progress Evaluation and 2025 DoD Implementation Plan - Takeaways for Installations

Ms. Elizabeth Karivelil provided an overview of the outcomes of the 2022 DoD Chesapeake Bay TMDL Progress Evaluation. The presentation emphasized conclusions on, and suggested actions for, installation staff's and DoD CBP's future efforts. It provided installations with a summary of DoD progress through state fiscal year 2022, planned effort through 2025, and the additional level of effort needed to achieve 2025 targets from an installation and Partnership point of view. Ms. Karivelil presented the total phosphorous and total nitrogen loads achieved through June 2022, the results of the DoD Two-Year Numeric Water Quality Milestone loads for 2022-2023, and an assessment of loads achieved by planned BMPs through December 2025 to determine the remaining effort required to achieve the Federal Planning Goals (FPG). Additionally, she emphasized factors that continue to impact progress towards DoD FPGs such as climate change. For the 2025 Implementation Plan, it is assumed all planned BMPs are implemented and all existing BMPs will continue to be credited through ongoing maintenance and inspection. For any BMPs that are currently not being regularly maintained and inspected, doing so provides the opportunity to receive credits in a cost-effective manner. Also, installations are encouraged to include BMPs that provide climate resilience and natural resilience co-benefits, as they help in optimizing the use of limited resources.

Ms. Karivelil explained how the installation-specific additional, "fill gap" load reduction contributions were developed using the Projects & Indicators (P&I) and BMP datacalls. Information from the P&I datacall helped determine the total area at each installation and to translate that information to nonregulated and regulated pervious and impervious acres. Information from the BMP datacall helped determine the amount of regulated and nonregulated pervious and impervious land that is treated. Each installation's proportion of untreated land (in its jurisdiction) drives its estimated additional load contributions. Ms. Karivelil ended her presentation by outlining next steps for the DoD CBP, which will continue to encourage implementation of BMPs that have natural resources and climate resilience co-benefits which they began to track and report to the broader Partnership starting in 2023.

Presentation 2: Marsh Forward – The South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative (SASMI) Video, Cornell Lab of Ornithology

The SASMI initiative is aimed at preserving more than 1,000,000 acres of wetlands that will protect critical DoD assets and missions. The video shown, highlights the importance of wetlands in protecting the DoD and the collaboration between the DoD and its outside partners to protect and restore these essential natural resources. The video is available online at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_1oHvp9PuY

DoD Chesapeake Bay Program Updates

- The Fall 2023 CBP Journal is available on the DoD CBP's website: <https://denix.osd.mil/chesapeake/dod-cbp-quarterly-journals/>
- The DoD CBP reported on another successful submission of DoD BMPs to the jurisdictions by the 1 October deadline. Thanks to all installations for providing such comprehensive data and continuing to fulfill reporting goals!
- Updates from the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership, Urban Stormwater Workgroup include Updated Stream Restoration Protocol #3 and a Coagulant Enhancement Treatment Report which is out for review. Information on both can be found at: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/urban-stormwater-workgroup-meeting-october-2023>
- Kittatinny Ridge (PA) Sentinel Landscape invited to submit a full proposal.
- The next CBAT meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2024.



DOD/DON Chesapeake Bay Program Office
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Norfolk, VA 23511

✓ Check it Out

REPI Project Insights Across Regional Partnerships, REPI webinar, held on November 8, 2023, discussed how the REPI Program engages with regional partnerships to improve the nation's defense capabilities to support climate resilience and military readiness: <https://bah16f18.adobeconnect.com/pa3pu23ryftp/>

Defending Virginia's Wetlands, Chesapeake Bay Foundation Webinar. This webinar held on October 3, 2023, discusses the value of wetlands and the protections that Virginia's Wetlands receive in state law, the agencies responsible for permitting and enforcement, and why these protections are at risk in light of the Sackett vs. EPA Supreme Court decision.

The link to the webinar is:
<https://www.cbf.org/events/webinars/defending-virginias-wetlands.html>

Forensic Methods for Per-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Source Tracking and allocation. This SERDP-ESTCP webinar, held on December 7, 2023, discussed forensic methods for PFAS source tracking and allocation: <https://youtu.be/OuOVjUVufmA?si=Ht-gwEWt8COHKvpa>

Climate Resources for Supporting Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE). This NOAA Fisheries webinar featured several resources for developing and implementing a climate-focused meaningful watershed educational experience, including a brand-new Environmental Literacy Model that can be used or adapted to your local context. The webinar was held on January 8, 2024, the recording can be accessed after registering through the following link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8991406303871180636>

CBAT Quarterly Conference Call and Meeting. This meeting will be on January 25, 2024, 10:00 a.m. to Noon EDT. Contact Kevin Du Bois or Ashley Kelly to receive a meeting invitation with a web link.

This newsletter is produced by Brown and Caldwell under NAVFAC Atlantic A-E Contract N62470-19-D-4001 in support of the Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act Environmental Compliance Program. For more information or to be added to the email distribution list, please contact the DoD Chesapeake Bay Program: <http://www.denix.osd.mil/chesapeake/home>.

