

Adaptation & Resiliency Working Group Meeting

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 · 2:00 – 4:00pm

Via Google Meet <https://meet.google.com/obz-cofe-dpv>

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Chair: Acting Secretary of Natural Resources, Josh Kurtz

Coordinator: Sarah Lane, sarah.lane@maryland.gov

AGENDA

I. Welcome and Introductions 2:00 - 2:15p

Meeting Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approve Minutes from May 11, 2022 and November 30, 2022 meetings and set expectations - Acting Secretary, Josh Kurtz, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Action: Members approve meeting minutes via vote

II. ARWG 2023 Work Plan Updates 2:15 - 2:40p

Christine Conn, Unit Director, Chesapeake and Coastal Service, DNR will direct members to the ARWG workplan and call on members leading specific items to update the working group on progress to date:

A. Next Generation Adaptation Plan

1. Focus and Sector Groups - Amanda Small and Catherine McCall, DNR

2. ARWG Tasks - Sarah Lane, DNR

B. Decision Support Tool - Brandy Espinola, UMD/EFC

C. Local Level Capacity Building - Allison Brietenother, MDOT

D. Saltwater Intrusion - Jason Dubow, MDP

III. Targeted Resilience Area 2:40 - 3:15p

The Targeted Resilience Area initiative will serve as a pilot project to build capacity to compete for natural infrastructure resilience funds. Launched last year, the initiative has identified two communities for the creation of Comprehensive Water Quality and Climate Resilience Project Portfolios that function at a landscape-scale, are developed in partnership with local governments and vulnerable, underserved communities, and create a pipeline of nature-based resilience projects ready for funding through traditional funding and new federal opportunities. Over the course of the next year, this initiative will create models for

- Promoting state agency collaboration across funding and technical service programs
- Building local capacity (governments and community based organizations) to compete for funding
- Creating ready to fund project portfolios
- Addressing the needs of vulnerable, underserved communities
- Exploring the use of jurisdiction asset management systems that include trees and green stormwater infrastructure.

Dylan Taillie and Ari Engelberg, DNR will present on progress to date and allow for Q&A.

Action: informative presentation

Materials: slides

IV. Coastal Resilience Easement 3:15-3:50p

With sea level rise transforming landscapes, land protection must address the intersection of landscape transition and landowner resilience. Building on the foundation established by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has designed a project to lead marsh protection, coastal management, and environmental finance experts in the development of resilient protection frameworks. The resilient protection frameworks aim to ensure the healthy landward migration of Maryland's tidal marshes while simultaneously preserving landowner's cultural and financial interests. One integral piece of the resilient protection frameworks is the development of coastal resilience easement language. This language is being developed to be compatible with a number of different easements and land protection programs to call out coastal resilience as a feature of land parcels that is essential to protect in order to facilitate climate adaptation for coastal habitats and communities.

Joseph Galarraga and Jackie Specht from The Nature Conservancy will discuss the coastal resilience easement project and provide time for Q&A.

Action: informative presentation

Materials: slides

V. Public Comment 3:50-4:00p

VI. Wrap Up - Josh Kurtz (DNR)

Next Meeting: May 31, 2023, 2-4pm