Pennsylvania
Department of
Environmental Protection

State Water Plan Update
Potomac Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting

October 10, 2024
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Committee Members in Attendance:
Pat Bowling, P.G.
Adrian Bouknight
Adam McClain
Heidi Moltz, Ph.D.
Kevin Moore, P.E.
Pat Naugle, P.E.
Dr. Sarah Principato
Brent Ramsey

Others in Attendance:
James Horton – DEP
Susan Weaver, P.E. – DEP
Bob Whitmore - Strategic Consulting Partners
Jenny Gallagher Blom – Strategic Consulting Partners

Visitors:
Trent Machamer

Welcome
James Horton, DEP, welcomed everyone to the meeting, explained the meeting was being recorded, and provided helpful hints on the use of technology.

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair Positions
Adam McClain volunteered to serve as acting Chair for the meeting. Pat Naugle volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair for the meeting. The appointment of Adam as acting Chair and Pat as Vice-Chair for the meeting was approved on a Kevin Moore / Brent Ramsey motion.

Public Comment
Acting Chair McClain opened the meeting for public comment. An opportunity to express comments verbally or in the chat box was offered. There was no public comment.

Meeting Summary
The summary of the April 11, 2024 meeting was reviewed by the committee members. The meeting summary was accepted as presented on a Pat Naugle / Kevin Moore motion.

Bylaws

James (DEP staff) reviewed Article XII of the Potomac Committee Bylaws. The current bylaws state the following about amending the bylaws: "the By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Regional Committee by two-thirds vote of the full Regional Committee membership (15 voting members)." James said internal review of the bylaws by legal counsel is asking this article to be corrected to state:

"The By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Regional Committee by a simple majority vote of the full Regional Committee membership provided that written notice of such change has been sent via certified mail with a return receipt to each member at least two weeks prior to the meeting."

This change will align the bylaws with Act 220. The legal opinion is this is a change to comply with the Act and does not need to be voted on by the committee as a bylaw change.

A Pat Naugle / Kevin Moore motion was offered for consensus of available committee members to confirm acceptance of the proposed correction to the by-laws.

DEP Update

James Horton, DEP, provided an overview presentation of the state water planning process and the direction forward.

DEP Team

- Sue Weaver, P.E., Environmental Program Manager, Interstate Water Resources Management
- James Horton – Environmental Group Manager, Water Use and Planning Section
- David Jostenski – Walter Program Specialist

Regional Committee Objectives

2025 – Draft regional content
2026 Q1 – Combined Public Hearing and Meeting
2026 Q3 – Send to Statewide Committee for Approval

Five Year Plan

2023 – Outreach/Recruitment/Review
2024 – Implementation and Analysis
2025 – Workgroups and drafting content
2026 – Editing/Compiling public content

Outreach

Upcoming tools:

Webpage with key plan details, partner links, and examples of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) projects.

Analysis

- IWRM work group planning.

Critical Area Resource Plans (CARPS)

- Back Creek, Ohio Region – In review phase with DEP
- Laurel Hill Creek CARP, Ohio Region – In review phase with DEP
- Marsh and Rock Creeks CARP, Potomac Region, In review phase with DEP

Committee Health

Eleven proposed committee members for regional committees are currently in the review and approval process, and applications have been sent to the Governor's office for appointment to the committees.

Roles to Fill in Potomac Regional Committee

- CCD Director x 2
- County Government x 2
- Horticulture
- Agriculture
- Public Water Supply
- Public Wastewater
- Industrial, Commercial, Energy
- Environment and Conservation x 2
- Local Government x 3

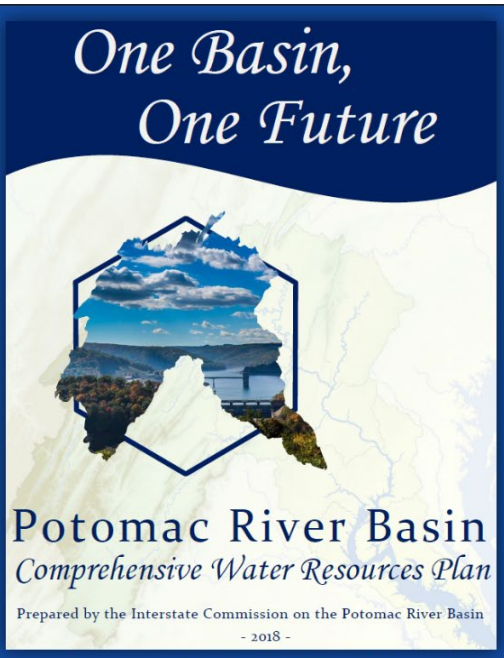
Recruiting New Members Process

Presentation by Heidi Moltz, Ph.D., Interstate Commission for the Potomac River Basin

Outline

Basin-wide Planning Overview
Available Resources

potomacriver.org
bit.ly/basin_plan



Plan cover photo by Robyn Phillips Photography.

Heidi Moltz

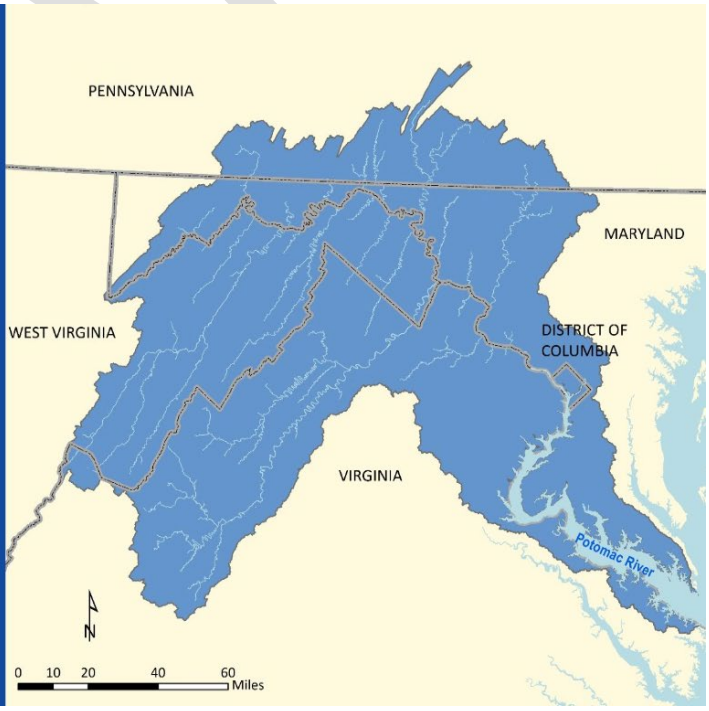
Potomac Basin

14,670 sq. mi.

4 states and DC

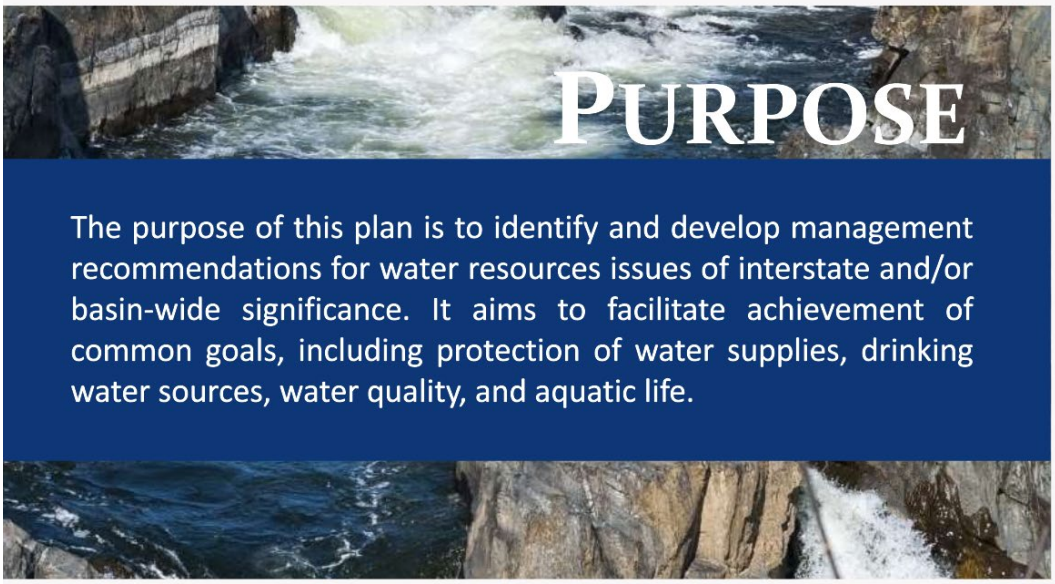
5 physiographic provinces

6.9M basin residents, 80% in DC metro area

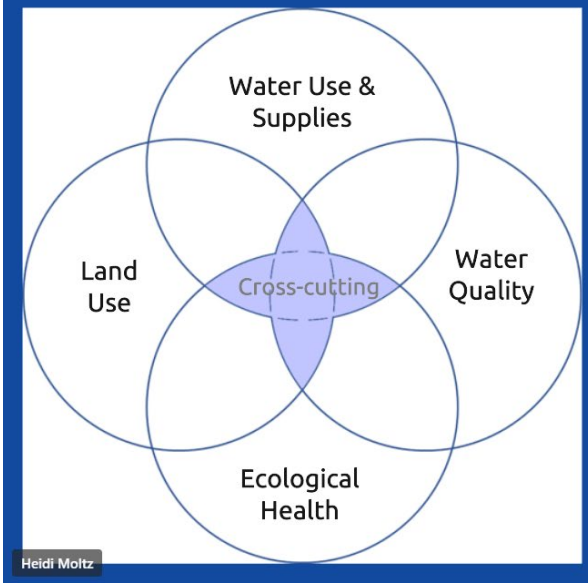


Heidi Moltz

Committee pictured. Advisory Committee meeting N2023



CHALLENGE AREAS



MILESTONES: "The purpose of this section is to identify measurable milestones to determine whether recommendations are being implemented as planned. The milestones discussed in this section focus primarily on ICPRB activities; however, achievement of the goals set forth in this plan requires collaboration and partnership with numerous organizations."

MEASURES OF SUCCESS: "The tangible products of implementing recommendations under each challenge area…"

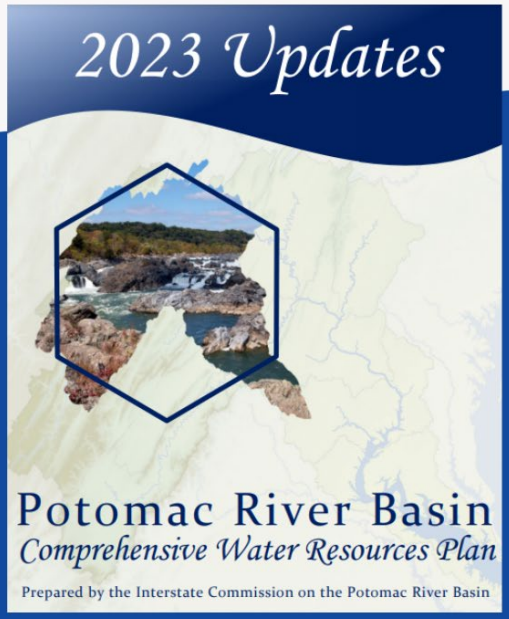
2023 Updates

Reconvened Advisory Committee (met 7 times)

Reviewed implementation progress over past 5 years

Set the to-do list for the next 5 years

Adopted by the Commission at the March 2024 business meeting



Heidi Moltz

Adaptive Implementation

Implementation (ongoing)

Communication (ongoing)

Assess Progress (5 years, 2028)

Review and Revise Full Plan (15 years, 2033)

The plan is available for download online at bit.ly/basin_plan.

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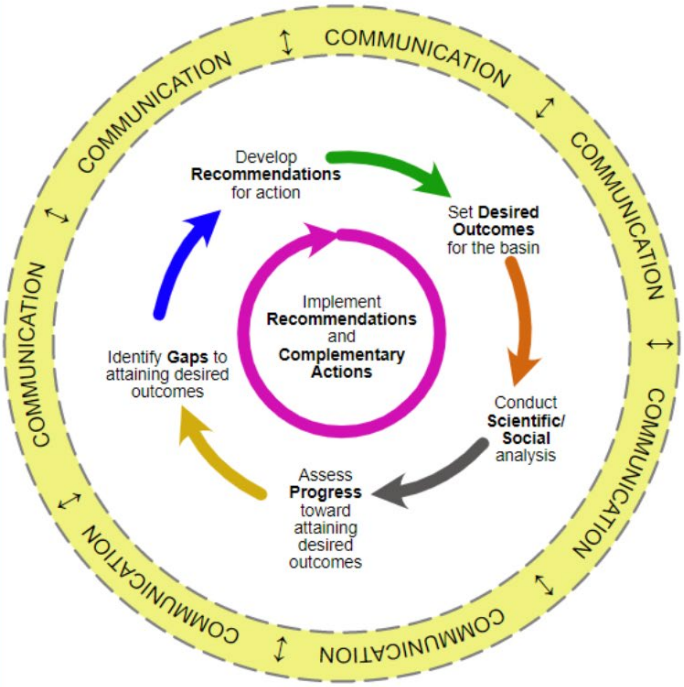


Considerations

Independent facilitators

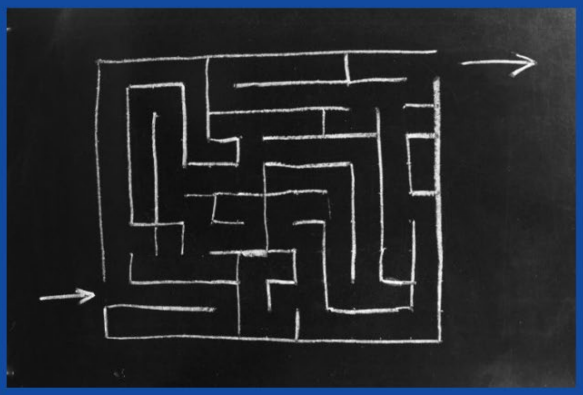
AC member turnover

Maintaining engagement

Importance of in-person meetings

Adaptive process is essential

Bringing results to life



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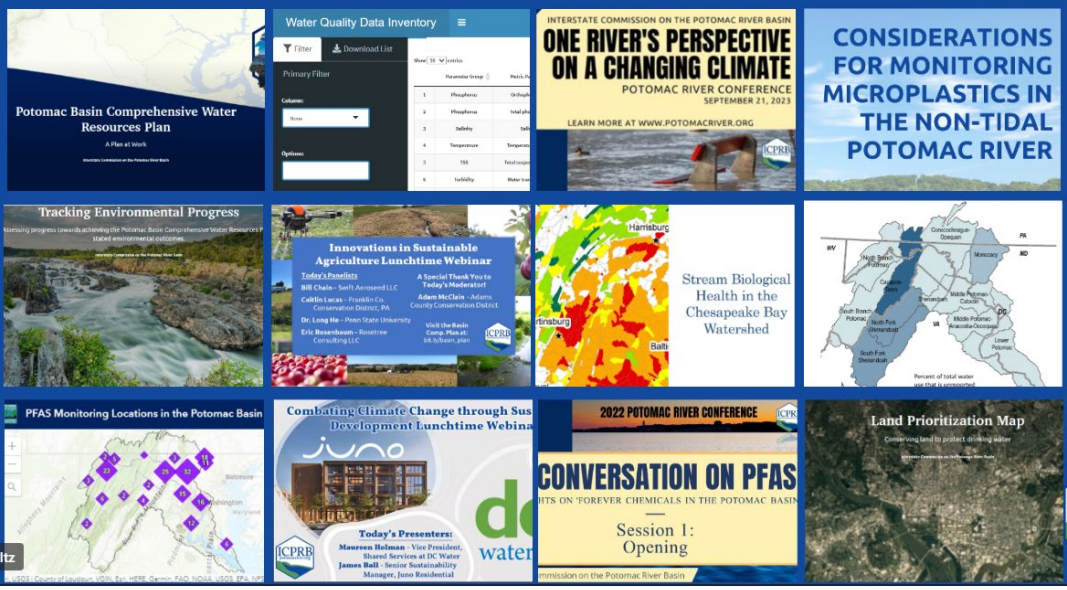
Available Resources



Heidi Moltz

Addressing emerging challenges and ensuring a reliable water supply for the future requires vigilance and collaboration.

WE ARE

A partnership of water suppliers and government agencies working to advance our shared mission

WE OFFER

- Quarterly meetings to educate members about research, regulatory affairs, and emerging issues
- Opportunities to share best practices for improving water quality and minimizing operational costs
- Focused work groups:
  - Agricultural Issues
  - Reaching Out
  - Contaminants of Emerging Concern
  - Early Warning & Emergency Response
  - Urban & Industrial Issues
  - Water Quality

PARTNERSHIP COORDINATOR

Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin

partnership@icprb.org | potomacdwspp.org

AMPLIFYING REGIONAL SOURCE WATER PROTECTION EFFORTS SINCE 2005

Newsletter:

ICPRB potomacriver.org

Land Use Webinar Series

Bi-annual
Lunchtime
Timely topics
Free

Email hmoltz@icprb.org

1. Water Resources Impacts of Data Centers and Solar Fields and Tools to M — Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin • 244 views • 2 months ago — 1:04:59
2. WEBINAR: Agricultural Impacts on Water Quality and Funding Opportunitie — Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin • 86 views • 6 months ago — 1:07:32
3. Innovations in Sustainable Agriculture — Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin • 94 views • 1 year ago — 1:21:02
4. Combating Climate Change through Sustainable Development (Webinar) — Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin • 52 views • 1 year ago — 1:05:50
5. Winter Salt Management Webinar — Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin • 75 views • 2 years ago — 1:10:08
6. Supporting Land Use Decision Makers in the Potomac River Basin — Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin • 84 views • 3 years ago — 59:26
7. Webinar: Spring into Nutrient Management — Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin • 47 views • 2 years ago — 1:06:47

https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/2fcf6517e266414a9c5186f84ce73c31

Winter Salt Wise

The Potomac and nearby rivers are getting saltier. Learn how everyone can protect our waterways by using less winter salt.

Heidi Moltz **Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin**

Stream Health

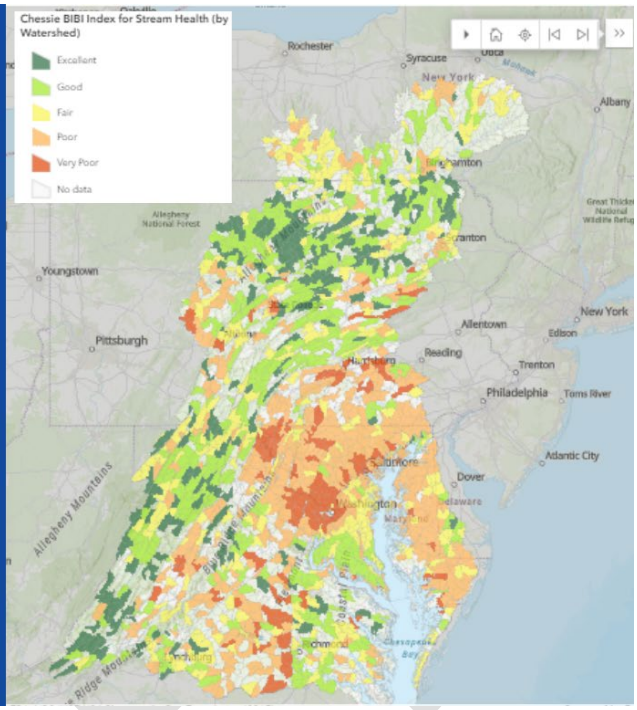
"Chessie BIBI"

Measure of overall condition of stream macroinvertebrates

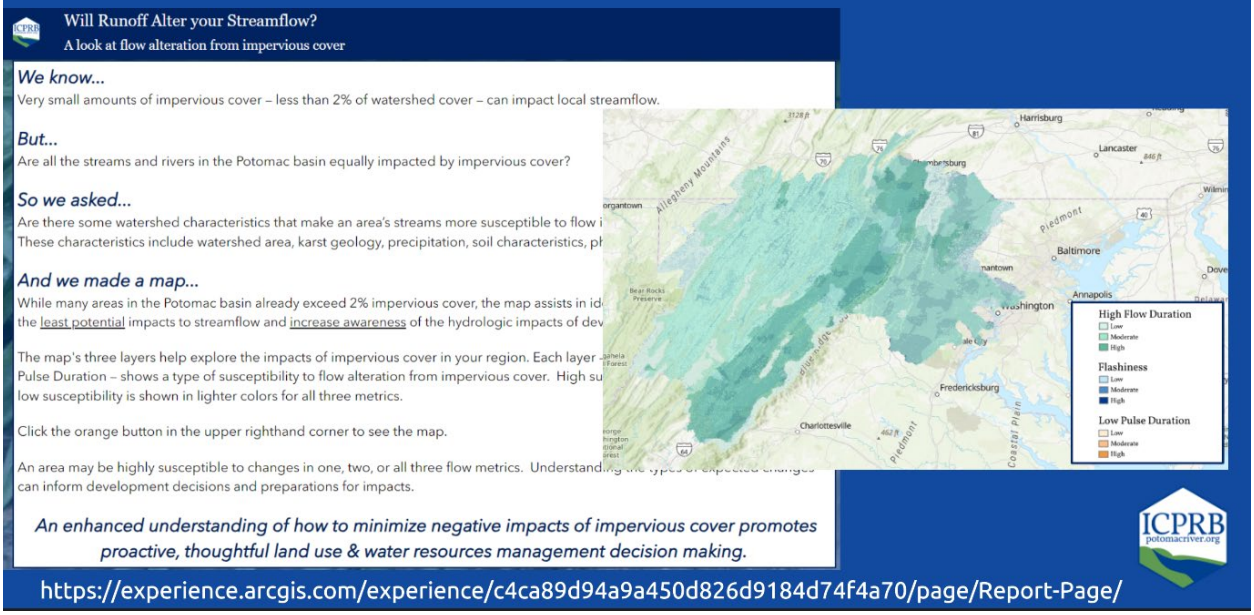
Indicator of stream health

Used by scientists at the Chesapeake Bay Program

https://www.potomacriver.org/focus-areas/aquatic-life/macroinvertebrates/chessie-bibi-index-for-streams/interactive-map/



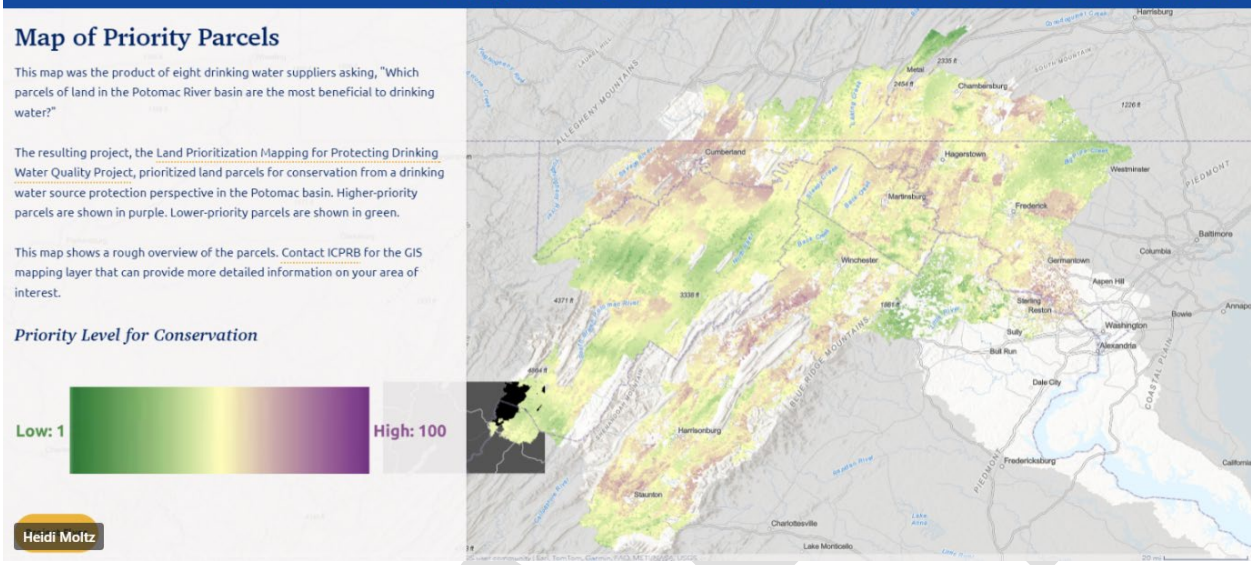
Impervious Cover Tool



https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c4ca89d94a9a450d826d9184d74f4a70/page/Report-Page/

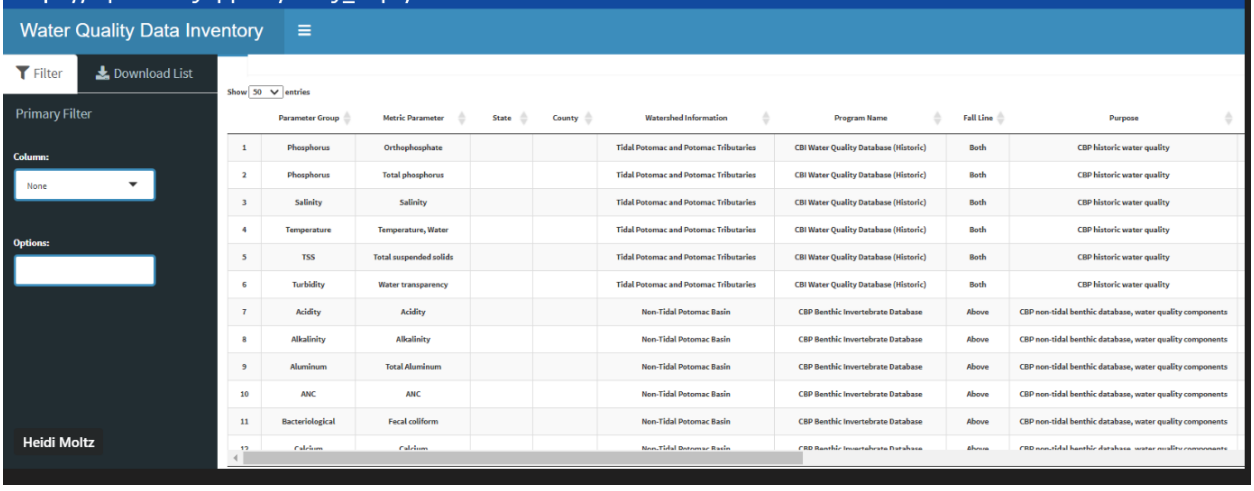
Land Prioritization Mapping

https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/29c7a0fe663c4de99e45071c06cf7a7c



Water Quality Data Inventory

https://icprb.shinyapps.io/shiny_wqdi/

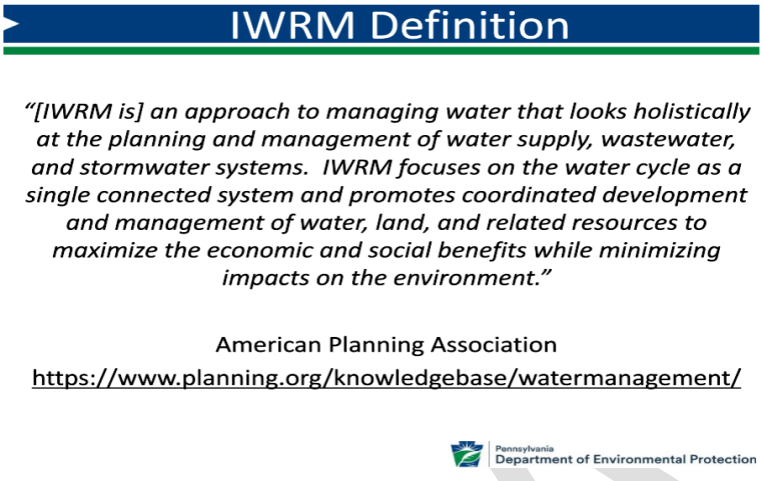


www.icprb.com

IWRM Workgroup Discussion

A workgroup to discuss IWRM was created from volunteers of the regional committees and the statewide committee.

- The workgroup held three meetings – May, June, July
- The workgroup decided that IWRM is a collection of principles.
- The IWRM definition used by the workgroup was:



Findings

- A holistic approach is best to achieve results.
- Collaboration between stakeholders is important.
- Framework for IWRM work – IWRM Principles and IWRM Outcomes:
    - Implementors – people working on the ground and implementing ideas.
    - Resources – to provide background information and data for decision making.
    - Decision makers – planning and coordination

Suggested Actions

- Pre-application meetings
- Connect local stakeholders with resources and tools.
- Catalogue existing efforts and compile a body of knowledge that others can replicate.

Discussion

- York County has an IWRM plan.
- Regulations and laws change, and it is difficult to keep an IWRM plan updated.
- Pennsylvania is fragmented with local government efforts and hard to coordinate on a county basis.

Items in the chat

None

Next Steps

Next meeting – The next Potomac Regional Committee meeting will be held in October 2025. Adam McClain suggested advertising the meeting as a hybrid meeting, and the Ag Center in Gettysburg could be offered as an onsite meeting venue for the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m. by the acting Chair.