



**Annual Plan  
October 2003 – September 2004**

This is the third annual plan for the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CW CESU), which was established in August 2001.

Accomplishments during the last plan year, October 2002 – September 2003

- Between October 1, 2002 and September 30, 2003, 17 projects totaling \$1,156,897 were initiated through the CW CESU. Of these ongoing projects, 10 are research, 2 are education and 5 are technical assistance (includes inventory & monitoring). To date, 31 projects totaling \$1,837,681 have been funded through the CW CESU. See the attached Summary of Projects Report for breakdown by funding agency and institution.
- As of October 1, 2003, there are 9 anticipated projects totaling \$344,098. These are all NPS funded projects that are in the queue, but not fully executed.
- Dr. William Lellis was hired to be the NPS Research Coordinator for the CW CESU. Dr. Lellis began work out of his office located at Appalachian Laboratory, UMCES (the CW CESU host) on November 4, 2002.
- Nancy Castro continues to work part time as the Program Coordinator in the CW CESU host office at Appalachian Laboratory, UMCES.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Federal Managers Meeting of the CW CESU was held on January 13, 2003 (more details below).
- One Executive Committee meeting was held in conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup> Federal Managers Meeting on January 13, 2003 (more details below).
- Representatives of the CW CESU attended the National Network meeting held in June 2003 in Washington D.C.
- University of Virginia withdrew from the CW CESU partnership, effective September 12, 2003.
- The USDA Forest Service, Northeast Research Station was added to the CW CESU as a federal partner, effective October 1, 2003.
- We are encouraged by conversations with one current federal agency partner that has not yet been very active in the CW CESU and one agency that is not a partner in the CESU. Mr. Pedro Morales of the DOD Legacy Resource Management Program has informed us that there will be increased funding available through that program. The CW CESU Technical Representative for the DOD, Glenn Markwith, is working closely with Mr. Morales to secure funding for projects within the region. Dr. Ann Clarke, the NASA CESU National Council representative, has shown an interest in the expertise of CW CESU partners and will be attending the October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Executive Committee meeting to discuss NASA's needs.
- Dr. Lellis represented the CW CESU at the 2003 EPA/State/DOD Environmental Colloquium held Sept 9-11, 2003 in Williamsburg, VA. At this meeting, he provided federal and state agency representatives with an overview of the CW CESU and the NPS

successes realized using the CW CESU partnership. He made several valuable contacts at this meeting, including Dr. Rebecca Hanmer, Director of the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program office.

- We are still amassing names and profiles of scientists at the 8 research/university partners for our experts search tool on the CW CESU website. To date, we have 387 natural science experts and 290 cultural science experts in the database. A graduate student intern from the University of Massachusetts, funded through the North Atlantic CESU by the NPS Northeast Regional Office, is working with Lloyd Chapman, Archeologist - Resource Management and Compliance, to document the cultural experts at the partners of the CESUs in the Northeast region (GLNF CESU, CW CESU, NA CESU and SA CESU). Although not on line now, we expect a fully functional experts database by the end of this year.
- We produced a brochure in the Spring of 2003. This brochure was distributed to participants in the CESU National Network meeting in June 2003. This brochure will be updated in the near future to reflect the recent changes in federal and institutional partners.

#### Objectives for the upcoming plan year, October 2003 – September 2004

- Add the College of William & Mary and the National Aquarium in Baltimore to the CW CESU partnership. The final vote by the Executive Committee is slated for the October 27, 2003 Executive Committee meeting at UMBC.
- Have a Managers Committee meeting in spring or early summer 2004. Have the members of this committee review the workings of the CW CESU.
- Make the website Experts Database fully functional.
- Help in any way possible to increase the activity of the federal agencies.
- Encourage participation by all CW CESU research partners when requests for proposals are circulated for their input.
- Develop a rigorous tracking mechanism for CW CESU projects. This procedure will include reminders to Technical Representatives and researchers regarding project end dates and requests for project products (final reports, publications, posters, slide shows etc.).

#### **Executive Committee**

One Executive Committee meeting was held in conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup> Federal Managers Meeting on January 13, 2003 at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge. The second is scheduled for October 27, 2003. Members of the CW CESU Executive Committee are:

Dr. Geoffrey Walsh, BLM

Mr. Glenn Markwith, DOD

Dr. James Sherald, NPS

Dr. R. Michael Erwin, USGS

Dr. Ronald Barry, FSU

Dr. Lester Vough, UMCP

Dr. Andrew Miller, UMBC

Dr. Louis Pitelka, UMCES

Dr. George Taylor, GMU

Dr. Joanne Favors, UDC (Dr. William Hare attended the Jan 2003 meeting in Dr. Favor's place)

Dr. James Lynch, PSU (not present at Jan 2003 meeting)  
Dr. William Hayden, UVA (not present at the Jan 2003 meeting)

### **Federal Managers Committee**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Federal Managers Meeting of the CW CESU was held on January 13, 2003 at the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge. There were 29 participants at the meeting representing all of the federal and research/university partner organizations (except for Pennsylvania State University), one prospective partner (TNC, MD/DC Chapter) and the CESU National Network Office (a guest speaker). Of the 16 federal agency representatives, 11 were managers. The objective of this meeting was to give the federal managers an overview of the CW CESU and the function of the Federal Managers Committee. Dr. Bill Lellis, the NPS Research Coordinator for the CW CESU gave a talk on the NPS current and future activities within the CW CESU. In addition, two researchers summarized their recently completed or ongoing CW CESU funded projects. Another researcher described the remote sensing expertise of the CW CESU research partners that is available to the federal managers. Federal managers present at the meeting were:

Charles Bush, BLM  
Janmichael Grain, DOD  
Patsy Kerry, DOD  
Lloyd Chapman, NPS  
Gregg Kneipp, NPS  
Darwina Neal, NPS  
Diane Pavek, NPS  
Brent Steury, NPS  
Lee Tarnay, NPS  
Perry Wheelock, NPS  
Edward Pendleton, USGS