



ECOLOGICAL HEALTH MAJOR ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONING

Indicator: Mid-Atlantic Highlands Assessment Program (MAHA)

Region 3 and the Office of Research and Development (ORD) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in cooperation with the states of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, 10 other federal agencies, and the Nature Conservancy have formed an alliance to conduct a multi-year assessment of a 79,000-mile area known as the Mid-Atlantic Highlands. This alliance, known as the Mid-Atlantic Highlands Program (MAHA), is intended to assess the ecological condition of the air, water, and land resources and to identify sensitive areas and at risk biological resources.

MAHA will use a goal-based, indicator driven management system to make sound environmental decisions for the ecosystem.

Source: Environmental Protection Agency.

Data Collection and Characteristics: Data identification and collection is in process, but indicator development has not yet begun.

References

U.S. EPA Mid-Atlantic Highlands Program. 31 January 2003. Available online at: <http://www.epa.gov/ecoplaces/part1/site14.html>

U.S.G.S. Mid-Highlands Program (MAHA). 31 January 2003. Available online at: <http://water.usgs.gov/>

