

CBP Water Quality Goal Implementation Team August 13, 2012 Conference Call

Chesapeake Bay Program's Modeling Update

NEIEN Enhancement Tools

Bay Program partners have been discussing improved tracking mechanisms for BMPs (outside the wastewater sector) that could tie into the NEIEN (National Environmental Information Exchange Network) which has been used as the BMP repository for the last two model assessments of progress. A USACE tool particular to stormwater management inventories and maintenance was presented to the Federal Facilities Team meeting in June and will likely be demonstrated at an upcoming meeting of the Watershed Technical Workgroup, in part to gauge interest among jurisdictions.

Chesapeake Bay Program's BMP Verification Program Development Update

BMP Verification Principles Drafted

The Water Quality Goal Implementation Team's BMP Verification Committee has drafted a set of BMP Verification Principles currently being used by the source sector and habitat restoration workgroup as guidance as they develop their verification protocols. They will be reviewing and refining the principles during their August 16th conference call prior to sending the draft principles up to the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) for review and approval (September) to share with the Management Board (October).

Draft BMP Verification Protocols Drafted and Reviewed

During the BMP Verification Committee's June 19 meeting, the five source sector workgroups—Agriculture, Forestry, Urban Stormwater, and Wastewater Treatment—and the two habitat restoration workgroups—Streams and Wetlands—presented their draft BMP verification protocols to the Committee for initial review and feedback. The June 19 meeting summary, briefing materials, and presentations, which are accessible on-line on the CBP partnership's website at <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/18404/>, provide excellent overviews of how each workgroup is approaching verification of its practices, treatments, and technologies and the BMP Verification Committee's reactions and direction back to each workgroup.

Approaches to Full Access to Federal Cost Shared Data and Double Counting Outlined

Also during the June 19 BMP Verification Committee meeting, Dean Hively, USGS/USDA ARS, presented the proposed approaches to ensuring all six jurisdictions will have access to the full array of USDA NRCS and FSA federal cost shared agricultural conservation practices and accounting for any possible double counting. Dean recommended a five-point approach to ensuring these two objectives—full access and prevention of double counting—could be achieved in tandem through procedures developed working with and tailored to each of the six jurisdictions.

Options for Cleaning up Historical BMP Databases Presented

Jeff Sweeney presented three options to the BMP Verification Committee at its June 19 meeting on how the partnership and the individual jurisdictions could proceed forward with cleaning up their historical BMP databases. At the WQGIT's July 16 conference call, the BMP Verification Committee requested the WQGIT charge the Watershed Technical Workgroup with responsibility for further pursuing these historical database clean-up options as this work is outside of the original charge to the BMP Verification Committee.

At its August 1 meeting, the Watershed Technical Workgroup discussed its approach to developing procedures for assisting the jurisdictions in cleaning up their historical BMP databases.

Role of NEIEN in Ensuring Accounting for Non-cost Shared Data

Marty Hurd, Tetra Tech, presented recommendations on how to ensure non-cost shared BMP data get reported by the jurisdictions through the existing NEIEN system.

Seeking Nominations for the BMP Verification Review Panel

Following up on its June 19 meeting, the BMP Verification Committee sent out formal requests for nominations for members on the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership's BMP Verification Review Panel on June 21. Attached to the email requests were the draft charge and recommended types, expertise and proficiencies of members for the BMP Verification Review Panel.

Emails were distributed to the:

- Water Quality Goal Implementation Team members and its Agriculture, Forestry, Urban Stormwater, Wastewater Treatment, **Watershed Technical**, and Trading and Offsets Workgroups members;
- Members of the Habitat Goal Implementation Team and its Wetlands Action Team and Stream Health Workgroup members; and
- The Chairs and Coordinators of the partnership's three advisory committee: Citizens, Local Governments, and Scientific and Technical Advisory Committees.

The emailed request asked that by Monday, July 23, the members email CBPO staff their nominations for panel members, including each nominee's 1) affiliation, 2) contact information (email address, phone number), and 3) which set(s) of the member type, expertise and/or proficiencies listed on page 3 of the attached BMP Verification Review Panel charge is addressed by the nominee. The compilation of the received 26 nominations was been distributed to the BMP Verification Committee on July 30th for discussion at its August 16th conference call.

Coming out of its August 16 conference call, the BMP Verification Committee be recommending a subset of the total list of nominations for BMP Verification Review Panel membership to the Management Board for final decisions at their September meeting.

BMP Verification Web Page Posted

The BMP Verification Committee's web page has been posted on the CBP partnership's web site at

http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/best_management_practices_bmp_verification_committee. The Committee is also listed as a workgroup under the Water Quality Goal Team and can be accessed directly from the WQGIT's web page.

Upcoming Schedule and Next Steps

This schedule is subject to change based on the BMP Verification Committee's September 12th meeting review of the entire BMP verification framework and progress by the workgroups on their source sector/habitat restoration specific verification protocols.

August 16th BMP Verification Committee Conference Call

- Review of the revised draft June 5th BMP verification principles
- Review of BMP Verification Review Panel nominations
- Review of the BMP Verification Review Panel's operations and schedule
- Preparation for the September 12th face to face meeting

September 12th BMP Verification Committee Meeting

- Review of the entire BMP verification program framework
- Are we ready to seek partnership approval of the entire framework or is more time needed to fully develop all the framework's elements
- Institutionalizing the application of life spans into our tracking, verification, and reporting systems

October:

- Presentation to the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team
- Briefings for Habitat and other Goal Implementation Teams
- Briefings for the CBP partnership's advisory committees (CAC, LGAC, STAC)

November:

- Presentation to the Management Board
- Briefings for the CBP partnership's advisory committees (continued)

January:

- Presentation to the Principals' Staff Committee

Winter 2012/2013:

- PSC communication of the Partnership's BMP Verification Program to partners/stakeholders through some formal agreement mechanism

Spring 2013:

- BMP Verification Review Panel reviews states' proposed verification programs