

AGENDA
Sept 17, 2020
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
AgWG Conference Call

Conference Call Information

Zoom Link*: <https://zoom.us/j/553329453>

Conference Line: 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 553 329 453

Password: 2494

Participant ID: available through Zoom link

*To enter the webinar, please open the webinar link first. After opening the webinar, either elect to join via computer audio or via phone call. If you select phone, **please ensure you enter the participant ID.**

Workgroup Areas of Focus

Accounting & Reporting • Implementation • Innovation

Data & Modeling • CBP Assignments

10:00 **Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes**

Workgroup Chair

- Roll-call of the governance body
- Roll-call of the meeting participants
- Approval of meeting minutes from the July 16th Conference Call

Innovation

10:10 **Avian Influenza: Modeling Transmission Risk (30 min)**

Mark Nardi & Diann Prosser

While avian influenza presents a global threat, the mechanisms for transmission across the wild bird – domestic poultry interface differ based upon region, agricultural practices, wild bird distributions, species susceptibility, and other risk factors. Due to the importance of the poultry industry to the Chesapeake Bay region, understanding the spatio-temporal patterns of avian influenza transmission risk could be very useful in concentrating disease monitoring efforts and planning biosecurity tactics. Mark Nardi & Diann Prosser, USGS, will discuss an upcoming modeling effort and are seeking insights from the AgWG on how such work may benefit poultry growers and stakeholders.

Data & Modeling

10:40 **Crop acres Fallow and Idle (15 min)**

Loretta Collins & Dave Montali

Loretta Collins, UMD and Dave Montali, Tetra Tech, will briefly describe a data concern related to the 2017 Ag Census reported acres for “Cropland in cultivated summer fallow” and “Cropland idle

or used for cover crops or soil improvement but not harvested and not pastured or grazed” and attempts made to determine if reported increases are reflective of on-the-ground change. This is one of several CAST-21 Workplan “Key Actions” to be discussed at greater length after the break.

10:55 BREAK (5 min)

11:00 Review of CAST Concerns (40 min)

Loretta Collins

On its July call, the AgWG agreed to form an ad hoc group to discuss concerns raised by states regarding CAST-19 (i.e. the most recent update to the Phase 6 watershed model). On Sept 8th, the ad hoc group had its initial meeting to discuss issues that the CBP partnership has made a commitment to address before the next watershed model update (CAST-21) in September 2021, known as the “CAST-21 Workplan,” as well as additional concerns that were solicited from the AgWG’s jurisdictional membership following the July AgWG call. Loretta will summarize the issues and outcomes from that initial meeting. Frequent updates and discussion to follow.

Implementation/ Accounting & Reporting

11:40 Updates on Impacts of COVID-19 (10 min)

All

The current international health crisis is having impacts across every aspect of society. Time is allotted here to provide CBP partners the opportunity to share their recent experiences and what the short-term and potential long-term impacts of stay-at-home orders and critical response efforts will be on the agricultural community and conservation efforts. Below is a non-exhaustive list of possible areas of discourse:

- Technical Assistance Capacity
- Outreach and Education
- Health, Safety, Wellness
- Industry Impacts
- Ag Markets Outlook
- Federal and State Agencies
- Non-Governmental Organizations/ Non-Profits
- Tracking, Reporting, & Verification Challenges
- Adaptive Strategies

11:50 New Business & Announcements (5 min)

- BMP Verification Ad Hoc Action Team
 - The Management Board charged the WQGIT with convening an [Ad-Hoc action team](#) to address multiple BMP verification concerns. The 2nd meeting occurred on September 9th.
- Non-Urban Stream Restoration EPEG
- Animal Mortality Expert Panel Report
- [Chesapeake Bay Stewardship 2020 Grants](#)
 - The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Chesapeake Bay Program, recently announced the 2020 round of funding for Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund projects. Fifty-six restoration and water quality improvement grants totaling \$18.06 million were awarded, leveraging \$18.9 million in match from the grantees to generate a total conservation impact of \$36.97 million.
- Improving Climate Resilience in Crops

- The [Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research](#) (FFAR) will be accepting applications for the new Improving Climate Resilience in Crops program starting September 16, 2020. This grant opportunity is through the [Next Generation Crops](#) Challenge Area to increase a crop's tolerance for higher temperatures. Full application criteria and eligibility requirements will be available on FFAR's [Open Opportunities](#) webpage on September 16, 2020.
- Other Announcements?

11:55 Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)

Whitney Ashead

Whitney Ashead will review action and decision items from the meeting.

12:00 Adjourn Meeting

Next Meeting:

Thursday, October 15, 10AM-12PM: Conference Call

COVID-19 Resources:

Evolving list...

Delaware

UD Extension: <https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/canr/cooperative-extension/trending/coronavirus-resources/>

Maryland

MDA Updates: <https://news.maryland.gov/mda/category/covid-19/>

UMD Extension: <https://extension.umd.edu/learn/covid-19-resources>

Maryland Farm Bureau: <https://www.mdfarmbureau.com/coronavirus/>

New York

Crisis Management: <https://www.nyfarmnet.org/>

Cornell Cooperative Extension: <https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/coronavirus-response/>

State-Level Ag/COVID resources that are updated, sometimes daily (with some overlap):

Executive Order 2026 on Essential Businesses/Entities:

- <https://esd.ny.gov/guidance-executive-order-2026>

NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets:

- <https://agriculture.ny.gov/coronavirus>
- https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/covid19_resourceguide_0.pdf

Cornell University / Cornell Cooperative Extension:

- <https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/coronavirus-response/>
- <https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/publications/covid-19/>
- <https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/publications/news-e-alerts/>
- <http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>
- <https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/>

Pennsylvania

Dept. of Agriculture: <https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Resources.aspx>

Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) guidance documents:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Pages/AlertDetails.aspx>

Penn State Extension: <https://extension.psu.edu/coronavirus>

West Virginia

Dept. of Agriculture: <https://agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/covid-19/Pages/default.aspx>

Virginia

Virginia Tech: https://aaec.vt.edu/content/dam/aaec_vt_edu/extension/aaec-outreach-reports/covid-19-resources-may-2020/COVID-impacts-on-Virginia-5-20.pdf

Virginia Cooperative Extension: <https://ext.vt.edu/covid-19updates/resources.html>

USDA

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture: <https://www.usda.gov/coronavirus>

Coronavirus and USDA Assistance for Farmers: <https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus>

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program: <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>

Federal Rural Resource Guide: https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/USDA_COVID-19_Fed_Rural_Resource_Guide.pdf

EPA

EPA: www.epa.gov/coronavirus

EPA Policy and Frequent Questions on Grant Issues related to COVID-19 (3/26):

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/rain-2020-g02>

EPA Memo on COVID-19 Implications for EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program (3/26):

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-03/documents/oecamemooncovid19implications.pdf>

EPA COVID-19 Enforcement and Compliance Resources: <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/covid-19-enforcement-and-compliance-resources>

Non-Governmental Organizations

National Association of Conservation Districts: <https://www.nacdnet.org/covid-19/>

Farm Bureau: <https://www.fb.org/land/impact-covid19-on-ag>

Farmer's Legal Action Group Quick Summary of COVID-19 Relief for Farmers:

<http://www.flaginc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Updated-Farmers-Guide-to-COVID-19-Relief-April-27-2020.pdf>

National Farmers Union: <https://nfu.org/coronavirus/>

Center for Dairy Excellence: <https://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/covid-19-farm-resources/>

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association: <https://www.uspoultry.org/COVID-19/>

Pork Checkoff: <https://www.pork.org/public-health/what-you-need-to-know-about-covid-19/>

National Grain and Feed Association: https://imis.ngfa.org/members/n/COVID-19_Updates/ngfa/News/COVID-19_Updates.aspx?hkey=85178898-8bf7-4520-9299-b9348fa2641f

National Cattlemen's Beef Association: <https://www.ncba.org/coronavirus.aspx>

Crisis Hotline

Farm Aid: Monday-Friday 9-5 EST at 1-800-FARM-AID: <https://www.farmaid.org/blog/resources-for-farmers-affected-by-covid-19/>

Rural Advancement Foundation International (RAFI): <https://www.rafiusa.org/hotline/>