

Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG)
Meeting Agenda
October 11, 2012
9:30 AM to 3:30 PM
USFWS Annapolis Field Office Conference Room
Annapolis, Maryland
Conference Call Number: 866.299.3188, Code: 410.267.5731
Virtual Meeting Room: <https://epa.connectsolutions.com/agwg/>
Calendar Even Page: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/18692/>

09:30 **Welcome and Introductions** **Coale**

09:40 **AgWG Meeting Minutes** **Coale**
Frank Coale, AgWG Chair, will lead a discussion on the review and approval of the minutes from the August 9, 2012 and the September 20, 2012 workgroup meetings held at the USFWS Annapolis Field Office.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendation

09:45 **Agricultural BMP Verification Process** **Coale/Dubin**
Frank and Mark Dubin, AgWG Coordinator, will provide an overview of the workgroup's progress to date on the development of an agricultural BMP verification protocol and the proposed process/schedule for incorporating the partnership's recommendations into a finalized protocol.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

09:55 **Agricultural BMP Verification Report** **Dubin/Dressing/Meals**
In response to the AgWG's request for technical assistance in identifying reference sources of agricultural verification protocols, Tetra Tech (Tt) has implemented a national literature search and conducted survey interviews with recognized experts to identify potential reference sources for the workgroup. The draft summary findings of that effort were presented for comment during the September 20, 2012 workgroup meeting. An update will be provided on how the comments received will be incorporated into a final version of the summary report.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

10:10 **Agricultural Verification Protocol Concept** **Coale/Dubin**
Frank and Mark will present a revised verification protocol concept for the consideration of the workgroup. The revised concept is based on the key findings of the Tt draft summary report, the comments provided from the jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional representatives on the previous draft

agricultural verification concept, and the guidance received from the BMP Verification Steering Committee.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

10:30 Agricultural Verification Protocol - Partners Coale

Frank will facilitate an open discussion from the perspective of the state agency representatives on their reviews of the revised draft agricultural verification concept. The discussion will encompass all forms of agricultural BMPs, cost shared as well as non-cost shared practices.

Order of Comments: Virginia
West Virginia
Maryland
Delaware
Pennsylvania
New York
EPA

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

11:30 Agricultural Verification Protocol - Partners Coale

Frank will facilitate an open discussion from the perspective of the non-state partner representatives on their organizational reviews of the revised draft agricultural verification concept. The discussion will encompass all forms of agricultural BMPs, cost shared as well as non-cost shared practices.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

12:00 Luncheon Break

01:00 Agricultural Verification Protocol - Recommendations Coale

Frank will seek a motion and a consensus decision on a preliminary agricultural verification protocol matrix. The approved preliminary protocol will be further developed over the next several months into a comprehensive verification document for final review and approval during the January 2013 workgroup meeting. As per the July 19, 2012 meeting recommendations of the AgWG, focused outreach on the preliminary protocol will be conducted with the agricultural community leading up to the January meeting.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

01:20 2025 Goal Line Conference Report Update Dubin

Mark will provide a brief update on the 2025 Goal Line Conference report

workgroup review recommendations provided to the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC). The recommendations have been incorporated into a revised report which will be submitted to STAC for final approval prior to publication.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

- 01:25** **Mid-Point Assessment Priorities** **Dubin**
Mark will present the workgroup's comprehensive top priority recommendations on the mid-point assessment for final review and approval. The list of priority recommendation was developed in response to a request by the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) and based on the September 20, 2012 workgroup discussions. The approved priority recommendations will be presented to the WQGIT during their October 22-23, 2012 meeting to convey the workgroup's opinions.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

- 01:35** **Mid-Point Assessment: Next Steps** **Shenk, McCoy**
Gary Shenk, EPA-CBPO Modeling Team, will discuss potential opportunities for how the agricultural mid-point assessment priorities could be supported by the workgroup to help direct and inform future partnership tools and decisions. This will be a focus of discussion during the upcoming WQGIT meeting on program-wide mid-point assessment efforts.

Nona McCoy, NRCS, and Gary Shenk, EPA will provide an update on the joint USDA/EPA Chesapeake Bay Conservation Data Collaboration Workplan.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

- 02:00** **Mid-Point Assessment: Future AgWG Plan** **Coale**
Frank will facilitate an open membership discussion on the potential of developing a draft scope of work and tentative schedule to direct future AgWG discussions and efforts towards supporting the agricultural mid-point assessment priorities.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

- 03:10** **Review of AgWG Recommendations** **Coale/Dubin**
The members will review and finalize the workgroup's meeting recommendations for endorsement and implementation.

ACTION REQUESTED: Finalized Workgroup Recommendations

03:30

Adjourn

Conference Call Materials:

Participants are requested to review the materials posted on the AgWG webpage for the meeting. Some documents may be posted just prior to the meeting, so please check back.

Agenda Schedule:

The meeting agenda is reflective of known information at the time of publication and may be subject to change due to other circumstances. Additional agenda items may be added if time is available.

Luncheon Information:

Workgroup members may either bring their lunch to the meeting room, or utilize one of the food establishments nearby.