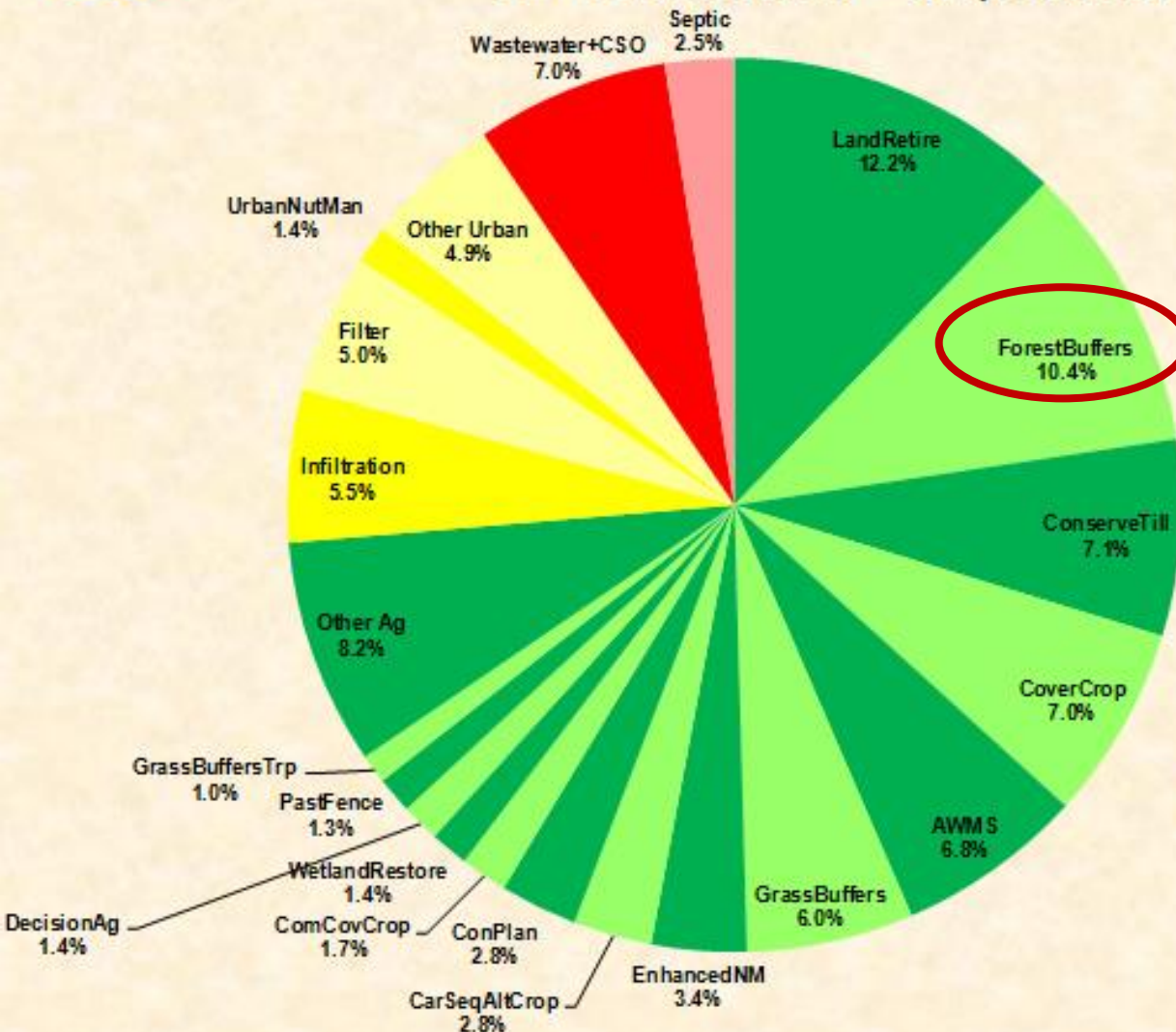


# Riparian Forest Buffer Management Strategy Update

# States relying on past and future acres



## Nitrogen Relative Load Reductions CB Watershed – as percent



Forest Buffers rank second of all nonpoint source BMPs needed to meet TMDL targets.

- Includes both past CP-22 acres and planned 2013-2025

Each slice represents the percent of the total load reduction attributable to planned implementation levels for that BMP.

# Various Current Happenings

1. Riparian Forest Buffer Initiative
  - State Task Force reports are included here
2. Riparian Forest Buffer Management Strategy
  - required by Chesapeake Bay Agreement
3. \$5 million for states from FSA
  - ~1 million available per state
4. Outreach and technical assistance positions available in  
2015 to PA, MD, WV, and VA
  - funding from FSA through USFS to hire 1-3 positions
5. Proposal to FSA for extra Outreach funding
  - FS coordinated with partners to submit this Jan 30

# Progress to Date

- Initial Draft of MS posted 12/15 on MS website
- Incorporated approaches from State Task Force reports in MS—
- Final Task Force reports by Feb 27
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft for public comment by also due by February 27<sup>th</sup>
- Presentation to PSC on Feb 18

# Comments on the Draft RFB MS

- Good job on the detail included on what's needed
- Current efforts are not sufficient
- Show how RFB fits in with stormwater and wetlands programs
- Add importance of re-enrollment (knowing that some buffers will remain either way)
- Actions need to link directly to resources
- Commitments of dollars and staff time are essential to creating accountability

# More Comments

- Identify role for local governments
- address the needs of non-ag landowners
- Single reporting medium including width
- Use FSA reporting at county scale
- address practices that are counter-productive (fencing, etc)
- Do more to drive landowner acceptance
- Need to improve/prepare seedling stock
- Lack of easement and targeting programs not a big deal

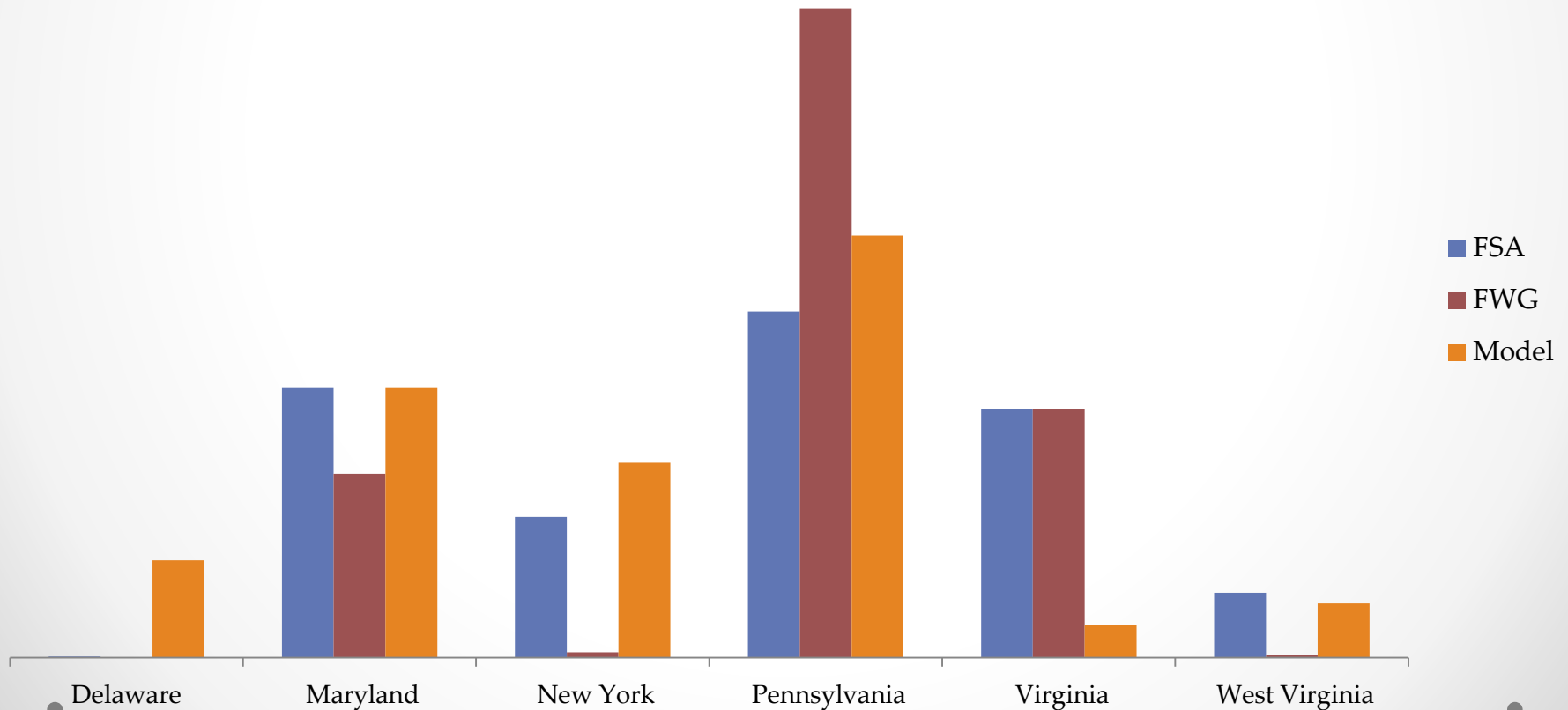
# Possible Issues to Raise

- Infrastructure in place, need to pull leadership
- Timing is critical during USDA leadership engagement, re-enrollment challenge
- State leadership need to team up to help FSA and NRCS stay on task: prepare CREP amendments, ensure match, do reporting, etc
- Big issues are not forestry ones
- **Need a RFB State Lead** empowered to work across agencies, responsible for WIP target



# Verification and Data Clean-up

**RFB Reporting: FSA vs FWG vs Model**  
(in relative amounts)





# Questions

- Is achieving this outcome dependent upon establishing RFB on non-ag lands?
- What “asks” do states have for their leaders?