



## Meeting Minutes

### Chesapeake Bay Forestry Workgroup (FWG) August Conference Call

August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

#### Meeting Participants

Rebecca Hanmer, *FWG Chair*  
Sally Claggett (USFS), *FWG Coordinator*  
Katherine Wares (Chesapeake Research Consortium)  
Aileen Molloy (TetraTech)  
Matthew Keefer (PA DCNR)  
Tracey Coulter (PA DCNR)  
Frank Rogers (Cacapon Institute, WV)  
Herb Peddicord (WV DOF)  
Matt Poirot (VA DOF)  
Judy Okay (VA DOF)  
Barbara White (VA DOF)  
Lauren Townley (NY DEC)

#### 9:00 Welcome and introductions

Rebecca Hanmer welcomed everybody to the call and confirmed participants.

#### Updates

- Please review the FWG Membership document and notify Sally Claggett about any final changes that need to be made.

#### Tier 2 Urban Forest Planting BMP Proposal Update

Virginia and possibly Maryland partners have suggested modifying the Tier 2 Urban Forest Planting BMP to get credit for a conversion to “Forest” in place of “Mixed open.” This was the original proposal of the FWG before revising to Mixed open. The FWG agreed to this modification. This change will be brought up and discussed at the Watershed Tech Workgroup meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION:** Katherine will post document with updated language and rationale for the credit.

#### Assessing Multifunctional Riparian Forest Buffer Benefits Project Proposal

Matt Keefer explained the project, Assessing Multifunctional Riparian Forest Buffer Benefits, which he submitted to WQGIT funding. This project would plant multifunctional riparian forest buffers, compare options for multifunctional buffer design, and determine the effectiveness of these buffers to see if they could receive the same credit as “Forest Buffers” in the Bay Model. Further information on this project can be found at [this link](#).

#### Questions and Comments

- Sally Claggett asked if the workgroup supported this proposal; the group agreed.
- Judy Okay asked Matt if he had been in contact with Katie Trozzo at Virginia Tech. Matt responded that he had been in touch with her.

- Barbara White asked if they plan on planting native trees and shrubs that are naturally in buffered areas, and if so then how do these buffers differ. Matt replied that not all plants would be traditional buffer plants and that harvesting of nuts and berries would be allowed which could also affect the credit of the practice.
- Sally Claggett asked how this proposal was different or separate from Matt's NFWF proposal. Matt responded that this proposal evaluates different designs and their function over time.
- If this project receives GIT funding, the workgroup would like to reconvene for input to the project.

**ACTION:** Sally will send this proposal to the Habitat GIT to see if they support it.

**ACTION:** The Wetlands Workgroup has a GIT Funding Project proposal that is complementary to FWG RFB efforts; Katherine will post the WWG proposal online for review.

### 9:36 How Forest BMPs Support Management Strategies

Aileen Molloy presented an introduction to the TetraTech project, Quantifying the Impacts of BMPs on CBP Management Strategies and Goals. This was the 2015 highest priority project for WQ GIT funding. TetraTech will develop guidelines on which FWG can comment. These guidelines will be used to assign each BMP an impact score for each management strategy or goal. The FWG will have primary responsibility to rank the Forest BMPs. Using those scores and information from other sources, a report will be made that should quantify BMP effects and will be of use to jurisdictions and other to assess the impact of WIPs on management strategies or goals. Further information on this project can be found at [this link](#).

#### Questions and Comments

- Rebecca Hanmer asked if there was a management strategy prioritization or if all management strategies would be considered equally, since some have greater effects on water quality than others. Aileen responded that they will consider and explore prioritization of management strategies.
- Barbara White noted that she agreed it is important to take BMP costs into account.
- Judy Okay asked why TetraTech isn't using the expert panel reports and reference sheets as part of their information gathering. Others noted that those reports do not focus on effects on management strategies.
- Frank Rogers asked if the BMP information used for this study represents what the BMP is designed/supposed to do or what the BMP actually does. Aileen responded that they use conceptual information and best professional judgement.
- Aileen noted that the scoring criteria has been made and after the guideline are finalized within the next month, they will be sent to the FWG, which will serve as expert panel to score BMPs relating forestry.

**ACTION:** Katherine will send out the guidelines for assigning BMP impact scores from Aileen Molloy once they are completed

### 10:07 Round Robin

- Sally Claggett: Forest Champion nominations will be received until August 18<sup>th</sup>. Please consider nominating someone you know. More information can be found at the Forests for the Bay website or [here](#). The Chesapeake Watershed Forum is now open for registration. It will take place September 30<sup>th</sup> - October 2<sup>nd</sup> at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV. There will be a Forestry Track going on. More information can be found on the Alliance for the Bay website or [here](#). Smith Island Training will be October 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. The lead for each state should send their list of attendees to Jenny McGarvey of the Alliance.
- Tracey Coulter: The Pennsylvania Agro Forestry Training is open for registration and will occur September 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>. Information can be found on the NEMA Agroforestry [website](#).

- Barbara White: Virginia Trees for Clean Water grants are open and will be ranked next month. DOF is interviewing for urban partnership coordinator position soon (Barbara White's former position).
- Herb Peddicord and Frank Rogers: Many WV Division of Forestry field employees have been laid off recently. The new CREP Forester to join in on training opportunities with CBP. There are 14 fall planting projects (330 trees) planned for the Project CommuniTree, which has been renamed Carla Hardy West Virginia CommuniTree.
- Lauren Townley: The amendment to the NY CREP Agreement has been finalized.

**10:26 Adjourned**