



Urban Stormwater Workgroup Meeting

Tuesday, Feb 18, 2020

10:00 AM to 11:15 AM

Conference Line: +1 929-205-6099 **Meeting ID:** 977-009-221

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/977009221>

10:00 Welcome, Roll Call and Review of January Meeting Minutes.

Norm Goulet, Chair. Attach A.

Decision: The January meeting minutes were approved by the USWG.

10:05 Announcements and Updates

- Upcoming Webcast Schedule
 - Upcoming CSN webcasts available on website.
- Update on GIT/CBT Funding for IDF Curves
- EPR Updates: Ag ditch expert panel and nontidal wetland restoration expert panel
 - Jeremy Hanson noted that the nontidal wetland creation and enhancement expert panel still at WQGIT level.
- Other Announcements

10:15 Update on Revisiting Stream Restoration EPR Schueler, (20 minutes)

Tom will update the workgroup on progress being made by the expert groups that are revisiting aspects of the 2013 EPR. The USWG approved Group 3's recommendations on the prevented sediment protocol (Protocol 1), but a hold was placed on it by the WQGIT in December. Group 4 is diligently working on improvements to the protocols 2 and 3, and has made good progress. Group 5 has looked at crediting issues for floodplain restoration projects that remove legacy sediments, and should shortly report their recommendations to Group 4.

The Agricultural Workgroup has decided to launch its own research and potentially an expert panel in the coming year to address stream projects implemented under NRCS specs/cost-sharing, based on feedback from USWG chair.

- PA agreed to stand aside on the report – David Wood will be adding in language to incorporate comments.
- Norm Goulet noted that expert panel reports need to be explicit about eligible land use.
- The Ag workgroup accepted the Urban Stream EPR in 2013 where there was explicit language at the time, but contradictory decisions have been made since then

10:35 Crediting Impervious Cover Disconnection, Removal or Replacement, Schueler

Jurisdictions have expressed some confusion on how to properly credit projects that minimize the impact of impervious cover, as it has been handled as a land use change and at least two types of stormwater practices. CSN will briefly describe the history of how IC modifications have been handled in the context of past expert panels, watershed model developments, and land

use data. The workgroup will be asked for guidance on next steps to provide more integrated guidance on this topic.

- The Land Use Workgroup is looking at an updated forest layer.
- DOT is reducing impervious surfaces by narrowing roads. Such a small change may not be picked up in the high-resolution imagery.
 - Tom Schueler: We need to settle if impervious surface removal is a land use change or a simple best management practice.
- Tom Schueler is not suggesting a full expert panel for this process.
- Norm Goulet: Do we need to go all the way to convening an expert panel? Or can we put together something using research in other expert panel reports?
 - Cecelia Lane: If the decreasing size of highways will not be captured in the land use, we need to know the qualifying conditions so that the smaller pieces can be reported. We will need to understand how to report it.
- Norm Goulet volunteered Cecelia Lane and KC Filippino to be on the small committee.
- KC Filippino noted that questions of this nature come up a lot, and we need to better document the discussions and decisions made.
- The group needs to start pulling together the expert panels and see what exists to work from.
 - Tom Schueler will begin this process and bring it back at the April USWG conference call.
 - Scott Crafton: VA does have a spec for impervious disconnection that we can look into. I will look through old files and see if I can find more information.
 - Tracy Holmes: VDOT should be added to the small panel as well.
 - Ruth Minich-Hobson can follow up about the WIP discussion at VA DEQ.

10:55 Finalizing Other Urban BMP Crediting Priorities Wood (20 minutes)

The Workgroup will continue its December discussion to finalize the priority list of urban practices to investigate in the second half of 2020, based on feedback from DC and MD.

- KC Filippino noted that MTDs keep coming up.
 - To some extent a protocol for MTDs has been created.
 - Nobody wants to administer the protocol since it will definitely cost some money.
 - We are going to try to use the protocol developed for the Bay Watershed as a regional protocol.
 - The technical document has been developed but nothing can be done with it right now.
- Kevin Du Bois: We need to coordinate with Wetland WG before trying to move forward with Wetland mitigation. There is a lot of opposition for pursuing that as a BMP.
 - Jeremy Hanson: The wetland expert panel is trying to deal with this, will likely be addressed at a much higher level (management board and beyond). I recommend we wait to take action on this until this is addressed at a higher level.
 - The Bay Program says compensatory mitigation is not eligible for TMDL/watershed agreement, but there is now interest in revisiting that policy.
 - Kevin Du Bois: Compensatory beyond 1:1, how does this play in when taking in to account beyond 1:1.

- Panels have not addressed tidal wetlands at all.
- David Wood proposes that USWG make coastal buffer restoration and soil amendments as our top 2 priorities for the group.
 - We have the opportunity to look at existing reports and gather information we already have.
 - Threshold review – is there enough science to support an expert panel?
- Ted Tesler: PA needs to address the wetlands issue.

Next Meeting: Potential to skip the March meeting and will check in with the group in a few weeks.

Meeting Participants:

Norm Goulet, NVRC
 Jeremy Hanson, VT
 Julianna Greenberg, CRC
 Tom Schueler, CSN
 David Wood, CSN
 Genie Bausinger, PA DEP
 Christina Lyerly, MDE
 Ruth Minich-Hobson, VA DEQ
 Alana Hartman, WV DEP
 Sebastien Donner, WV DEP
 Cecilia Lane, DOEE
 Nathan Forand, Baltimore County
 KC Filippino, HRDPC
 Jesse Maines, City of Alexandria
 Scott Crafton, VDOT
 Tracy Holmes, VDOT
 Karl Berger, MWCOG
 Aaron Blair, Region 3 EPA
 Kevin DuBois, DOD
 Ted Tesler, PA DEP