

**CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM**  
**WATER QUALITY GOAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM**  
**APRIL 14, 2014 CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES**

**AGENDA**

**ACTION ITEMS AND DECISIONS**

**ACTION:** WQGIT staff will share the modeling workgroup's recommendations for Phase 5.3.2 modeling considerations with the sector and Watershed Technical workgroup chairs.

**ACTION:** The Land Use Workgroup's [proposed Phase 6.0 land use classifications](#) are under concurrent review by the WQGIT and workgroups. Comments are due to [egiese@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:egiese@chesapeakebay.net) by COB April 30, 2014.

**DECISION:** WQGIT members approved the nomination of James Davis-Martin to serve as WQGIT Vice-Chair.

**DECISION:** WQGIT confirmed the AgWG nomination Kristen Saacke Blunk and John Rhoderick to serve as Agriculture Workgroup Co-Chairs.

**DECISION:** WQGIT members approved the proposed method for implementing the air-water nitrogen exchanges.

**DECISION:** WQGIT members approved the Urban Stormwater Workgroup's Erosion and Sediment Control Panel Report.

**ACTION:** Please send comments on [Nutrient-Sediment Control Review Protocol Revised Draft 4.10.2014.docx](#) in track change format to [power.lucinda@epa.gov](mailto:power.lucinda@epa.gov) by May 2, 2014.

**ACTION:** Please send comments on [WQGIT Governance Draft v4.9.14.docx](#) in track change format to [power.lucinda@epa.gov](mailto:power.lucinda@epa.gov) by April 30, 2014.

**WORKGROUP UPDATES**

**BMP Verification**

- The BMP Verification Review Panel met on April 1st to review the six sector and habitat workgroups' latest verification guidance.
- The Panel agreed that the Streams, Wetland, Forestry, Urban Stormwater, and Wastewater Treatment Workgroups' revised draft guidance, once amended to address the Panel's specific questions and comments, should move forward for review by the larger Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership.
- The Panel agreed on the need to review the revised draft Agriculture Workgroup guidance once the workgroup has reviewed a revised draft addressing the Panel's recommendations and forthcoming table.
- The Panel held a joint meeting with the BMP Verification Committee on April 2nd to review the full draft BMP verification framework.

**Watershed Technical Workgroup**

- The Watershed Technical Workgroup met on April 8<sup>th</sup> and discussed lessons learned from 2013 progress.
- WTWG approved the Erosion and Sediment Control Panel Report at this meeting, and will be approving the Septics Panel Report over email over the next month.

**Urban Stormwater Workgroup**

- The Urban Stormwater Workgroup met on April 15<sup>th</sup> and discussed urban land use classifications.
- USWG approved the Urban Filter Strips and Stream Buffer Upgrades Expert Panel Report, and the Shoreline Management Expert Panel Report.

### **Land Use Workgroup**

- The Land Use Workgroup continues to work with the sector and Watershed Technical workgroups and the Habitat GIT in April and May to get their feedback on Phase 6.0 proposed land use classifications.
- LUWG will have a face to face meeting on June 10th to review comments received and prepare their final recommendation of Phase 6.0 land uses to WQGIT in summer 2014.

### **Agriculture Workgroup**

- The AgWG will have a face to face meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss agricultural land uses and verification.

### **Wastewater Treatment Workgroup**

- The WWTWG has its next call scheduled for Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Trading and Offsets Workgroup**

- The next TOWG call is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The final Local Water Quality Technical Memoranda is posted on the Chesapeake Bay TMDL website at [www.epa.gov/chesapeakebaytmdl](http://www.epa.gov/chesapeakebaytmdl), under Trading and Offsets Programs.

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Welcome/Confirm Call Participants, Recent Workgroup Decisions and Updates**

- Jenn Volk, WQGIT Chair, welcomed everyone to the call.
- Dave Montali, Modeling Workgroup Co-Chair, presented updates from the April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Modeling Quarterly Review.
  - i. The modeling workgroup discussed how CBP modeling recommendations for Phase 6.0 will differ from recommendations in Phase 5.3.2. Modeling changes made in Phase 5.3.2 must account for changes on the ground and not changes in accounting. Any changes other than changes on the ground will not carry over into Phase 6.0, when the model is re-calibrated, in order to avoid giving a false sense of implementation or lack of progress.
  - ii. The modeling workgroup's recommendation, along with [Gary Shenk's powerpoint](#) will be shared with all sector workgroup and Watershed Technical workgroup chairs.

**ACTION:** WQGIT staff will share the modeling workgroup's recommendations for Phase 5.3.2 modeling considerations with the sector and Watershed Technical workgroup chairs.

- Other workgroup updates will be sent out with the follow up email and included in the 4/14 meeting minutes.

### **2. Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund**

- Jake Reilly, NFWF, announced that the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is currently [soliciting proposals](#) to restore the habitats and water quality of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams. NFWF will be awarding two types of grants, the Small Watershed Grant and the Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grant. Proposals are due by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

- i. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit <http://nfwf.org/chesapeake/Pages/home.aspx> and to contact Jake or others at NFWF for more information.
  - ii. There will be opportunities for GITs to play a role in the review process, more specific information to follow.
- James Davis-Martin (VA-DEQ): Recommend considering how to verify and monitor practices that have been installed. Jurisdictions will have to address verification in the near future, and grantees may also have to consider this.

### 3. Land Use Workgroup Updates

- Jenny Tribo, LUWG Co-Chair, provided an update on the Land Use Workgroup's local data collection effort, proposed definition of Phase 6.0 Land Uses, and upcoming decisions requested from WQGIT.
- LUWG issued a data call in 2013, requesting land use and land cover data from localities for the LUWG and GIS staff to review.
  - i. Data has been received from some jurisdictions and localities, but there are some data gaps.
  - ii. TetraTech will be contracted to collect land use data directly from localities. Higher population areas are a higher priority for data collection.
- LUWG has developed draft Phase 6.0 land uses classifications.
  - i. Land uses are currently being reviewed by other workgroups and the WQGIT, and comments are due to Emma Giese by COB April 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. LUWG will review all comments and compile a final proposal for the WQGIT in summer 2014.
- Ron Entringer (NY): Will some areas have finer scale information and others larger scale?
  - i. Peter Claggett: As the methodology has evolved, regional estimates of land use have been getting closer to local data estimates. The regional information will be used when local information cannot be obtained to approximate the land uses.
- Ron Entringer (NY): How will connectivity be determined?
  - i. Claggett: The issue of connectivity will be discussed during an upcoming STAC workshop, Peculiarities of Perviousness. Conveyance systems are one way to determine connectivity. Connectivity can also be approximated through housing density or other documented methods.
- James Davis-Martin (VA): Note that connectivity is currently very broadly defined.
  - i. Claggett: LUWG is seeking comments on the existing definition, including whether the current connected category should be sub-divided further. For example, impervious surface adjacent to a stream could be treated differently than land uses connected by a storm drain.

**ACTION:** The Land Use Workgroup's [proposed Phase 6.0 land use classifications](#) are under concurrent review by the WQGIT and workgroups. Comments are due to [egiese@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:egiese@chesapeakebay.net) by COB April 30, 2014.

### 4. BayFAST Launch

- Jessica Rigelman announced that the BayFAST tool for federal facilities was launched on April 1<sup>st</sup>. It is currently under a 2 month comment period with the federal facilities team.
- The tool has a similar structure to MAST/VAST/CAST for users to estimate loads. Instead of selecting a geographic area, users can draw a parcel on the map, and change the land use.

That parcel can be used to create scenarios and to assist planners. It is open to all users to sign up at: [www.bayfast.org](http://www.bayfast.org).

- Trainings to use BayFAST will take place via webinar and additional trainings will be available upon request.
- Olivia Devereux will email all users to announce when trainings are scheduled later this month.

## **5. Nomination/Selection of WQGIT Vice-Chair**

- Jenn Volk: WQGIT members were requested to provide their nominations for WQGIT Vice-Chair to Jenn Volk and Lucinda Power by March 24<sup>th</sup>. Russ Baxter has nominated James Davis-Martin of VA-DEQ, currently an active member of the WQGIT, to serve as Vice-Chair, and James has graciously accepted the nomination. If there are no objections, WQGIT will formally approve James Davis-Martin as WQGIT Vice-Chair.
- There were no objections.

**DECISION:** WQGIT members approved the nomination of James Davis-Martin to serve as WQGIT Vice-Chair.

## **6. Confirmation of AgWG Co-Chairs**

- Mark Dubin, Agriculture Workgroup Coordinator, announced that at their March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Agriculture Workgroup nominated [Kristen Saacke-Blunk, Headwaters LLC](#), and [John Rhoderick, MDA](#), to serve as workgroup Co-Chairs. Their CVs have been posted on the WQGIT meeting page for today. If there are no objections, the WQGIT will confirm the Agriculture Workgroup's nomination of Kristen Saacke Blunk and John Rhoderick to serve as Agriculture Workgroup Co-Chairs.
- There were no objections.

**DECISION:** WQGIT confirmed the AgWG nominations of Kristen Saacke Blunk and John Rhoderick to serve as Agriculture Workgroup Co-Chairs.

## **7. Simulating Atmospheric Deposition / Air-water exchange method**

- Lewis Linker, EPA: ([Lew's PPT](#)) The Chesapeake TMDL has in place effective decision rules for nitrogen-to-phosphorus exchanges as well as basin-to-basin exchanges for the Phase 2 WIPs. Air-water nitrogen exchanges were approved by the CBP in 2010, but a consistent and effective method to implement them was previously unavailable. New aggregate air-water nitrogen exchanges have been approved by CBP technical groups and are presented to the WQGIT today for final decision on implementation.
- The purpose is to credit air program reductions, above and beyond what is represented in the Allocation Air Scenario and what is required by the Clean Air Act.
- EPA will consider air-water exchanges on a case by case basis for state programs that are verifiable and enforceable, and will use the aggregate air-water exchange decision rules on acceptable exchanges.
- The air-water exchange will be effective until 2017 because the new Airshed Model data base will already contain air-water exchange reductions.
- Jack Frye (CBC): Will new practices implemented during the Phase III WIPs be credited?

- i. Linker: Practices that are in place before 2017 will be accounted for in the Airshed Model database. New programs implemented after 2017 will be eligible for new air-water exchanges in the 2017-2025 time period.
- James Davis-Martin (VA): After 2017, will jurisdictions continue to get credit for the portion of the programs implemented before 2017 that go beyond the Clean Air Act requirements?
  - i. Linker: If programs are implemented before 2017, the database will contain that information and the overall allocations for Phase III will be lower.
- If there are no objections, WQGIT will approve this method for implementing air-water nitrogen exchanges.
- There were no objections.

**DECISION:** WQGIT members approved the proposed method for implementing the air-water nitrogen exchanges.

## 8. USWG Erosion & Sediment Control

- Jeremy Hanson, Erosion & Sediment Control Panel coordinator, presented the [Erosion and Sediment Control BMP Panel Report](#) for WQGIT approval ([Jeremy's presentation](#)).
- The Watershed Technical Workgroup approved this report and [Technical Appendix](#) on 4/8/14.
- The Urban Stormwater and Watershed Technical Workgroups have provided extensive comments on this report. These comments are reflected in Table E-2, which illustrates [how the ESC recommendations will be phased in](#).
- If there are no objections, WQGIT will approve the panel recommendations.
- There were no objections.

**DECISION:** WQGIT members approved the Urban Stormwater Workgroup's Erosion and Sediment Control Panel Report.

## 9. Revisions to BMP Protocol & BMP Resources Update

- Jenn Volk presented revisions to the WQGIT BMP protocol for goal team consideration. These revisions attempt to address requests for more efficiency and streamlining in the partnerships' expert panels.
  - i. Some of the appendices have been incorporated into the main report
  - ii. The changes recommend increased communication outside of the Water Quality GIT.
  - iii. The changes recommend a more streamlined review process, with concurrent review by the sector workgroup, Watershed Technical Workgroup and Water Quality GIT.
- VA: Concern about being overwhelmed with proprietary BMP requests if individuals outside of the partnership are allowed to submit requests. Recommend that a jurisdiction or workgroup must be the sponsor of BMP requests.
  - i. Outside partnership requests are currently being submitted to the Bay Program, this language attempts to address the partnership's response to these requests.
  - ii. All BMP requests will be reviewed by sector workgroup and WQGIT before they are acted upon.
  - iii. Lucinda will clarify the language in this section.
- VA noted that the title of the review process section implies review and approval; however the steps pertain only to review. Recommend clarifying what is meant in this section.

- Additional comments in tracked changes format on the revised draft are due to Lucinda Power by May 2nd.

**ACTION:** Please send comments on [Nutrient-Sediment Control Review Protocol Revised Draft 4.10.2014.docx](#) in track change format to [power.lucinda@epa.gov](mailto:power.lucinda@epa.gov) by May 2, 2014.

## 10. WQGIT Governance

- Lucinda Power presented revisions to the draft WQGIT governance for goal team review and discussion. The governance document has been revised based on comments received from previous WQGIT calls and other partners, and was sent to members on 4/10 for review.
  - The Principle's Staff Committee new governance guidelines for the partnership are reflected in these revisions. Based on the PSC guidelines, consensus will be the preferred method for decision making. In the case where consensus cannot be reached, and an issue must be voted on, each signatory will have one vote and a supermajority of 7 out of 9 will be required to pass a vote.
  - Each of the state agencies listed (who are the leads on Watershed Implementation Plans) will identify one voting member and one alternate.
- Mark Dubin (UMD): How will this governance apply to the WQGIT's workgroups in terms of voting members?
  - Volk: The agency responsible for implementing the WIP is currently defined as the lead; however the lead agency could designate other representatives for the workgroups.
  - Montali (WV): Recommend that each signatory identify multiple members who are eligible to give each signatories' vote.
- Comments in tracked change format are due to Lucinda Power by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION:** Please send comments on [WQGIT Governance Draft v4.9.14.docx](#) in track change format to [power.lucinda@epa.gov](mailto:power.lucinda@epa.gov) by April 30, 2014.

Adjourned

## Next WQGIT Conference Call:

May 12th, 2014

1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Jennifer Volk (chair)       | U Delaware      |
| Jack Frye                   | CBC             |
| Mark Dubin                  | UMD             |
| Kim Snell-Zarcone           | Conservation PA |
| Jeremy Hanson (Staff)       | CRC             |
| Emma Giese (Staff)          | CRC             |
| George Onyullo              | DDOE            |
| John Schneider              | DNREC           |
| Dianne McNally              | EPA             |
| Jennifer Sincock            | EPA             |
| Suzanne Trevena             | EPA             |
| Lucinda Power (Coordinator) | EPA/CBPO        |

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Katherine Antos      | EPA/CBPO          |
| Jeff Sweeney         | EPA/CBPO          |
| Lewis Linker         | EPA/CBPO          |
| Gary Shenk           | EPA/CBPO          |
| George Onyullo       | DDOE              |
| Jennifer Tribo       | Hampton Roads PDC |
| Jamie Mitchell       | HRSD              |
| Sarah Lane           | MD DNR            |
| Bruce Michael        | MD DNR            |
| Helen Stewart        | MD DNR            |
| Dinorah Dalmasy      | MDE               |
| Tom Thornton         | MDE               |
| Ron Entringer        | NY DEC            |
| Kevin McGonigal      | SRBC              |
| Matt Johnston        | UMD               |
| David Koran          | USACE             |
| Sally Claggett       | USFS/CBPO         |
| Peter Claggett       | USGS              |
| James Davis-Martin   | VADEQ             |
| Eric Aschenbach      | VDH               |
| Alana Hartman        | WV DEP            |
| Teresa Koon          | WV DEP            |
| Dave Montali         | WV DEP            |
| Jessica Rigelman     | CBPO              |
| Jake Reilly          | NFWF              |
| Kristen Saacke Blunk | Headwaters LLC    |
| Chris Brosch         | VA-DCR            |
| Mike Kiss            | VA-DEQ            |
| Mary Searing         | DC                |