

**SUMMARY**  
**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
**Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG)**  
**September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 10:00AM – 11:30AM**  
Conference Call  
<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/20844>

**ACTION ITEMS & DECISIONS**

**DECISION:** The August workgroup minutes were accepted as written.

**ACTION:** Matt will update templates for Greg Allen and the EPA's letter to federal facilities to incorporate fields that Marty recommended that will help identify the federal facility for each BMP.

**ACTION:** WTWG members to review the urban nutrient management technical requirements document by Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

**MINUTES**

**Introductions and Announcements**

- Ted Tesler (PA DEP; WTWG Chair) welcomed participants and outlined the day's [agenda](#).
- Matt Johnston (UMD, Chesapeake Bay Program Office; WTWG Coordinator) noted the 2013 projections for septics, land use, and animals were sent out that morning. He asked for the jurisdictions to review the projection numbers and provide feedback.
  - Johnston: We anticipate some changes to the Appendix by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Please review the current Appendix and provide requests for BMPs that are not currently mapped.
  - Johnston noted the September 26<sup>th</sup> Agriculture Workgroup meeting will introduce the Watershed Model Phase 5.3.2 recommendations from the Cover Crops, Conservation Tillage, and [agricultural] Nutrient Management expert panels. WTWG members are invited to participate in person or via teleconference.
- Devereux: will get the NRCS data until after October 15<sup>th</sup>. Jurisdictions should expect a call to discuss processes for the data.
- Tesler called for any comments or corrections to the August minutes ([Attachment A](#)).
- Hartman noted an incomplete sentence on page 5. With that sentence removed, she moved to accept the minutes.
  - Tesler seconded; no objections were raised.
- **DECISION:** The August workgroup minutes were accepted as written.

**Federal Facilities Progress and Milestones Communication Update**

- Greg Allen (EPA, CBPO) explained EPA has been working on two letters to the federal agencies. First is a letter from the regional administrator to assistant secretary level for various federal agencies, reminding them to report for 2013 Progress and the 2014-15

Milestones. A follow-up letter will be provided to the federal facilities managers that will have a lot more technical information such as date ranges for BMPs, links to BMP documentation, templates, 2-year Milestones, etc.

- Allen explained that Marty Hurd (DDOE) has proposed using the NEIEN label “Implemented on Federal (IMF)” and the “data source” field to indicate which agency implemented the practice in NEIEN. That would allow for enhanced information about implementation by federal agencies. He asked if this would be reasonable to do for 2013 Progress.
  - Marty Hurd (DDOE) clarified that these codes already exist in the NEIEN schema, so there isn’t need for new additions or changes.
  - Jeff Sweeney (EPA, CBPO) mentioned that BMPs are distributed to federal land automatically if the jurisdiction does not specify if it is federal or not. Would the jurisdictions prefer if we stopped automatically applying these practices to federal land?
    - Tesler: The federal facilities are included in Pennsylvania’s reporting under general permits. An exclusion could be problematic.
    - Johnston stated the WTWG previously decided that implementation data would be distributed at the same geographic scale at which it was reported.
  - Jess Rigelman (J7 LLC): Scenario Builder needs to be very specific. If we want something to be non-federal, we need to distinguish between federal and non-federal. The default is to spread the BMPs across both federal and non-federal.
  - Hurd: If we don’t need to tag these specifically, maybe we don’t need to go through this to ask for extra information.
  - Allen: There is a need because accountability applies to the federal agencies as well as the jurisdictions. We want to work toward a system where we have better knowledge of implementation on federal land.
  - Beth Horsey (MDA): For federal facilities with agriculture lands it is not the federal agency, but the entity they lease to, that implements the practices. It should be easier to track stormwater BMPs.
- **ACTION:** Matt will update templates for Greg Allen and the EPA’s letter to federal facilities to incorporate fields that Marty recommended that will help identify the federal facility for each BMP.
- Allen: We are putting together a proposal for development of a new Facility Assessment Scenario Tool (FAST). EPA plans to use funding this fiscal year to create that tool, and we will begin that work shortly. In the meantime, the federal facilities will only be able to use CAST/MAST/VAST to create input decks for 2015 Milestones. We are on track to host a September fed training event for these tools. There could be other public or private landowners with an interest in this tool.
- Robin Pellicano (MDE): mentioned second letter going to facility management personnel. Maryland is coordinating with our federal facilities through Melanie Frisch. Want to ensure there isn’t confusion about what we have already communicated to the facility managers.
  - Allen indicated they have been very clear about who to contact in Maryland, so there should not be any confusion.
  - Pellicano asked if there would be training for federal facilities.

- Olivia Devereux: That training is set for the 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM. Have not sent details or an announcement yet.
- Keeling: if they are using CAST/MAST/VAST, be sure to remind them to share the scenarios with jurisdictions.

### **Improving Loads between CAST/MAST/VAST and the Watershed Model**

- Olivia Devereux (Devereux Environmental Consulting) discussed some planned changes to CAST/MAST/VAST.
  - [View her slides](#) for more information.
- Tesler: any progress on incorporating the recently approved BMPs?
  - Devereux: They will be incorporated into the tools when they are incorporated into the Watershed Model. Need to make sure the methodology is consistent.
    - Johnston: we plan to update the Appendix and expect for states to be able to report performance standards, but scenario builder will not be set up to process them yet. We will run the performance standards practices outside of scenario builder for 2013 progress as a test run for next year.
- Devereux continued to explain methods for BMP calculations and reviewed next steps. She mentioned that they want to add feature that includes a message for when land-river segments and land uses where agreements is not within 5%.
- Horsey: so the adjustments will better reflect issues with manure? We have had problems with simulations on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.
  - Devereux: Yes, that is why we are doing this work.
- James Davis-Martin: when you looked at the agreement, did you look at it spatially?
  - Devereux responded they all seemed pretty well distributed spatially. There was less agreement for ag land uses, due to manure calculation issues.
- Devereux discussed initial design of cost functionality. Continue to incorporate annualized cost unit function. There will be default costs based on EPA estimates for WIP BMPs. Users will be able to specify their own costs. Users will be able to save multiple versions of costs. There are different annualization rates for each BMP, but will likely set annualization to zero for each practice.
  - Hartman: are the annualized cost figures available online?
    - Devereux: Received data from Kevin DeBell (EPA, CBPO).
- Devereux noted upcoming CAST/MAST/VAST trainings. There is also a federal training that is still waiting on an official announcement, as mentioned earlier.
- James Davis-Martin: was there mention of user-defined land use for FAST?
  - Devereux: Nothing is official, but the idea is that it would function like VAST, where users are allowed to define their own land use. The Watershed Model or Scenario Builder will not accept user defined land uses.
- Johnston: Have you thought about looking at a delta in the load?
  - Devereux: The delta will essentially be the same. The relative reductions for BMPs has been consistent between scenarios and the Watershed Model.

### **Urban Nutrient Management Technical Appendix Update**

- Matt Johnston reviewed the [updated draft technical appendix for urban nutrient management](#). He explained that following last month's discussion a subset of the panel worked with Matt and Tom Schueler to revise the technical appendix.

- Johnston explained each question and answer in the document. View the [document](#) for more details.
- Tesler: is there a plan for commercial fertilizer source data after three years?
  - Johnston: We've started to have that discussion, and there was indication that Delaware may have good source data. This is an item that will need to be discussed and worked out prior to 2016.
  - Keeling noted it will depend on each state to determine how to collect data in order to continue to receive credit after the three year period.
  - Goulet: the panel built in the three years so the jurisdictions have time to get everything up to speed. Will probably be a long term effort to improve the data.
- Tesler: still concern about open-ended aspect of this approach.
  - Goulet: other panels will likely have to take similar approaches.
  - Keeling noted there will also be a new Watershed Model for 2017, so there may be different assumptions that we will need to consider.
- Hearing no further comments, Johnston asked WTWG members to continue to review the document and provide any further thoughts by September 13<sup>th</sup> so the document can move forward.
  - **ACTION:** WTWG members to review the technical requirements document by Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.
    - **Post-meeting note:** No comments were received. The document will be uploaded alongside the approved BMP panel report.
- Tesler thanked participants for their time and discussion.

**Adjourned 11:30 AM**

### Teleconference Participants

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Affiliation</u></b>
Ted Tesler, Chair	PA DEP
Matt Johnston, Coord.	UMD, CBPO
Jeremy Hanson, Staff	CRC, CBPO
Greg Allen	EPA, CBPO
Chris Brosch	Virginia Tech/ VA DEQ
James Davis-Martin	VA DEQ
Olivia Devereux	Devereux Consulting
Marcia Fox	DE DNREC
Steve Gladding	NYS DEC
Norm Goulet	Northern VA Regional Commission
Alana Hartman	WV DEP
Beth Horsey	MDA
Marty Hurd	DDOE
Julie Karceski	MWCOG
Bill Keeling	VA DEQ
Neely Law	Center for Watershed Protection, CBPO
Robin Pellicano	MDE
Jess Rigelman	J7 LLC
Gary Shenk	EPA/CBPO
Jeff Sweeney	EPA, CBPO
Sally Szydlowski	Water Stewardship