



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

# Cover Crop Methodology Proposal

## Watershed Technical Workgroup

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# Background

- Cover Crops (traditional, traditional with fall nutrients, and commodity) are in the same BMP group.
- Cover crops are processed together and are not eligible on the same acres of land.
- BMPs in the same group are usually eligible on the same load sources or very similar.

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# What's Different About Cover Crops?

- Traditional and traditional with fall nutrient cover crops are available on all of the cropland, and commodity cover crops are only eligible on small grains and grains (sgg) and double cropped land (dbl)
- Since these BMPs are processed together, it leads to excess on small grains and grains and double cropped land

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# Proposed Method for Crediting

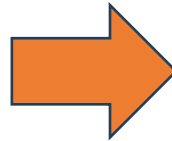
1. Credit commodity cover crops first, since it is a limited area
2. Credit traditional cover crops and traditional with fall nutrients cover crops second (taking the acres already occupied by commodity cover crops into account)



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### Land Use in a County:

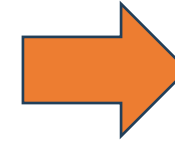
- 1000 acres total of cropland
- 200 of these acres are small grains/dbl cropped land
- The other 800 acres is grains w/o manure, silage w/ and w/o manure, specialty high and low, soybeans, and other agronomic crops.



### Cover Crop BMPs Reported:

- 500 acres of traditional cover crop (CC)
- 150 acres of commodity cover crop (CCC)

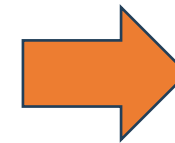
### Current Method



150 acres CCC to SGG and DBL Cropland  
100 acres CC to SGG and DBL Cropland  
400 acres CC to the rest

**= 50 acres of excess on SGG and DBL Cropland**

### Proposed Method



**First:**  
150 acres CCC to SGG and DBL Cropland

**Second:**  
30 acres CC to SGG and DBL Cropland  
470 acres CC to the rest

**= 0 acres of excess**



# Discussion



# Thank you!

Any questions?



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