

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Technical Workgroup

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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Today's Continued Discussion

Leave with a better understanding of:

- Member expectations and contributions
- How we can develop more effective productive agendas
- Topics of interest for future meetings
- The current scope and purpose/The role the WTWG plays in the CBP
- WTWG's role in Phase 7 Model Development

Menti Results – Role as WTWG Member

Keep up to date on BMPs and reporting progress data

Collaborate with colleagues working on the same processes from different jurisdictions or agencies

Coordinate between source sector workgroups and reporting

Provide input, feedback, and recommendations on BMPs implementation and reporting as a federal or state agency, or source sector group or neutral representative.

Ensure that state BMPs are being correctly credited in the TMDL effort. That state practice definitions agree with bay model definitions and that data collection efforts are not unduly onerous

Menti Results – Future Meeting Discussions

Modeling

- Discuss how monitoring data match up with our modeled results
- Data Quality Assessments for model inputs
- BMP Crediting based on proximity to stream corridor
- Jurisdictional approach to technical CAST issues
- Transparency of error associated with CAST

BMPs Expert Panels, Data Collection, and Verification

- Cross-sector BMPs (e.g., Solar)
- BMP tracking, reporting, and simulation/crediting
- Living Resource BMPs
- Continue conversations from the BMPVAHAT group – maintain integrity for credits while lowering burden on implementers
- BMP performance over time

Annual Progress Reporting

- Updates to submitted vs. credited report
- How jurisdictions vary with data collection/submission to the model

Other

- How to work better with the living resource focused groups in Chesapeake Bay Program Office
- Jurisdictional forest buffer strategies

Menti Results – Increase meeting effectiveness and engagement

Send material out before meeting and make sure decision asks are clear

Send out 'tasks' with due dates between meetings

Continue to compare progress reporting among states to avoid reinventing the wheel

Use tools like Menti

"Step up, step back" as a membership guideline
we often hear from the same people

Phase 7 Development

In Phase 6 the WTWG:

Collected comments and suggestions from WTWG members on aspects of the model

Received presentations from CBPO on:

- Land Use Grouping Updates
- Updates from ag modeling subcommittee recommendations

[Phase 7 Model Development | Chesapeake Bay Program](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/programs/modeling/phase_7_model_development)

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[The Chesapeake Bay TMDL 2017 Midpoint Assessment](https://mpa.chesapeakebay.net)

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Purpose

Provide a forum for communication and discussion between and among the jurisdictions and other CBP participants on **technical issues** related to:

- BMPs
- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model processes
- Management strategy development and implementation

Reevaluating Main Tasks

- Support the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) and the greater Bay Program partners in implementing management strategies to achieve the nutrient and sediment reductions necessary to restore the Bay.
- Review and approve the recommended BMP definitions and efficiencies from source workgroups and local jurisdictions, in collaboration with the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and WQGIT workgroups. Ensure that BMPs are consistent across sectors.
- Review and approve how BMPs are tracked and reported by CBP partner jurisdictions and agencies for use in the Watershed Model to ensure that the assumptions accurately reflect real world conditions and are consistent and equitable between the different sectors.

Reevaluating Main Tasks

- Review and approve how BMPs are simulated in the Watershed Model to ensure that the assumptions accurately reflect real world conditions and are consistent and equitable between the different sectors.
- Provide technical review & recommendations to the CBP Modeling team on Watershed Model Processes and input data.
- Review and/or assess **scoping scenarios**, as needed.

Additional Tasks

Charges from the Grant Guidance and Updated BMP Protocols:

- Review new expert panel reports and technical appendix
- Review requests for changes to data collection and reporting requirements for BMPs
- Review requests for changes to the NEIEN Appendix and approve NEIEN Appendix https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-04/attachment-7_data-submission-specifications-and-requirements_march-2022.pdf

Charges from the Verification Framework:

- Develop a method for applying verification in the model (credit durations)
- Develop the protocols for analyzing BMP submission data (Appendix V)

Charges from the Management Board:

Revisiting back-out and cut-off procedures.

Other Roles the WTWG takes on

- Forum to discuss CAST topics that are outside the scope of the modeling workgroup
 - Review technical changes to CAST (e.g. backout/excess)
 - non-bmp data submissions to CAST (e.g., biosolids, CSO, animal unit percents, construction acres, harvested forest acres)
- Forum to discuss annual progress submission challenges and seek assistance
- Forum to discuss how we use the CAST data outside of just progress reporting

Reevaluating Purpose

Provide a forum for communication and discussion between and among the jurisdictions and other CBP participants on **technical issues** related to:

- BMPs Technical Appendices, Reporting, and Verification
- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model and CAST processes
- Management strategy development and implementation