

## **Fertilizer Expert Group DRAFT Recommendations April 2023**

### **Phase 6**

1. The group has recommended that state-reported fertilizer sales tonnage be used from 2017 onward if available data from states makes up at least 50% of the historic fertilizer sales within the watershed. (Note\* if the above threshold is not met the use of AAPFCO data will continue as the status quo.)
2. Provided the conditions of Recommendation #1 are met, the group recommends several possible methods to construct the fertilizer stock for jurisdictions which are unable to produce state data past 2017:
  - a. **PREFERRED** – Calculate the percent change between the previous and current year of cumulative state reported data and apply the percent change in fertilizer to non-reporting states.
  - b. **ALTERNATIVE 1** – Continue to use the last reported year for states without reported data.
  - c. **ALTERNATIVE 2** – Use a state-specific trends using the last 15 years of AAPFCO data for states without reported data.
3. Whenever new state reported fertilizer sales tonnage data are available that satisfy the conditions outlined in Recommendation #1, the group recommends these new data will be incorporated into the next update to CAST.

### **Phase 7**

4. The group has recommended that for Phase 7 the CBP partnership re-examine the use of both farm and nonfarm categories of fertilizer in calculating fertilizer sales totals for states within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
5. Recommend that the AMT further examine alternative fertilizer data sets.

### **Helpful acronyms:**

AAPFCO - Association of American Plant Food Control Officials

CAST – Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool

CBP – Chesapeake Bay Program