

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team

Federal Facilities Workgroup

Meeting Agenda

Date: June 4, 2024

Time: 10am -12pm

[Materials](#)



Chesapeake Bay Program

Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Agenda Item (Discussion Lead) and Desired Outcome	Materials, Notes, and Action Items
Welcome, Introductions, Announcements (Greg Allen, USEPA CBPO)	
Modeled Load Reduction Indicator Release (Auston Smith, USEPA CBPO) Auston will be providing a high-level overview of the 2023 MLRI to inform the FFWG.	<p>Auston reviewed the MLR Indicator and was able to show data related to load reductions with Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Sediment.</p> <p>There is room for positivity, even if the outlook is still off course. We are closer to meeting our goals, but there is still room for improvement. We have achieved the 2025 planning target for sediment. Nitrogen and phosphorus have some areas for improvement.</p> <p>Regulatory mandates related to sediment have played a big role in the reduction. Ag BMPs have also played a big role. Most of the reductions occurred in development and ag, but we do not know the exact practices that are leading to the most reduction.</p> <p>Discussion Questions about effective and ineffective BMPs were asked. Auston noted that a follow-up action should be identifying those for the group.</p> <p>Greg noted that we can't parse out the fed lands with this indicator, but this indicator shows that we have made good progress overall. This is an outstanding achievement to celebrate.</p>

	<p>ACTION: Look into what BMPs are the least effective. What BMPs should we NOT be focusing on as they are not as effective?</p>
<p>2024 Data Call and NEIEN Appendix Changes (Jessica Rigelman, J7 LLC and Greg Allen, USEPA CBPO) Jessica will be providing information on the new NEIEN Appendix and what that means for reporting. The 2024 Data Call will also be discussed.</p>	<p>Jess showed the 2024 appendix and compared it to last year's to highlight the changes. The changes include credit duration, name changes, whether or not they are tidal, and new BMPs/new records. The 2023 appendix is available via the CAST website.</p> <p>If members have questions, email Jessica (jrigelman@j7llc.com). For edits or additions, we should talk with the Watershed Technical workgroup to make the changes.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Questions on how the spreadsheet can be most beneficial were asked. Jess noted that members can search for a BMP name to find the BMP of interest. If the name of something you do is not on this as that name, working with the WTWG could help get those names onto the list. The appendix is supposed to be helpful for look-up and naming.</p> <p>Olivia demonstrated how to use the appendix to better name your BMPs to ensure they make it into CAST. This appendix is the list of the current Bay Program BMP names.</p> <p>A question about Bay Program BMPs was asked: Where is there a copy of the current list of Bay Program BMP names?</p> <p>The list of accepted names for annual reporting is in column A of the Appendix, at the link above. The list of all the CAST BMPs is there in column E and also at this link: https://cast.chesapeakebay.net/Home/SourceData</p> <p>All error reports for NEIEN/CAST annual progress from the prior year are on CAST here: https://cast.chesapeakebay.net/Home/TMDLTrackingReports</p> <p>Jurisdictions noted that errors occur more with expectation dates than with BMP names. They can work with the feds to ensure the right dates are included.</p>
<p>Highlighting GSA Stream Restoration Projects (Russell Clark, GSA; Andie Oetman, GSA)</p>	<p>Russ talked about the stream restoration project on the White Oak Campus. Background, partners, and the work that happened were shared with the group. There are more restoration projects that will occur in the future. To view the presentation, use this link:</p>

<p>Sharing approaches, results and lessons learned from stream restoration projects in the watershed.</p>	<p>https://d18lev1ok5leia.cloudfront.net/chesapeakebay/documents/EPA-FFWG-Presentation-Whats-In-The-Water.pdf</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Questions about the flora and fauna around the restored stream were asked. The project aimed to avoid cutting down trees. After the project was done, life returned to stream, but the specific Russ was unsure about.</p> <p>The project's origins were questioned. Russ noted that it was born out of a partnership with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and National Capital Parks and Planning, among other partners.</p> <p>This project is not complete. Other sections of the streams need to be completed. IRA funding is involved with this project.</p>
<p>Non-Creditable BMPs of Interest (Auston Smith and Greg Allen)</p> <p>Examples of BMPs that have outcome cross benefits. Members would be asked about BMPs they would like to hear more about beyond water quality. Finding connections among water quality and other outcomes will be an emphasis of this discussion.</p>	<p>Auston showed the ecosystem benefits browser to highlight the BMPs that have ecosystem benefits. The Habitat Tracker was brought up as a tool to help with tracking how BMPs can support other outcomes. How do we highlight that other outcomes are supported by the implementation of specific BMPs? There has been an ongoing effort to look at BMPs and their cross-functional support mechanisms.</p> <p>Greg asked the group what BMPs and projects have a cross-outcome benefit and what we should discuss within this group.</p> <p>Some answers included: sediment reduction</p> <p>Some additional, but not exhaustive, outcome supported (in white oak example): tree canopy, fish habitat, and possibly wetlands too, depending on hydric presence in banks!</p> <p>Other outcomes are Community stewardship, tree canopy, toxic contaminants, healthy watersheds, forage fish, stream health, brook trout, Environmental Justice.</p>
<p>Wrap-up and Conclude</p> <p>Next meeting: August 13th, 10:00-12:00</p> <p><i>Other 2024 meeting dates:</i></p> <p><i>October 8th, 10:00-12:00</i></p> <p><i>December 10th, 10:00-12:00</i></p>	