# **Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG)**

Meeting Agenda September 20, 2012 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

# USFWS Annapolis Field Office Conference Room Annapolis, Maryland

Conference Call Number- 866.299.3188, Code- 267.985.6222 Virtual Meeting Room- <a href="https://epa.connectsolutions.com/agwg/">https://epa.connectsolutions.com/agwg/</a>

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Coale

# 09:40 AgWG Meeting Minutes

Coale

Frank Coale, AgWG Chair, will lead a discussion on the review and approval of the minutes from the August 9, 2012 workgroup meeting held at the USFWS Annapolis Field Office.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendation

# 09:45 Agricultural BMP Verification Process

Coale/Dubin

Frank and Mark Dubin, AgWG Coordinator, will provide an overview of the workgroup's progress to date on the development of an agricultural BMP verification protocol, an update on the September 12th meeting with the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team's (WQGIT) BMP Verification Steering Committee, and the proposed process/schedule for incorporating the partnership's recommendations into a finalized protocol.

### **ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

09:55

Agricultural BMP Verification Assistance Dubin/Dressing/Meals In response to the AgWG's request for technical assistance in identifying reference sources of agricultural verification protocols, EPA has provided access to Tetra Tech services. Mark has worked with Steve Dressing and Don Meals from Tetra Tech (Tt) to implement a national literature search and conduct survey interviews with recognized experts to identify potential reference sources for the workgroup. The draft summary findings of that effort will be presented for consideration.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

### 10:30 Agricultural Verification Protocol - Jurisdictions

Coale

Frank will facilitate an open discussion from the perspective of the state agency representatives on their jurisdictional reviews of the current draft agricultural verification concept, their thoughts on the comments received from the BMP Verification Steering Committee, and the draft summary findings of the Tt search/interview documentation process. The discussion

will encompass all forms of agricultural BMPs, cost shared as well as non-cost shared practices.

Order of Comments: Virginia

West Virginia Maryland Delaware Pennsylvania New York

# **ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

# 11:30 Agricultural Verification Protocol - Partners

Frank will facilitate an open discussion from the perspective of the non-state partner representatives on their organizational reviews of the current draft agricultural verification concept, their thoughts on the comments received from the BMP Verification Steering Committee, and the draft summary findings of the Tt search/interview documentation process. The discussion will encompass all forms of agricultural BMPs, cost shared as well as non-cost shared practices.

# **ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

Agricultural Verification Protocol - Recommendations Coale/Dubin Frank and Mark will provide a condensed synopsis of the workgroup membership's recommendations which will be coupled with the Tt summary findings to develop one or more variations of a draft agricultural verification protocol matrix. The one or more protocol matrix options will be provided to the members in advance of the October 11, 2012 workgroup meeting in preparation for a proposed decision on a preliminary matrix.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

#### 12:15 Luncheon Break

### 01:00 2025 Goal Line Conference Report

Dubin

Coale

The draft report stemming from the 2025 Goal Line Conference cosponsored by the AgWG has recently been released by the CBP's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) for partnership review. Comments on the report and its conclusions are welcomed by midday Friday, September 21st. A collective AgWG response will be sent to STAC.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

#### 01:10 Mid-Point Assessment Priorities

Coale/Dubin

The WQGIT has requested for each of the workgroups to select their highest prioritized recommendations for consideration in the mid-point assessment. Frank and Mark will provide a brief overview of the process and schedule for the AgWG to select the top five priority agricultural recommendations for the WQGIT's mid-point assessment discussions.

# **ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

#### 01:20 Mid-Point Assessment Priorities - Jurisdictions

Coale

Frank will facilitate an open discussion with the jurisdictional representatives on their top five prioritized recommendations for CBP partnership models and other decision support tool refinements, land use/land cover representation, agricultural production data utilization, and BMP integration.

Order of Comments: New York

Pennsylvania West Virginia Maryland Delaware Virginia

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

### 02:10 Mid-Point Assessment Priorities - Partners

Coale

Frank will facilitate an open discussion with the non-state partner members on their top five prioritized recommendations for CBP partnership models and other decision support tool refinements, land use/land cover representation, agricultural production data utilization, and BMP integration. Members are requested to concisely identify their top priorities.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

#### 02:40 Mid-Point Assessment Recommendations

Coale/Dubin

Frank and Mark will review the workgroup's combined recommendations for review and approval. The approved top priority recommendations will be presented to the WQGIT to convey the workgroup's opinions in preparation for the partnership discussions over the next several months.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

### 03:15 Review of AgWG Recommendations

Coale/Dubin

The members will review and finalize the workgroup's meeting recommendations for endorsement and implementation.

# **ACTION REQUESTED:** Finalized Workgroup Recommendations

# 03:30 Adjourn

### **Conference Call Materials:**

Participants are requested to review the materials posted on the AgWG webpage for the meeting. Some documents may be posted just prior to the meeting, so please check back.

# **Agenda Schedule:**

The meeting agenda is reflective of known information at the time of publication and may be subject to change due to other circumstances. Additional agenda items may be added if time is available.

# **Luncheon Information:**

Workgroup members may either bring their lunch to the meeting room, or utilize one of the food establishments nearby.