

**Agriculture Workgroup Face-to-Face Meeting**  
**February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**  
Meeting Materials: [Link](#)

**Joe Macknis Memorial Conference Room (Fish Shack)**  
**U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office**  
**410 Severn Avenue**  
**Annapolis, Maryland 21403**

Conference Call Information

**Zoom Link\*:** <https://zoom.us/j/553329453>

**Conference Line:** 929-205-6099

**Meeting ID:** 553-329-453

**Participant ID:** available through Zoom link

*\*To enter the webinar, please open the webinar link first. After opening the webinar, either elect to join via computer audio or via phone call. If you select phone, please ensure you enter the participant ID.*

**Workgroup Areas of Focus**

**Accounting & Reporting • Implementation • Innovation**  
**Data & Modeling • CBP Assignments**

**10:00 Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes**

*Workgroup Chair*

- Roll-call of the governance body
- Roll-call of the meeting participants
- Approval of meeting minutes from the Jan 16<sup>th</sup> Conference Call

**10:05 Welcome to New CBP SAIB Chief (5 min)**

Lee McDonnell was named as the new Chief of the Science, Analysis and Implementation Branch in the Chesapeake Bay Program Office (CBPO), starting shortly after the new year.

**Innovation**

**10:10 Animal Mortality Expert Panel Update (5 min)**

*Doug Hamilton*

Expert Panel Chair Doug Hamilton, Oklahoma State University, will provide an update on progress of the Animal Mortality Expert Panel.

**CBP Assignments**

**10:15 Chesapeake Bay Program 2025 Climate Assessment for the TMDL (50 min)** *G. Bhatt & G. Shenk*

At the direction of the Principals' Staff Committee (PSC), the Modeling Workgroup has completed a year of analysis to assess the additional effort that is required for water quality standards attainment due to climate change between 1995 and 2025. Gopal Bhatt, Penn State, and Gary Shenk, USGS, will provide an overview of the process and the climate effects that were modeled and a summary of most up to date results for the CBP's assessment of future load changes due to climate change and other watershed trends, with an emphasis on the agricultural sector. Estimated impacts of climate change and other watershed trends response on the flow, sediment and nutrients for 2025, 2035, 2045, and 2055 will be presented. A discussion with the AgWG on results of the modeling assessment, with particular emphasis on Ag forecasting, is anticipated.

## **Data & Modeling**

### **11:05 Ag Census & Land Use: A Review (30 min)**

*Peter Claggett*

Peter Claggett will review the methodology for incorporating data from the Census of Agriculture into the Phase 6 land use and present a comparison of the updated 2019 Milestone land use with the land use data used for Phase III WIP development.

### **11:35 BREAK (10 min)**

## **Implementation**

### **11:45 Farmer Spotlight (30 min)**

*Lee McDaniel*

Lee McDaniel is the owner and operator of Indian Spring Farm, an 800+ acre grain and hay operation in Harford County, MD. Mr. McDaniel has served as Harford Soil Conservation District Board Chairman for over 20 years. He is a member of the Deer Creek Watershed Association, a former Board of Trustee of Harford Community College, and past President of both the National Association of Conservation Districts (2015-2017) and Maryland Association of Conservation Districts (2005-2008). Mr. McDaniel will share some of his insights on conservation progress to date and opportunities he sees to continue making progress into the future. Questions and discussion are strongly encouraged.

### **12:15 LUNCH: BYO (30 min)**

## **Data & Modeling**

### **12:45 Revisiting Cover Crop Planting Dates (30 min)**

*Mark Dubin*

Based on a jurisdictional request, Mark Dubin, UMD, will discuss shifting frost dates based on changes in weather patterns related to climate change. The AgWG will be asked for input on the potential impact of this shift on cover crop planting dates on the ground and as defined in the Phase 6.0 Watershed Model.

## **Innovation**

### **1:15 STAC Workshop Outcomes: Contaminants of Concern (30 min)**

*Scott Phillips*

The final [STAC Report](#) titled "Integrating Science and Developing Approaches to Inform Management for Contaminants of Concern in Agricultural and Urban Settings" was submitted to the Bay Program's leadership on January 10th and a response has been requested on its specific findings and recommendations. Scott Phillips, USGS, will review the findings of the report that are focused on agricultural areas. Scott will also get feedback from the workgroup on the CBP response to the report.

1:45 **BREAK (5min)**

## **Implementation**

1:50 **BMP Implementation: Engaging Opportunities (30 min)** *Emily Trentacoste*

Emily Trentacoste, EPA-CBP, will discuss a possible new project building off results from a CBP co-benefit mapping exercise to identify restoration partners and resources. The project would utilize previous and ongoing work that identifies geographic locations of interest for meeting other goals and outcomes of the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. Areas with overlapping interests can signify potential locations where restoration practices would benefit more than just water quality and can therefore help identify non-traditional restoration and funding partners based on those added benefits. Emily is seeking feedback from the AgWG on this project.

2:20 **At-large Election Results and Election of New Leadership (25 min)** *Chair*

Results of the At-Large member selection process will be announced, and the new At-Large members will be confirmed. The AgWG will also be asked to select and approve a new Workgroup leadership based on nominated candidates. The recommendations of the Workgroup will be submitted to the WQGIT for final partnership approval per the governance protocols.

**Decision:** The AgWG will be asked to approve the recommendation of a new Workgroup leadership and endorse the selected At-Large Governance Membership.

2:40 **New Business & Announcements (15 min)**

- The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the federal-state Chesapeake Bay Program partnership, is soliciting pre-proposals under the Chesapeake Bay **Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction (INSR) Grants** program to restore water quality and habitats of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams. Program description [here](#).
  - INSR pre-proposals are due by midnight, **Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020** and must be submitted through NFWF's online application at [www.nfwf.org/easygrants](http://www.nfwf.org/easygrants).
- The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) is now accepting pre-proposal applications for the 2020 Seeding Solutions Grant Program, the Foundation's flagship competitive program that funds research solutions in FFAR's six Challenge Areas in collaboration with unique partners. Every year, FFAR funds at least one proposal in each Challenge Area, awarding grantees up to \$1 million.
  - <https://foundationfar.org/seeding-solutions/>
- Non-Urban Stream Restoration Update
- Water Quality Goal Implementation Team leadership change

2:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)** *Hilary Swartwood*

Hilary Swartwood will review action and decision items from the meeting.

3:00 **Adjourn Meeting**

## **Next Meeting:**

**March 19th, 10AM-12PM: Conference Call**

***Pending Topics:***

**Accounting & Reporting:** Accounting for data sets across multiple sources (**Mar 2020**) • Resource Improvement BMPs- Are they being accounted for at full potential?

• Accounting for Manure Transport

**Implementation:** Strategizing technical assistance (**Feb 2020**) • Addressing the gaps- What the Phase III WIPs can tell us • Technical service provide training •

**Innovation:** Hemp- What are nutrient & sediment implications? (**Sum 2020**) • Furthering research to update nutrient fertility recommendation- Why the time is now and where is the support; Soil Health Initiatives (**Spr-Sum 2020**) NRCS, Soil Health Institute

**Data & Modeling:** Animal data input updates • USGS- Latest information tying water quality trends to BMP implementation (**Spr 2020**)

**CBP Assignments:** Adapting to climate change in the ag sector (**Feb, Mar 2020**)