AMS Update to the Ag Workgroup

05172017

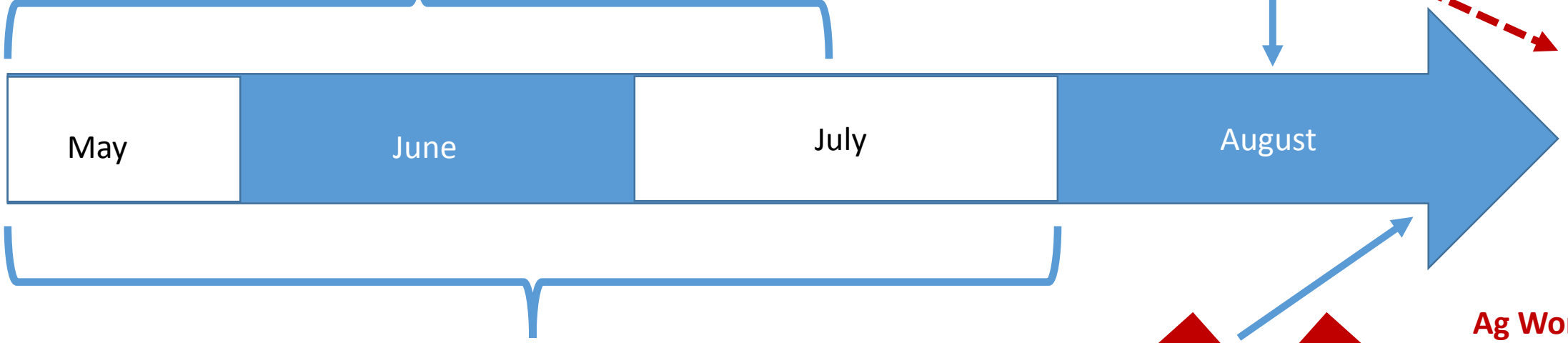
Review Timeline

AMS Comments Collected

April – July 15

Ag Workgroup Approves all Suggested Changes

August 17, 2017



Watershed Model Inputs/Fatal Flaw Review
April – July 31

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Ag Workgroup must ask Water Quality GIT for Extension

Adding data sources?

- General question:
  - Will AgWG consider alternate data sources if there is an August recalibration run?
  - And could state or locally specific data be considered ?
    - For example, using alternatives to redistributed NASS data for animal numbers in countries that are only partly within the Bay watershed.

Input/Fatal Flaw Review

- Comments received to date and draft responses are posted on the meeting page.
- Comments will be collected through July 15 by AMS.
- AMS will bring comments they judge to require further action forward to Ag Workgroup on a rolling basis between now and the August meeting.
- All proposed changes will be approved by Ag Workgroup at the August meeting.
- Proposed changes will only take effect if Partnership agrees to re-calibration in September.

Comments Requiring Action

- AMS investigating
- AMS recommends
- Ag Workgroup approves

- Stream Exclusion
- Nutrient Uptake for Hay and Pasture
- Animal Data

Stream Exclusion

- Credit duration for all practices was mistakenly set to 5 years. The duration should have been 10 years per Ag Workgroup recommendation.
  - Action: AMS likely to recommend credit duration of 10 years.
- Default stocking rate was based upon VA animal numbers.
  - Action: AMS will investigate use of Ag Census data to improve stocking rates estimates by county.
- Tying practice credit to acres rather than linear feet of fencing may over-emphasize credit.
  - Example: One acre of a 35-ft buffer behind the fence currently excludes the same amount of cattle as one acre of a 10-ft buffer. However, the 10-ft buffer will actually exclude 3.5 times more stream length than the 35 ft buffer.
  - Action: AMS will evaluate if tying reductions to linear feet of fence is more appropriate.

Nutrient Uptake for Hay and Pasture

- Concern expressed that nutrient uptake is too low for hay and especially for pasture.
- Hay uptake set at about 70 lbs N/acre, and pasture set at about 14 lbs N/acre
  - Action: AMS to review Meisinger and Randall, 1991 to improve uptake estimates for hay and pasture.

		Yield/Acre				Lbs N Harvested/Unit Yield
Alfalfa,						
Hay, sun-cured						
Vegetative	3.30	2.80–3.80	Ton	15	56	48–65
Early bloom	3.05	2.55–3.55	Ton	15	52	43–60
Mid bloom	2.75	2.25–3.25	Ton	15	47	38–55
Full bloom	2.50	2.00–3.00	Ton	15	43	34–51
Green chop						
Vegetative	3.55	3.05–4.05	Ton	75	18	15–20
Early bloom	3.15	2.65–3.65	Ton	75	16	13–18
Mid bloom	2,90	2.40–3.40	Ton	75	15	12–17
Full bloom	2.60	2.10–3.10	Ton	75	13	10–16
Bermudagrass						
Hay, sun-cured						
Vegetative	2.50	1.90–3.10	Ton	15	43	32–53
Early to mid bloom	1.70	1.30–2.10	Ton	15	29	22–36
Full bloom to mature	1.10	0.80–1.40	Ton	15	19	14–24
Green chop						
Vegetative	2.75	2.10–3.40	Ton	75	14	11–17
Early to mid bloom	1.90	1.40–2.40	Ton	75	10	7–12
Full bloom to mature	1.25	0.90–1.60	Ton	75	6	5–8

(continued on next page)

Source: Meisinger and Randall, 1991

Animal Data

- VA and other states have expressed interest in improving:

1. the distribution of animals inside and outside of the watershed, as well as improving the percentage of animals permitted vs. not permitted for the calibration period; and
   - Action: CBPO developing spreadsheet to allow states to report percentage of animals inside and outside of the watershed as well as percentage of permitted animals and non-permitted animals. States are not required to report. This is a common practice with precedent in recent progress years.
2. the distribution of statewide animal populations to counties reported as "non-disclosed" by the Ag Census.
   - Action: CBPO developing spreadsheet to allow states to report the location of animals by county and year. This location data will aid in the redistribution of statewide animal numbers through the "D-filling" procedure. States are not required to report.
     - All data must be submitted no later than July 15, 2017.