ATTACHMENT B

Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership's
BMP Verification Review Panel

Current Status and Recommended Next Steps for the Chesapeake Bay
Basinwide BMP Verification Framework Components

Updated: June 6, 2013

Framework Component	Current Status/Next Steps
Verification principles	• Principals' Staff Committee approved the CBP Partnership's five BMP verification principles at its December 5, 2012 meeting • The approved principles are accessible on-line at http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/best_management_practices_bmp_verification_committee under the 'Projects & Resources' tab
Verification protocols	• The six source sector and habitat restoration workgroups' most recent draft agricultural, forestry, stormwater, wastewater, wetlands restoration, and stream restoration verification protocols are posted on-line at http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/best_management_practices_bmp_verification_committee under the 'Projects and Resources' tab • The Partnership's schedule has the workgroups completing work on their protocols by July 1st for incorporation into the July 15th draft BMP Verification Framework document for distribution to the BMP Verification Review Panel
Verification panel	• The BMP Verification Review Panel was convened by the Partnership's Management Board in September 2012 • More information on the Panel is available on-line at http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/bmp_verification_review_panel • Next Panel meeting is scheduled for August 28-29, 2013 • The draft agenda and advance briefing materials for the August meeting will be posted on-line by July 15th (accessible via the CBP Calendar)
Jurisdiction specific procedures for eliminating double counting	• Dean Hively, USGS, and Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting, have developed the jurisdictional specific procedures and is currently completing a report documenting each of the procedures • USGS has distributed its draft report, which contains detailed documentation on these procedures, to BMP Verification Committee members for review and comment prior to finalizing by July 1st • The final report will be included as an appendix to the July 15th draft BMP Verification Framework document

Consistent 1619 data sharing agreements across the six states	• NRCS has committed to working with the four states with existing 1619 data sharing agreements in place already (MD, NY, VA, WV) and making modifications to those existing agreements to ensure each state have access to the full array of federally cost shared conservation practice data • NRCS has committed to working with DE and PA to put in place new 1619 data sharing agreements • NRCS will work with and sign 1619 data sharing agreements with environmental regulatory agencies with responsibilities for delivering conservation support and/or tracking and reporting conservation practice • Chesapeake Bay Program Office staff have posted the current 1619 data sharing agreements for MD, NY, VA and WV as well as USGS on-line under the 'Projects & Resources' tab at: http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/best_management_practices_bmp_verification_committee • Dean Hively, USGS, is available to consult directly with any state on his ideas and recommendations for development of new data sharing agreements and any enhancements to their existing data sharing agreements to ensure full access to all Farm Bill programs • The draft USGS agricultural conservation practices report described above contains specific recommendations for modifications to existing (MD, NY, VA, and WV) 1619 agreements as well as an example agreement template for new 1619 agreements in DE and PA • Chesapeake Bay Program Office staff have started discussions with NRCS on developing a common template for annual downloads of NRCS and FSA Farm Bill Program conservation practice data, then tailored to each of the six watershed states
USDA agreement to enhance data collection and reporting of cost shared practices	• NRCS committed to work with the six watershed states to enhance the data collection and reporting for the specific practices identified by the Partnership's Agricultural Workgroup • Work will proceed with the national NRCS scientific and technology staff with responsibility for practice codes, definitions and reporting system as well as NRCS staff leading the Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative • As NRCS makes progress on the partner states' requests for enhanced data collection and reporting, they will report back to the Partnership • Within the CBP Partnership, the Agricultural Workgroup will continue to have the lead on this topic, given their representatives know what the states' detailed data and information needs are • The BMP Verification Committee will continue to keep abreast of the progress being made and maintain enhanced data collection and reporting as one of the elements of the larger basinwide BMP verification framework

Procedures for the clean-up of historical BMP databases	• Watershed Technical Workgroup was delegated responsibility for this framework component by the BMP Verification Committee • Chesapeake Bay Program Office staff have shared the entire historic record of BMP implementation data (starting in 1985) with each jurisdiction in March 2013 • The Watershed Technical Workgroup is coordinating efforts by the jurisdictions to start stepwise clean-ups of their historical data records with a focus on time periods, priority practices and geographic regions of interest to the jurisdiction and the Partnership
Partnership process for evaluating and adopting future BMP verification protocols and procedures	• Chesapeake Bay Program Office managers shared a draft paper on possible options/approaches to evaluating and adopting future BMP verification protocols/procedures into the future with the CBP Partnership's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) in preparation for their June 11-12, 2013 meeting • STAC has form a subgroup of seven members to work with the Partnership on the above issue as well as the larger topic of evaluation of the effectiveness of the jurisdictional BMP verification programs
Jurisdictional BMP verification documentation expectations for their existing quality assurance plans	• The Committee reviewed the initial draft (January 22, 2013) and then revised draft (March 13, 2013 meeting) recommendations for jurisdictional verification documentation • During its March 13, 2013 meeting, the Committee requested more time to review and provide feedback on the revised draft documentation expectations
Communications strategy	• The Partnership's Communications Workgroup met in January 2013 and discussed a BMP verification communications strategy in detail • Margaret Enloe, CBP Partnership's Communications Office Director, present the Workgroup's findings and recommendations to the Committee at its March 13, 2013 meeting • The Committee decided to put off further discussions of a communications strategy until work on the verification framework was more complete