

**Chesapeake Bay Program Water Quality Goal Implementation Team's
BMP Verification Committee
March 13, 2013 Meeting**

ATTACHMENT H

**Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership's
BMP Verification Program Document Expanded Outline**

Background

- What do we mean by verification
 - Partnership's Definition of Verification
 - Extract background narrative and charge to the Review Panel from BMP Verification Principles document
- Calls for/commitment to verification within and outside of the Partnership
 - Executive Order
 - National Academy of Science's National Research Council Chesapeake Bay Evaluation Panel
 - CBP Citizens Advisory Committee
 - Bay TMDL Appendix S

Work Underway on Which the Verification Program Was Built

- Jurisdictions' existing BMP tracking and reporting programs
 - Use jurisdictions' quality assurance plans as documentation
 - Recognize where verification is ongoing in state and federal programs
- NEIEN
 - Summarize the jurisdictions' commitment to network based exchanges of reported BMP implementation data
- NACD
 - Reference to and summarize the two year funded effort to evaluate how to account for non-cost shared conservation practice data
- USGS MOU's with NRCS, FSA
 - Recognize this 1619 data sharing agreement as a fundamental building block on which the partners will be assured full access to federal cost shared conservation practice data
- USDA Office of Environmental Markets

- Recognize how USDA has lead the way on thinking through the different approaches to undertaking verification by citing several of the key OEM publications
- CBP partnership response to NAS Chesapeake Bay Evaluation Panel report and science based conclusions
 - Summarize the Partnership's commitment to move forward with development of a basinwide verification program in response to the Panel's conclusions and recommendations.

Chesapeake Bay Basinwide BMP Verification Framework

[Envision just 2 pages outlining the key components of the framework; details to be provided in the next section]

- BMP Verification Principles
 - Describe the role of the principles within the larger framework and the jurisdictions' verification programs
- BMP Verification Review Panel
 - Describe the role of the Panel in supporting the Partnership's development and implementation of the verification framework
- BMP Verification Principle Protocols
 - Outline the set of protocols developed by the Partnership's source sector and habitat restoration workgroups
- Ensuring full access to federal conservation practice data
 - Point to the USGS MOU with USDA and the basinwide 1619 data sharing agreement
- Eliminating double counting
 - Briefly describe the focus on state-specific procedures for preventing crediting reported practices more than one
- Clean-up of historical BMP data bases
 - Summarize objective behind revisiting historical databases from a verification perspective
- USDA agreement to enhance data collection and reporting of cost shared practices
- Communication strategy

Partnership Process for Development of the Framework

- Decision making process
 - Work flowing up through the source sector workgroups ->BMP Verification Committee->Review Panel->WQGIT, GITs->MB->PSC

- Roles of each of the workgroups, committees, panels, and goal implementation teams
- Decision making sequence over time
 - Trace the sequence of key Partnership’s conference calls, meetings, briefings, reviews, and, ultimately, decisions
 - Provide complete listing with URL links to CBP Partnership’s website calendar
- Sources of information, experiences and expertise
 - CBP Partnership web site’s BMP Verification Committee and Verification Review Panel web pages
 - USDA Office of Environmental Markets web site
 - Chesapeake Bay Commission web site and their Nutrient Trading Evaluation report
 - USDA Forest Service Chesapeake Bay Office web site
 - National Association of Conservation Districts project
 - USGS MOU with NRCS, FAS
 - State pilot programs in VA, MD, WV
 - References and links to host of other sites from across the country

BMP Verification Principles

- Role of the principles within the larger verification framework
- Partnership process for development and adoption of the principles
 - http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/18556/attachment_c_-_bmp_verification_principles_decision-making_process.pdf
- BMP Verification Principles
 - Final Draft BMP Verification Principles for PSC Review and Approval

BMP Verification Review Panel

- Review Panel charge and desired membership
- Process for Panel membership selection
- Roles played by the Panel in development of the framework
- Key Panel recommendations and requests

BMP Verification Protocols

- Overview of the protocols and their role within the larger framework
- Agriculture
- Forestry

- Stormwater
- Wastewater
- Stream restoration
- Wetlands

Ensuring full access to federal conservation practice data

- Basinwide data sharing agreement between FSA and NRCS and the six states

Eliminating double counting

- State specific double counting protocols

Historical Data Clean-up

- Watershed Technical Workgroup's recommended procedures

USDA agreement to enhance data collection and reporting of cost shared practices

Partnership process for evaluating and adopting future BMP verification protocols and procedures

Jurisdictional BMP verification documentation expectations for their existing quality assurance plans

Communication Strategy

References

Appendices

- BMP Verification Principles
- BMP Verification Protocols
- BMP Verification Committee members list
- BMP Verification Review Panel members list
- BMP Verification Review Panel members bios
- BMP Verification Review Panel charge
- USGS-USDA Data Sharing MOU
- Basinwide 1619 Data Sharing Agreement
- State specific double counting protocols
- Watershed Technical Workgroup's recommended historical BMP data base clean-up procedures
- Jurisdictional BMP verification documentation expectations for their existing quality assurance plans