

AGENDA
October 17th, 2019
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Conference Call

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 Chairs

- Roll-call of the governance body
- Roll-call of the meeting participants
- Approval of meeting minutes from the Sept 19th Conference Call

Data & Modeling

10:05 Ag Census 2017: Notable Trends (30 min)

Jeff Sweeney

Jeff Sweeney, EPA CBP, will discuss returns to the AgWG to present adjustments to the 2017 Ag Census trends emerging from the 2017 data release following his July presentation to the AgWG.

Implementation

10:35 Approaches to Streamlining Technical Assistance (45 min)

K. Hughes Evans and C. Rivera

Carol Rivera, NRCS, will provide a brief overview of the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). Kristen Hughes Evans, Sustainable Chesapeake, will lead a discussion regarding efforts made to engage in stakeholder dialogue on optimizing the various sources of ag conservation funding among federal, state, and private funders in light the call for proposals from the RCPP.

11:20 Review of Feedback Related to Technical Assistance (20 min)

Loretta Collins

Loretta Collins, UMD, will review comments received from the AgWG regarding technical assistance (TA) over the summer. Loretta will ask the AgWG for feedback on the capacity of the

AgWG to address TA challenges. The CBP Water Quality Goal Implementation Team has requested input from the AgWG on how to address TA challenges moving forward.

11:40 New Business & Announcements (15 min)

- Nitrogen fixation value for the *other haylage, silage, and greenchop* crop category changed to 30.24 lbs N per acre.
- Agricultural Ditch Management Expert Panel Report
- Wetland Expert Panel Report
- Update on Cropland Irrigation Expert Panel recommendations:
 - **Decision:** The Management Board (MB) decided on an approach that would allow Delaware to petition the Agriculture Workgroup (with input from STAC and STAR) to open a new expert panel once it documented new relevant science. Note: A decision on whether to approve the Expert Panel's report will be raised during the October MB meeting.
 - Jason Keppler will seek approval at today's Management Board meeting at 12:30 PM.
- Upcoming public comment period for FSA CRP/CREP program
 - New rules expected by the end of the month.
 - Post-rule release education and discussion forum webinar is tentatively scheduled for November 6. More information to follow.
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
 - The 2018 Farm Bill requires NRCS to develop a regulation for RCPP. NRCS plans to publish the RCPP interim final rule in late fall or early winter. Upon release of the interim final rule, NRCS will accept public comments on the contents of the rule.
 - The application period for RCPP is open from September 3, 2019 through December 3, 2019.

12:55 Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)

Allie Wagner

Allie will review action and decision items from the meeting.

12:00 Adjourn Meeting

Next Meeting:

Nov 21st, 2019: Conference Call → 10AM – 12PM

Pending Topics:

Accounting & Reporting: Resource Improvement BMPs- Are they being accounted for at full potential?

• BMP crosswalk updates

Implementation: Strategizing technical assistance • Addressing the gaps- What the Phase III WIPs can tell us

Innovation: Hemp- What are nutrient & sediment implications? • Furthering research to update nutrient fertility recommendation- Why the time is now and where is the support?

Data & Modeling: Data input updates for animal; fertilizer sales; soil phosphorus • USGS- Latest information tying water quality trends to BMP implementation

CBP Assignments: Adapting to climate change in the ag sector