The USDA and EPA will work with state agricultural agencies, conservation districts, and other key agricultural groups to develop a mechanism for tracking, verifying, and reporting non-cost shared conservation practices on agricultural lands for use in the CBP watershed model.

 Using CEAP results from 2003-2006 and the pending 2011-2012 analysis, the USDA and CBP Partnership will explore inclusion of the additional practices identified in these surveys into the CBP Watershed Model

 The NRCS and the CBP will work together to investigate the appropriateness of using a common approach for estimating pasture and hay land in both models

 The NRCS and the CBP will work together to investigate the development of a single database to estimate nutrient applications to cropland that would drive both modeling efforts, building on the experiences of both. Alternatively, given the different temporal and spatial scales of the modeling, the NRCS and the CBP can work together to standardize assumptions across databases.

 Currently, the two models track and report loads on different geographic scales. Development of common reporting scales will allow a more effective comparison of model findings and increase watershed model data and technique sharing capabilities. As the technologies of the two models advance, opportunities to collaborate should be explored

Further Task #1

 The NRCS and CBP will work with the AgWG to determine the most appropriate way in inform updates to conservation practice effectiveness estimates in the CBP Watershed Model, with a particular focus on characterizing spatial variability in practice effectiveness

Further Task #2

 The EPA will provide resources to help coordinate the effort to credit new conservation practices in the CBP Watershed Model, in accordance with the established protocols. The USDA will provide relevant data on effectiveness estimates of the new conservation practices to inform assessment by expert panels that evaluate practice effectiveness.