WIP Cost and Benefit Analysis
Summary Information
May 3, 2011

Background

- Congress and stakeholders have repeatedly inquired about costs associated with the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and the Bay jurisdictions' Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs). AA Perciasepe told the House Appropriations Committee that EPA would assess these costs. CBPO also recognizes the need to assess benefits as well as costs.
- This effort is not an attempt to develop a cost/benefit analysis to support EPA decisions related to the Bay TMDL.
- Several states provided overall cost estimates with their Phase I WIPs and will likely refine those costs in the Phase II WIPs. Other studies in the past have estimated costs associated with restoring the Chesapeake Bay.

Coordination

- Kevin DeBell will provide coordination for this work at the staff level.
- It is proposed that coordination with the jurisdictions be conducted primarily through the CBP Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT).
- Kevin DeBell has initiated a series of one-on-one phone calls with the jurisdictions to discuss this project. As of May 3, calls had been set up or completed with all jurisdictions except Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Contract Support

- Contract support will be necessary to accomplish this work.

Schedule

- This project is intended to provide cost and benefit estimates of the actions identified in Phase II WIPs. Because Phase II WIPs are due March 31, 2012, work on the estimates will extend through early summer 2012.
- A draft analysis based on Phase I WIPs will be completed by November 2011. This will provide for review and improvement of the project's methodology in anticipation of the Phase II WIPs.

Summary of Key Dates

- July 2011 – Draft BMP cost estimates to be developed and distributed
- November 2011 – Draft document based on Phase I WIPs provided for review
- Spring 2012 – Cost analysis revised with Phase II WIP information
- Summer 2012 – Cost analysis complete and released to public