

**CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM**  
**WATER QUALITY GOAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM**  
**MAY 12, 2014 CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES**

**ACTION ITEMS & DECISIONS**

**ACTION:** WQGIT will review the changes to the Urban Stream Restoration report following WTWG and AgWG review of the new technical appendix.

**ACTION:** Lucinda Power will distribute the governance document with today's revisions in tracked changes via email. WQGIT members will respond by Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> with any questions or concerns. The governance document will otherwise be considered approved at that time.

**ACTION:** Lucinda Power will distribute the revised BMP protocol by this Thursday to WQGIT members and other Partnership groups, such as the Habitat GIT and STAC. Comments are due to [power.lucinda@epa.gov](mailto:power.lucinda@epa.gov) by COB May 30<sup>th</sup> in preparation for WQGIT approval at the June conference call.

**WORKGROUP UPDATES**

**Agriculture Workgroup**

- The AgWG met on May 1, 2014. The following action items were identified during that call:
  - A small team of AgWG representatives will meet to respond to the verification committee's recommendations and provide a working draft by the May 9<sup>th</sup> deadline.
  - AgWG members are requested to provide comments on the PLS recommendations to Jim Glancey by Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - AgWG members are requested to provide comments on the Manure Technologies Subgroup report to Mark and Emma for the subgroup to consider in preparation for the next AgWG meeting.
  - The AgWG will schedule a separate meeting between USDA-NASS representatives and the Agriculture Modeling Subcommittee and other interested parties.
  - The AgWG will schedule a separate meeting to discuss verification in the next month.
- The date of the next full workgroup meeting is on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Forestry Workgroup**

- The FWG held a conference call on April 8<sup>th</sup> and approved the Land Use Workgroup's proposed forest land uses for Phase 6.0 of the Bay Model.
- The Agroforestry Team met on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in Carlisle, PA to discuss agroforestry ideas and the possibility of forming a multi-state team specific to Agroforestry.
- The next FWG meeting is scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Urban Stormwater Workgroup**

- The USWG held a conference call on April 15<sup>th</sup> and approved the BMP expert panel reports for Urban Filter Strips and Shoreline Management.
- The next USWG call is scheduled for June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Watershed Technical Workgroup**

- The May WTWG conference call has been rescheduled for May 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Wastewater Treatment Workgroup**

- The WWTWG held a conference call on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The workgroup received recommendations from the STAC workshop on on-site system technologies and an update on the potential for inter-state data sharing for on-site system technologies.
- The next WWTWG call is scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Trading and Offsets Workgroup**

- The TOWG held a conference call on April 16<sup>th</sup> and discussed recommendations from the STAC workshop on critical issues in implementing nutrient trading programs in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- The next TOWG call is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **BMP Verification Committee and BMP Verification Review Panel**

- The third draft of the Chesapeake Bay Basinwide BMP Verification Framework document was distributed on May 12<sup>th</sup> and is available online at the following URL (under the “Projects and Resources” tab):  
[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/best\\_management\\_practices\\_bmp\\_verification\\_committee](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/best_management_practices_bmp_verification_committee)

### **Land Use Workgroup**

- The LUWG has a face to face meeting scheduled on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Milestones Workgroup**

- The MSWG held their conference call on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the discussion was on the timing to update background conditions and BMP efficiencies into the modeling tools, and those impacts on milestone and progress submissions and evaluation.
- The Milestones Workgroup will be developing a recommendation for WQGIT GIT review and decision on this issue.

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Welcome/Confirm Call Participants, Recent Workgroup Decisions and Updates**

- Jenn Volk, WQGIT Chair, welcomed everyone to the call and confirmed call participants.

### **2. Path forward for Land Use Loading Rates Priority**

- Lee Currey presented the [Modeling Workgroup's recommendation](#) for the process to define land use loading rates as part of the Midpoint Assessment.
  - Through literature and other sources, the modeling workgroup will be developing the relative differences between land use loading rates. The sector workgroups will then be asked to further refine the land use classifications.
  - All recommendations will be used to inform the final rates, but the observed water quality data will drive the final calibration.
- John Schneider (DE): What was the source of the current loading rates?
  - Currey: Based on Phase 5.3.2 information, which was collected from monitoring and other sources.
- Schneider: Have these loading rates been verified with other data?

- Currey: Loading rates were verified through the calibration, because part of the calibration process is to bring multiple models into the system. Loading rates do vary geographically. Please provide additional information to the modeling workgroup.
- James Davis-Martin (VA): Will the model go through multiple calibrations for N, P and sediment?
  - Currey: There are loading rates for each pollutant on each land use.
- Davis-Martin: Has there been any discussion of limiting the variability of inputs from calibration?
  - Currey: Previously the model was calibrated based on literature information, which provided the constraint.

### 3. Agriculture Workgroup Update

- Mark Dubin, Agriculture Workgroup Coordinator, provided an update on the Agriculture Workgroup's recent activities and upcoming topics that will be brought before the WQGIT in the coming months.
  - The Agriculture Workgroup recently finished a new version of the verification document, which is being distributed to the Partnership.
  - The Manure Treatment Technologies Subgroup has presented a draft panel charge to the Agriculture Workgroup and will be finalizing their document in June. The Manure Treatment Technologies Expert Panel will be convened soon after the panel charge is final.
  - The Agricultural Management Plans Subgroup will be finalizing their recommendations soon.
  - Nutrient Management Panel is in the process of recommending efficiency values for Tier 2 Nutrient Application Management.
  - The Poultry Litter Subcommittee is nearing their final recommendations.
  - The Cover Crops and Conservation Tillage expert panels will be meeting in the next few weeks. A modeling position through USDA will be in place soon, and will be working in support of these panels' recommendations.
  - The Resource Improvements panel will be wrapping up their recommendations in June.
- James Davis-Martin: What is the timing to get the expert panels approved in order to be included in this year's progress?
  - Matt Johnston: September 1 is the agreed upon deadline. Some BMPs were incorporated by December 1 in 2013 because they were new BMPs, and therefore easier to incorporate in a shorter amount of time.
  - Davis-Martin: Note that late additions are a challenge for jurisdictions in reporting progress.

### 4. Urban Stream Restoration Protocol

- Lisa Fraley-McNeal and Bill Stack, representatives from the Stream Restoration expert panel, gave WQGIT members an [overview of the changes](#) made to the Panel's recommendations during the pilot phase of this BMP.
- Marel Raub (CBC): How was the 40% limit for removal credit chosen?
  - Stack: From a study where the total denitrification accounts for 40% of the total N loading for the watershed.
- Davis-Martin: How do we determine that number is not exceeded in reporting?

- Table 6 gives the edge of stream loading rates, which would be applied to the total drainage area and compared with the credit.
- Davis-Martin: Recommend that the previously approved report by the WQGIT should stand until the changes come back to the WQGIT for final decision.
- The smaller group did not feel the changes were substantive enough to be brought back to WQGIT.
- Johnston: WTWG is working on a technical appendix for this BMP. Recommend that the appendix be brought to the WQGIT for approval after WTWG approval.
  - Mark Dubin: Request that the AgWG also be given an opportunity to review because of the implications to non urban stream restoration.
  - Davis-Martin: Request a summary of changes to the previous document and a more detailed explanation regarding the data used at the next presentation to WQGIT.

**ACTION:** WQGIT will review the changes to the Urban Stream Restoration report following WTWG and AgWG review of the new technical appendix.

## 5. Approval of WQGIT Governance

- Jenn Volk presented [revisions to the draft WQGIT governance protocols](#) for goal team approval. The revisions are based on comments received by April 30, 2014.
  - The purpose of the governance is to have a process for the rare occasions when consensus cannot be reached.
  - If no further comments, WQGIT members will approve the governance.
- Davis-Martin: Does there need to be a minimum number of votes for decision making?
  - Montali: Recommend minimum of 5 voters (a minimum of 4 out of 5 in favor to pass a vote).
  - WQGIT members agreed with a minimum of 5 voters to hold a vote.
- CBF: Recommend that jurisdictions not participating in management strategies should not vote on issues directly related to that management strategy.
  - WQGIT members agreed that jurisdictions not participating in a management strategy will abstain from votes directly related to that management strategy.
- How will this governance apply to the WQGIT workgroups?
  - Power: The governance includes direction for appointing voting members at the workgroup level.
  - Dianne McNally: Recommend that WQGIT workgroups take the approach to actively seek consensus as well.
- Jenn Volk: If anyone has concerns, please let Lucinda know by this Friday (5/16).

**ACTION:** Lucinda Power will distribute the governance document with today's revisions in tracked changes via email. WQGIT members will respond by Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> with any questions or concerns. The governance document will otherwise be considered approved at that time.

## 6. Updating 2015 Projections & Timing of Changes

- Matt Johnston discussed updates to the 2015 land use projections and the [items that may impact base conditions and loads](#).
- Suzanne Trevena, Milestone Workgroup Chair, presented the Milestone Workgroup's recommendation for when to incorporate updates to land uses and BMP efficiencies.
  - Trevena: The MSWG will share a pro/con list with the WQGIT to help make the decision.

- Lee Currey (MDE): Encourage the group to make the best estimate possible currently, and if there are future changes, explain why the changes have happened.
- Beth McGee (CBF): Note the communication challenges with multiple posted versions of milestones.
- Mark Dubin: The Agriculture Workgroup has recommended and continues to support inclusion of latest information, such as the 2012 Census of Agriculture as soon as it is available.
- Trevena: WQGIT members are encouraged to contact your Milestone Workgroup representative for your jurisdiction to check in with them on this process.
  - Jurisdictions can contact Suzanne to find out who their Milestone Workgroup representative is.
- Jim George: When will the WQGIT make a decision on how to evaluate 2015 milestones?
  - The Milestone Workgroup will be developing a recommendation for the WQGIT.

## 7. Discussion of BMP Protocol

- Lucinda Power gave a brief overview of comments received on the BMP Protocol and thanked everyone who has commented so far.
  - A new version will be sent out to WQGIT members by this Thursday for a second review period.
  - The second review period will end COB May 30<sup>th</sup> to prepare for approval at the June WQGIT meeting.
  - Lucinda will be following up with those who commented to ensure all comments are addressed.
  - Lucinda will distribute the protocol to STAC and other interested Goal Teams.

**ACTION:** Lucinda Power will distribute the revised BMP protocol by this Thursday to WQGIT members and other Partnership groups, such as the Habitat GIT and STAC. Comments are due to [power.lucinda@epa.gov](mailto:power.lucinda@epa.gov) by COB May 30<sup>th</sup> in preparation for WQGIT approval at the June conference call.

## Adjourn

### **Next WQGIT Conference Call:**

June 9th, 2014

1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Member	Affiliation
Jennifer Volk (Chair)	U Delaware
James Davis-Martin (Vice-Chair)	VADEQ
Lucinda Power (Coordinator)	EPA/CBPO
Marel Raub	CBC
Beth McGee	CBF
Mark Dubin	UMD
Jeremy Hanson	CRC
Emma Giese	CRC
George Onyullo	DDOE
John Schneider	DNREC

Ann Carkhuff	EPA Region 3
Dianne McNally	EPA Region 3
Suzanne Trevena	EPA Region 3
Katherine Antos	EPA/CBPO
Jeff Sweeney	EPA/CBPO
Dana York	Green Earth Connection
Steve Hann	HRMML
Bruce Michael	MD DNR
Helen Stewart	MD DNR
Lee Currey	MDE
Dinorah Dalmasy	MDE
Jim George	MDE
Tom Thornton	MDE
Greg Busch	MDE
Paul Emmart	MDE
Norm Goulet	NVRC
Ron Entringer	NYS DEC
Ted Tesler	PA DEP
Matt Johnston	UMD
David Koran	USACE
Teresa Koon	WV DEP
Dave Montali	WV DEP
Lisa Fraley-McNeal	CWP
Bill Stack	CWP
Mark Dubin	UMD
LJ Ingram	Chart LLC