



Chesapeake Bay Program
Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 6th, 2020
Calendar Page: [Link](#)

Summary of Actions and Decisions

Decision: The WTWG approved the Ag Ditch and Drainage BMP Panel Report. This will now go the WQGIT for final approval in March.

Agenda

10:00 AM – Introductions and Announcements – Jeff Sweeney, EPA

- Introduction of new WTWG Chair, Cassandra Davis, NYSDEC
- Approval of the October, November, and December meeting minutes
 - *A brief overview of the compensatory mitigation discussion from December was given (for more information refer to the December meeting minutes on the [meeting page](#)). VA noted that their department would be opposed to compensatory mitigation as a BMP.*
- New Chairs and Vice- chair for WQGIT
- 2020 CAST Webinar Series - Targeting Reductions on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 12:00 PM
 - *The webinar will discuss three ways to target load reductions – location, load source, and most expensive or effective BMP.*
- Phase III WIP evaluations-
 - *The Phase III WIPs are now final.*

10:15 AM – Ag Ditch and Drainage Management BMP Panel Report -- Jeremy Hanson (VA Tech)

Jeremy will summarize the panel's recommendations and revisions made in response to partnership feedback. The Agriculture Workgroup approved the report in December 2019. The draft technical appendix will also be discussed.

Decision Requested: WTWG approval of the report for subsequent consideration by the WQGIT.

Summary of Panel Report and Recommendations:

The primary feedback was on the following three issues: directly measured systems (denitrifying bioreactors on springs), eligibility and applicability, and reporting units. Based on this, the panel's recommendations were blind inlets (or blind inlets w/ P-absorbing materials), denitrifying bioreactors, drainage water management, P-removal systems, and saturated buffers. The recommended practices apply to Ag unless noted otherwise (measured P removal systems apply to feedspace). These practices are restricted by site drainage / characteristics in real world, but they are not geographically limited in model simulation to specific hydrogeomorphic regions or other factors. Based on this, the WTWG approved the panel report with full consensus.

Decision: The WTWG approved the Ag Ditch and Drainage BMP Panel Report. This will now go to the WQGIT for final approval in March.

11:00 AM – Update on CAST - Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting, and Megan Crunkleton, KCT Technologies

Olivia and Megan will review new information on CAST including a new cost formula available when editing cost profiles, graphs displaying trends over time, tributary reports, and Phase 3 WIP BMP evaluations.

Updates to CAST:

In the previous version of CAST, there was a base conditions page, which was redundant so it has been removed, but you can still access it from the base conditions report. A new icon was added that allows you to copy the drop-down selections of a BMP record and then change the amount field. Information was added to the “track TMDL progress” on the homepage. The first addition is a Phase 3 WIP BMP evaluation tab, which will list the most effective nitrogen and phosphorous BMPs in the WIPs. The next addition is a new “Trends over Time” tab, which just shows a series of different data over time and nutrient maps where you can change the year. Other additions are tributary reports that people will have access to. There will be 12 total. The first to be published is the Potomac Tributary Report. There was also some flexibility added in the BMP cost profile.

11:30 AM – 2019 Progress and Data Verification – Jeff Sweeney, EPA

Jeff will provide an update on 2019 Progress, verification, and the schedule for model scenarios.

Summary:

Jeff went over updates on 2019 Progress and verification then went over the schedule for model scenarios. Important due dates are listed below. For more information refer to Jeff Sweeney’s presentation on the February [meeting page](#).

- January 15, 2020: The states and federal agencies report to EPA on progress toward achieving programmatic milestone commitments for the prior milestone period
- February 7, 2020: CBP partnership finalizes numeric progress and verification assessment. Jurisdictions finalize their BMP Verification Program Plans.

12:00 AM – Adjourn

Next meeting: March 5th, 2020 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Call Participants

Cassandra Davis, NYSDEC
Jeff Sweeney, EPA
Hilary Swartwood, CRC
Greg Sandi, MDE
Emily Dekar, USC
Arianna Johns, VA DEQ

Alana Hartman, WV DEP
Bill Keeling, VA DEQ
Norm Goulet, NVRC
Brittany Sturgis, DNREC
Lori Brown, DNREC
Megan Crunkleton, KCT Technologies
Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting
Jeremy Hanson, VT
Jess Rigelman, J7 LLC.
Loretta Collins, UMD
Ted Tesler, PA DEP
Ruth Cassilly, UMCES