



## DRAFT CALL SUMMARY

Wastewater Treatment Workgroup (WWTWG) Teleconference

Tuesday, October 2, 2018, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

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### Summary of Actions and Decisions:

**Action:** Draft responses to comments on the boat pump-out proposed practice will be presented for discussion at the November WWTWG conference call.

**Decision:** WWTWG approved of the proposed language changes to the climate change narrative for the Phase III WIPs, pending minor edits from George Onyullo, Ed Dunne and Tanya Spano.

**Decision:** The WWTWG approved Ed Dunne, DC DOEE to chair the WWTWG following Tanya Spano's retirement.

(Post-meeting edit: WQGIT approved Ed Dunne's chairmanship at the October 9 WQGIT conference call)

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10:00 AM      **Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements** —Tanya Spano (Chair)

**Decision:** The WWTWG approved the draft September meeting minutes.

10:10 AM      **2025 Accounting for Growth Projections (Joint USWG/WWTWG Briefing)** – Peter Claggett, USGS

Peter presented each jurisdiction's 2025 land use projections in the final Phase 6 modeling tools. Emphasis will be placed on 2025 land use projections for the stormwater and wastewater source sectors.

Using the Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model (CBLCM) to forecast to 2025 conditions. The baseline has been agreed to by the Partnership to use as the baseline conditions for the Phase III WIPs. States can develop customized scenarios for land use planning using land policy BMPs. These treat planning and conservation as a BMP, using CAST and the CBLCM. CBLCM simulates urbanization from employment and population growth (state and county-derived). The baseline condition is current zoning, and land policy BMPs are developed on top of current zoning, called Conservation Plus scenarios.

Part of developing the land change forecasts included mapping sewer service areas against growth of population and predicting areas of sewer and septic growth.

Land policy BMPs will be ready by October 19 to review, with review and revisions by jurisdictions and LUWG from November 18 through March 2019. Land policy BMPs and conservation scenarios are expected to be finalized prior to the deadline for the draft Phase III WIPs in April 2019. After April 2019, the CBP Partnership will refine the land use projections with milestones every two years between 2019 and 2025.

**No action required. Briefing is for informational purposes only.**

### Attachment 1. 2025 Land Use Projections Presentation

#### *Discussion:*

- Tanya Spano: 2025 is only the current point in time where these forecasts are done. Reminder to the WWTWG that we do not yet have Partnership forecasts for land use or loads beyond 2025.
  - Peter Claggett: We as a Partnership need to consider that over the coming years. Although growth may not make huge impacts to 2025, looking beyond 2025 to 2040 and beyond, there could be more significant impacts to watershed loads from growth.
- Spano: Expanding sewer service areas (SSAs) is important because you don't want to expand SSAs into forested areas. What does forested mean in this context?
  - Claggett: Forested is defined in our model. Forested areas do not include open space.
- Karl Berger: A lot of the load increases are because of septic load increases. When you are on septic vs sewer, your loads are higher and implementation of septic BMPs is not widespread. Out to 2025, the loads are fairly small, but every pound counts for the WIP implementation, and the land conservation BMPs are permanent, and can offset loads beyond 2025 due to growth. With the stochastic model on growth, I think we are ok at the county scale. How accurate is the model at finer scales?
  - Claggett: They are reasonable at the LRSeg (land river segment—modeling segment) scale as well. All the work on the CBLCM is designed to make sub-county scale accurate. We have regressions unique to every state to ensure that growth results are plausible. Agricultural land uses is not available at the subcounty scale, however. We have more uncertainty with agricultural than urban land uses. We will be able to compare projections when the 2017 Ag census is published. It's important to look at this information at least at the county level.
- Spano: What questions does the WWTWG have from the states? Is this consistent with policies in VA? DC?
- Mohsin Siddique: It is hard for DC Water to project out 10-15 years since data keeps changing. We are concerned with operating conditions at Blue Plains, since that is variable month to month. If we were to use Blue Plains to offset growth, we would need to make sure that that is compatible with the operating conditions variability month to month.
- Spano: 30% of the Bay region is in the Council of Governments (COG) region, and we have a lot of our own data and projections that have been incorporated into the CBLCM projections. We have contractual arrangements with many operations and facilities. We need to include those

contractual obligations in our projected loads and reductions in the Blue Plains service area and other major wastewater (WW) facilities. I would ask that you not assume you can model this without accessing that information first. COG will be vetting these scenario outputs and we would recommend that LUWG consults with us when developing your scenarios.

- Norm Goulet: What was the rate of governing that number for 15% SSA expansion?
  - Claggett: That was from the county estimation. We figured that there was no impetus for a SSA to expand if there was no population growth. We wanted to scale the expansion to pop growth. The 15% was set as a cap for how much expansion of the SSA can actually occur over the next seven years.
- Spano: This is just one prediction of an alternative future. This is a tool for potential and broad scale future. It's not the absolute truth.
  - Goulet: I agree, but it's easier said than done to vet against these projections. I have 161 units in Alexandria listed in this model that don't actually exist. That kind of vetting is really difficult.
  - KC Filipino: In Hampton roads we have the same problem.
  - Tanya: Does that mean that this input deck is not accurate?
    - Filipino: Yes, it does.
    - Norm Goulet: Agreed.
- Claggett: We have a SSA map online at USGS with phase 6 land use. We don't have complete coverage of Alexandria's SSA. We need a new SSA from Alexandria, and we need new MS4 data. If we get new data from you we will include that and if that doesn't show growth then we will not show growth in that area.
- Goulet: We were told the model was locked down, so we can't change the model at this point.
  - Ed Dunne: The solution at the time was to put the septic growth rate at 0 during the model lockdown to avoid the overcounting of septic in DC.
- Claggett: That will help with the projections. If there is septic in HRPDC that shouldn't exist, then associating those errors with BMPs in the WIP that have errors might be the way to handle that in the WIPs. We are forecasting specifically to 2025, and we are developing projections beyond 2025 but this SSA and septic projection is for 2025. If we designate SSA over a whole jurisdiction, we will not project any septic growth.

10:40 AM      **Update on Comments on Boat Pump-Out BMP Draft Expert Panel Report –**  
Tanya Spano, MWCOG

The Chesapeake Bay Boat Pump Out BMP Expert Review Panel was requested by the WWTWG and convened in February 2016. The panel developed the baseline load estimates for the recreational boating nutrient load into the Maryland and Virginia portions of the Chesapeake Bay and provided recommendations on related BMP crediting and verification. The workgroup tentatively approved the report and recommendations.

The WQGIT has charged the WWTWG to reconsider elements of the proposed BMP for applicability to type III commercial vessels in No-Discharge Zones. The WWTWG continued discussion of the comments received on the draft expert panel report and discuss responses to comments.

**Action Requested:** WWTWG approval of path forward for developing responses to Boat Pump-Out comments, and point of contact for completing draft responses and outreach to reviewers of the expert panel report.

Attachment 2. Draft Boat Pump-Out Report

Attachment 3. Boat Pump-Out Compiled Comments

*Discussion:*

- Norm Goulet: I still am not comfortable with comparing this to septic treatments with the MSD III (type III Marine Sanitation Devices). That load has never been in the watershed. That has been in a holding tank and pumped out at a station. The only load you would see with a MSD III pump-out is from illegal discharge and that is not creditable under the TMDL. The MSD I and II are the only loads the watershed is actually receiving.
- Spano: We want to address this issue and CBPO will try to respond to comments, but they will not be ready to review until our November call. At the November call, we will try to agree on the redirection that the WQGIT has recommended. Part of this is a resource issue since we do not have staff at CBPO to move forward on this matter unless we have any volunteers from the WWTWG.

**Action:** Draft responses to comments on the boat pump-out proposed practice will be presented for discussion at the November WWTWG conference call.

11:00 AM      **Climate Change Narrative Guidance for the Phase III WIPs** – Tanya Spano (Chair)

Tanya briefed the WWTWG on the updates to the draft narrative guidance for the Phase III WIPs for inclusion of climate resiliency considerations in the wastewater source-sector.

**Action Requested:** WWTWG approval of wastewater-inclusive language in the climate change narrative guidance.

Attachment 4. Draft Climate Change Narrative (updated September 28, 2018)

*Discussion:*

- Tanya Spano asked if the WWTWG approves of the proposed language changes to include wastewater considerations in addressing climate change in the Phase III WIPs
- Will Hunley approved.
- George Onyullo: I think you captured the ideas well. I think we should tighten up the language to make sure that the ideas are captured substantively.
  - Tanya: Maybe we can do cleanup today offline.
- Spano: This is supposed to be the guidance for states to build into their WIPs.

- George Onyullo: We are agreed, as long as we can clean this up offline
- Michelle Williams: I am ok with this, but I will have to send this to the WQGIT chairs and Lucinda to review before it goes to the Management Board.

**Decision:** WWTWG approved of the proposed language changes to the climate change narrative for the Phase III WIPs, pending minor edits from George Onyullo, Ed Dunne and Tanya Spano.

11:40 AM      **Call for New WWTWG Leadership**– Tanya Spano (Chair)

After lending her expertise to the WWTWG and WQGIT for many years, Tanya Spano is retiring from MWCOG and will be resigning as chair of the WWTWG. WWTWG members are asked to consider potential nominees for the position of WWTWG chair, as well as WWTWG coordinator and/or vice-chair.

**Action Requested:** Nomination and WWTWG approval of a WWTWG vice-chair and/or coordinator

*Discussion:*

- George Onyullo extended his thanks to Tanya for her work on behalf of the WW sector and hopes that Tanya will still be able to lend her support and expertise behind the scenes.
- Mohsin Siddique also thanked Tanya for her work.
- Tanya Spano recommended Ed Dunne, DC DOEE for WWTWG chair going forward. I think Ed has clarity and perspective on WW issues from jurisdiction and local government in the Partnership and as DC representative on the WQGIT.
- Ed Dunne: I am relatively new to the Partnership, and I can't replace Tanya. But I have experience in ecological engineering and resource management. I worked for several years on a constructed wetland in Central FL, and now here at DOEE in the Water Quality Division, I am eager to continue participating in the partnership, WQGIT, and WWTWG.
- Rashid Ahmed approved of Ed Dunne as new chair. Will miss Tanya as chair and wish her well in retirement.
- Megan Browning in WV approves, appreciates work by Tanya at MWCOG.
- Robin Pellicano: We have no issues with Ed from MD.
- Matt Richardson: No objection from VA.
- DE, WV approved.

**Decision:** The WWTWG approved Ed Dunne, DOEE to chair the WWTWG following Tanya Spano's retirement.

(Post-meeting edit: WQGIT approved Ed Dunne's chairmanship at the October 9 WQGIT conference call)

Attachment 5. WQGIT Governance Document

12:00 PM      **Adjourned**

Next conference call:

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 (10 am – 12 pm)

**Call Participants:**

**From WWTWG:**

Tanya Spano, MWCOG  
Michelle Williams, CRC  
Rashid Ahmed, NYS DEC  
Maria Schumack, PA DEP  
Jack Hayes, DNREC  
Robin Pellicano, MDE  
Ed Dunne, DC DOEE  
Mohsin Siddique, DC Water  
George Onyullo, DC DOEE  
Megan Browning, WV DEP  
Mindy Neil, WV DEP  
Matt Richardson, DEQ  
Ray Tighe, VDH  
Karl Berger, MWCOG  
Nassar Ameen, MWCOG  
Jeremy Hanson, VT  
Peter Claggett, USGS  
Will Hunley, HRSD  
Lauren Townley, NYS DEC  
Cassandra Davis, NYS DEC

**From USWG:**

Cecilia Lane, DOEE  
Ruth Minhich Hobson, VA DEQ  
Norm Goulet, NOVA Regional Commission  
Jesse Maines, City of Alexandria  
KC Filipino, HRPDC  
Chris Swanson, VDOT  
Liz Ottinger, EPA Region III  
Elaine Webb, DNREC