

Agricultural Modeling Team (AMT) Phase 7: Call for Nominations

FUNCTION:

The Agricultural Modeling Team will provide agricultural modeling assistance to support the Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG) through the development of the Phase 7 Watershed Model (WSM) inputs. This will be accomplished by providing the capacity for in-depth analyses of agricultural items of interest brought forward by the partnership. From these in-depth analyses technical decisions will be made regarding the processing of input data in the Phase 7 WSM. The functions of the group will be to:

- Review data preprocessing methods and agricultural inputs to ensure that Phase 7 WSM utilizes the best available information to reflect agricultural conditions in the watershed and how they change through time.
- Review current [Phase 6] WSM assumptions related to the applications of nutrients on agricultural lands and determine if changes are appropriate for Phase 7. Several examples of relevant topics include: manure and fertilizer nutrient inputs; legume fixation; crop application goals; cover-factors for RUSLE*; climate change considerations; and soil phosphorus data.
- Consider land use/load source category changes.
- Coordinate with USDA agencies to identify analysis methods and agricultural databases.

Membership on the Agricultural Modeling Team (AMT) is for individuals with an expertise in agricultural systems, the application/storage of both manure and fertilizer, as well as agricultural nutrient modeling data within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. **More detailed fields of expertise can be seen in Table 1 below.**

Table 1. Specific areas of expertise desired for participation on the AMT.

Agricultural systems	Application/storage of both manure and fertilizer	Agricultural nutrient modeling data within the Chesapeake Bay watershed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bovine •Equine •Hogs •Poultry •Livestock Feed •Row crop •Hay and Ag Open Space •Pasture and Riparian Pasture •Specialty Crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Storage and handling •Transport •Nutrient Management •Soil Phosphorus •Nutirent volitalization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CAST •SPARROW •USDA •Land Use

*RUSLE or the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation estimates soil loss from rill and interrill erosion caused by rainfall on cropland.

Those nominated to be members of the AMT can represent members of the Agriculture Workgroup and CBP partnership, academic institutions, federal, state or county agencies, and non-governmental organizations. Due to the scientific foundation for decisions within this group we would encourage all interested parties to review ethical considerations found in the [CBP Governance document](#), like conflict of interest. Nominated members must not represent entities with potential conflicts of interest, such as entities that could receive a financial benefit from changes to agricultural inputs. Those nominated to serve on the AMT are asked to identify any potential financial or other conflicts of interest prior to serving on the group.

The AMT coordinator will directly contact nominees to describe member responsibilities and determine the nominee's area(s) of expertise, willingness, and availability to serve on the group.

TIMELINE (Tentative):

- May 12th, 2022 – Send out draft call for nominations and charge to AgWG for review
- May 19th, 2022 – Present draft charge to AgWG for introduction of discussion of potential AMT charge, expertise, and topics
- June 16th, 2022 – AgWG will review, and approve finalized charge and tasks for AMT
 - Nomination's process will begin.
- July 21st, 2022 – Deadline to submit AMT nominations (please include contact info) to Tom Butler Butler.Thomas01@epa.gov
- July 21st to August 18th, 2022- Seek AgWG approval of proposed AMT membership
- September 22-23rd, 2022 (tentative)- Immersive Workshop to introduce materials, discuss charge, and set a timeline
- October 2022 through 2026 – Hold monthly AMT meetings

MEMBERSHIP:

The group will consist of members nominated and approved as described above. Alternates can be identified by the members if desired. Additional experts or stakeholders will be consulted by the AMT as needed according to the topic, but consensus decisions will reflect the views of the members. To facilitate effective operations and decision-making, the group's membership will consist of approximately 20 members. Throughout the group's discussions, members are expected to provide their input in a timely manner and engage as needed based on their respective role and expertise.

A list of nominated individuals will be periodically updated on the [AMT Phase 7 web page](#).

GOVERNANCE:

This group will operate on a [consensus based](#) decision making process outlined in the [CBP Governance and Management Framework document](#). To ensure transparency in decision making meetings will be open to the public. All group materials will be posted to the AMT webpage. Decisions will be recorded in minutes and the Phase 7 CAST documentation.”