

# Agriculture Workgroup

## Recommendations to Water Quality GIT

### Fatal Flaw Review

August 14, 2017

# Agriculture Workgroup

## Fatal Flaw Review (August 3, 2017)

### Recommendation #1

**DECISION:** The AgWG made a strong recommendation to the CBP Partnership that conducting an uncertainty analysis of the Bay Model should be a high priority moving forward during the Mid-Point Assessment and Phase III WIP development process. Conducting an uncertainty analysis will prove necessary for the CBP strategy of adaptive management and stakeholder engagement.

*DECISION in response to comments received from Steve Levitsky (submitted to CBP 7/21/17), Delaware (submitted to CBP 7/28/17).*

- **DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS:**
  - Several At-Large and Jurisdictional members expressed concern in public messaging- need to quantify magnitude of uncertainty for the public.
  - Modelers noted that previous STAC recommendation for uncertainty analysis hinged on CBP managers articulating the need for analysis.
  - Noted that significant uncertainty was removed in the production of a better Phase 6 model
  - Questioned establishing model limitations and dataset uncertainty without means to improve dataset.
  - Opposing views within membership regarding *if* lack of uncertainty analysis qualifies under partnership's definition of fatal flaw.

# Agriculture Workgroup

## Fatal Flaw Review (August 3, 2017)

### Recommendation #2

DECISION: The AgWG requests the WQGIT determine whether the issue of inequity in how soil-test phosphorus is dealt with as an input between the urban and agricultural sectors, is a fatal flaw under the Partnership-approved definition.

*DECISION in response to comments received from Steve Levitsky (submitted to CBP 7/21/17), Delaware (submitted to CBP 7/28/17).*

- DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS:
  - Motion for use of APLE exclusively on agricultural lands to be a fatal flaw, seconded.
  - Noted APLE designed for agricultural land and is not applicable to an urban setting. Using APLE where appropriate is not an equity issue.
  - Amended motion- *inequity* in how soil test P is dealt with as an input is a fatal flaw, objection raised.
  - Several members agreed to sentiment of inequity but unsure if fits within fatal flaw definition.
  - Amended motion to Recommendation #2 (above)

# Agriculture Workgroup

## Fatal Flaw Review (August 3, 2017)

### Recommendation #3

**DECISION:** The AgWG recommended that the Partnership explore methods to resolve the sector inequity issue for soil-test phosphorus inputs.

*DECISION in response to comments received from Steve Levitsky (submitted to CBP 7/21/17), Delaware (submitted to CBP 7/28/17).*

- **DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS:**
  - Request for suggestions from membership on how to fix inequity issue.
  - Motion for recommendation #3 (above), seconded.

# Agriculture Workgroup

## Recommended Updates

- AMS will consider updates to crop removal based upon USDA Crop Nutrient Tool data.
- AMS will consider revisions to the stream exclusion practice benefits.