

**CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM
WATER QUALITY GOAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM
APRIL 9TH, 2012 CONFERENCE CALL**

Decision and Action Items

ACTION: The WQGIT will receive a draft of the 2011 progress run the week of 4/16, and Larry Merrill will follow-up with whether a call is necessary on 4/30 to discuss the progress run and milestones. For now, WQGIT members should pencil in a 1:30 – 3:30 call on 4/30.

ACTION: VA Integrated Assessment Report methodology will be added to future topics list of WQGIT meeting schedule.

ACTION: Gary Shenk will share invite list for Gunston Cove Multiple Models Workshop once finalized.

ACTION: Molly Harrington will send out links to CCMP symposium event.

ACTION: Molly Harrington will post summary table of all BMP panels and notify WQGIT.

ACTION: A draft of the supplemental wastewater treatment indicator will be shared with the Wastewater Treatment Workgroup (WWTWG) and then will be returned to WQGIT in May.

ACTION: WQGIT should review summary document, [Summary of BMP Effectiveness Lessons](#), and provide feedback on the material by 4/23 to Katie Foreman and Liza Hernandez for incorporation into the final report. Request to focus on summary document rather than ppt.

ACTION: Larry Merrill will email WQGIT with some highlights of the forthcoming schedule, likely during the week of 4/16.

Minutes

Welcome/Confirm Call Participants and Updates – Larry Merrill, Chair

- EPA issued the Final FY2011 Progress Report and FY2012 Action Plan on Friday, March 30 as required by Executive Order 13508 - Chesapeake Bay Protection and Restoration.
 - If interested, access at <http://executiveorder.chesapeakebay.net/>.
- A preliminary draft of the 2011 progress run was shared with technical staff on 4/2. Jurisdictions have until 4/6 to review, confirm they're ok with it, or provide any resubmitted data. Based on any changes after this latest review, CBPO will share the progress run results with the WQGIT ~4/16.
 - Will determine if WQGIT call is necessary to talk progress run and/or milestone fact sheets.
 - Placeholder of 4/30 as a WQGIT date, 1:30 – 3:30 pm.
- Other updates:
 - John Kennedy – VA Webinar on Integrated Assessment Report. Methodology submitted to CBPO that could change assessment. The submission will be worked through Monitoring groups in CBPO.

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Chesapeake Bay Program Modeling Update – Gary Shenk

- Models have been processing Final Phase II WIPs and 2012-2013 milestones, including some placeholder BMPs, due to coordination with the jurisdictions.

- Information on upcoming meetings. See event list: [CBP Modeling Meetings Schedule Update](#) .
 - STAC Gunston Cove Multiple Models Workshop: 4/26 – 4/27.
 - Small attendance, invitation-only, scientific workshop on multiple model development for a small watershed.
 - STAC Workshop on Multiple Models for Management: Exact date TBD, ~Mid-Late 2012.
 - Modeling Quarterly Review: 4/17 meeting will emphasize next generation topics.
 - CCMP Symposium: Symposium will highlight the interface between modelers and managers and how managers are utilizing models.
 - Symposium link: <http://www.chesapeakemeetings.com/CheMS2012/>
 - CBP calendar event: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/18194/>
 - Laboratory Recommendation Action Team (LabRAT): First meeting date TBD.
 - Team will be led by Mark Bennett. Membership is being created now.
 - Possible WQGIT face-to-face in the fall with Workgroups.
 - Additional panels that will have recommendations that influence the next generation of models include: Poultry Litter Subcommittee, Cover Crop Panel, Conservation Tillage Panel, Urban Retrofits Panel, and other panels as they arise.
 - See June 2011 Presentation on Next Generation Models, for further reference.

ACTION: Gary Shenk will share invite list for Gunston Cove Multiple Models Workshop once finalized.

ACTION: Molly Harrington will send out links to CCMP symposium event.

ACTION: Molly Harrington will post summary table of all BMP panels and notify WQGIT.

Progress on BMP Verification – Rich Batiuk

See the Chesapeake Bay Program's [BMP Verification Program Development Update](#).

- The full partnership has been contacted and informed about the BMP Verification Program. Most recently, Vital Habitats GIT is getting involved in the development process, with a focus on engaging the Stream Health Workgroup and Wetland Action Team.
- The Steering Committee Membership has been determined and includes all 7 jurisdictions, plus source sector and trading/offset workgroup representatives.
 - First call took place on 3/27.
- Preliminary draft BMP verification principles and preliminary draft BMP verification panel charge/membership have shared with the Steering Committee for review and comment.
- With the concurrence of the Steering Committee, revised draft principles and panel charge/membership will be shared with the WQGIT and its source sector workgroups in the coming weeks.

Discussion:

- There is some concern in MD regarding whether animal numbers will change to reflect a downward trend.
- Based on feedback received from other partners, model inputs (e.g. animal numbers, land use practices) get the same scrutiny through the BMP verification process and be updated to reflect the changes over time.

Request for Approval of Supplemental Wastewater Treatment Indicator – Larry Merrill

Discussion:

- Tanya Spano: Wastewater Treatment Workgroup (WWTWG) is supportive of the indicator in terms of providing more complete representation than only using load data, but may be problematic for some states. WW WG would like to review before finalizing.
- Russ Baxter: Question of proposed indicator as optional measure, or would it be displayed for all jurisdictions and aggregated up to the watershed scale.

- Larry Merrill: Would need this information from all jurisdictions in order to create a watershed-wide composite, which Chesapeake Bay Program does for other indicators.

ACTION: A draft of the supplemental wastewater treatment indicator will be shared with the Wastewater Treatment Workgroup (WWTWG) and then will be returned to WQGIT in May.

Key Features of Final Phase II WIPs and 2012-2013 Milestones – Jurisdiction Representatives

- DC: Diane Davis
 - DC WIP is unique in that federal partners are the “localities” that DC worked with through Ph. II process. DC Water was also considered a partner.
 - Partners’ targets were assigned based on area, and facilities submitted BMPs to meet targets.
 - Appendix A lists all facilities and BMPs used by the agencies
 - Inspections and operation/maintenance important components of WIP target achievement
 - Though DDOE does not have enforcement authority, can conduct inspections and some have been requested from partners.
 - Also note that Federal facilities are not exempt from the Clean Water Act.
 - MS4 permit also driving factor to meet storm water components of Ph. II WIP
 - Overall, high confidence in WIP and DC’s ability to reach targets.
- DE: John Schneider. See [Presentation: Delaware Phase II WIP](#)
 - Phase II provided more specific detail on the who, what, and when with current information
 - Emphasis on local government role
 - Closer examination of resources, needs, and authority
 - Did not develop individual “local WIPs” given just 1 basin in the watershed, limited local resources, and many established state level programs.
 - Wastewater Program: updating permit schedules and new performance standards for large systems.
 - Stormwater regulations: emphasizing infiltration and preservation of open spaces. Currently in comment period.
 - Questions relating to non-farm fertilizer BMP credit remain.
 - Agriculture Program: targeting cover crops and improving irrigation efficiency.
 - Inclusion of sea level rise considerations in Ph. II WIP.
- MD: Jim George
 - WIP organized by 1) basin plans; 2) plan development process; 3) local plans; and 4) future steps.
 - Strategy designed as equitable allocation among sources with option for trading to reduce costs.
 - Received 2025 plans from 15 of 24 counties.
 - Contingencies built into the 2017 WIP strategy. That is, the 2017 strategy over-achieves the goal of meeting 60% of the final target load.
 - Stormwater: Measures for regulated stormwater are consistent with MS4 permit requirements for the next permit cycle. BMPs include filtering practices, imperious surface removal, forest buffers and urban nutrient management consistent with proportion of E3 practices needed to meet the target plan. Non-regulated stormwater is addressed with forest buffers and urban nutrient management.
 - Septic upgrades set at a level needed to achieve the target loads. Because they are very expensive, it is likely that, over time, alternative means of achieving the reductions are likely.
 - Technical memo (Appendix H) demonstrates how the WIP achieves necessary water quality response.

- Milestone update: Updated WWTP information to reflect approximate one-year lag between completion of enhance nutrient reduction (ENR) construction and plant operation at lower concentrations, which is consistent with how the Bay watershed model credits ENR.
- PA: Andy Zemba
 - Reported constructive input from counties.
 - Desire to continue engagement and plan to achieve this through additional work at local level.
 - Ph. II development also strengthened relationships with federal facilities.
 - BMP Protocols: concerns regarding underreported BMPs remain.
 - Stormwater Programs: measures include MS4 permits with new pollutant reduction plan or TMDL plan if within a local TMDL.
 - Wastewater Program: Following through on WWTP permitting strategy for point sources.
 - Trading Program: transitioning to a new bureau.
- VA: James Davis-Martin, Russ Baxter
 - Localities provided input in most cases, but Ph. I WIP information used as default if not provided.
 - Remaining concerns with models regarding local scale and source-sector specificity.
 - Ph. II WIP is open for public comment period through May.
 - The Ph. II WIP is meant as a supplement to Ph. I WIP unless otherwise noted.
 - Worked with federal facilities.
 - Next steps section discusses continued work with localities on capacity-building, implementation, tracking-reporting, engaging them in future milestone planning.
 - Made progress on Ph. I WIP commitments
 - James River chlorophyll-a study
 - VA Assembly passed legislation related to expanding Nutrient Credit Exchange
- WV: Teresa Koon
 - Worked with contractors, local governments, associations, watershed groups, local governments, etc. for WIP application on the local level.
 - Revising 2017 commitments to reflect exceeding 60% target goal and what specific commitments may not be possible.
 - Agriculture Program: Farmer feedback meetings and agency stakeholder meetings demonstrated greater BMP practice participation willingness than anticipated.
 - Reviewing Agriculture Waste Management Systems and mortality composting.
 - Stormwater Program: reviewed existing ordinances and considered further actions for Ph. II WIP. Changes in PH II WIP account for growth, tracking and reporting, and contingencies.
 - Offsets: does not anticipate developing a formal program because determined on case-by-case basis using NPDES permit.
 - Point and non-point source baselines finalized to identify offsets when needed.
 - Achieved Ph. I commitment of 100% elimination of anhydrous ammonia in mining operations.

Lessons Learned on BMP Effectiveness – Katie Foreman, Liza Hernandez, Scott Phillips

- Shortened presentation of [Lessons Learned on BMP Effectiveness Presentation](#).
- Project goal is to synthesize the current state of knowledge regarding BMP effectiveness based on monitoring studies.

- Three main objectives: 1) determine the effects of BMP implementation on water quality; 2) determine how we can apply gained BMP effectiveness knowledge to improve water quality; and 3) determine effective use of adaptive management to improve BMP implementation.

ACTION: WQGIT should review summary document, [Summary of BMP Effectiveness Lessons](#), and provide feedback on the material by 4/23 to Katie Foreman and Liza Hernandez for incorporation into the final report. Request to focus on summary document rather than ppt.

Sharing Proposed 2012 WQGIT Schedule – Larry Merrill

- Larry unable to present tentative [2012 WQGIT Meeting Agenda Schedule](#) due to time constraints.

ACTION: Larry will send email to the WQGIT with some highlights of the forthcoming schedule, likely week of 4/16.

Participants

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