



Chesapeake Bay Program
Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday August 1, 2019
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Calendar Page: [Link](#)

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS AND DECISIONS

Decision: WTWG approved the June meeting minutes.

Action: WTWG members will review the technical appendix in USWG's BMP- Outfall Restoration Memo and send comments to David Wood, Tod Schuler, or Jeff Sweeny by the end of August.

Action: Olivia Devereux will research what credit durations should be applied to Ag stormwater BMPs, biofilters and lagoon covers for any updates to the NEIEN Appendix.

Action: Megan Crunkleton will incorporate suggested edits from WTWG into NEIEN Validation Reports and present changes at next WTWG meeting on September 5th.

MEETING MINUTES

10:00 AM – **Introductions and Announcements** – Ted Tesler, PA DEP and Jeff Sweeney, EPA

Decisions requested: Approval of the June 6th meeting minutes – Ted Tesler

Summary:

The June 6th meeting minutes were APPROVED. The earlier minutes will be amended to indicate non-legume fixation was noted. Non-legume fixation in the model is being addressed at future AgWG and WQGIT meetings. It will be brought back to WTWG as an announcement.

Decision: WTWG approved the June meeting minutes.

- **Shoreline Management – Jeff Sweeney**

Summary:

The calculation for Protocol 1 in the Shoreline Management BMP has been corrected. This will provide greater benefits per foot, mostly for MD and VA. Lewis Linker is responsible for making the changes in the documentation for this BMP. These changes should help with the effectiveness of nutrients related to shoreline management.

- **Interim BMP Outfall Restoration Memo - David Wood**

Summary:

There was a request to have a new crediting calculation method for projects that were implemented in the outfall / gully area stream network which wasn't accounted for in the existing Protocol 1 of the Stream Restoration Appendix. The BMP is addressed as Protocol 5 for the stream restoration suite of practices. The USWG is getting final approval this week via email and then

higher approval at the Sept. 9 Water Quality GIT meeting.

Action: WTWG will review the technical appendix for Outfall and Gully Stabilization Practices and send any comments to David Wood and Tom Schuler (Chesapeake Stormwater Network) by the end of August.

- **Modeling schedule – Jeff Sweeney, Megan Crunkleton, Jeremy Hanson**

Summary:

The new deadline for WIP submissions is August 23rd. For 2019 Progress Scenario and NEIEN: both are operational. You can start submitting draft submissions of your data for the 2019 Progress model assessment.

CAST Webinar: Cost Data in CAST will be discussed on August 8th at 12:00 -1:00 PM.

Wetland Expert Panel: Requesting feedback by COB on August 15th. Reach out to Jeremy Hanson if you need more time/ questions e before the deadline.

10:15 AM – **NEIEN Appendix Approval** – Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting

- **Approval requested for updates to the Appendix for the 2019 Progress submittal.** Updates include adding newly-approved BMPs, NRCS BMPs as "draft" status, and determining how to address inconsistencies among BMPs.

Summary:

25 new CAST BMP's were added to NEIEN (mostly oyster related). 3 BMP's do not have credit- durations: Ag stormwater management, biofilters, and lagoon covers. What should be the credit durations for these in NEIEN?

- **Ag stormwater- 10 years- thoughts?**
 - **Recommendation for consistency: 10years.**
 - Discussion:
 - Nothing less than 10 years for these BMP's.
 - Suggestion: we could put a place holder in these and by next year it will be approved for the credit duration.
 - Suggestion: put on AgWG meeting agenda and see if they can reach approval. Get email approval from WTWG before august 15th.
- **Biofilters & Lagoon Covers (for cattle and poultry):**
 - **Recommendations: 3- years for biofilters and 10 years for lagoon covers.**
 - Definition: a biofilter is an ammonia emission reduction BMP removing NH3 from, for example, poultry house exhaust.
 - Will be in appendix through august 15th until approval from AgWG.
 - Credit durations were determined at the workgroup level. Most likely, this is why there were inconsistent credit durations. The process that was used was to send the BMP's to the point-source workgroup first.
 - Suggestion: We could put credit- duration as 1-yr and wait till next year to approve it?
 - There needs to be a credit-duration set so that we can move forward, and then we

can pass it through workgroups later.

- These recommendations will need to be brought to AgWG.
- **Stream stabilization BMP:**
 - The duration for this BMP varies based on the unit submitted. In NEIEN, the BMP name is “stream channel stabilization.” However, it is mapped to CAST as “non-urban stream restoration.” The credit- duration differs depending on whether you submit the BMP with units of feet or acres.
 - More research is needed to determine best course- will come back to this later.

Action: Olivia Devereux will research what credit durations should be applied to Ag stormwater, and biofilters and lagoon covers in the NEIEN Appendix.

10:50 AM – Clarifying NEIEN Validation Reports – Megan Crunkleton, KCI Technologies

- **Approval requested for updates to the Appendix for the 2019 Progress submittal.** Updates include adding newly-approved BMPs, NRCS BMPs as "draft" status, and determining how to address inconsistencies among BMPs.

Summary:

Based on feedback from jurisdictions, the edits to the validation reports should make them more user-friendly and easier to understand. Deadline for these reports is December.

Recommendations to make validation reports clearer:

- Improve content and organization and provide information on expired credit.
- Add a read-me tab. This will explain general background of the validation process, use of validation report, and include tab descriptions and definitions.
- Include error summary tab. This will be a table that summarizes your errors and number of records.
- Remove validated records from the report, it will exclusively be an error report.
- Remove fields that don't provide information and add information on expired credit.
- In addition, include credit -duration land and credit-duration animals report tabs.

Feedback from WTWG:

- **BMP errors:**
 - Move the error message field to the front of the workbook
 - Keep successes and failures in the report as separate tabs
 - Keep year one tab
 - Keep submission ID / transaction ID tab
 - Make sure the year is 4-digits (ex. 2019).
- **Event status errors:**
 - No edits for event status
- **Land-use:**
 - Leave 4 columns for land -use in the validation reports

- Credit duration reports:
 - Please include in the validation report

Action: Megan Crunkleton will incorporate suggested edits from WTWG into NEIEN Validation Reports and present changes at next WTWG meeting on September 5th.

11:30 AM – Interim BMP Request: Oyster Restoration Denitrification and Oyster Restoration Nutrient Assimilation – Julie Reichert, ORP

- Briefing on planning BMP estimates for Oyster Restoration Denitrification and Oyster Restoration Nutrient Assimilation. These BMPs were approved as interim at the 7/8/19 Water Quality GIT meeting.

Summary:

Briefed the WTWG on the assimilation protocol, which looks at the nitrogen and phosphorous sequestered in the tissues and shells of live oysters, and planning estimates dealing with enhanced denitrification from increased oyster tissue biomass that can occur with reef restoration projects. These BMP's can be used in Phase III WIP submissions.

12:00 PM – Adjourn

Call Participants:

Emily Dekar, NY USC

Ted Tesler, PA DEP

Jason Keppler, MDA

Elizabeth Hoffman, MDA

Alana Hartman, WV DEP

Brittany Sturgis, DE DNREC

Bill Keeling, VA DEQ

Matt English, DOEE

Jeff Sweeney, EPA

Jeremy Hanson, EPA

Allie Wagner, CRC

Sucharith Ravi, UMCES

Megan Crunkleton, KCI Technologies

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting

Julie Reichert, ORP

David Wood, CWN

Jess Rigelman, J7 LLC