

TOWG 1.18.12

<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/17698/>

TOWG Chair Position- Gleason

- May be advantageous to have co-chairs
- Hoagland- co-chairs looks to create a nightmare, makes job more difficult
- McGee- agree w Hoagland
- Logistics get in the way, better to have single chair
- Chair and vice chair?
- If there is a need, not sure there is, it wouldn't cause as many problems as co-chairs
- Will talk to nominees
- Will send out doodle for election

BMP Verification Program- Batiuk

See Presentation

- Baxter- Reaction to questions proposed. Need full understanding of what we will be verifying. Non-cost share, states will need to develop approach. Not a new and unrelated process to what we do day to day, apply it wisely
- Rountree- make sure not forgetting sediment trading
- Zemba- confusion on data not being included in model if not verified by protocol, any clarification?
- Batiuk- figuring protocols to choose from so you can get credit, not looking at single protocol but level of confidence in BMPs and agencies reporting
- Hoagland- somewhere there will have to be assessment by EPA to see if they meet reasonable assurance
- Keep in mind certification and verification are very different in some states. Think you are speaking of verification but mean certification
- Devereux- think it's a good approach. Trading is at farm and field level, doesn't match up to model scale, Impact will be different depending on which use you are considering
- WRI has comparison table of state trading programs and spells out verification and certification piece
- Looking to learn from other national experiences, share info if you have any
- Accepting nominations, looking for folks from outside of program for 3rd person perspective to serve on advisory panel

Draft "Chesapeake Bay Interstate Nutrient Trading Policy"- Bassani

- Policy ensures trading will meet any applicable environmental protocol/law, will be aligned w TMDL and Bay efforts
- Simple approach, can be adjusted to meet state needs
- Autonomy for interstate trades (not specifically PA to PA but MD to PA)

- Any trading under policy must produce verified credits, unit of compliance and term of time (lbs/yr)
- Gable- Clarification, you are speaking in terms of EPA will do this but it has been proposed and we will work to review btu nothing has been committed to
- Curious of independence, already a process buy WRI
- Selman- do have ongoing process, discussing policy reform to go by. See states saying wait and see if their programs will fly
- Baseline is not addressed and that's the big issue until we have acceptance of common baseline we have a real hurdle
- Can provide comments to Bassani

Any Updates

- USDA RFP for conservation innovation grants due Mar 2nd
- EPRI released report on credit stacking, Gleason will share
- EPA review of state programs- received comments from jurisdictions and stakeholders. Looking at comments. Plan to post comments to R3 TMDL site. Preparing responses to comments. Reports will not be finalized by end of month. Some having effect on WIP submittals. Looking to finalize and release by end of March will have final; WIP and it makes more sense
- Baxter- report from secretary of Natural Resources of VA is available and will share w group
- Selman- had incorporated comments in previous report will share in near future
- Payne- MD has submitted legislation, should be publically available soon, will look to share
- VA resubmitted general permit. DMRs are input in database. Things are looking good.

Meeting Adjourned

Participants

Devin Walton
 Ron Entringer
 Aaron Ristow
 Paul Marchetti
 Marya Levelev
 Susan Payne
 Dan Baldwin
 George Onyullo
 Allen Brockenbrough
 Russ Baxter
 Denise ??? (VA)
 Ed Shaffer
 Kelly Gable

Jeff Potent
Rich Batiuk
Pat Gleason
Evan Branovsky
Beth McGee
Olivia Devereux
Mindy Selman
Marel Raub
Roy Hoagland
Joe Maroon
Kevin Schneider
Glenn Rountree
Mark Robato