

# Conowingo WIP Update

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# Agenda

- ▶ PSC Review and Discuss Proposed Responses to Key Comments
- ▶ Timeline for PSC Approval of Final CWIP
- ▶ Tracking and Reporting Update
- ▶ Summary

# Proposed Comment Responses

## PSC DISCUSSION ITEMS

- ▶ The Steering Committee made edits to the draft final Conowingo WIP in response to comments submitted by the jurisdictions, the public, and by EPA, including:
  - ▶ Climate Allocation Statement - climate is incorporated in the jurisdictional WIPs, therefore it does not need to be included in the CWIP prior to 2025.
  - ▶ Implementation
    - ▶ Prioritize equity during implementation
    - ▶ More detail added regarding the adaptive process for implementing the CWIP strategies
  - ▶ Financing - the finance strategy is separate from the CWIP
  - ▶ Dredging - updated recommendations regarding Conowingo dredging

# Proposed Comment Responses

## PSC DISCUSSION ITEMS

- ▶ New section regarding CWIP implementation in Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, D.C.
- ▶ EPA suggested including a more specific end date for implementation of CWIP BMPs.
  - ▶ The WIP currently specifies 2025 as the end date. The Steering Committee also proposed responding that changing the 2025 deadline requires EC approval.

# Status of Conowingo WIP



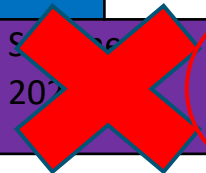
- ▶ The public comment period on the draft Conowingo WIP was October 14, 2020 to January 21, 2021
- ▶ Steering Committee met most recently on April 13, 2021 and May 4, 2021
- ▶ EPA submitted the evaluation of the draft WIP to the Steering Committee on May 5, 2021
- ▶ Revisions to the Conowingo WIP were made and submitted to the Steering Committee on May 11, 2021

# Status of Conowingo WIP

- ▶ Steering Committee jurisdictional representatives met on May 14, 2021
- ▶ Steering Committee and Center For Watershed Protection drafted responses to EPA's comments on May 14, 2021

# Status of Conowingo WIP

- ▶ Steering Committee deliberated the proposed changes to the CWIP in response to comments between May 11, 2021 and May 19, 2021
- ▶ Steering Committee provided draft final CWIP to initiate PSC review on May 19, 2021

Deliverable	2020	2021												2022		2023
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Spring	Winter	Spring
DRAFT CWIP Financing Strategy to CBPO and Steering Committee	Dec 10															
End DRAFT CWIP public comment period		Jan 20														
Presentation to PSC on Draft Financing Strategy			Late Feb/Early March													
Revised Draft Final CWIP and Financing Strategy to Steering Committee						Mid May										
PSC Meeting to Discuss Revised Draft Final CWIP, Financing Strategy and Comment Responses							June									
PSC approves to send <del>Draft Final</del> CWIP and Financing Strategy to EPA							May or June 2021									
Final CWIP economic development investment plan will be submitted to the Steering Committee							July									
Placeholder for EPA feedback regarding <del>final</del> evaluation of the <del>Draft Final</del> CWIP before posting to CBP website										Sep						
Draft plan for the CWIP financing authority submitted to Steering Committee													Dec 2021			
Begin launch of CWIP financing authority														Spring 2022		
Implementation of investment activities															Winter 2022-2023	



# Status of Conowingo WIP

## PSC FINAL REVIEW TIMELINE

PSC members should anticipate receiving the final CWIP by email and members will be asked to approve the final submission of the CWIP to EPA. The Steering Committee will make any changes necessary based upon today's feedback.

# CWIP Activity 3: Tracking and Reporting



## Track progress towards target goals as identified in the CWIP

The project team has established the functionality for a real-time dashboard to track estimated progress towards nutrient and sediment reduction goals.

The project team has also established a system for sharing progress reports between multiple programs to reduce reporting duplication on projects associated with multiple funding programs.



## Report implementation progress to EPA through NEIEN

The project team is working with EPA and jurisdictions to determine the optimal way to report progress towards the CWIP distinctly from the jurisdictional WIPs while reducing redundancies in the system.

## Validate implementation data and verify BMP performance

The project team is developing features within FieldDoc to use photos and other remote sensing to validate and verify BMP implementation data alongside other verification protocols.

The project team is working with EPA, other CWIP grantees, and jurisdictions to establish clear guidelines and processes for how BMP data will get submitted and verified for consideration towards CWIP progress.

## CWIP Activity 3: Challenges and Goals



01

Duplication of data records

- Multi-program reporting to allow a single data entry to be reported to multiple funding/program entities without duplicating the record
- Improve geospatial functionality within FieldDoc to identify records that overlap spatial boundaries
- Work with jurisdictions to share records and identify potentially duplicate entries

02

Time and resource demands for validating data and verifying practice efficiency

- Streamlined reporting features in FieldDoc to automate data validation and pilot automated verification procedures.
- Reduce time/ resources needed for practice verification and data validation
- Increase accuracy of data collected

03

Tracking progress towards target goals across jurisdictional boundaries

- Streamlined progress reporting between restoration service providers and funders
- Real-time dashboards for aggregating data and tracking progress towards overarching goals

# CWIP Activity 3: Progress Update



## Work to date

- Added spatial functionality to FieldDoc project tracking services
- Implemented multi-program reporting in FieldDoc
- Implemented and tested dashboard functionality
- Active outreach and training sessions on FieldDoc with regional coordinators in Pennsylvania

## Next steps

- Finalize CWIP Program in FieldDoc based on practiced and goals outlined in approved CWIP scenario
- Test multi-program reporting
- Update QAPP and auditing framework based on practices outlined in approved CWIP scenario
- Conversations with EPA and jurisdictions to determine protocols for annual reporting to NEIEN and duplication detection for data entries

# Summary

- ▶ Steering Committee has agreed upon responses to all comments, including those from EPA, as well as related revisions to the CWIP.
- ▶ Draft Final CWIP was posted to initiate PSC review on May 19, 2021.
- ▶ PSC decision will be requested on final CWIP.
- ▶ Tracking and reporting of CWIP implementation requires EPA assistance.