

FINAL AGENDA
April 16th, 2020
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
AgWG Conference Call

Conference Call Information

Zoom Link*: <https://zoom.us/j/553329453>

Conference Line: 929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 553-329-453

Participant ID: available through Zoom link

*To enter the webinar, please open the webinar link first. After opening the webinar, either elect to join via computer audio or via phone call. If you select phone, please ensure you enter the participant ID

Workgroup Areas of Focus

Accounting & Reporting • Implementation • Innovation
Data & Modeling • CBP Assignments

10:00 **Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes**

Workgroup Chair

- Roll-call of the governance body
- Roll-call of the meeting participants
- Approval of meeting minutes from the Feb 20th Face-to-Face Meeting

Implementation & Innovation

10:05 **STAC Multi-functional Buffers Workshop (30 min)**

Lara Fowler and Veronika Vazhnik

In November 2018, the Chesapeake Bay Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) hosted a workshop on multi-functional buffers. Lara Fowler, Penn State, STAC member and member of the leadership committee for [*How do we accelerate riparian buffer plantings across the Chesapeake Bay with the greatest economic, social and environmental impacts?*](#) will briefly describe the workshop and its findings. The workshop participants focused on the opportunities and limitations for implementing multi-functional buffers that meet more than just water quality concerns. They identified a number of potential paths forward.

Data & Modeling

10:35 **Non-Urban Stream Restoration (45 min)**

Loretta Collins

In December 2019, the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) approved [*Recommendations for Improving the Application of the Stream Restoration Prevented Sediment Protocol*](#)*, sponsored by the Urban Stormwater Workgroup (USWG). At the same time, the WQGIT requested that the Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG) convene an expert panel (EP) to evaluate USDA-NRCS stream restoration practices that do not fall within the qualifying

conditions outlined by the USWG in both the recent *Prevented Sediment* report and the 2013 [Recommendations of the Expert Panel to Define Removal Rates for Individual Stream Restoration Projects](#) report. Concern was also raised regarding the recommendation in the *Prevented Sediment* report to discontinue use of default removal rates for TN, TP, and TSS that have used to credit projects reported under both the Urban & Non-Urban Stream Restoration BMP. Per AgWG request in January 2020, an ad hoc group of interested parties convened a phone conference to discuss and clarify concerns regarding the new USWG recommendations. Loretta Collins, UMD, will discuss the outcomes of the call and what the AgWG should address before the partnership-approved recommendations of the USWG are integrated into the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model (CBWM) in July 2021. A decision will be sought from the AgWG on the May AgWG call regarding how to proceed in addressing the WQGIT's request and associated concerns.

*A webinar recording discussing the Prevented Sediment report can be found [here](#).

Implementation

- 11:20 **Impacts of COVID-19 (25 min)** All
- The current international health crisis is having impacts across every aspect of society. Time is allotted here to provide CBP partners the opportunity to share their recent experiences and what the short-term and potential long-term impacts of stay-at-home orders and critical response efforts will be on the agricultural community and conservation efforts. Below is a non-exhaustive list of possible areas of discourse:
- Technical Assistance Capacity
 - Structural BMPs (design and construction)
 - Outreach and Education
 - Health & Safety
 - Ag Markets Outlook
 - Federal and State Agencies
 - Non-Governmental Organizations/ Non-Profits
- 11:45 **New Business & Announcements (10 min)**
- Wetland Expert Panel Report
 - Animal Mortality Expert Panel Report
 - [NRCS Conservation Practice Standards Revisions](#)
 - NRCS intends to issue a series of revised conservation practice standards in the National Handbook of Conservation Practices (NHCP). **The public comment period on revisions closes April 23, 2020.**
- 11:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)** Hilary Swartwood
- Hilary Swartwood will review action and decision items from the meeting.
- 12:00 **Adjourn Meeting**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, May 15th, 10AM-12PM: Conference Call

Pending Topics:

Accounting & Reporting: Accounting for data sets across multiple sources (**Spr 2020**) • Resource Improvement BMPs- Are they being accounted for at full potential? • Accounting for Manure Transport

Implementation: Addressing the gaps- What the Phase III WIPs can tell us • Technical service provider training •

Innovation: Hemp- What are nutrient & sediment implications? (**Sum 2020**) • Furthering research to update nutrient fertility recommendation- Why the time is now and where is the support? • Soil Health Initiatives (**Spr-Sum 2020**) NRCS, Soil Health Institute

Data & Modeling: Animal data input updates • USGS- Latest information tying water quality trends to BMP implementation (**Spr 2020**)

CBP Assignments: Adapting to climate change in the ag sector (**May 2020**)