

AGENDA
 April 21, 2022
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
 Agriculture Workgroup Conference Call

Conference Call Information

Zoom Link*: <https://umces-edu.zoom.us/j/94729390103>

Meeting ID: 947 2939 0103

Password: 338673

Dial In: 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Participant ID: available through Zoom link

Calendar Page:

https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/agriculture_workgroup_conference_call_april_2022

*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- *Please enter name and affiliation under "Participants" or in "Chat" box*
- Approval of [minutes](#) from the March AgWG call

Data & Modeling

10:05 **Rapid Review: Animal Data Concerns (5 min)**

Loretta Collins, UMD, will briefly review the questions that have arisen regarding animal data sources and methodology recommended by the [Phase 6 Agricultural Modeling Subcommittee](#) and approved by the AgWG during Phase 6 Watershed Model development.

10:10 **USDA Animal Data Collection (40 min)**

Travis Averill

Travis Averill, Livestock Branch Chief, USDA-NASS, will discuss methods and intended use of animal data related to the 5-year Census of Agriculture and annual NASS surveys. Included will be opportunities and limitations of these data sets, including the impact of privacy requirements on published data sets.

June 30, 2022 is the last day to sign up for the 2022 Ag Census. If you have never received a census and are new to NASS surveys, [sign up to be counted](#) today. You do not need to sign up if you already receive NASS surveys.

Key Dates:

- June 30, 2022 – sign up ends
- November 2022 – ag census mails out and data collection begins
- February 6, 2023 – response deadline
- 2024 (TBD) – data release

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land - whether rural or urban - growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals count if \$1,000 or more of such products were raised and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year. The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures. For America's farmers and ranchers, the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future, and their opportunity. - <https://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus/>

10:50 **BREAK (5 min)**

Accounting & Reporting

10:55 **Rapid Review: History of Remote Sensing in AgWG (5 min)**

Loretta Collins, UMD, will provide a quick summary of previous discussion, actions, and decisions regarding use of remote sensing for BMP verification.

11:00 **PA Remote Sensing Verification Project (40 min)**

J. Baker & K. Walker

Jordan Baker, Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc., and Katie Walker, Chesapeake Conservancy, will present a summary of a remote sensing verification project in progress in southcentral PA including the purpose, methodology, and timeframe. The project's scope of work includes identifying the BMPs through remotely sensed data and in-field verification of a statistically valid subset of that data. Intended uses of the remotely sensed data are to report ag BMPs to PracticeKeeper (PA's primary source for ag BMP data) and identify where structural practices are for future verification. They are seeking feedback from the AgWG for consideration as the project proceeds.

11:40 **Moving Forward: Ag Data Concerns and Phase 7 (10 min)**

L. Collins & T. Butler

Loretta Collins, UMD-AgWG Coordinator, and Tom Butler, EPA, will provide updates on the AgWG's role in Phase 7 Watershed Model development and steps for addressing questions arising from recent ag data discussions.

11:50 **New Business & Announcements (5 min)**

- **Animal Mortality Expert Panel Technical Appendix**
 - Most recent draft technical appendix available [here](#)- CBPO working through revisions based on feedback. Date for next WTWG discussion TBD.
 - Contact Jeremy Hanson (hansonj@chesapeake.org) with questions/comments.
- **Proposed Changes to Phase 6 NEIEN Appendix**
 - Update expected on May 19 AgWG call
 - Contact Leon Tillman (leon.tillman@usda.gov) with questions/comments
- **April 25 [Water Quality GIT](#)**
 - Phase 7 Model Development Tracks
- **Clean Water State Revolving Fund – April 28th, 10am-12pm**
 - EPA Clean Water State Revolving Fund staff and state conservation partners will provide an overview of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program, how it can work for agriculture, and highlight exciting opportunities that the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding can provide the program. Participants will learn how states (PA, VA, KA, and MD) are expanding their use of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to support

producers' on-farm conservation goals, ensure long-term farm viability, and improve soil and water quality.

- Registration link is [here](#).
- **Conservation Practices on Cultivated Cropland: A Comparison of CEAP I and CEAP II Survey Data and Modeling – April 28th, 3-4PM**
 - In this webinar, Dr. Lee Norfleet, CEAP Modeling Team Leader at NRCS, will present findings on changes in practice adoption trends, including conservation tillage, cover crops, structural practices, irrigation practices, and advanced technologies such as enhanced-efficiency fertilizers and variable rate fertilization to improve efficiency. He will also discuss the impacts of these practices on sediment and nutrient losses, carbon sequestration, water use and fuel use.
 - No registration required. Access webinar [here](#). Add to calendar [here](#).
 - Webinar will be recorded as posted on the [Conservation Outcomes Webinar Series](#) website.
- **2022 Chesapeake Community Research Symposium – June 6th-8th**
 - Will highlight the progress that has been made toward restoring the Chesapeake Bay and enhancing coastal community resilience, as well as address future challenges to maintaining this progress in the face of our changing human and natural environment.
 - Location: Crown Plaza Hotel, Annapolis, MD. Hybrid event (virtual and in-person options).
 - More info [here](#).
- **Other Announcements?** - send to Jackie Pickford (Pickford.Jacqueline@epa.gov) for inclusion in "Recap" email

11:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)**

12:00 **Adjourn**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, May 19: 10AM-12PM Conference Call

***Abbreviations**

AgWG- [Agriculture Workgroup](#)

BMP- Best Management Practice

BMPVAHAT- [BMP Verification Ad Hoc Action Team](#)

CAST- [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#) (user interface for the CBP Watershed Model)

CBP- [Chesapeake Bay Program](#)

CBW-Chesapeake Bay Watershed

CRC- [Chesapeake Research Consortium](#)

EPA- Environmental Protection Agency

NEIEN- National Environmental Information Exchange Network

NFWF- [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#)

WQGIT- [Water Quality Goal Implementation Team](#)

WTWG- [Watershed Technical Workgroup](#)

USDA-ARS- United States Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service

USDA-NASS- United States Department of Agriculture-National Agricultural Statistics Service USDA-NRCS- United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service