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AGENDA
Feb 18, 2021
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
AgWG Conference Call

Conference Call Information

Zoom Link*: <https://zoom.us/j/91676048147>

Meeting ID: 916 7604 8147

Password: 2494

Dial In: 929 205 6099

Participant ID: available through Zoom link

Calendar page/ Meeting Materials: [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- *Please enter name and affiliation under "Participants" or in "Chat" box.*
- Approval of meeting minutes from the January 21st Conference Call

Data & Modeling

CAST-21 DRAFT WORKPLAN TASK 2

10:05 **Forecasting Agricultural Trends (20 min)**

S. Ravi & J. Sweeney

Sucharith Ravi, UMCES, returns to review findings from investigations on alternatives to the current methods for forecasting agricultural land uses and animals and propose options for partnership consideration. Jeff Sweeney, EPA, will make a recommendation to the AgWG based on Sucharith's findings. The AgWG is asked to reach out to Sucharith (sravi@chesapeakebay.net) and Jeff (sweeney.jeff@epa.gov) by March 4th with feedback/questions/concerns regarding the recommendation. ***The AgWG will be asked to approve the recommendation on the March 18th AgWG call to allow for timely consideration in other relevant workgroups and the Water Quality GIT.***

CAST-21 DRAFT WORKPLAN TASK 4

10:25 **Mapping and Forecasting Agricultural Acres (40 min)**

Peter Claggett

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Peter Claggett, USGS is returning to follow-up on his January presentation with additional information for the AgWG. Fourteen prototype counties have been identified that represent a range of agricultural conditions to test, evaluate, and refine the ag mapping methods. Peter continues to seek input from the AgWG on the method and ideas that have been presented previously. **Peter will be back to the AgWG in March 2021 to request final approval of the new methodology.** Approval of the methodology will move on to the WQGIT in April 2021.

11:05 **BREAK (5 min)**

CBP Assignments

11:10 **Ag Data Concerns Review (20 min)**

Loretta Collins

The CAST concerns ad hoc group has been meeting monthly since September to discuss the draft “[CAST-21 Workplan](#)” items and additional concerns that were raised by the AgWG’s jurisdictional membership. Loretta Collins, AgWG coordinator, will provide an update on progress of both the Workplan and additional concerns solicited from the state jurisdictions last year.

11:30 **At-large Election Results and Election of Vice-Chair (15 min)**

Chair

Results of the At-Large member selection process will be announced, and the new At-Large members will be confirmed. The AgWG will also be asked to select and approve a new vice-chair based on nominated candidates. The recommendations of the Workgroup will be submitted to the WQGIT for final partnership approval per the governance protocols.

Decision: The AgWG will be asked to approve the recommendation of a new vice-chair and endorse the selected At-Large Governance Membership.

11:45 **New Business & Announcements (10 min)**

- **COVID-19 Updates:** USDA is providing [additional assistance](#) through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program for certain agricultural producers whose operations were directly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>
- **USGS Releases:** An overview, and links to each product below, are on the USGS Chesapeake Activities Home page: [Chesapeake Bay Activities \(usgs.gov\)](#).
 - [Fact Sheet Summarizes Nutrient Trends and Drivers in the Chesapeake Watershed](#) The fact sheet provides a synthesis of watershed trend results and supporting findings from related journal articles. The fact sheet was a joint effort between the USGS, UMCES-IAN, and the CBP office.
 - [Land-Use Influences on Estrogenic-Endocrine Disruption in Fish](#) The USGS undertook an effort to summarize its previous research on estrogenic effects, which were conducted in collaboration with other federal and state management agencies.
- **2021 All-Bay (All-Virtual) Agriculture Network Forum**
 - The 2021 all-virtual Forum will be organized around six intensive sessions focused on critical needs and opportunities in enhancing conservation delivery for the region, as informed by NFWF’s program partners, stakeholders, and the region’s agricultural community. Each session will be delivered through a roughly 3-hour virtual program featuring a variety of informational presentations, panels, and case studies. Three sessions are still open for registration.
 - **REGISTRATION:** Click [here](#).
- **2021 Small Watershed Grants Program**

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- The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the federal-state Chesapeake Bay Program partnership, is now soliciting **Full Proposals** for the **2021 Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants** program. **Due Date: Thursday, April 22, 2021.**
- Register for webinar [here](#).
- For more information reach out to Jake Reilly (jake.reilly@nfwf.org), Stephanie Heidebreder (stephanie.heidebreder@nfwf.org) or Sydney Godbey (Sydney.godbey@nfwf.org)
- USA Today Network [special report](#) explores solutions to deep threats that flow through New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland as the Susquehanna River feeds the Chesapeake Bay.
- **Non-Urban Stream Restoration** EPEG – In progress
- **Animal Mortality** Expert Panel Report – Finalizing report, webinar announcement early 2021.
- **Other Announcements?** - send to Loretta Collins (lcollins@chesapeakebay.net) for inclusion in “Recap” email

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

12:00 **Adjourn**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, March 18th, 10AM-12PM: Conference Call

COVID-19 Resources:

Evolving list... NEW

Delaware

UD Extension: <https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/canr/cooperative-extension/trending/coronavirus-resources/>

Farmer Relief: [Delaware Grant Program for Contract Poultry Growers Impacted by COVID-19](#)

Maryland

MDA Updates: <https://news.maryland.gov/mda/category/covid-19/>

UMD Extension: <https://extension.umd.edu/learn/covid-19-resources>

Maryland Farm Bureau: <https://www.mdfarmbureau.com/coronavirus/>

Maryland Farmer COVID-19 Relief Program: [More Info](#)

New York

Crisis Management: <https://www.nyfarmnet.org/>

Cornell Cooperative Extension: <https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/coronavirus-response/>

State-Level Ag/COVID resources that are updated, sometimes daily (with some overlap):

Executive Order 2026 on Essential Businesses/Entities:

- <https://esd.ny.gov/guidance-executive-order-2026>

NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets:

- <https://agriculture.ny.gov/coronavirus>
- https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/covid19_resourceguide_0.pdf

Cornell University / Cornell Cooperative Extension:

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- <https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/coronavirus-response/>
- <https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/publications/covid-19/>
- <https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/publications/news-e-alerts/>
- <http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>
- <https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/>

Pennsylvania

Dept. of Agriculture: <https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Resources.aspx>

Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) guidance documents:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Pages/AlertDetails.aspx>

Penn State Extension: <https://extension.psu.edu/coronavirus>

West Virginia

Dept. of Agriculture: <https://agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/covid-19/Pages/default.aspx>

Virginia

Virginia Tech: https://aaec.vt.edu/content/dam/aaec_vt_edu/extension/aaec-outreach-reports/covid-19-resources-may-2020/COVID-impacts-on-Virginia-5-20.pdf

Virginia Cooperative Extension: <https://ext.vt.edu/covid-19updates/resources.html>

USDA

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture: <https://www.usda.gov/coronavirus>

Coronavirus and USDA Assistance for Farmers: <https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus>

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program- **Additional Assistance:** <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>

Federal Rural Resource Guide: https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/USDA_COVID-19_Fed_Rural_Resource_Guide.pdf

EPA

EPA: www.epa.gov/coronavirus

EPA Policy and Frequent Questions on Grant Issues related to COVID-19 (3/26):

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/rain-2020-g02>

EPA Memo on COVID-19 Implications for EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program (3/26):

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-03/documents/oecamemooncovid19implications.pdf>

EPA COVID-19 Enforcement and Compliance Resources: <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/covid-19-enforcement-and-compliance-resources>

Non-Governmental Organizations

National Association of Conservation Districts: <https://www.nacdnet.org/covid-19/>

Farm Bureau: <https://www.fb.org/land/impact-covid19-on-ag>

Farmer's Legal Action Group Quick Summary of COVID-19 Relief for Farmers:

<http://www.flaginc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Updated-Farmers-Guide-to-COVID-19-Relief-April-27-2020.pdf>

National Farmers Union: <https://nfu.org/coronavirus/>

Center for Dairy Excellence: <https://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/covid-19-farm-resources/>

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association: <https://www.uspoultry.org/COVID-19/>

Pork Checkoff: <https://www.pork.org/public-health/what-you-need-to-know-about-covid-19/>

National Grain and Feed Association: https://imis.ngfa.org/members/n/COVID-19_Updates/ngfa/News/COVID-19_Updates.aspx?hkey=85178898-8bf7-4520-9299-b9348fa2641f

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National Cattlemen's Beef Association: <https://www.ncba.org/coronavirus.aspx>

Crisis Hotline

Farm Aid: Monday-Friday 9-5 EST at 1-800-FARM-AID: <https://www.farmaid.org/blog/resources-for-farmers-affected-by-covid-19/>

Rural Advancement Foundation International (RAFI): <https://www.rafiusa.org/hotline/>