



# SHORT TERM SOLUTIONS TO OVERARCHING PROBLEMS

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# EXAMPLES OF SHORT-TERM SOLUTIONS:

- Extension of Credit Durations

- Forestry Practices
- Barnyard Practices
- Wetland Restoration
- Grass Buffers

- Development of Partial Credit

**Extension of Credit Durations and Development of Partial Credit are accomplishing the same goal:**

- 1) Giving states more time to perform verification on BMPs of concern
- 2) Addressing the fact that select practices on the ground can function past their contract duration

**Even if a solution is short term, whether technical, programmatic, or policy-related, does not mean it can't assist states in reaching their goals.**

➤ These may not be the right short-term solutions, but we need to find compromises.



# UPDATE ON CREDIT DURATIONS

- **Credit Duration**

- Forestry Practices
  - August 23<sup>rd</sup> WQGIT Meeting
- Barnyard Practices
  - July AgWG Meeting
- Wetland Restoration
  - June and August Wetlands WG Meeting
- Grass Buffers
  - BMPVAHAT August Agenda Item.

# UPDATES ON PARTIAL CREDIT

**Mentimeter Results from the last meeting:** Support from the Group to Continue Discussing Partial Credit

## Mentimeter Results

- Yes - 16 votes
- No - 2 votes
- Need more discussion to decide - 4 votes

## Where do we go from here?

- Updates from the web developers
- Proposed Next Step – Request for Collaboration

# UPDATES FROM DEVELOPERS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

## Areas of Concern

### i. **Expense.**

- i. The development team has stated this would be 1000s of hours of development time.

### ii. **Priorities**

- i. The development team has looming partnership priorities of cobenefits, BMP efficiencies, etc.

### iii. **How Partial Credit would be reported out of CAST** – This will lead to confusion amongst 1,480 CAST users that are not involved in progress scenarios.

- i. As a reminder, Partial Credit would be a alteration to/function of NEIEN, not CAST; but will impact CAST's reports.
- ii. The Communication Strategy needs to be clear before any work is done on this by the development team.

### iv. A **report/proposal** resembling that of an expert panel report or USWG memo/protocol document will need to be submitted to the development team addressing both the communication strategy and answering questions like:



# QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS IN PROPOSAL

- Does this apply to all BMPs - land use change, animal. efficiency, load reduction?
- How does it apply to the BMPs? Only Ag? Only NRCS Ag BMPs?
- Do you want different BMP names for each year past credit duration?
- How will this affect backout? If they are different BMPs FB full vs year 1 vs year 2
- How does it affect upland acres?
- How does this apply to BMPs with multiple measures? Does it affect all measures?
- More cutoff will happen so do we credit full BMPs first so that partial credits are not pushing out maximum values?
- If we chose 5 years, what do we do with BMPs that have a 3 or 4 year lifespan?
- If we do a ramp up, then why not a ramp down?





# TO CONSIDER

- The Credit Duration Infrastructure already exists in CAST (the alterations to credit duration would take minutes).
- Credit Durations may be a task to reevaluate to **arrive at compromises** to **begin to** alleviate state's concerns as longer term solutions are being developed/worked out.

# IS THIS A GOOD IDEA OR NOT?

## What I propose:

- 1) **Schedule an hour to bring together at least one representative from each signatory member organization** in the next month to discuss solutions that are worth the group's time and energy.
  - An Ad-Hoc Meeting within an Ad-Hoc Meeting.
  - A time for states to collaborate.
- 2) The Ad-Hoc Group is encouraged to come to the September meeting **with a honed focus to share requests with and/or propose actions to the larger group.**
- 3) **Hold an official vote** to pursue developing the partial credit development/drafting an expert panel style report to honor the current charge of the group.
  - If consensus is not reached, we need to **work towards compromise and bring forward other solutions/suggested collaboration.**



