

**Water Quality Goal Implementation Team
Federal Facilities Workgroup
Minutes**

Date: December 10th, 2024

Time: 10 am – 12 noon

[Meeting Materials](#)



Chesapeake Bay Program

Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Agenda Item (Discussion Lead) and Desired Outcome	Materials, Notes, and Action Items
<p>I. Welcome, Introductions, Announcements - (Greg Allen, US EPA CBPO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The FFWG continues to seek nominations for the Chair and Co-Chair positions• The invite for the FFWG’s meetings in 2025 was sent on 12/5/24 – if you haven’t received the invite, please inform: myang@chesapeakebay.net• Status of Federal Agency BMP Data Requests Table• WQGIT Meeting Recap – 2-Year Milestone Options Paper Announcement	<p>Greg shared the 2024 BMP data request status table asking members to confirm whether the information we had was accurate and up to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Katie Brownson: Forwarded the USFS BMP data for WV• Alicia Ritzenthaler: Stated DC received response from ARS and NPS• William Keeling: Stated NPS in VA received response• Liz Dawson: Forwarded all the US FWS BMP data following the meeting <p>Updated 2024 BMP Data Request Status Table (12/17/24) following the meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: Members are encouraged to review the updated table to ensure the information is up to date. If any of the boxes shown as red are not expected, we encourage you to reach out to us or your agency contact.</p>

II. Updating the Federal Boundaries Data Layer – John Wolf (USGS)

The federal lands data layer is a key input to the Phase 7 watershed model and essential to calculating federal reduction goals. Updating the federal property boundaries is needed as part of the Phase 7 model development as a means to assess federal pollutant loads and allocate responsibility for reducing those loads to the appropriate federal agencies.

This data layer needs to be updated for Phase 7 by early spring 2025 and may be further updated as per the Phase 7 update cycle.

John Wolf presented a detailed presentation on the process needed for updating the Federal land data through a demonstration on how to compare agency-specific data layers through a series of map viewers accessible at [Federal Facilities Review](#). A step-by-step guide on how to utilize the map viewers is provided in John Wolf's presentation slides (pages 5-17), which can be accessed [here](#).

John provided a series of options on how FFWG members could assist the CBP GIS team with updating the federal boundary layers. Below is a summary of the options presented during the meeting. Please note this information is subject to change in the final directions:

If You Have Access to Your Federal Agency's GIS Data and the Relevant Technical Expertise:

- **Option 1:** Send us an email confirming that your federal facilities data is already complete and needs no further editing.
- **Option 2:** Send us an updated GIS data file showing all the landholdings in the CB Watershed.
- **Option 3:** Send us an avGIS data file that just includes additions to the current depictions.

If You DO NOT Have Access to Your Federal Agency's GIS Data or the Relevant Technical Expertise:

- **Option 1:** Send us a picture, map, or image of an area that should be added or removed from our records.
- **Option 2:** Send us a sketch or digitize the boundary changes in an online map editor. *(Note: This option is not recommended. If you need assistance, please request scheduling an agency-specific call)*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 3: Send us your agency's GIS point of contact so that we can reach out to them directly to gather the requested feedback. <p>Discussion: Members raised general questions, which were addressed during the discussion. Greg concluded the discussion by informing the FFWG that the GIS team is finalizing a paper that outlines this information, along with clear next steps and instructions, including direction on where to submit the feedback.</p> <p>ACTION: John Wolf will work with the GIS Team to update the Federal Facilities Review page and Federal Boundaries Data Layer paper. Once this information is finalized, the FFWG leadership will distribute the paper to the workgroup via email.</p> <p>ACTION: Members are requested to review the paper once it is distributed for further directions and action items.</p>
<p>III. Tracking & Crediting of Currently Unassigned Land Uses in CAST for Phase 7 – Peter Claggett (USGS) and Greg Allen (US EPA, CBPO)</p> <p>Several land uses are not tracked and credited for federal landowners. This results in agencies that are not able to get credit toward federal planning goals and leaves a conflict with expectations for federal landowners that are stated in jurisdiction WIPs (e.g. Virginia). A refreshed decision is needed on whether the CBP will develop means to track any of the omitted land uses on federal land.</p>	<p>Peter Claggett gave an initial overview of potential options and solutions for addressing the challenges associated with currently unassigned land uses in CAST. The presentation slides are available to review here.</p> <p>Discussion: Greg asked for feedback from the FFWG on any additional information agencies would need to further evaluate these options. Members shared general feedback and raised concerns. One key suggestion from Kevin Du Bois was to add a column to each option explaining the impact on loads and method of</p>

<p>Federal agencies are not assigned Harvested Forest (Natural sector) or Construction (Developed sector) acres, so federal BMPs applied to these load sources are not credited in the Phase 6 model. Federal BMPs applied to other source sectors (Agriculture and Septic) are re-assigned to the non-federal agency code in NEIEN and may be credited in CAST, but not to the federal agency.</p>	<p>calculation for each land use/BMP type. Olivia Devereux clarified the voting coefficient remains the same regardless of how the acres are reported, but the question here is figuring out how the Bay Program will count those acres, whether federal agencies can report them or if they will defer to the high-resolution land use data to estimate a number of acres – with the distinction that the high-resolution land use data method does not work for septic systems, since that data needs to be reported. Olivia and Peter responded that they would work together to include calculations in the paper to help federal agencies with evaluating their decision. Greg wrapped up the discussion stating the FFWG leadership will continue to work with the GIS team to update the paper, incorporating the feedback from the meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: Olivia Devereux and Peter Claggett will update the Tracking & Crediting of Currently Unassigned Land Uses paper to include the estimated loading rates for load sources not currently assigned to federal agencies.</p> <p>ACTION: The FFWG leadership will work with the GIS Team to finalize the paper and distribute it to the workgroup via email in preparation for the February 11th meeting, where the issue will be discussed in further detail.</p>
<p>IV. Looking Forward to 2025 – (Greg Allen, US EPA CBPO)</p>	<p>Due to the EC Council meeting scheduled for that morning, Greg shortened the final presentation on the Management Board’s recent assignments related to the Beyond 2025 outcome assessment process, which will have implications for the revised Watershed Agreement. The presentation slides are available to review here.</p>

	<p>Greg clarified that while the FFWG does not have direct involvement in these assignments, the information was shared to keep members informed about the process and to reassure them that the federal perspective will be welcomed at various stages.</p>
<p>V. Wrap-up and Conclude Next Meeting: <i>February 11th, 2025 (10:00am-12:00pm)</i></p>	