

LAND USE WORKGROUP CONFERENCE CALL
REGIONAL AND LOCAL CLASSIFICATION METHODOLOGY

DRAFT Call Summary

08-27-15

Action and Decision Items:

ACTION: Peter Claggett to upload regional data to interactive map site.

DECISION: Wetlands will be mapped (at least for Sparrow model), even if they won't be classified uniquely in the watershed model.

- The regional methodology has not been updated since April 28th, 2015.
- The issue was raised on whether to treat certain items as a BMP or as a land use.
 - Peter Claggett discussed that in Phase 6, unlike 5.3.2, we are trying to be more consistent with how BMPs and land uses are treated, and so we need to decide if land uses should be credited for BMPs (ex: existing riparian areas, wetlands).
 - Claggett proposed for their classification as land uses.
- Peter Claggett provided an overview of the different types of land use classifications, and methodologies used by the LUWG to incorporate them into the mapping structure, both through local and regional data sources.
- MDE/MDP gave a presentation of their methodology for classifying land uses at a local level.

ACTION: Peter Claggett to upload regional data to interactive map site.

- Ted Tesler: Will we be developing differential loading rates for each of the different "flavors" of land use classifications?`
 - Claggett: Part of this depends on the workgroups. The urban tree canopy group will be making recommendations, and this is something that will be decided during the mid-September WQGIT call.
- Norm Goulet suggested classifying railroads as roads, rather than open space.
 - Claggett: This likely won't change classification before the October calibration, but could be completed by the final testing.

DECISION: Wetlands will be mapped (at least for Sparrow model), even if they won't be classified uniquely in the watershed model.

- Norm Goulet asked why swimming pools are classified as water, since they don't perform the functions of other water features, like ponds and rivers.
 - Peter Claggett explained not changing this classification based on technical issues, and the classification as water was accepted.

- The communications group to discuss and address classifying animal housing on agricultural lands as impervious surfaces.
- Agenda topics for September meeting:
 - Sewer-septic
 - Formulate potential LUWG recommendation for railroads as roads classification
 - Discuss the roll-out and the review of the data and what we're expecting when the high-res data comes in. (Suggested as a standing item for review in all future meetings)
 - Updates on local government communication and coordination by the states.
 - Peter Claggett to demo the website, data, and discuss review methods.
 - 2025 future land use methodologies
 - What are the forecasting methodologies? How this intersects with the metric items?
 - Construction land use