



DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Wastewater Treatment Workgroup (WWTWG) Teleconference
Tuesday, September 4, 2018, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Calendar Page: [Link](#)

Summary of Actions and Decisions:

Action: Discussion of septic projections for 2025 land use projections will be scheduled for the October 2 WWTWG conference call.

Action: Data input deadlines is approved by the WWTWG. WWTWG members will contact Suchit Ravi and Matt Johnston with questions and assistance for developing Phase III WIP input decks.

Action: Lew Linker will coordinate a response to the collected comments on the proposed Boat Pump-Out BMP expert panel report and recommendations.

10:00 AM **Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements** —Tanya Spano (Chair)

Action item: Approval of June Minutes.

Decision: WWTWG approval of the June 2018 meeting minutes

10:10 AM **Point Source Data Inputs for Development of Phase III WIPs** –Matt Johnston, UMD

The CBPO has proposed an approach for jurisdictions to edit point source input decks as they develop their Phase III WIP scenarios. Matt Johnston will present the proposed approach for feedback from the WWTWG, and for clarity on expectations and timelines.

Action Requested: WWTWG feedback on proposed approach for designing and editing point source scenarios for use in the Phase III WIPs.

Discussion:

- Matt Johnston reviewed the WW proposed scenario development timeline for CAST and Phase III WIPs. States will need to develop a Phase III WIP input deck for WW. It can be the same as the Phase II WIP, but it can be updated if you would like, if it will not be the same as the permitted capacity. For instance, if the permit capacity goes until 2050, what will your loads and flows look like to 2025, and how that load offset to 2025 interacts with Phase III WIP practices and implementation in other sectors.

- Deadline is April 2019 to submit draft Phase III WIP WW input decks. Until then, you can use spreadsheets to edit WW inputs, and myself and Suchith Ravi at CBPO can assist with that development. The final WW input deck is due August 9, 2019. All three of these versions can be the same, but you need to submit something.
- Tanya Spano: Does this meet what the states were looking for?
- Allan Brockenbrough: These are 2025 input decks rather than TMDL input decks?
 - Johnston: That's a decision that each state can make. In 2011, the states decided to make the input decks equal to the permitted capacity. But this decision is open to interpretation by the states.
 - Brockenbrough: Is EPA open to a new input deck that changes WLA loads?
 - Johnston: This does not change WLA loads. I can't get into the WLA, but I can ask Lucinda about that after this meeting. States can submit things that are lower than their permitted flow, since you won't reach your permitted capacity until after 2025. The answer to that question doesn't change the process I've laid out, but I will consult at CBPO to get follow up on your question.
- Spano: I think this will be an issue beyond the WWTPs, and we are explicitly listed in the TMDL as a legal requirement, so there is the question of the best strategy to unroll this across the various sectors.
- Siddique: to clarify, this is not related to a change in the TMDL, it's just updating the WW scenario by next year for progress?
 - Johnston: The Phase III WIP reflects your plan for 2025. It's not the annual progress reporting.
- Spano: One of the points that Mohsin just raised, the 2025 target is a policy decision, not a legal requirement under the TMDL. Nothing right now will change the legal statements of the TMDL, but the policy part to achieve those TMDL loads by 2025, part of the accountability to that policy goal is to include WW scenarios for what we expect our loads and flows to look like by 2025. If our scenarios don't take away from a WWTP's permitted approved load, perhaps there is some tradeoff there for agriculture and urban sectors if WW won't meet its permit capacity by 2025. If the 2025 scenarios do result in modification of the WLA under the legal framework, that will be a problem. There is perhaps some trading in time that could occur to trade between sectors out to 2025. The framing of this process is very important in that context.
- Mohsin Siddique asked about plans for implementation post-2025.
 - Johnston: There have been no agreements on actions beyond 2025. So far, there are milestones, progress reporting, and Phase III WIP implementation. However, EPA and the states and the Partnership have not initiated those discussions to determine what the post-2025 landscape will look like.
 - Spano: A note that we are dealing with different time frames for the WW sector rather than the Partnership and the other sector. It is important to characterize the long term implications of a lot of these discussions.
- Johnston: Some jurisdictions will use their Phase II WIP input deck for WW in their Phase III WIPs. Others will want to capture the actual loads that will be expected while you are still under your permit capacity

- Allan Brockenbrough asked about the approval and publication of input decks
 - Johnston: When you have submitted draft input decks in April, we will work with the submitters to clean up decks and get those published on CAST for public review before the final is due in August.
- Spano: Each local jurisdiction needs to work with the state and the states need to discuss with their WW agencies, in order to agree on a draft input deck before April 2019.
- Brockenbrough: At some point we will hear about how this will play out in the future.
- Spano: does this schedule still mirror other sectors?
 - Johnston: Yes, this does.
 - Spano: That's important for states and localities to be communicating with each other on Phase III WIP plans—especially in terms of cross-sector trading or offsets.
- Johnston: We can only post one input deck in CAST. You may have several different spreadsheets with potential scenarios and we can help you work that out, but you will have to share draft scenarios with your jurisdictions as you are developing those spreadsheets, since we can only post one to CAST.
- Karl Berger: If your input deck has those 2025 cap loads, and there will not be a plant that exceeds its cap loads, so the only point to creating an input deck would be to show that you have lower loads than in the permit capacity. And that will include the 2025 growth scenarios and things like septic loads.
 - Johnston: Yes, but you have to develop a Phase III WIP deck. If it looks very similar to the Phase II deck, that is fine, but know that you have the option to modify it if you want to capture the fact that your WWTPs will still be operating under capacity through 2025.
 - Spano: And we will need to review all the septic and WW aspects of the 2025 growth scenarios. We will get Peter on the WWTWG for October to discuss the state specific scenarios for WW.
- Johnston: Contact Suchith Ravi with any questions, he is handling data inputs.

Action: Discussion of septic projections for 2025 land use projections will be scheduled for the October 2 WWTWG conference call.

Action: Data input deadlines is approved by the WWTWG. WWTWG members will contact Suchit Ravi and Matt Johnston with questions and assistance for developing Phase III WIP input decks.

10:40 **Review of Definitions of Interim, Proposed and Official BMPs** – Tanya Spano (Chair) and Michelle Williams (Staffer)

- **Official/approved BMPs** are available in the modeling tools for both planning purposes and for reporting progress. Official/approved practices have completed the expert panel review process, and have been approved by the source-sector workgroup, the WWTWG and the WQGIT. Practices approved by the partnership in December 2016 or earlier are included in CAST as "Official BMPs."

- **Proposed BMPs** are practices that have not received approval from either the source-sector workgroup, the WTWG, or the WQGIT. Proposed BMPs must be prioritized and considered by these groups for incorporation into CAST as a planning BMP, or as an official BMP if reviewed through a BMP Protocol process. Proposed BMPs are not available in CAST.
- **Interim BMPs** are practices that have been approved by the source-sector workgroup, the WTWG and the WQGIT, and are available in CAST for planning purposes but are not available for reporting progress. Interim BMPs can have completed recommendations from an expert panel or other Expert Panel Protocol-approved process, or interim BMPs can have temporary estimated credits and practices available for planning purposes while the BMP expert panel is still ongoing. Interim BMPs are included in CAST as part of "Planning BMPs."
 - Interim BMPs that include final recommendations from their expert panels will be transitioned to official BMPs (available for planning and progress reporting) at the next model update during Fall 2019 and will be labeled "**provisional**" until then to indicate approved status and they remain available as Planning BMPs in CAST until Fall 2019.
 - Interim BMPs which did not have final expert panel recommendations at the time of interim approval can only be incorporated as official BMPs when reviewed and approved through a BMP Protocol process, either before the 2019 updates to the modeling tools, or in advance of subsequent updates (e.g., 2021).

No action is required; this review of BMP processes and statuses is for informational purposes only. Planning BMPs added to CAST are listed in the [CAST Upgrade History](#); for more information on how to access planning BMPs when creating CAST scenarios, please consult the [CAST user documentation](#).

10:50 AM **Review and Next Steps for Boat Pump-Out BMP**– Tanya Spano, MWCOG, and Lew Linker, CBP

The Chesapeake Bay Boat Pump Out BMP Expert Review Panel was requested by the WWTWG and convened in February 2016. The panel developed the baseline load estimates for the recreational boating nutrient load into the Maryland and Virginia portions of the Chesapeake Bay and provided recommendations on related BMP crediting and verification. The workgroup tentatively approved the report and recommendations.

The WQGIT has charged the WWTWG to reconsider elements of the proposed BMP for applicability to Type 1 and Type 2 marine sanitation devices (MSDs), usually found in commercial vessels, in No-Discharge Zones. The WWTWG will review the comments received from the WQGIT. Given resource limitations at the CBPO, the WWTWG will discuss potential paths forward to address resource limitations in order to revise the expert panel analysis and recommendations based on comments received. The revised recommendations for Boat Pump-Out practices must be approved by the WWTWG, WTWG, and WQGIT by April 2019 in order to be included as an official BMP in the Fall 2019 updated to the Phase 6 modeling tools.

Action Requested: WWTWG concurrence on proposed path forward, including resource availability and schedule for addressing comments on the proposed Boat Pump-Out BMP expert panel report and recommendations.

Discussion:

- Lew Linker: We have the first estimation of recreational vessel discharges in the Bay, that was the focus of the expert panel that Vic D’Amato chaired. We have received comments from the WQGIT directing this group to consider commercial vessels with Type 1 and 2 MSDs in NDZs. This would implicate areas near to shore, for instance VA Beach. We need to respond to these comments.
- Vic D’Amato: We compiled all the comments received in the meeting materials on the calendar page. We originally focused on the recreational side because that was considered to be a more controllable source, but the WQGIT felt that the commercial vessels were the major source of boating discharge in the Bay, so that should be the area of focus for this practice. One challenge we had is that the members of the panel did not have a lot of contact with the nutrient and sediment reduction community in the Bay—having that communication with local facilities and local jurisdictions is important moving forward. And reminder, the technical directive contract has expired, so the original panel members will no longer be able to participate in additional work on these recommendations.
- Allan Brockenbrough: What exactly does the WQGIT want? They want commercial vessels incorporated here?
- Brockenbrough: is there a resource out there that shows the difference in flows or capacity from each of these types of MSDs?
 - Linker: I don’t know of any resources that are out there that explicitly lay out those numbers. We would need to do some work to estimate those flows, and from that the N and P loads.
- Spano: what would be the level of effort required for this practice? There are these three categories of vessels. There was some concern with the commercial vessels and estimating those loads. I thought the original purpose of the panel was to find a way to credit recreational vessel pump-outs.
 - Linker: Overall, the load in the Bay from recreational loads is miniscule compared to the overall load in the Bay, so there would not be a lot of value in adding this practice to the Watershed Model.
- Brockenbrough: I remember that there was a lot of assumptions made in the original calculations.
 - Linker: The comments ranged from the estimate for the Type III MSD improvements that can be made. The resources we have available are simply the WWTWG as a workgroup. Unfortunately, many of these responses may be that yes, this is a good idea but we don’t have the resources at the moment to follow up on this. Some other comments, we may respond that we acknowledge that but we don’t agree with the argument of the commenter

- Brockenbrough: The you need the volume and concentration, and you need the differentiation of the ratio of type I and II and III that go to pump stations. The station should be able to differentiate Type III from that pump-out load. And then you can estimate the
- Spano: Are there any states besides VA who have an interest in resolving this issue and developing this practice.
 - Onyullo: We should all be interested in resolving this issue, and we can look at those numbers and weigh those relative impacts on Bay loads.
 - Spano: We do have responsibility for any loads that fall in our jurisdictions. We need to develop a proposed approach for how to proceed, and I would ask VA, MD, and DC to come back to the Workgroup in October to present their proposed paths forward.
 - Brockenbrough: we can identify data gaps, and the jurisdictions interested in this credit can take that information and fill in some of those gaps.
 - Spano: We need to come up with a plan, and for gaps that we have no resources to fill at the moment, we leave that in the parking lot until we can identify a path forward.
- Linker: There should be ultimately a response to the report comments. That should be reviewed by the WWTWG and the WTWG, and then the comment responses should go to the WQGIT. We should aim to have responses to the draft comments by the October 2 WWTWG conference call.
- Spano: We will ask the WWTWG members to read through the comments on the report. I and Michelle are available to contact with questions and assistance.
- Norm Goulet asked to be informed on the ongoing boat pump-out discussions.

Action: Lew Linker will coordinate a response to the collected comments on the proposed Boat Pump-Out BMP expert panel report and recommendations.

11:30 AM **Suggested Topics for Next WWTWG Conference Calls**

The WWTWG membership will discuss potential topics for upcoming WWTWG conference calls.

Action Requested: WWTWG concurrence on topics to include on upcoming WWTWG agendas

Next agenda call topics:

2025 growth scenarios and septic loads.

State responses to boat pump-out proposed path forward.

Other topics-contact Michelle and Tanya if questions or suggested topics.

12:00 PM **Adjourned**

Next conference call:

Tuesday, October 2, 2018 (10 am – 12 pm)

Call Participants:

Tanya Spano, MWCOG
Michelle Williams, CRC
George Onyullo, DOEE
George Mwangi, DNREC
Karl Berger, MWCOG
Rashid Ahmed, NYs DEC
Maria Schumack, PA DEP
Robin Pellicano, MDE
Megan Browning, WV
Mohsin Siddique
Allan Brockenbrough, VA DEQ
Matt Richardson, VA DEQ
Will Hunley, HRSD
Ray Tighe, VDH
Lana Sindler, MW COG
Lew Linker, EPA CBPO
Vi D'Amato, TetraTech
Karl Berger, MWCOG
Mindy Neil, WV DEP
Matt Johnston, UMD
Suchith Ravi, UMCES
Norm Goulet, NoVA Regional Commission