



Chesapeake Bay Program
Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG)
Webex Meeting Chat Summary*
Thursday, March 4, 2021
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Calendar Page: [Link](#)

**Chat messages were edited to provide clarity and correct grammatical errors. Messages that were irrelevant to preserving the questions and discussion below were removed (ex. reminding people to mute phones, letting participants know of call interference, etc.). There may be overlap between the chat and the WTWG Meeting Minutes. Refer the WTWG March Meeting Minutes for more details and the Action and Decisions.*

WTWG WEEBEX MEETING CHAT SUMMARY

Matt English, DOEE 10:26 AM

Is it accurate to say that all data in NEIEN/CAST by February 5th will be part of 2021 annual progress?

Kevin Du Bois, DoD 10:45 AM

Would the lifespan also depend on tree species? Some tree species don't live 80 years, even under ideal conditions.

Norm Goulet, NRVA 10:48 AM

If there is a maintenance plan and inspection frequency why is the credit duration not set to that interval like most BMPs?

Rebecca Hanmer, FWG 10:55 AM

The FWG BMP verification guidance stresses the need to inspect the buffer during the establishment period i.e. up to 5 years. After year 5, when the buffer is considered established, then not as important to inspect. Then at year 15, the contact expiration point, there should be an inspection to verify that the buffer will stay.

You are conflating credit duration and inspection frequency - they are not the same thing.

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting 10:58 AM

CREP forest buffer contracts are for either 10 or 15 years and FSA has clauses that allow participants to exit the contract with no penalty.

Sally Claggett, USFS 11:01 AM

Olivia-- I understood that there is a penalty. Landowner required to payback funds given.

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting 11:03 AM

Sometimes there is a penalty, but then FSA will waive it under conditions, like when commodity prices increase. Almost every year I receive an announcement that the penalty is waived for a several month period, usually during planting time.

Mark Dubin, UMD 11:03 AM

The presence of 10 year CREP agreements and the 10 year ag tree planting NRCS practice were the primary reasons that the AgWG choose a base 10 year reverification. Are we saying that a riparian buffer would have more maintenance than an ag tree planting? My experience would say otherwise.

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:09 AM

our current land use is based on 2013 imagery. The 2017 back-out is based, I assume, on the addition of the 2017 ag census. Can someone explain which practices are subject to ag-census based backout.?

Sally Claggett, USFS 11:09 AM

The Ag tree planting includes a large swath of practices some of which are maintained equal to or better than buffers. that is what we are saying-- buffers have to meet a higher bar than the average tree planting.

But Mark if you have evidence to the contrary, we will want to consider it as your experience is valued.

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting 11:10 AM

@ James, land use BMPs are backed out from the 2017 land use. The 2017 land use incorporates the Ag Census, state data updates to construction and harvested forest, and the projections with new data from 2013.

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:13 AM

@Olivia - by that logic since we update data in CAST every 2-years, will the back out date update every two years? 2017 in CAST19, 2019 in CAST21 etc

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting 11:15 AM

It will update every time there is a new land use. Presumably that will be in CAST-21

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:15 AM

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting 11:16 AM

James, either LU or LC. It is new information either way.

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:16 AM

We get new land use every 2-years. We get new land cover every 4-5 years

Gregorio Sandi, MDE 11:18 AM

Do the "trends" affect back out? meaning baseline projections that rearrange the distribution of Developed, Ag, and Natural lands?

I ask b/c those change annually.

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting 11:19 AM

The land use is pre-BMP. I think the trends that you are referring to that change annually are post-BMP.

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:22 AM

I think backout should be based on if the data updates are proven (or can be reasonably be expected) to capture the practices that are being backed out. That would mean date of imagery used in land cover (minus the practice LU detection period).

Sally Claggett, USFS 11:24 AM

Jeff thats a good way to display what I was attempting to explain.

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting: 11:25 AM

@James Even without the new 1-M imagery, the land data team adds additional information about sewer areas.

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:25 AM

In the case of BMPs that convert land to trees, that detection period might be 10-years.

@Olivia - what BMPs are backed out based on sewer service area?

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting 11:27 AM

Sewer areas are used to help with projections for developed land and to define some septic areas.

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:27 AM

But not relevant to backout, right?

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting 11:29 AM

Yes, James. That was an example of new data. There are other types of new data that are used. Peter knows those better than I.

Sally Claggett, USFS 11:34 AM

10 years from the imagery date

Jessica Rigelman, J7 11:34 AM

septic connections are backed out.

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:35 AM

In the case of BMPs that convert land to grass or other herbaceous, that detection period might be NEVER.

@ Jess, are septic connections backed out based on the date of updates to sewer service area that affect the location of the connection?

Kevin Du Bois, DoD 11:38 AM

So the new backed out date is planting + 10 years?

Sally Claggett, USFS 11:38 AM

at least 10 years...

Rebecca Hanmer, FWG 11:42 AM

Even if you try to reduce the credit for the newly-planted tree, you have done something important in year 1: created the buffer. It would be grass and saplings. Look at the credit for grass buffers, it's 70% of the RFB. So the credit is not wildly "inaccurate"

Matt English, DOEE 11:43 AM

Is there a gap if the LU credit is taken away after 10 years, but the newest imagery available in year 10 is from the 7th year after planting when the trees would not yet be visible?

James Martin, VA DEQ 11:44 AM

An update to sewer service area in Loudon County should not back out reported connection outside that county. Not even all reported connections in that county.

Kevin Du Bois, DoD 11:46 AM

all the practices in place by 2025 to achieve the goal...

Sally Claggett, USFS 11:48 AM

Jeff-- the Expert Panel is who decided to provide full credit at planting.

Yes, the trees have to be at least 10 years old when the imagery is taken

Gregorio Sandi, MDE 11:51 AM

Would this method provide an over-estimation of tree BMPs in 2025? Assuming that plantings in 2023-2024 are fully grown...given that's the target we're using this planning tool for

There's a further complication that point sources incorporate annual precipitation. whereas NPS does not.

Ted Tesler, PA DEP 12:01 PM

Kenn P also suggested making year 11 of the hydrology to be the current year's actual hydrology as a potential means for comparison with WRTDs

Sally Claggett, USFS 12:08 PM

thanks for a most interesting meeting today. If you have more input to the FWG on the document, pls provide in the next week.