

# Midpoint Assessment Priorities as defined by the Water Quality GIT

November 5, 2012 WTWG Meeting

**1. Improve spatial, temporal, and categorical representation of urban, agricultural, federal, and natural land uses and, to the extent possible, assign separate loading rates. Where local data unavailable, develop more accurate distribution of loads**

Lead	Land Use Workgroup (LUWG)
Supporting Partners	WTWG will work alongside the sector workgroups (USWG, AgWG, ForestryWG) to make recommendations for a list of Phase 6.0 land uses and possible loading rates. WQGIT will help settle any cross-workgroup issues.
Necessary Datasets, Analyses, or Decisions	Recommendations on what new land uses should be added in or removed. Loading rates associated with different land uses – LUWG might need to convene panels in conjunction with sector workgroups to develop loading rates.
Approximate Start Date	November, 2012 – Coordinators of LUWG, WTWG, USWG, AgWG and ForestryWG met on November 2 to discuss a path forward
Target End Date	TBD
Notes	WQGIT will have role in making decisions across workgroups. Combined with loading rates priority

# WTWG Proposed Deadlines

Proposed Action	Proposed Completion Date
WTWG Chair meet with LUWG and sector workgroups	November 2, 2012
WTWG members help their state sector workgroups review the current land uses and propose a new list of land uses to be presented by each sector workgroup at LUWG's upcoming December 17 meeting.	December 10, 2012
Sector workgroups submit first proposed land uses to LUWG.	December 10, 2012
WTWG members review subsequent drafts of land uses and discuss how these land uses might be tracked and reported by state and local jurisdictions.	Ongoing until TBD

## 2. Revisit Watershed Model calibration methods with goal of improving local watershed results , including revisiting regional factors

Lead	Modeling Workgroup
Supporting Partners	Sector workgroups, WTWG, STAR, outside scientific groups
Necessary Datasets, Analyses, or Decisions	County or sub-county scale high quality data that could be used by modeling teams for any number of models
Approximate Start Date	January, 2013 Charge Modeling Workgroup to work with CBPO modeling team to flesh out work plan
Target End Date	Depends on Phase III WIPs

# WTWG Proposed Deadlines

Proposed Action	Proposed Completion Date
Modeling Workgroup and Modeling Team will create a workplan and identify areas of specific data needs.	December, 2012
WTWG will review workplan and provide feedback on data availability.	January/February 2013
WTWG will work with Modeling Workgroup, Modeling Team, and outside analysts to provide data for analyses.	Spring 2013 until TBD (perhaps 2015)

### 3. Modeling Baseline/Input Data and Assumptions

Lead	Ag Workgroup
Supporting Partners	Modeling Team, Modeling Workgroup, WTWG, Verification Subcommittee, sector workgroups, BMP Panels
Necessary Datasets, Analyses, or Decisions	National Cropland Data Layer NASS annual statistical reports State data – eg. Permitted actions such as forest harvesting, new septic, construction activity, etc. Poultry Litter Subcommittee findings
Approximate Start Date	Already underway
Target End Date	Start of calibration (though provide new data iteratively as becomes available, and review so iterative calibrations). Therefore end date depends on Phase III WIP schedule

# WTWG Proposed Deadlines

Proposed Action	Proposed Completion Date
Modeling and Scenario Builder Teams work with NASS and the WTWG to develop a list of high quality datasets that could be used in 2017	Spring, 2013
Modeling and Scenario Builder Teams work with sector workgroups and WTWG to develop methods for compiling and submitting new data	Fall, 2013
WTWG members assess new data needs and begin compiling robust datasets, working with Modeling and Scenario Builder Teams to develop historical data will possible	Ongoing throughout calibration

#### 4. Develop schedule to achieve an effective balance between sufficient review time for tool revisions/review/ concurrence and sufficient time for target development and implementation planning

Lead	Modeling Workgroup (for model development) and EPA for Phase III WIP schedule
Supporting Partners	Watershed Technical Workgroup, WQGIT as whole (or perhaps higher since getting into broader policy) for recommendations to EPA on Phase III WIP schedule
Necessary Datasets, Analyses, or Decisions	Decision on schedule Transition to new rapid model development approach
Approximate Start Date	New Schedule to set by WQGIT and PSC by Fall, 2012
Target End Date	Proposal: Ask PSC to recommend schedule at Winter, 2012 meeting



# WTWG Proposed Deadlines

Proposed Action	Proposed Completion Date
WQGIT proposes WIP Phase III Schedule (See slides 10 and 11)	October, 2012
WTWG will work with Modeling Team and Scenario Builder Team to develop Phase 6.0 development, calibration and review schedule	Winter, 2013
WTWG will continue to work with Modeling Team and Scenario Builder Team to review changes to the modeling tool	Spring, 2013 through Spring, 2016

# WQGIT Schedule Recommendation: 2016 - 2017

- October 1, 2016: Start “proposed final” model calibration
- December 1, 2016: Complete “proposed final” calibration; start Partners’ review
- March 30, 2017 – Interim progress report – DE suggestion
- June 1, 2017: Partner review period ends
- December 1, 2017: Complete final changes to model based on Partner review and set Phase III targets

# WQGIT Schedule Recommendation: 2018

- March 30, 2018: 2017 progress run done and evaluation of whether jurisdictions met 60% goal and 2016-2017 milestones
- June 1, 2018: Draft Phase III WIPs due
- December 1, 2018: Final Phase III WIPs due
- 2019: Public notice and finalize any modifications to TMDL, as needed
  - Note: WQGIT proposal to modify TMDL before Phase III WIPs

## 5. Improved modeling accuracy of hydrologic networks, land use characteristics, phosphorus and sediment

Lead	USWG
Supporting Partners	WTWG, Ag WG, Forestry, Modeling Workgroup
Necessary Datasets, Analyses, or Decisions	Data on smaller watersheds Data on differential loading rates associated with hydrologic networks Possible alternative sub-models for sediment or phosphorus dynamics
Approximate Start Date	Summer, 2013
Target End Date	Ongoing throughout model development until Spring, 2016

# WTWG Proposed Deadlines

Proposed Action	Proposed Completion Date
Support USWG and Modeling Workgroup and Team by reviewing proposed changes to modeling routines	Spring, 2013 through Spring, 2016

## 8. Revise modeling system structure (ie, transition to all PQUA L model) to enhance decision support and improve transparency, accuracy and confidence

Lead	Modeling WG, CBPO Modeling Team
Supporting Partners	Sector Workgroups (Ag, Urban, Forestry), WTWG
Necessary Datasets, Analyses, or Decisions	Have default sensitivities in PQUAL version of model now; effort will be documenting all the sensitivities and, where missing, work with sector workgroups to provide Will then update, rerun, and give to workgroups to assess
Approximate Start Date	Now – Start developing PQUAL version of model, and provide to Modeling Workgroup and then Sector Workgroups to review
Target End Date	Spring, 2016

# WTWG Proposed Deadlines

Proposed Action	Proposed Completion Date
Modeling Team will prepare a PQUAL version of the current model and provide WTWG with PQUAL sensitivities	Spring, 2013
WTWG will review sensitivities and work with sector workgroups to draft a workplan for analyzing changes to the sensitivities; this may involve expert panels, or multiple modeling groups	Summer, 2013
WTWG will continue to support the Modeling Team and any analyses on sensitivities in a similar way as it currently supports the BMP panels	Fall, 2013 through Spring, 2016

**7. Model Data Processing – when the data is in, how do the models combine (eg, how do manure and inorganic fertilizer nutrients move through system)? How can data and processes be combined (eg, stackable BMPs)? This is related to Scenario Builder processes.**

Lead	Ag WG
Supporting Partners	WTWG, Modeling WG, CBPO modeling team
Necessary Datasets, Analyses, or Decisions	Examples of on-the-ground operations of stackable BMPs, manure and fertilizer application
Approximate Start Date	Some work underway
Target End Date	Ongoing throughout modeling tools development until Spring, 2016



# WTWG Proposed Deadlines

Proposed Action	Proposed Completion Date
Ag Workgroup will draft a list of proposed changes to modeling tools	Spring, 2013
WTWG will review the list and work with Scenario Builder Team to propose changes to the processes	Summer, 2013 through Fall, 2015
WTWG will review results from proposed changes in modeling tools throughout the development period	Summer, 2013 through Fall, 2015

# Algal Turf Scrubbers???