

AMT General Updates

10/09/2026

Tom Butler, EPA

Outline

- The big picture.
- Explanation of delays and relevant resources for interested parties.
- Impact on the AMT's roles and responsibilities.

The big picture:

- Events have changed the anticipated calibration timeline for the watershed model.

How did we get here?

Extension for various data sets:

- Layers
- Inorganic fertilizer
- Broilers
- Land Use data

Refresher from our side:

- Nutrient concentration updates [February AMT broilers](#) and additional manure [Nutrient concentrations](#)

Personnel:

- Three people currently performing the calibration

New partnership decisions will impact the current calibration.

Model decisions that will alter timeline:

Clean Water Goal Team

- 09/28-29/2026
- Agreement to update periods of time which help define pollution loads across the partnership and the loads during extreme flow scenarios.

How much time could this take?

Point of discussion

- [October](#) and [November](#) Clean Water Goal Team meetings to discuss and plan a path forward
- [October](#) Modeling Workgroup

Could be upwards of nine additional months

Caveats abound

- How big of a difference do these changes make to the calibration?
- Do we incorporate data fixes to known issues concurrently with this?
- How much do we dig into loads that are not final?
 - Rationale is that many questions are asked about specifics that will draw the modeling team into investigations rather than recalibration tasks.

What does this mean for the AMT?

Responsibilities are unchanged

Timing of review is fluid

AMT responsibilities:

Review the Phase 7 input information.

Compare the state and county CAST scenario outputs for the agriculture sector:

- Watershed Implementation Plan; Everyone, Everywhere, Everything; No action etc.

Review watershed model documentation: (Quarter 1,2027)

- Chapter 4 – Watershed Nutrient Inputs
- Chapter 7 – Land Use
 - Estimating Agricultural Acres (Section 7.4),
 - Adjustments to Census of Agriculture (Section 7.5.3),
 - and Proportioning the Census of Agriculture (Section 7.5.4)

Brief the Agriculture Workgroup on findings from all the above analyses and evaluation



Denotes time may be delayed

AMT Focus: Review

Source Data (Stage 1) April 1- July 31, 2026

- No changes
- Familiarize with information
- e.g. Time in pasture

Input data (Stage 2) August 1 – October 31, 2026

- No changes
- Familiarize with information
- e.g. State Fertilizer data

Output data (Stage 3) November 1 – February1, 2027

- No changes
- Familiarize with information
- e.g. Nitrogen Load

POST February 2027

- Changes
 - Examine loads and connect to information from the associated source and input data



We would like to formally document this

- Ask:
 - If the previous slides are missing anything people think is critical regarding the review and its timeline, please let us know by 10/23/2026

What do we do while decisions are being made?

Land Use Workgroup Decision - 10/9/2026

- Vote to approve forecasted land use
 - Creates the overall acres of land classes for pasture/hay and cropland in CAST progress scenarios (2023-2040)
 - Reminder, these are divided up between the 16 CAST Land Uses for agriculture
 - Land conversion
 - Solar development
- Vote to include data centers

Data input visualization tools and data

- Inputs from the existing calibration that are unlikely to change significantly
- October 13th, 2026, data release (Tableau)
 - Phase 7 input data
 - Phase 6 also provided for comparison

Summary

- The AMT's tasks are unchanged
- It will take more time than initially anticipated to release products
- We need to plan our efforts accordingly once additional decisions are made
- There is still input data to review

Questions?