Chesapeake Bay Program
Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG)
Meeting Agenda
Thursday, April 6, 2023
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Meeting Materials

Meeting Link: https://umces.webex.com/umces/j.php?MTID=m7fd2a5bfc6f4bb5c07f012f74afa8174
Meeting number: 2626 029 7084
Password: WTWG2023
Join by phone: +1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Access code: 262 602 97084

Please join by either computer audio **or phone, **not both.** Viewing the webinar in the desktop app is recommended over the web browser. If experiencing bandwidth issues, we recommend turning off your video when not speaking.*

Agenda

10:00   Introductions and Announcements – Cassie Davis, NYSDEC (15 min).
- *Please put your name and affiliation in the chat box for attendance purposes. Thank you!*
- **Decision requested:** Approval of March Meeting Minutes.
- Welcome Sushanth Gupta, new WTWG Staffer!
- Previous and Upcoming CAST Webinars – Helen Golimowski, Devereux Consulting
- Progress Update/Announcements – Jeff Sweeney, EPA / Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting
- BMP Reporting Transparency and Updates to NEIEN node – Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting
- Update on Dissolved Oxygen (DO) Equivalent Factor / Eutrophication Units – Cassie Davis, NYSDEC
- Other announcements?

10:15   Quantifying the Effects of Transportation Settlement (e.g., Volkswagen) Actions <u>as a Planning BMP</u> – Jeff Sweeney, EPA, All (25 min).

Last month, Jeff Sweeney presented to the WTWG on the proposed BMP associated with atmospheric emission and deposition reductions from Volkswagen settlement funding and how to quantify load reductions to the Chesapeake Bay from estimates of atmospheric emission controls of nitrogen. Jeff will provide a quick update and overview of next steps regarding the proposed Transportation Settlement BMP, briefly review the two proposals for how the planning BMP will be accounted for in CAST and address any remaining questions the group has. The WTWG will be asked to vote on this decision item at the May meeting.

10:40   Charge from the Water Quality GIT/Management Board on Phase 6 Data Processing Protocols – Ruth Cassilly, UMD/Coordinator (45 min).

Last month, Ruth presented on the proposed path forward for addressing the Management Board charge to the Water Quality GIT/WTWG: "*Work with the Watershed Technical Workgroup and others as appropriate in the development of a policy for the partnership regarding safeguards, triggers, and protocols to prevent future data analysis variations and how they are applied (Addresses PSC 8/29/22 Decision #3)."* The group went through a [mentimeter exercise](#) to provide additional input on Track 1.

This month, Ruth will review the QAQC inventory related to Track 1 and ask the WTWG to confirm the proposed path forward and decide whether the group wants to pursue developing formal recommendations to the WQGIT regarding additional QAQC protocols for Phase 6 model inputs. She will then present the CAST Review Process diagram relating to Track 2 and ask the group to provide feedback.

Decision requested: The WTWG will be asked to confirm that the existing Chesapeake Bay Program QA/QC documentation and processes for the Phase 6 model inputs, reviewed by the group Feb – March 2023, provide sufficient safeguards in response to PSC Decision #3. Formal recommendations to the WQGIT on additional QA/QC protocols or documentation for Phase 6 model inputs are not needed at this time. (*Note: this decision item only refers to Track 1 of the proposed path forward to address Aug 29 PSC Decision #3/MB Charge. It does not refer to the processes and documentation regarding Track 2, which the WTWG will pursue as needed*).

11:25   **Review Revised Oyster BMP Expert Panel Technical Appendix** – Olivia Carretti, Oyster Recovery (30 min).

Last month, the WTWG was given an overview of the draft technical appendix associated with the Oyster BMP expert panel report and the expectations of how the BMPs will work in CAST/NEIEN. The comment period for the expert panel report and technical appendix ended in March 2023. Olivia returns to the WTWG to address the comments made and present the revised technical appendix to be voted on for approval at the May WTWG meeting. Materials and informational webinars associated with this BMP can be found on the Oyster BMP [calendar page](#).

11:55   **Recap of Actions and Decisions** (5 min).

12:00   **Adjourn**

Next Meeting: **Thursday, May 4th, 2023, from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.**

Acronym List

AgWG: Agriculture Workgroup	CBP: Chesapeake Bay Program
BMP: Best Management Practice	CBPO: Chesapeake Bay Program Office (houses EPA
BMPVAHAT: BMP Verification Ad Hoc Action Team	and myriad contractors and grantees working
CAST: Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (user	towards CBP goals)
interface for the CBP Watershed Model)	CBW: Chesapeake Bay Watershed

CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium

DNREC: [DE] Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

DoD: [United States] Department of Defense

DOEE: [DC] Department of Energy and Environment

EPA: [U.S.] Environmental Protection Agency

FWG: Forestry Workgroup

LUWG: Land Use Workgroup

MB: Management Board

NEIEN: National Environmental Information Exchange Network

NFWF: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

NYSDEC: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

PA DEP: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

PSC: Principals' Staff Committee

PSU: Pennsylvania State University

QA/QC: Quality Assurance / Quality Control

STAC: Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee

TMDL: Total Maximum Daily Load

UMCES: University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

UMD: University of Maryland

USDA-ARS: U.S. Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service

USDA-NASS: United States Department of Agriculture-National Agricultural Statistics Service

USDA-NRCS: U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resource Conservation Service

USWG: Urban Stormwater Workgroup

VA DEQ: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

VW: Volkswagen

WQGIT: Water Quality Goal Implementation Team

WTWG: Watershed Technical Workgroup

WV DEP: West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

WWG: Wetlands Workgroup

WIP: Watershed Implementation Plan