FORESTRY BMPS FOR PHASE 7

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POTENTIAL BEYOND 2025 PRIORITIES RELEVANT TO FWG

- Elevating conservation and stewardship

- Supporting a transition to regenerative food systems, including agroforestry practices

- Promoting forest restoration and management practices that will increase the resiliency of forests to climate change

- Developing better systems for crediting desired outcomes

Areas needing increased FWG focus (based on your feedback):

- Crediting

- Verification

- Conservation

FORESTRY BMPS UPDATES/ADDITIONS TO CONSIDER FOR PHASE 7

Eliminating/extending the credit duration for forest buffers under permanent conservation easement (Katie)

Expanding crediting of agroforestry practices (Ruth/Katie)

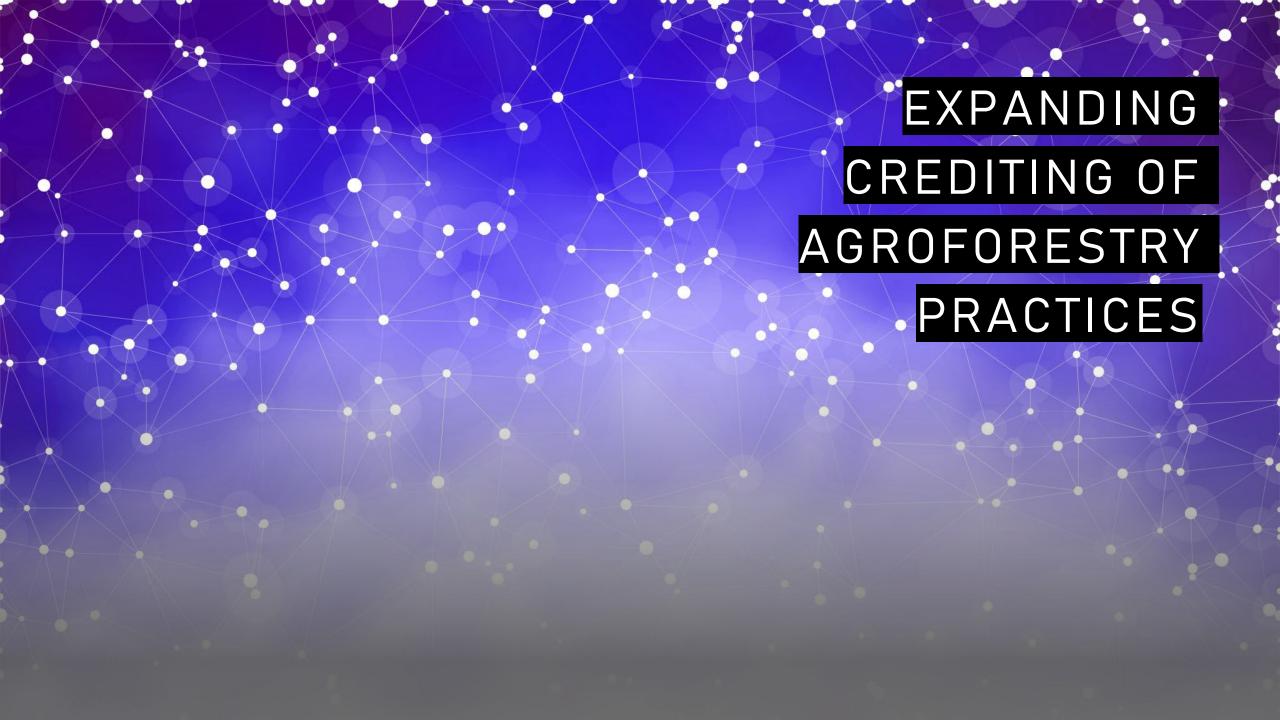Exploring potential pathways to incorporate forest health into BMPs (Lorenzo)

ELIMINATING/EXTENDING THE CREDIT DURATION FOR FOREST BUFFERS UNDER PERMANENT CONSERVATION EASEMENT

- From the RFB 2023-24 Workplan: Evaluate potential to further extend credit duration for RFBs under permanent conservation easement

- Potential process: Establish a separate "Conservation Riparian Forest Buffer" BMP that does not have a credit duration (i.e. the credit never expires) and/or has a longer credit duration than the current 15 years

ELIMINATING/EXTENDING THE CREDIT DURATION FOR FOREST BUFFERS UNDER PERMANENT CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Questions for the Workgroup:

- Does anyone have concerns about us pursuing this?

- Any estimates for the % of buffers put under easements? What % are permanent?
  - Should we only seek the extended credit for buffers under permanent easement? Or should we try to take a tiered approach based on length of easement?

- Of buffers put under easements, when are the easements established? At the time of planting or later?

EXPANDING CREDITING OF AGROFORESTRY PRACTICES

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGROFORESTRY CREDITING (BEYOND BUFFERS)

- Agricultural Tree Planting BMP: Tree plantings includes any tree planting, except those used to establish riparian forest buffers, targeting lands that are highly erodible or identified as critical resource areas

A Guide for Forestry Practices in the Chesapeake TMDL

Phase III WIPs

Prepared by the Forestry Workgroup, Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Latest Update: November 2018

ISSUES WITH CREDITING AGROFORESTRY

- Lack of clarity around which practices are currently "creditable" (so practices that are eligible for credit aren't getting reported)

- Some agroforestry practices are being classified as "orchards" with potentially incorrect assumptions of nutrient application

- Some practices don't map neatly onto our existing BMPs (i.e. silvopasture)