

AGENDA
June 18, 2020
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
AgWG Conference Call

Conference Call Information

Zoom Link*: <https://zoom.us/j/553329453>

Conference Line: 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 553 329 453

Password: 2494

Participant ID: available through Zoom link

*To enter the webinar, please open the webinar link first. After opening the webinar, either elect to join via computer audio or via phone call. If you select phone, **please ensure you enter the participant ID.**

Workgroup Areas of Focus

Accounting & Reporting • Implementation • Innovation

Data & Modeling • CBP Assignments

10:00 Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes

Workgroup Chair

- Roll-call of the governance body
- Roll-call of the meeting participants
- Approval of meeting minutes from the May 21st Conference Call
- New Water Quality GIT/AgWG staffer

Implementation

10:10 Engaging Farmers in the Bay Watershed (30 min)

Dan Read

Lisa Wainger and Dan Read, UMCES, are investigating how technical assistance providers engage with farmers about soil and water conservation in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Their project involves collaborative research with technical assistance providers to understand what engagement practices are most effective at getting BMPs on the ground and how their effectiveness varies across the watershed. This research is part of a larger USDA-funded project that is working with stakeholders to create a 25-year vision for sustainable agriculture in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Results from the work with technical assistance providers will be integrated with nutrient movement and economic models to inform policymakers on how best to achieve that vision. Dan will provide a brief description of research and solicit feedback from the workgroup.

Data & Modeling

10:40 **Next Steps: Non-Urban Stream Restoration (30 min)**

Loretta Collins

On the May AgWG call Loretta Collins, UMD, summarized concerns related to tracking, reporting, and crediting non-urban stream restoration projects and solicited feedback from the AgWG on next steps to present to the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT). Loretta will provide a revised "Memo to the Water Quality GIT" based on comments received after the call.

Decision: The AgWG is asked to approve the formation of an Expert Panel Establishment Group to address concerns that have arisen regarding non-urban stream restoration tracking, reporting, and crediting

Decision: The AgWG is asked to approve language of the associated "Memo to the Water Quality GIT Regarding Non-Urban Stream Restoration Best Management Practices," a summary of concerns and proposed next steps.

Innovation

11:10 **Proposed GIT-Funded Project (10 min)**

Katie Brownson

Katie Brownson, USDA-Forest Service, will provide a quick summary of a GIT Funded Project Proposal related to stream restoration entitled, "Improving synergies between riparian forests and stream corridor restoration and sharing lessons learned to improve stream restoration design and placement." The Water Quality Goal Implementation Team selected this proposal as one of four possible projects to receive funding in the 2020 funding cycle.

Implementation/ Accounting & Reporting

11:20 **Updates on Impacts of COVID-19 (25 min)**

All

The current international health crisis is having impacts across every aspect of society. Time is allotted here to provide CBP partners the opportunity to share their recent experiences and what the short-term and potential long-term impacts of stay-at-home orders and critical response efforts will be on the agricultural community and conservation efforts. Below is a non-exhaustive list of possible areas of discourse:

- Technical Assistance Capacity
- Outreach and Education
- Health, Safety, Wellness
- Industry Impacts
- Ag Markets Outlook
- Federal and State Agencies
- Non-Governmental Organizations/ Non-Profits
- Tracking, Reporting, & Verification Challenges
- Adaptive Strategies

11:45 **New Business & Announcements (10 min)**

- Consensus Recommendations to Improve Protocols 2 (Instream Denitrification) and 3 (Floodplain Reconnection) for Defining Stream Restoration Pollutant Removal Credits: Report [here](#). May 19 presentation to Urban Stormwater Workgroup (USWG) [here](#).
 - The USWG is seeking comments on **no later than June 19th**

- Law and governance in the Baltic Sea and the Chesapeake Bay
 - Surrounded by several states and objects to multilevel jurisdiction, the Baltic Sea and the Chesapeake Bay have a lot in common. During the seminar Law and governance in the Baltic Sea and the Chesapeake Bay researchers discussed how efficiently these areas are governed concerning serious environmental problems, and how effective the legal frameworks and the competent institutions are in dealing with these issues. Link to further information and recorded webinar [here](#).
- Verification Action Team
 - The Management Board charged the WQGIT with convening an [Ad-Hoc action team](#) to address BMP credit duration and lifespan. This is in response to the [BMP Verification memo](#) the WQGIT sent to the Management Board in September 2019.
- Animal Mortality Expert Panel Report- in process
- Other Announcements?

11:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)**

Hilary Swartwood

Hilary Swartwood will review action and decision items from the meeting.

12:00 **Adjourn Meeting**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, July 16th, 10AM-12PM: Conference Call

COVID-19 Resources:

Evolving list...

Delaware

UD Extension: <https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/canr/cooperative-extension/trending/coronavirus-resources/>

Maryland

MDA Updates: <https://news.maryland.gov/mda/category/covid-19/>

UMD Extension: <https://extension.umd.edu/learn/covid-19-resources>

Maryland Farm Bureau: <https://www.mdfarmbureau.com/coronavirus/>

New York

Crisis Management: <https://www.nyfarmnet.org/>

Cornell Cooperative Extension: <https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/coronavirus-response/>

State-Level Ag/COVID resources that are updated, sometimes daily (with some overlap):

Executive Order 2026 on Essential Businesses/Entities:

- <https://esd.ny.gov/guidance-executive-order-2026>

NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets:

- <https://agriculture.ny.gov/coronavirus>
- https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/covid19_resourceguide_0.pdf

Cornell University / Cornell Cooperative Extension:

- <https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/coronavirus-response/>
- <https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/publications/covid-19/>
- <https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/publications/news-e-alerts/>
- <http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>
- <https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/>

Pennsylvania

Dept. of Agriculture: <https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Resources.aspx>

Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) guidance documents:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Pages/AlertDetails.aspx>

Penn State Extension: <https://extension.psu.edu/coronavirus>

West Virginia

Dept. of Agriculture: <https://agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/covid-19/Pages/default.aspx>

Virginia

Virginia Tech: https://aaec.vt.edu/content/dam/aaec_vt_edu/extension/aaec-outreach-reports/covid-19-resources-may-2020/COVID-impacts-on-Virginia-5-20.pdf

Virginia Cooperative Extension: <https://ext.vt.edu/covid-19updates/resources.html>

USDA

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture: <https://www.usda.gov/coronavirus>

Coronavirus and USDA Assistance for Farmers: <https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus>

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program: <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>

Federal Rural Resource Guide: https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/USDA_COVID-19_Fed_Rural_Resource_Guide.pdf

EPA

EPA: www.epa.gov/coronavirus

EPA Policy and Frequent Questions on Grant Issues related to COVID-19 (3/26):

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/rain-2020-g02>

EPA Memo on COVID-19 Implications for EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program (3/26):

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-03/documents/oecamemooncovid19implications.pdf>

EPA COVID-19 Enforcement and Compliance Resources: <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/covid-19-enforcement-and-compliance-resources>

Non-Governmental Organizations

National Association of Conservation Districts: <https://www.nacdnet.org/covid-19/>

Farm Bureau: <https://www.fb.org/land/impact-covid19-on-ag>

Farmer's Legal Action Group Quick Summary of COVID-19 Relief for Farmers:

<http://www.flaginc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Updated-Farmers-Guide-to-COVID-19-Relief-April-27-2020.pdf>

National Farmers Union: <https://nfu.org/coronavirus/>

Center for Dairy Excellence: <https://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/covid-19-farm-resources/>

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association: <https://www.uspoultry.org/COVID-19/>

Pork Checkoff: <https://www.pork.org/public-health/what-you-need-to-know-about-covid-19/>

National Grain and Feed Association: https://imis.ngfa.org/members/n/COVID-19_Updates/ngfa/News/COVID-19_Updates.aspx?hkey=85178898-8bf7-4520-9299-b9348fa2641f

National Cattlemen's Beef Association: <https://www.ncba.org/coronavirus.aspx>

Crisis Hotline

Farm Aid: Monday-Friday 9-5 EST at 1-800-FARM-AID: <https://www.farmaid.org/blog/resources-for-farmers-affected-by-covid-19/>

Rural Advancement Foundation International (RAFI): <https://www.rafiusa.org/hotline/>