

BMP Verification Ad-Hoc Action Team

Meeting Minutes

Jan 14th, 2022

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Meeting materials: [link](#)

Summary of Actions and Decisions

Decision: The BMPVAHAT approved the [December meeting minutes](#).

Action: Vanessa Van Note will follow up with the Wetlands Workgroup on the Wetland BMP Credit Duration Recommendation and the [feedback](#) provided by the BMPVAHAT. We will discuss this recommendation further at a future meeting.

Action: Members are encouraged to comment on PA's proposed scenarios for partial credit [document](#), particularly questions 7 and 8. Please provide all comments to Vanessa Van Note (vannote.vanessa@epa.gov) by **COB Tuesday, Feb 1st**.

Action: Vanessa Van Note will work with Cassie Davis, WTWG Chair, to present partial credit scenario reporting questions to the Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG).

9:00 Welcome, Introductions, Roll Call, Elliott Kellner, Chair (WVU)

- Welcome & Roll Call of participants
- **Decision:** The BMPVAHAT approved the [December meeting minutes](#).
- **Announcement:** Wetland BMP Credit Duration Recommendation, *Vanessa Van Note, EPA*
 - Summary of comments posted [here](#).
 - **Action:** Vanessa Van Note will follow up with the Wetlands Workgroup on the Wetland BMP Credit Duration Recommendation feedback. The BMPVAHAT will discuss this recommendation further at a future meeting.
- **Announcement:** Remote Sensing Discussion Postponed Until Feb, *Vanessa Van Note, EPA*
- **Announcement:** Elliott Kellner has accepted a new position at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center in Missouri, but will continue serving as chair until this group sunsets in Aug 2022.
- **Next Meeting:** **Friday, February 11th from 9:00 - 11:00 AM**

9:10 Proposed Scenarios for the Partial Credit Recommendation, Ted Tessler and Kate Bresaw, PA DEP.

In response to the action item from the December Meeting (**Action:** PA DEP will develop reporting and tracking scenarios for partial credit for inclusion in the partial credit recommendation), Ted Tessler and Kate Bresaw reviewed proposed scenarios to consider how partial credit may be applied in the model. Comments and discussion on PA's proposed scenarios for partial credit are captured [here](#).

Discussion

Kate Bresaw: An additional question - if during an inspection we were able to identify the practice as originally being funded and implemented by USDA, but we now have the locational data associated with the practice, does it still qualify for partial credit?

Jill Whitcomb: Is PA the only state that is having these problems? Or do we just have them more frequently because we rely on federal data more than others?

James Martin: VA has similar challenges.

Alana Hartman: In WV we have trouble just reporting the NRCS stream restoration. We usually rely on the practices that are funded by other entities. In the past few years I came across someone in the Corps who could look up old permit documents for us which was helpful. I can forward the info to you.

Jennifer Walls (in chat): Delaware has this challenge as well.

Action: Members are encouraged to comment on PA's proposed scenarios for partial credit [document](#), particularly questions 7 and 8. Please provide all comments to Vanessa Van Note (vannote.vanessa@epa.gov) by **COB Tuesday, Feb 1st.**

Action: Vanessa Van Note will work with Cassie Davis, WTWG Chair, to present partial credit scenario reporting questions to the Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG).

10:00 **Development of the Partial Credit Recommendation,** *Vanessa Van Note, EPA/Coordinator.*

Vanessa reviewed the draft spreadsheet that outlines the full phase out of partial credit after 4 years and requested feedback from the group. Elliott Kellner reminded the group that a decision on drafting a recommendation for partial credit has not been made and suggested we do so before discussing this topic any further.

11:00 **Adjourn**

Meeting Chat

Clint Gill: Agree with James on that one.

Leon Tillman: Thanks Mark and that is correct NRCS is required to conduct monitoring on our easements to ensure they are being maintained according to the contract and restoration/ enhancement plan.

Olivia Devereux: Congratulations on the great new opportunity in MO!

Leon Tillman: Congrats Dr. Kellner

Jessica Rodriguez DoD: Congrats! No concerns from my end.

Clint Gill: Congrats, and I think leaving the watershed technically makes you a more impartial chair...

Olivia Devereux: Agree with Clint!

Alana Hartman: Congratulations, Dr. Kellner. Sorry to lose you here in WV!

Jennifer Walls: No - Delaware has this challenge as well

Olivia Devereux: The full NEIEN data appendix is at:

<https://cast.chesapeakebay.net/Home/TMDLTracking#progressReportingSection>

Elizabeth Hoffman, MDA: It makes it easier if you convert the dates to the progress year

Jill Whitcomb: I agree with Elliott. Perhaps we take the action / question in multiple parts

Ted Tessler: Good point Olivia, on getting an answer on if we should move forward, our ability to revisit every practice is limited. This will make for potentially muddy data. Two considerations, 1) impact on our BMP reporting history and 2) impact on reported loads.

Jill Whitcomb: A - Do we support partial credit? B - If no, then what is the alternative?

Katie Brownson, USFS (she/her): To clarify- the vote in February would just be to move forward with figuring out the details. Then there would be another opportunity to vote on the specific recommendations later?

Elliott Kellner: Katie, yes, that is correct.

Katie Brownson, USFS (she/her): Understood, thanks

Jill Whitcomb: There seems to be a lot of caveats and "if...then" scenarios. Perhaps we take the questions in bite size pieces. And then we can move toward a decision

James Martin: I vote we vote first thing in feb

Meeting Participants

Vanessa Van Note, EPA

Elliott Kellner, WVU

Cassie Davis, NYS DEC

Jason Keppler - MDA

Suzanne Trevena, EPA

Alana Hartman, WV DEP

Dana York Green Earth Connection

Jennifer Walls, DNREC

Emily Dekar, Upper Susquehanna Coalition

John Maleri - DC DOEE

Mollee Dworkin, DE DNREC

Clare Sevcik, DE DNREC

KC Filippino, HRPDC, co-chair LUWG

Helen Golimowski, Devereux Consulting

Clint Gill, DDA

Jessica Rodriguez, DoD CBP

Loretta Collins, UMD, AgWG Coordinator

Karl Blankenship, Bay Journal

Jessica Rigelman, J7 Consulting LLC

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting, Inc.

Jennifer Starr, LGAC

Bill Tharpe, MDA

Mark Dubin, UME/CBPO

James Martin, VA DCR and WQGIT