Historic Data Cleanup

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team
Face to Face Meeting
October 7th and 8th, 2014

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WTWG CHARGE

- Responsible for organizing efforts to create more accurate BMP records from 1985 to present
- Address need for:
  - Model Recalibration and the 2017 Midpoint Assessment
  - Support efforts to explain long-term monitoring trends

Why is this Data So Important?

- Belief that Government, Industry, and Public need to see measurable improvements for the efforts undertaken

- The TMDL requires that progress be made in reducing loads (implementing BMPs/MAs) as documentation of compliance in addressing the TMDL

- BMPs “on record” impact sector loads and allocations

STAR Needs Data

- The Scientific, Technical, Assessment, and Reporting (STAR) Team's needs to understand and explain the effects of management actions and time series data (population, land use, and other factors) to inform the public on bay restoration progress.

Data Cleanup Guidance

Strengthening Verification of Best Management Practices Implemented in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed:
A Basinwide Framework

Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Commitments

- Jurisdictions are to determine which BMPs will receive highest priority:
  - High Implementation levels (cut-offs)
  - Practices in Geographic Regions (sector or delivery factor considerations)

- Cleanup Details to be included with Verification Program Document due by October 2015

Complicating Factors

- STAR's assessment of non-point source actions should be mindful of ground water storage which will significantly influence any temporal correlation of actions and effects

- Short-term or "on-off" BMPs may be especially prone to masking in surface water data

Complicating Factors Cont.

- BMP lifespans could influence long-term BMP data relevance or need for BMP data beyond the calibration period

- Data privacy and limited data field reporting may limit what is possibly “correctable” – many states historic reliance on NRCS data/practices and no “replacement” reporting

Discussion

What methods do we use to address historic data?

WTWG will be working on this issue and possible options:

- Use all data available since 1985?
- Ignore pre calibration data and correct/calibrate to current conditions?
- Use best available/highest quality data since 2005?
- With or without lifespan considerations?