Chesapeake Bay Program
A Watershed Partnership

Chesapeake Bay Program's Land Use Workgroup

Mission Statement and Workgroup Priorities

Co-Chairs:

Karl Berger, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Jennifer Tribo, Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

Significance of Land Use Data

- Land use data is critical for establishing load allocations and guiding implementation of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL.

- Differences between local and CBP land use data have caused difficulties in planning and reporting local implementation efforts in support of Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs).

Land Use Workgroup Mission Statement

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To ensure that scientifically and locally credible land use data informs the suite of Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) models and accounting systems.

Primary Roles & Responsibilities

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1) Develop protocols and methods for using local land use data to improve the CBP models.

2) Increase the spatial, temporal, and categorical accuracy of land use information used to inform CBP models. (*Supporters: Urban Stormwater Workgroup, Agriculture Workgroup, Forestry Workgroup, and Habitat GIT*)

3) Improve the accuracy, plausibility, and usefulness of future land use scenarios to support TMDL implementation and maintenance. (*Supporter: Trading and Offsets Workgroup*)

4) Evaluate the utility of land use datasets, estimates, and scenarios developed to inform CBP management decisions.

5) Monitor and report local land use changes corresponding to 2-year milestone assessments. (*Supporter: Milestone Workgroup*)

Secondary Roles & Responsibilities

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1) Increase the accuracy of estimated populations and households on sewer and septic used to inform CBP models. (*Leads: Wastewater and Watershed Technical Workgroups*).

2) Improve the consistency of MS4 mapping criteria among states. (*Lead: Urban Stormwater Workgroup*).

3) Estimate future water quality offset requirements based on future land use scenarios. (*Leads: Trading and Offsets and Watershed Technical Workgroups*).

4) Explore the utility of future land use scenarios for crediting land conservation in the TMDL. (*Leads: Healthy Watershed GIT, Trading and Offsets Workgroup*).

5) Explore methods to identify and map forests and wetlands providing greater than average water quality services based on spatial factors such as depth to water table and other soils attributes, upslope land uses, and hydrologic connectivity. (*Leads: Urban Stormwater Workgroup, Habitat GIT, Healthy Watershed GIT, and Forestry Workgroup*)

Next Steps

- Members' concurrence with LUWG primary and secondary roles/responsibilities
- Determination of top 2-3 priorities for the 2017 midpoint assessment
- Determination of subsequent 2-3 priorities