

CBP Water Quality Goal Implementation Team
Toxic Contaminants Workgroup
Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021
Time: 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Location: Conference Call (remote only)
Calendar Page: [Link](#).



Agenda Item and Desired Outcome	Time	Background Docs, Notes, and Action Items
1. Introductions and Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA Administrator launches an executive council on PFAS Congress introduces bill to create National Mercury Monitoring Network New paper in the Environmental Science and Technology Journal found PFAS in breast milk ranging in concentrations from 52 – 1850 pg. / mL. <i>Press A000rticle</i> Link Sample results, ordered by MPEN and PEER, detected PFAS in common insecticide used in MD to control mosquitoes. <i>Press Release</i> Link / <i>EPA Article</i> Link TC Research Outcome Indicator Development: Getting input from the Status and Trends workgroup and will discuss with TCW at our next call. 	1:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the toxic contaminant indicator Update the PCB Story Map
2. Overview of goals for today's meeting on recent contaminant publications in agricultural watersheds. – Scott Phillips and Emily Majcher, USGS, and Greg Allen, EPA We will review the goals of today's meeting and some of the existing materials to communicate co-benefits of contaminant reduction with nutrient and sediment practices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do the states and federal agencies work together to oversee nutrient management planning? How do we integrate these new results that we heard today into smarter farm management and healthier water quality? 	1:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening remarks STAC report on contaminants of concern in agricultural and urban settings MD Pesticide Network materials (scroll down to bottom of page for links / use the drop down menu to search for specific info) Farmer Information Kit (MD Pesticide Network) BMP Guide for Minimizing / Eliminating Use of Pesticides (MD Pesticide Network) Reducing the Health Impacts of the Nitrogen Problem Virtual Workshop by Environmental Health Matters Initiative (Click on "view details" on the right to access event recordings and presentations) Managing TCs for Fish, Wildlife and People (Produced by MB March 2018)

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<p>3. Results from USGS studies on toxic contaminant mixtures in agricultural watersheds – Kelly Smalling, Vicki Blazer and Stephine Gordon, USGS.</p> <p>The story map is based on results in these science summaries and associated publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Science summary on Land-use influences on endocrine disruption ▪ Science summary on occurrence of toxic contaminant mixtures in surface water and ground water 	1:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of draft story map with results; Discussion.
<p>4. Opportunities for better integrating pesticide reduction into Nutrient and Sediment BMPs for Agricultural Areas: Developing Big Ideas for Applying These Results for Decision Making</p> <p><i>Facilitators:</i> Scott Phillips, USGS, and Greg Allen, EPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current efforts to implement practices to reduce nutrients and sediment for State WIPs and opportunities to consider toxic contaminants: <i>Ruth Cassilly, UMD</i> • EPA programs to manage farm chemicals and working with other partners: <i>Kelly Shenk, EPA</i> • Remarks on NRCS programs: <i>Leon Tillman, USDA, NRCS Chesapeake Bay Coordinator</i> <p><u>Big Ideas Jamboard Discussion Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the opportunities to achieve both nutrient and pesticide reductions through farm management? • How can we better integrate co- benefits of contaminant reduction into existing implementation of nutrient and sediment reduction BMPs? 	2:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations from speakers and TCW discussion questions • Jamboard
<p>5. Wrap Up and Adjourn</p>	2:55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Next meeting: Wednesday, June 9, 2021</i>

Summary of Actions and Decisions

Action: TCW leadership will reach out to contact leads for EPA’s Executive Council on PFAS to provide information on the upcoming STAC Workshop on PFAS and invite them to participate / share information.

Action: The link the to the story map on toxic contaminant mixtures in agricultural watersheds will be sent out to the TCW once it is officially published.

Action: TCW leadership team will meet with today’s presenters to further discuss this topic and develop next steps.

Action: TCW will be added to an upcoming summer AgWG agenda to present on toxic contaminants in ag watersheds and suggested paths forward.

Action: Hilary Swartwood will email out link to Jamboard so that TCW members can input their suggestions post meeting.

Meeting Minutes

1. Intros and Announcements

- a. *National Mercury Monitoring Network*: speaks to having USGS, EPA etc. to organize; it calls for air monitoring and monitoring it in water and other media (fish, soil, etc.). This is the 6th time this bill has attempted to be passed; it keeps getting put forth to congress. If it does not get passed, maybe this group could interact with the bill sponsors at some point (future agenda item, perhaps?)
- b. *EPA Executive PFAS Council*: it makes sense that we reach out to the leads on this to make them aware of our upcoming PFAS STAC Workshop. The EPA administrator is very interested in this topic and there could be opportunities for us by opening up some lines of communication.
 - i. **Action**: TCW leadership will reach out to contact leads for EPA's Executive Council on PFAS to provide information on the upcoming STAC Workshop on PFAS and invite them to participate / share information.
- c. *PFAS in Breast Milk*: there were 50 different women who participated, admittedly a small sample set but all 50 had a detectable amount of PFAS in their breast milk.
- d. *PFAS in Mosquito Spray*: mostly thought to originate from the container, we provided the link to press release from MPEN and we also included the EPA page on this subject.
- e. *TC Research Outcome*: we are in the process of working with the STWG to brainstorm ways to track trends and status for the research outcome.
- f. *TC Policy and Prevention Indicator*: percent of full or partial overlay of a contaminant based on state integrated reports.
- g. *Other Announcements*: Leon Tillman is the new Chesapeake Coordinator for NRCS / USDA

2. Overview of goals for today's meeting on recent contaminant publications in agricultural watersheds.

- a. *Reminder*: there are 3 MA (management approaches) that related to our conversation today:
 - i. Understanding influence of contaminants in degrading the health and contributing to the mortality of fish and wildlife
 - ii. Documenting the occurrence, concentrations, and source of contaminants in different landscape settings
 - iii. Synthesizing and promoting science to help prioritize options for mitigation to inform policy and prevention

3. Results from USGS studies on TCs in Ag Watersheds

- a. Kelly Smalling and Stephanie Gordon gave an overview of the draft story map (once published, a link will be provided to the TCW membership and will be added to our technical resource document). The story map is divided into several sections: fisheries in the Chesapeake, contaminants investigations, sources and occurrence, intersex fish, estrogenic activity, reducing contaminants, informing management activities, etc. This story map is the result of about 5 years of work in the Potomac and Susquehanna Rivers focusing on surface water and groundwater.
- b. **Action**: The link the to the story map on toxic contaminant mixtures in agricultural watersheds will be sent out to the TCW once it is officially published.

4. Opportunities for better integrating pesticide reduction into Nutrient and Sediment BMPs for Agricultural Areas: Developing Big Ideas for Applying These Results for Decision Making

- a. **Action**: TCW leadership team will meet with today's presenters to further discuss this topic and develop next steps.
- b. **Action**: TCW will be added to an upcoming summer AgWG agenda to present on toxic contaminants in ag watersheds and suggested paths forward.
- c. **Action**: Hilary Swartwood will email out link to Jamboard so that TCW members can input their suggestions post meeting.
- d. *Scott Phillips*: are there opportunities to work with NRCS and EPA to get some of this information out through technical assistance programs?

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- e. *Leon Tillman*: each state has a technical advisory meeting and partners can come forth to discuss important issues at these state technical committee meetings.
- f. *Kelly Shenk*: With the high- level coordination effort with USGS and NRCS, one thing we committed to do is having quarterly meetings with leaders in the Chesapeake and that could be a “one stop shop” to see where opportunities are before going to each state.

Call Participants

Hilary Swartwood, CRC
Greg Allen, EPA- CBPO
Bonnie Raindrop, MPEN
Loretta Collins, UMD/ AgWG
Lee Blaney, UMBC
Ruth Cassilly, UMD
Doug Austin, EPA- SEE
Kelly Shenk, USDA
Dave Whittall, NOAA
Scott Phillips, USGS
Kelly Smalling, USGS
Emily Majcher, USGS
Mark Richards, VA DEQ
Len Schugam, MDE
Matt Kundrat, PA DEP
Dev Murali, DOEE
John Cargill, DNREC
Leon Tillman, NRCS
Lisa Ochsenhirt, AquaLaw
Tim Wheeler, Bay Journal
Stephanie Gordon, USGS

Evan Isaacson,
Lorie Baker,