

**Addressing Jurisdictions’ Issues on Phase 5.3.2:  
Timeframe for Implementing Near, Medium and Long Term Actions**

<u>Jurisdictions’ Issues with Phase 5.3.2</u>	<u>Next Steps to Address Jurisdictions’ Issues</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>
<p><b>Near term actions</b> would occur within 0-6 months for assistance in the development of Phase II WIPs and milestone commitments.  <b>Medium term actions</b> within 6 – 18 months to enable credit for 2-year milestones between 2012 and 2017.  <b>Long term actions</b> will be completed as part of the midpoint evaluation to be completed in advance of the Phase III WIPs in 2017.</p>		
<p>1. Calculation of nutrient application rates on acres not under nutrient management – concern that rates on acres that are not under nutrient management are too low.</p>	<p>Phase 5.3.2 assumes higher nutrient application on lands not under nutrient management than previous model versions.</p> <p>Both Ag and Urban workgroups are convening official BMP Panels on nutrient management to revisit nutrient rates. Preliminary and final recommendations are expected this year and next year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Near Term:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o States may propose interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning to CBPO at any time</li> <li>o Ask Panel to recommend interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning (October)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Medium Term:</b> BMP values recommended by Panel and approved by the Partnership may be used for progress runs and milestones as early as 2012</li> <li>- <b>Long Term:</b> Panel recommendations that relate to model assumptions will be included in the 2017 midpoint evaluation</li> </ul>
<p>2. Load reductions associated with application of nutrient management plans: in some counties, per-acre loads are higher on lands under nutrient management than acres not under nutrient management. This results from 1) acres under nutrient management receiving a greater portion of nutrients from manure and biosolids than from inorganic fertilizers compared to acres not under nutrient management, and 2) the portion of manure nutrients available for plant uptake.</p>	<p>Scenario Builder and the CBP Watershed Model decrease total agricultural loads within a state, watershed, and, in the majority of cases, county when nutrient management is applied. Total loads are the sum of nutrient loads from land under nutrient management and land not under nutrient management.</p> <p>The agricultural nutrient management BMP Panel will consider manure and biosolids application sequencing and mineralization as part of its holistic review of nutrient management. Preliminary and final recommendations are expected this year and next year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Near Term:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Demonstrate nutrient management reduces pollution according to the current model</li> <li>o States may propose interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning to CBPO at any time</li> <li>o Ask Panel to recommend interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning (October)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Medium Term:</b> BMP values recommended by Panel and approved by the Partnership may be used for progress runs and milestones as early as 2012</li> <li>- <b>Long Term:</b> Panel recommendations that relate to model assumptions will be included in the 2017 midpoint evaluation</li> </ul>

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<p>3. Jurisdictions want to apply multiple BMPs, or “Stack BMPs,” on the same land use to get full credit for multiple management actions. Specifically interested in ability to stack “continuous no-till” (CNT) with nutrient management and cover crops and ability to stack urban BMPs.</p>	<p>The Ag Workgroup is convening an expert BMP panel to reassess the Partnership-approved CNT definition, which includes the benefits of nutrient management plans and cover crops, in order to assess whether additional BMPs can be “stacked” without double-counting pollution-reduction benefits.</p> <p>The Urban Workgroup has convened an expert panel to adopt a “performance standard” approach that simulates the total effect of multiple urban BMPs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Near Term:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o States may separately report conservation tillage, cover crops and nutrient management, rather than CNT, in their WIPs, milestones and progress runs.</li> <li>o States may propose interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning to CBPO at any time. CBPO is evaluating interim BMP submission for CNT submitted by PA and VA. NY and DC already used performance standard approach for stormwater in their Phase I WIPs.</li> <li>o Ask Panel to recommend interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning (Urban: September; Ag: October/November)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Medium Term:</b> BMP values recommended by Panel and approved by the Partnership may be used for progress runs and milestones as early as 2012</li> <li>- <b>Long Term:</b> Panel recommendations that relate to model assumptions will be considered as part of the 2017 midpoint evaluation</li> </ul>
<p>4. Regional factors that are used to calibrate Phase 5.3.2 Watershed Model outputs to monitored loads can cause unit loads for urban and agriculture to vary highly across regions. This creates difficulties for trading or when comparing loads across regions.</p>	<p>Methods to apply regional factors were developed by the Partnership. CBPO will work with jurisdictions on ways to communicate calibration process and resulting unit loads to local partners. The Partnership will consider any changes to regional factors prior to the next calibration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Near Term:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o CBPO works with jurisdictions on ways to focus communication on implementation goals rather than pounds per acre, unit loads</li> <li>o Jurisdictions may focus on loads at the state-basin scale, where regional factors are less apparent</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Long Term:</b> Consider regional factor methods for 2017 midpoint evaluation</li> </ul>

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<p>5. Although urban acres increase in Phase 5.3.2, phosphorus loads from urban lands sometimes decrease. In contrast, sediment loads sometimes increase.</p>	<p>Sediment and phosphorus are not constrained to move in the same direction during Watershed Model calibration in order to optimize these constituents to observed, in-stream water quality data.</p> <p>CBPO will work with jurisdictions on ways to communicate the calibration process and resulting loads to local partners. The Partnership will consider any changes to these methods prior to the next model calibration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Near Term:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o CBPO will work with jurisdictions on ways to focus communication on implementation goals rather than pounds per acre, unit loads</li> <li>o Jurisdictions may focus on achieving Phase II WIP Planning Target loads at the state-basin scale, where phosphorus and sediment loads are more likely to move in the same direction</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Long Term:</b> Consider urban land use estimates and calibration methods for 2017 midpoint evaluation</li> </ul>
<p>6. Not all BMPs submitted to CBPO using the National Environmental Information Exchange Network (NEIEN) are credited in the CBP models' assessment of annual pollution reduction progress. This is due to how data are submitted and processed and/or historic data inputs that indicate BMPs are already in place. Jurisdictions want to ensure credit for additional implementation of pollutant controls.</p>	<p>This is the first year that NEIEN was used to submit progress run data. CBPO will work with jurisdictions to explore why cutoffs are occurring, options for cleaning up historic data submissions, and defensible ways to credit BMPs in the model that are being implemented on the ground.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Near Term:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o CBPO reran the 2010 progress run based on state resubmissions. The latest run further reduced cutoffs based on better reporting.</li> <li>o States may propose at any time to CBPO interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning that involve increasing the number of land uses that can receive BMPs. This change would increase opportunities for crediting BMPs.</li> <li>o Through Watershed Technical Workgroup, work with jurisdictions to improve NEIEN reporting and processing in support of the 2011 progress run submissions (October)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Medium Term:</b> Seek Partnership approval to credit BMPs on additional land uses for progress runs and milestones as early as 2012</li> <li>- <b>Long Term:</b> Cleaned up, historic BMP submissions will be taken into account in the next model calibration</li> </ul>

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<p>7. Amount and nutrient content of poultry manure: USDA data is dated and the total tonnage of manure may be much less than what is calculated by the CBP Watershed Model and Scenario Builder.  <i>(discussed at technical meeting on 9/13, but not at Secretaries' meeting on 9/16)</i></p>	<p>The Ag Workgroup has formed a Subcommittee to address this issue in both the near- and long-term. Subcommittee recommendations are expected this year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Near Term:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o States may propose interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning at any time</li> <li>o Ask Subcommittee to recommend any interim BMPs for Phase II WIP Planning (October)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Medium Term:</b> Ask Subcommittee to recommend any BMPs or other steps for Partnership approval that could be used for progress runs and milestones as early as 2012</li> <li>- <b>Long Term:</b> Subcommittee recommendations that relate to model assumptions will be considered as part of the 2017 midpoint evaluation</li> </ul>
<p>8. Partners request assistance in understanding and more easily using the suite of Chesapeake Bay Program models, particularly the CBP Watershed Model and Scenario Builder.</p>	<p>Starting in summer 2011, CBPO held a series of Scenario Builder Workshops and has assisted in the development of the Maryland Assessment and Scenario Tool (MAST) and the Chesapeake Assessment and Scenario Tool (CAST) to help partners a) better understand the Chesapeake Bay Program decision support tools; b) quickly estimate load reductions; and c) prepare inputs for full model analysis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Near Term:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Final Scenario Builder workshop was on October 5. Presentations from previous workshops are available online.</li> <li>o CBPO made CAST available to jurisdictions on September 21 and hosted a demonstration for the jurisdictions and the interested public on September 27.</li> <li>o EPA has provided contractor resources to support CAST trainings in each interested jurisdiction. All jurisdictions except Maryland, which hosted a series of MAST trainings, have requested these trainings.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>