

Programmatic Recommendations from Countywide Action Plan County Partners to Phase 3 WIP State & Federal Partners Pilot (2021 Milestone Update), Tier 2 (2022 Milestone Update), Tier 3 & 4 (2020) County Recommendations (Attached: State/Federal Progress Updates from August 2021 Programmatic Recommendations)
Date published: 8/9/2023

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Agriculture Programmatic Recommendations			
<p>Nutrient Management:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a method/model/template to capture and report non-manure nutrient management Accept existing farm fertilizer plans 	<p>York (#1.3) Clearfield (#1.4) Columbia (#2.2) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.34) Centre, Cumberland (#1.6)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> York (#1.3), Clearfield (#1.4), Columbia (#2.2), Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.34) - Develop a method/model/template to capture and report non-manure nutrient management plans. Accept existing farm fertilizer plans developed by qualified consultants to meet core NM requirements for reporting. 	<p>1. York (#1.3), Clearfield (#1.4), Columbia (#2.2), Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.34) - See August 2021 Pilot-Tier 2 Programmatic Recs. Update document & add new updates in this column</p> <p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> PracticeKeeper (PK) Partner Portal was released to allow 3rd party data entry that is verified by the conservation district. No Update

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<p>Farmland Preservation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Farmland Preservation Funding 2. Update Farmland Preservation Program 	<p>Clearfield (#2.8) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.26)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase allocation for farmland preservation funding at the County, State, and Federal levels. 2. Update Farmland Preservation Program to require NRCS Conservation Plan to be entered in PracticeKeeper on an annual or bi-annual basis to close reporting “gaps” and improve reporting. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The state farmland preservation program and partners have invested over \$1.8 billion in preserving farms. The program will continue to advocate for additional funding increases at federal, state and local levels as well as advocating for the streamlining of processes for the federal Ag Conservation Easement Program under the 2023 federal Farm Bill. 2. This recommendation will be discussed with PDA Bureau of Farmland Preservation as a potential update to Chapter 138e.
<p>Best Management Practices (BMPs):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mushroom composting definition 2. Land Retirement 3. Pasture Management 4. Manure Transport Reporting 	<p>Berks (#1.7) Chester, Schuylkill (#1.5) Columbia (#3.5) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.38)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a separate definition (or a sub-category of existing manure composting definitions) specific to mushroom composting. 2. Support credits for land retirement such as solar fields and conservation easements and wetland restoration. 3. Current definition of horse pasture does not include nitrogen reductions. 4. Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.38) - Recommended to require all manure brokers and haulers to report on an annual basis the amount manure transported to and from a county. 	<p>4. Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.38) - See August 2021 Pilot-Tier 2 Programmatic Recs. Update document & add new updates in this column</p> <p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Update 2. No Update 3. No Update 4. This is currently under a regulation revision process; proposal is to require record submission. This proposed change is in its initial phase and will have to undergo additional review and public comment, etc. prior to any potential changes.

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<p>BMP Verification:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Remote Sensing Program Remote Sensing Pilot 	<p>Lancaster (#1.11) Clearfield (#1.3) Columbia (#2.12) Lackawanna, Potter (#1.7) Tioga (#1.6) Bradford, Centre, Cumberland, Luzerne, Susquehanna (#1.5) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.33)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clearfield (#1.3), Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.33) -Creation of bi-annual remote sensing program for BMP reverification for entire bay watershed. Need verification of BMPs installed through data sharing platforms and DEP or District staff to physically verify and report implemented county BMPs into Practice Keeper for more accurate reduction numbers toward CAP goals. Adoption of pilot remote sensing programs for BMP verification. Remote sensing program for annual practices such as cover crop or tillage, and another program for structural BMPs. 	<p><u>1. Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.33), Clearfield (#1.3)- See August 2021 Pilot-Tier 2 Programmatic Recs. Update document & add new updates in this column</u></p> <p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> An additional \$30,000 provided for each county through the CAP Coordinator Grant available through March 31, 2023. For 2023 onward, \$10,000 annually is available for BMP Verification for those counties participating in the Bay Technician agreement. The CAP Coordinator and the Bay Technician scopes of work include verification activities. DEP is in the process of getting a remote sensing method approved for use that involves aerial imagery and windshield surveys. DEP is also working with another party to evaluate potential for remote sensing of cover crops. Any new methods will require evaluation by the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office and approval by the CBP Agriculture Workgroup.
<p>Legislation and Policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate current Act 38 standards for volunteer animal operations Share no-till and cover cropping BMP data with Conservation Districts USDA Privacy Restrictions 	<p>Clinton (#1.6) Clearfield (#2.9, #3.3) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.7) Potter (#1.2)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of Act 38 standards to require Ag E&S or Conservation Plans to be entered into PracticeKeeper on an annual basis to close reporting timing “gaps” and improve reporting precision. Ensure DEP and RC&Ds will share what no-till and cover cropping data is currently uploaded into Practice Keeper. Ensure RC&Ds share transect survey routes. Reduce privacy restrictions to at least provide HUC scale locations for installed BMPs. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Act 38 is in the regulatory review process but there is no intention in the regulations of requiring E&S plans be submitted or recorded. Existing plans must be verified in the field. No Update No Update

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<p>Agriculture Programs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reinstitute the DEP stream bank fencing program 2. Livestock in stream 3. Increase support for the agriculture community 4. Increase CREP buffer re-enrollment 5. Establish Requirements for Fertilizer Application & Reduce Fertilizer Use 6. Organic Farms 7. BMP Cover Crop Incentive Programs 	<p>Lackawanna, Susquehanna (#1.4) Berks (#1.8) Potter (#1.1) Lycoming (#2.6, #4.1, #4.3, #4.6) Montour, Sullivan (#1.4) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.23, #1.27) Franklin (#1.9) Clearfield (#2.3) Chester (#1.2) Schuylkill (#1.3)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Generate increased interest by reinstating the DEP stream bank fencing program and funding. 2. Policies as it relates to livestock in streams is incoherent, establish a consistent policy as it relates to livestock in streams. Update Clean Stream Law to require fencing along streams to reduce pollution from grazing livestock. 3. Establish a Pennsylvania Agricultural Cost-Share Program. Expand Pennsylvania’s Reserve Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Tax Credit Program. Update Pennsylvania’s “Clean & Green” Program. 4. Provide more assistance to farmers with buffers to help keep them enrolled in CREP. 5. Reduce fertilizer and lime rate recommendations in Erosion & Sediment (E&S) Control Manual. Expand soil testing to establish appropriate fertilizer amounts. Establish Requirements for Fertilizer Application: Set limits on application rates. 6. Educate organic farm industry on the importance of no-till and come up with innovative ways to reduce tillage for weed control. 7. Develop incentive & programs for voluntary adoption of BMPs in developed areas and consider an offset program for implementation of high-impact BMPs in agricultural areas. Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and State Conservation Commission administer a statewide program to fund a Cover Crop Incentive Program. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Counties are encouraged to complete implementation under existing DEP grant programs. 2. The Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) was created through Clean Streams Fund, providing \$154 million to districts for ag BMPs. In upcoming budget years, the need for dedicated funding will be communicated. <p>REAP was expanded to \$13 million in credits each year under the PA Farm Bill but continues to be oversubscribed. The expansion of REAP will continue to be considered as the PA Farm Bill “2.0” is discussed in the next budget cycle.</p> <p>Clean and Green preferential tax assessment program is widespread with over 10 million acres enrolled statewide. Legislation has been introduced in the past that would require enrollees to have an Ag E&S plan as a condition of enrollment but have never moved.</p> <p>4. DEP continues to fund PACD’s CREP Mini-Grant program through Growing Greener to implement education and outreach activities to support and extend the work of CREP. Projects focus on CREP enrollment, re-enrollment, and/or CREP maintenance. DEP also provides funding, along with the USDA-Farm Service Agency, to support the PA CREP program. Learn more here: https://creppa.org/</p> <p>5. Revisions to the 2012 E&S Manual are underway and will consider fertilizer recommendations. The Fertilizer Law was updated in 2022 to establish Nitrogen and Phosphorus application rates and limitations.</p> <p>6. Rodale Institute is at the cutting edge of research related to organic farming operations and management of pests and weeds. The Commission is appointing the Sustainable Ag Board this fall and will collaborate with groups like Rodale Institute,</p>

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			Soil Health Coalition, No-till Alliance and PA Association of Sustainable Agriculture. 7. The Sustainable Ag Board is being administered by the State Conservation Commission. Funding will support a statewide soil health program, with emphasis on practices that protect water quality and farm resiliency against climate change. This may include a statewide cover crop program as a goal. Additionally, at least 12 counties are using ACAP funds for cover crop programs.
PracticeKeeper:	Bedford (#1.5) Centre, Cumberland (#1.4)	1. Enhancements to PracticeKeeper 3 rd party module that allows users to view all the entered practices in order to eliminate duplication of efforts and view the practices that were submitted to counties.	2023: 1. Based on CCD feedback, the partner submission modules were designed so that the users of those modules will have restricted access. There are no plans to allow partner users full access to the database.
Pennsylvania Game Commission – Rented/Farmed Acres	Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.42)	1. PA Game Commission work with farmers to require conservation practices be included with farming operations (no-till, cover crops, filter strips, vegetative strips, buffers, etc.).	2023: 1. Recommendation was shared with PA Game Commission.
Administrative/ Grant Programmatic Recommendations			
Staffing:			
1. Additional staff needs	Franklin (#1.1)	1. Fund additional staff positions to facilitate implementation of CAP and non-CAP programs like regional technical assistance. Additional staff needed to address capacity issues such as data reporting/verification, plan writing at CD, program administration specialists, etc. Education and outreach position for water quality efforts to public and municipalities.	2023: 1. DEPs Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration Division provided \$30,000 to fund a BMP verification position. Expanded interpretation of the Scope of Work for the coordinator grant to include engineering and design activities. DEP Nonpoint Source Management Division provided an additional \$10,000 toward each county that participates in the Bay Technician Program in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 fiscal years. DEP applied for NFWF America the Beautiful grant for a technical assistance circuit rider but was not awarded funds.
2. Additional engineering support	Lackawanna (#1.5)	2. Dedicated engineering support from the other agencies or consulting engineers through new hires or additional funding to allow for more projects to be completed and greater capacity.	2. Engineering and Design activities can be funded through both the CAP Coordinator and CAP Implementation Grants, as well as ACAP. For the CAP Grants, up to 25% of the project can go to engineering if completed by a consultant or 20% if
3. Existing employee retention	Luzerne (#1.4)	3. Lack of state allocation increase from state for designated programs does not allow Conservation District to retain experienced employees. This turnover creates a minimum 2-year gap in project completion and effective program administration. Increase funding for current staff and conservation district field representation positions.	
4. Provide internship program to county Conservation Districts to support with PracticeKeeper data entry	Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.2, #1.9, #1.13)	4. Provide 1-2 interns per county Conservation District for the summer of 2022 to support data entry into PracticeKeeper.	
5. Increase capacity at agency-level for stream assessments	Lackawanna (#1.6)		
6. DEP Staff Support in development of Source Water protection Plans where feasible	Clearfield (#3.0)		
	Columbia (#1.2, #1.4, #1.5)		
	Lancaster (#1.1)		

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		<p>5. Increased capacity at agency-level for stream assessments to support Tier 1 and 2 county specific monitoring programs.</p> <p>6. Work closely with DEP regional staff to develop Source Water Protection Plans where feasible. Recommended to have additional funding available to support the development of Source Water Protection Plans and Implementation.</p>	<p>completed in-house at the Conservation District. ACAP allows 10% to go toward engineering and design. DEP, along with NRCS, provides funds to PACD for the Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program, to provide assistance for Growing Greener and NRCS funded projects. DEP incorporated opportunity for expanded regional technical assistance in FY2023 federal workplans and budgets.</p> <p>The Ag Conservation Technical Assistance Center has been created with funding by the commission in partnership with Penn State University and USDA-NRCS. In addition, the commission is proposing to fund regional engineers to be hosted by several districts across the state. The commission is also partnering with NRCS to hire six engineers who will prioritize projects using EQIP/ACAP funds.</p> <p>NRCS is partnering with SCC to add four engineers in the Bay Watershed. These four engineers are assigned EQIP/ACAP joint designs. Eight positions are funded through this agreement, with four providing assistances to the Chesapeake Bay. Also, in partnership with SCC a retired cadre is funded and available for CDs and NRCS. This provides access to experienced help for formal and OJT training using six experienced NRCS employees in the field of engineering and planning. NRCS will continue to bring its extensive technical training to partners and will also devote one engineer and agronomist to the PA Center of Agricultural Conservation Excellence to assist with training and quality assurance.</p> <p>3. Over the course of the last two fiscal years, DEP Nonpoint Source Management Division, in partnership with SCC, have increased funding through the Nutrient Management Program (\$20,000 increase); Chesapeake Bay Technician Program (\$14,450 increase); Chesapeake Bay Engineering Program (\$5,650 increase) and Watershed Specialist Program (\$5,000 increase). ACAP provides counties with funding for administration and technical assistance. DEP will</p>

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			<p>continue to advocate for the increased funding levels in the CDFAP.</p> <p>4. Under the BMP Verification funds, interns can be funded to support BMP verification activities. Under the CAP Coordinator Grant, interns can be funded to support the work activities identified in the Scope of Work.</p> <p>5. Limited funding and staff turnover continue to be limiting factors for implementing stream assessments.</p> <p>6. In coordination with PENNVEST, State Revolving Funds were used to establish a contract for technical assistance to small, rural, and disadvantaged POTWs. Approximately \$250K allocated for the current contract with plans for expansion of the program and dollar allocated.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Funding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retain funding and technical support 2. Dedicated Funding for 537 plans 3. Flexible Funding 4. Provide dedicated funding for operation and maintenance of BMPs 5. Increase funding for personnel projects 6. Reduce or eliminate landowner match requirements 7. Increase funding for Act 537 program to support plan development 8. Prevailing Wage 9. REAP Program 10. Increase funding for green infrastructure 11. Data management funding program 12. AMD 13. Preserve existing high-quality streams 14. NRCS – National Resource Conservation Service 	<p>Adams, Cumberland, Centre, Mifflin (#1.1) Dauphin, Juniata, Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.1, #1.15, #1.16, #1.21, #1.43, #1.44, #1.45) Bedford (#1.2, #1.4) Franklin (#1.4) Columbia, Luzerne (#1.3, #2.2, #2.3) Lycoming (#2.4) Montour (#1.7, #1.9) Lancaster (#1.1, #1.3) Clearfield (#1.7, #2.1, #2.6) Berks (#1.1) Schuylkill, Clinton (#1.9) Sullivan (#1.5) Columbia (#1.1, #4.3, #4.4)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dauphin, Juniata, Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.1), Mifflin (#1.1) and Cumberland and Centre (1.1) - Retain funding and technical support for the DEP Chesapeake Bay Office to spearhead implementation of the County-recommended programmatic changes and support County-led initiatives. 2. Lancaster (#1.3), Bedford (#1.2)- Dedicated funding streams for continuous 537 plan updates. 3. Maintain, CAP Implementation Grant program and other funds to allow for more flexible use of funds, i.e., block grant model and simplify other grant programs. Extend contractual category 25% allocation to include all project readiness costs/expenses. 4. The creation of a dedicated funding source will lead to better BMP maintenance and upkeep, ensuring long term function. 5. Establish Berks Bay Action Plan (BBAP) implementation support funding for workforce expansion, equipment, and BMP implementation. 6. Establish as funding program policies for projects implementing the Chesapeake Bay WIP and county CAPs. 7. Increase funding and enforcement of Act 537 programs to support additional plan updates and monitor private sewage systems including proper disposal and treatment. 8. Evaluate current prevailing wage rules for environmental grant programs, evaluate Match requirements, create strict timeline for awarding grants (compliments implementation schedules. Relax the Prevailing Wage requirement when private landowners invest their own money in water quality projects between now and 2025. 9. Work with REAP Program to remove the funding for vertical tillage equipment and promote more incentives for true no-till equipment. 10. Ensure funding/projects are equitably distributed and address environmental justice. Expand Funding to DCNR’s Riparian Forest Grant Program. Continue and Expand Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) Multifunctional Buffer Grant Program. 11. Dedicated funding stream for the purchase of IT-related software and hardware (licenses, GPS units, etc.) as a component of SB3 implementation. 12. Provide additional dedicated funding and technical support for AMD projects. 13. Offer funding and technical support towards the protection of attaining streams and healthy trout populations to maintain or enhance the stream’s health. 14. Provide funding to support NRCS Regional RC&D Coordinators to support BMP Implementation across regional groupings. The guidelines set for in NRCS programs including but not limited to CREP, REAP, Conservation Planning, RCPP, etc. are constraining on implementation. Coordinate the needs of NRCS, 	<p>1. Cumberland and Centre (1.1), Dauphin, Juniata, Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.1), Mifflin (1.1) – See August 2021 Pilot-Tier 2 Programmatic Recs. Update document & add new updates in this column</p> <p>2. Lancaster (1.3), Bedford (1.2) – See August 2021 Pilot-Tier 2 Programmatic Recs. Update document & add new updates in this column</p> <p>2023:</p> <p>1. DEPs Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration Division (CBWRD) is working with EPA to update scopes of work and workplans for FY23 of the Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant (CBIG), Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program Grant (CBRAP), and Most Effective Basins Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (MEB IJJA) grant agreements so that DEP can deliver federal and state match funding for technical services (engineers and technicians) and best management practice implementation to county partners as well as provide mission critical office and field supplies to staff supporting these efforts. CBWRD is working with DEP’s legal team to ensure the next round of multi-year CAP grant agreements can be processed and routed efficiently so that counties can continue their good work. CBWRD has worked with grantees and internally to streamline invoicing procedures to ensure timely payment of invoices. CBWRD has worked with the Document processing service center to update reimbursement forms to streamline form submittal (i.e. the three certification for payments and three supplemental sheets now in one self-totaling excel spreadsheet) CBWRD developed invoicing webinar with step-by step instructions for grantees to follow when submitting reimbursements. CBWRD and the DEP Nonpoint Source Management Division hired two administrative/management personnel to assist with maximize efficiency of invoice processing and submissions to DEP’s grants center.</p> <p>DEPs Watershed Accountability and Administration Section (WAAS) has increased to a total complement of 6, with three water program specialists and 2 watershed managers to best support the counties. The WAAS conducts technical</p>
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<p>Permitting Process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permitting Process 2. Permit wait time 3. Establish Pre-application permit meetings with CAP counties on monthly basis 4. Streamline Permitting Process 	<p>Franklin, Bradford (#1.3) Lancaster, Lebanon (#1.2) Berks (#1.9) Clearfield (#1.6, #2.7) Chester, Lackawanna, Schuylkill, Luzerne (#1.8) Lycoming (#2.1) Columbia, York (#1.7) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.14)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Model permit process off of CAP Block Grant process to create a “Block Permit” for CAP implementation projects, where any BMP implementation or Enhancement Project can be included on the block permit. Allow flexibility with multi-sector or regional project-type approaches under singular permits to reduce administrative costs and time constraints. 2. Decrease permitting wait time through scheduled meetings with DEP, categorize permits by priority, and create simplified permit for conservation activities. 3. Work with DEP Chesapeake Bay Office and Regional Offices to establish pre-application meetings for Chapter 105 and NPDES permits related to manure storage to ensure projects are permitted in a timely manner. 4. Lackawanna (#1.8) & Lycoming (#2.1) – Streamline permitting process for conservation related projects and installation of BMPs. 	<p>4. Lycoming (#2.1), Lackawanna (#1.8) - See August 2021 Pilot-Tier 2 Programmatic Recs. Update document & add new updates in this column</p> <p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grant programs generally are more flexible in scope and policy than permitting programs (voluntary versus regulatory), which allows for an allocation-based “block grant” method to be used for distribution of funding. 2. Pre-application meetings are always an available option for projects and upfront coordination with project sponsors are encouraged. When applicable and necessary regional permitting programs currently have the ability to prioritize project reviews. 3. Pre-application meetings are available and strongly suggested as part of the standard project planning approach laid out in both the Pennsylvanian’s Guide to Permitting for Watershed Improvement Projects and the Pennsylvania Community Clean Water Implementation Guide . 4. Most agriculture conservation practices are exempt from NPDES permitting requirements if they are being implemented to minimize erosion and sedimentation and are included in the Ag Erosion and Sediment Control (Ag E&S) Plan.
<p>State Agencies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish an integrated planning program at DEP within the Chesapeake Bay or Planning office 2. Revise BMP contract terms on projects to allow for unforeseen circumstances 	<p>York (#1.1) Tioga (#1.3)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No integrated planning program has been established within the Bay Office for State Programmatic Changes. 2. Allows contracted individuals a safeguard in the event of operation closure, sale, or transfer of business during the contract term. Recommendation is for all grants at the state and federal level. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DEPs Watershed Accountability and Administration Section coordinates with State Partners to address programmatic recommendations on a yearly timeframe. 2. More detail is needed to clarify this programmatic recommendation. Cannot provide response at this time.

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<p>Grants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conservation Excellence Grant 2. Reduce Burdensome Requirements for Large-scale State Grant Projects 3. Allow Regional Entities to Administer Grant Funding 4. Expansion of MS4 Grant Funding 5. Change grant application processes to have a rigid schedule of application date, award date, and access to funding dates 	<p>Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.17, #1.18, #1.20) Luzerne (#1.6) Lackawanna, Susquehanna (#1.3) Tioga (#1.2)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure the Conservation Excellence Grant program is available for Tier 3 & 4 counties to fund project implementation. Conservation Districts need block grant and CEG funding to leverage relationships with farmers and can engage more landowners. 2. Revise the Growing Greener & DCNR Riparian Buffer Grant requirements to remove the obstacle of expensive match requirements for high-cost projects. 3. Change state and federal grant programs to allow award recipient to be outside of county government with a release form signed by county government. 4. Create a new “block grant” fund to solely support MS4 implementation and develop a specific pot only eligible to MS4 communities. 5. Implementing a grant schedule will assist in planning and implementation of the projects and will speed up the timeline. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CEG funding in FY 23/24 is \$6.2 million. At least \$2 million is being reserved for public-private partnerships and special projects (such as the one funded by CEG in Salisbury Township, Lancaster County, in partnership with Lancaster Farmland Trust.) Will strive to maintain program flexibility with both CEG and ACAP. 2. DCNR reduced all CWF C2P2 match requirements to 20% of overall project amount. CWF/buffer C2P2 grants previously required a 1:1 match. This new policy will remain in place for all future CWF C2P2 grant rounds. 3. PA DEP staff agree with all highlighted items 3-4-5 but need to have internal discussion on how to proceed. 4. Act 167 Stormwater Management Planning funding was made available in the 2023 Growing Greener Plus grant program. Counties with MS4s were able to apply for this funding. 5. DEP opened the Growing Greener and Section 319 on the same cycle (Spring - Earth Day) every year since 2021. CAP grants are open in the late Fall every year since 2020. PA DEP plans to maintain the same or similar schedule and meet with other state and federal agencies that have competitive grant programs to evaluate grant timelines and schedules.

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Stormwater/Urban Programmatic Recommendations			
<p style="text-align: center;">Act 167:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Allowance work outside of MS4 jurisdictions MS4 Program Expansion of Designation implementation area Demonstrate success of pilot project area More efficient guidelines DEP enforce and financially support Act 167 Waiver/special exception/modification process 	<p style="text-align: center;">Adams (#1.3) York (#1.1, #1.8) Lycoming (#4.4) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.4, #1.6) Centre, Cumberland (#1.8) Lancaster (#1.5, #1.6) Columbia, Potter, Clearfield, Luzerne, Montour (#1.5) Clinton (#1.1) Schuylkill (#1.6)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adams (#1.3), Lycoming (#4.4) - Allowance for work outside of MS4 jurisdictions, and throughout their local watersheds to increase nutrient reductions. Especially when collaborating with other municipalities. Recommend a MS4 Program Expansion of Designated Implementation Area and improve data sets that limit the CAST model to run at local scales in future versions. Demonstrate measurable success of a pilot project area where MS4-regulated areas and non-regulated areas can benefit from achieving sediment and nutrient goals. Guidelines more efficient than Act 167 plan requirements developed at a localized level and incorporated into local SWMOs or watershed permits. DEP to enforce and financially support Act 167. All municipal SWM Ordinances consistent with County Stormwater Management Plan. Get waiver/special exception/modification process built into the ordinance (e.g. If there are new and innovative ways to address stormwater that the ordinance didn't address; DEP form that says, "is there consistency without waiver"). Review process for possible streamlining. 	<p><i>1. Adams (#1.3), Lycoming (#4.4) - See August 2021 Pilot-Tier 2 Programmatic Recs. Update document & add new updates in this column</i></p> <p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The area regulated by the MS4 program is based on the urban area as determined by the most recent census. The 2025 PAG-13 will be updated to reference the 2020 census data. DEP has approved several PRP projects located outside of an urbanized area that met the expanded opportunity area criteria listed in MS4 FAQ #69. Once approved, the implementation of these projects is not tracked separately from other PRP projects. DEP currently has limited staff/resources for the development of additional Act 167 guidance. Counties that create Act 167 Plan development and/or revision guidance may submit those documents to DEP for consideration of adoption as state-wide Act 167 guidance. DEP is authorized to award grants to counties for reimbursement of costs in preparing and revising stormwater management plans when funds are appropriated by the General Assembly for this purpose. Funding for Act 167 was provided in the FY2022-23 state budget and is being provided to counties in accordance with 25 Pa Code § 111. A municipality cannot change their stormwater ordinance to be less restrictive than the DEP Model Ordinance, but they can include in their ordinance anything from an Act 167 SWMP that is more restrictive than what is in the 2022 Model Ordinance, or anything unique to their watershed or county that is beyond what is covered by the Model Ordinance.

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<p>State Agencies:</p> <p>1. Create a DEP Capability Enhancement Program for small community sewer systems</p>	Clinton (#1.5)	<p>1. Replicate the Capability Enhancement Program for Drinking Water for the small community sewer systems.</p>	<p>2023:</p> <p>1. No Update</p>
<p>BMPs:</p> <p>1. Capture and report non-permitted BMPs at the municipal level for credit in model/ permit</p>	York (#1.2)	<p>1. The model doesn't accept the thousands of less than 1 acres BMP's that result from York County Municipal Stormwater Ordinances.</p>	<p>2023:</p> <p>1. For the Chesapeake Bay modeling tools, all BMPs implemented must be verified and reported for inclusion in the annual report. Non-permitted BMPs can be counted for credit for MS4 Pollutant Reduction Plans; the credit is calculated by the net sediment reduction in the drainage area of the BMP.</p> <p>2023:</p>
<p>Modeling and Monitoring:</p> <p>1. Develop a regulatory model that allows for meeting water quality goals under a results-oriented program vs. the current performance-based program (4)</p> <p>2. Groundwater supply analysis and testing</p> <p>3. Stream re-evaluation/re-designation</p> <p>4. Model My Watershed (MMW) & MS4 Program Permit Based Loads</p>	<p>York (#1.6) Columbia (#4.1, #4.2) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union, Fulton (#1.5)</p>	<p>1. There has been no effort by DEP to address or to discuss this Action item. Interactive report format change does not equate to programmatic change.</p> <p>2. Conduct groundwater resource testing state-wide to determine drinking water quality for private well owners.</p> <p>3. Reevaluate stream reach conditions and designation for streams that have not been analyzed within the last 5-10 years.</p> <p>4. Work with Model My Watershed to ensure reduction values and efficiencies are similar or predictable between MMW, FieldDoc and CAST. Consider using Model My Watershed to ensure consistency in the 2023 Permit (or future permits) for MS4 Municipalities.</p>	<p>1. The regulatory model incorporates monitoring / measurement data as well as other inputs (Land Use/Land Cover) and Best Management Practice (BMP) implementation. Water quality monitoring data should be collected over multiple years in order to determine measurable outcomes (improvements, etc.). USGS is working with York and other counties, using "Next Generation Stations" and meets with DEP on at least a monthly basis. Any new data will be incorporated into water quality assessments, the biennial Integrated Water Quality Reports (IWQR) and the calibration of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model (such as Phase 7) to assist with measuring improvements made over time and honing in on localized areas of greatest need.</p> <p>2. Penn State Extension continues to provide education and water quality testing programs for private well owners across Pennsylvania. County-level results for samples processed at the PSU lab can be found here. https://agsci.psu.edu/aasl/water-testing/drinking-water-testing/drinking-water-test-summaries</p>

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			<p>If additional targeted geographies need testing, programs may be possible on request.</p> <p>3. Protected use evaluations are conducted on an ongoing basis. Approximately 3-4 watersheds are evaluated each year and are primarily driven by rulemaking petitions and existing use evaluations conducted as part of the permitting process.</p> <p>4. The next PAG-13 is currently under development. Feedback from permittees was taken into consideration while developing the modeling requirements for the next MS4 permit.</p>
<p>Programs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Revise Stormwater regulations Nutrient Trading Program Dirt and Gravel Roads Program Develop a Municipal Stormwater Assistance Program Allow planting on FEMA buyout lots Establish an engineering and maintenance bundling program Develop septic system pumping ordinance Floodplain Management 	<p>Bradford, Susquehanna, Lackawanna (#1.1) Potter (#1.6) Tioga (#1.4) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.1, #1.24) Luzerne (#2.5) Lycoming (#4.2, #4.5) Montour (#1.6, #1.8)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Revise stormwater regulations to include 30% overdesign culvert replacements to account for increased flooding events. Work with EPA/water pollution control facilities to document when credits are traded, how much is traded, and how to accurately count those reductions toward CAP goals. Expand Dirt and Gravel Roads program to include private farm roads/lanes as part of funding program, look to cost share with forested and agricultural landowners. Additional staff, vehicles, and office space to promote and execute Dirt and Gravel Road program. Develop a Municipal Stormwater Assistance Program & a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Grant Program. Plant native trees and shrubs on all buyout lots. Establish program to ensure plantings are maintained (workforce development program). Establish a program that bundles engineering and maintenance (like Lycoming County’s bridge bundling program) to more-efficiently address infrastructure needs. Have every municipality establish an ordinance to have private septic systems pumped once every 3 years or as needed within that timeframe. Township enforced ordinances to manage the floodplain. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> DEP does not have stormwater regulations concerning culvert design, but the draft PCSM Manual does address sizing of inlets. Currently, documentation of nutrient credit trading activity is publicly available online at Nutrient Credit Reports (pa.gov) under the Credit Registration tab. No Update The Act 167 Stormwater Management Program grant was made available through the 2023 Growing Greener Plus grant program. Counties were able to apply for funding, and municipalities will be able to apply for funding in the future, as funds are available. Recommendation provided to FEMA/PEMA No Update

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			<p>7. Clean Water Funds have been secured to begin IT projects that will provide for data collection to measure on-lot sewage management program implementation which includes documentation of septic tank pumping and other on-lot maintenance.</p> <p>8. Counties should reach out to local municipalities to discuss.</p>
Data Reporting/Management			
<p>Policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improved data transparency for AMD treatment system locations Program standards for Chesapeake Bay Program Technician Better data sharing between State and Federal and University information 	<p>Clearfield (#2.4, #3.1) Bradford (#1.4) Luzerne (#1.1) Potter, Tioga (#1.5) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.8)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Create a way to catalog treatment systems built by state and private sector. The data would reduce duplication of efforts and allow more targeted installation of treatment systems in watersheds. Allow additional conservation districts to participate in the CB Technician Program by restoring the ability for district boards to establish local priorities. Create public restrictions on PK that satisfy the privacy restrictions so that data can be mapped, merged, and shared with everyone that has access to view BMP information. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> BAMR installs and monitors AMD sites Statewide. Ag BMPs are tracked in Practice Keeper as well as Growing Greener and Section 319-funded projects. The new Chesapeake Bay Technician Program agreement was developed and released for FY2023-2024. Conservation Districts are always able to request to “opt in”, as funds allow. The DEP Nonpoint Source Management Division is currently evaluating methods to view aggregate data as well as expanding Practice Keeper to developing reports that will share this information.
<p>Mapping:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping Improve Source Data for Model 	<p>Lancaster (#1.2) Clearfield (#3.2)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Official maps incorporating water quality elements (e.g. conservation areas, regional stormwater (or water quality) facilities, environmentally sensitive areas, stream reaches requiring significant restoration. Need better more accurate source data representing agricultural land use that will affect loading rates to the bay. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> DEP’s eMapPA application contains comprehensive water quality elements. The recent update to the land use data corrects the errors identified in Clearfield County, as well as all other counties in the Bay watershed. This new land use will be incorporated into CAST23.

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<p>Reporting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PracticeKeeper/FieldDoc 2. Add tracking module 3. Include GIS Spatial Abilities to Maps 4. Improved data reporting and management 5. Continuous updating of map/data 6. Access to DEP, EPA, DCNR existing project locations and collected BMPs 	<p>Lancaster (#1.9) Berks (#1.4, #1.6) Chester (#1.4) Clearfield (#1.2, #2.2) Clinton (#1.8) Schuylkill (#1.4) Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna (#1.2, #1.2a) Tioga (#1.1a) Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.35, #1.37) Columbia (#2.1) Luzerne (#1.3) Tioga (#1.1)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clear set of guidelines established by NRCS and PADEP for what, where, how, etc. that can be/should be entered into Practice Keeper from NRCS generated Soil Conservation Plans that still ensures adherence to NRCS’s privacy policies. 2. Add tracking module within PK to alert user to BMP lifespan expiration. This will ensure timely reverification of BMP. 3. Expand PracticeKeeper to include in field GIS Spatial abilities to map projects in the field using GPS coordinates to simplify reporting process & ensure FieldDoc displays transparent progress to “live” track the progress each county is making toward achieving their goals. 4. Develop a central reporting system that enables all local and state stakeholders to report implemented and planned BMPs for credit across all programs. 5. Continually updating the map/data. House compiled data in one location. Allow for more detailed information to be tracked (e.g. NRCS data does not have locations associated with their projects). 6. Access to existing project locations and collected BMPs to improve coordination, assist in identifying areas that need work within the county and improve efficiency and understanding of what is already being recorded and where gaps exist. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County partners should reach out to their local NRCS field office for the PA NRCS Customer Release Records FAQ. 2. A standard report will be released to production during the summer of 2023. 3. PA Clean Water Tool is under development to share the most up to date progress made by counties. Each county has a FieldDoc Profile created. 4. DEP continues to make system improvements and add efficiencies where feasible. There are privacy limitations with NRCS data that currently prevent the creation of a one stop shop for county partners and the public to interact with the data more holistically. Counties are encouraged to maintain countywide maps to show project locations. These efforts can be funded through the CAP Coordinator grant. 5. DEPs Data Warehouse is currently being expanded: Phase 1 includes FieldDoc and Practice Keeper data, and Phase 2 should bring in all statewide data that is being reported to DEP (including BMPs that are not reported in PK and Field Doc). DEP is working toward making publicly appropriate data views available through PowerBI. 6. BWRNSM supports/funds this effort through the CAP Coordinator Funds, as it falls within the scope of work for the coordinator. Counties are taking the lead with collecting and creating these maps for their counties.

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<p>BMP Reporting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Buffers 2. Revise maintenance agreements and incentives for landowners 3. Develop funding source for buffers 4. Establish credit for streambank stabilization in Chesapeake Bay Model 5. Improve CAST Model 6. Capital RC&D Transect Survey 7. Streamline and consolidate naming conventions of BMPs across multiple agencies/platforms 8. Expanding BMPs that receive credit in CAST 9. Local Stream Monitoring Stations in CAST 10. Modified credits to achieve pollution reductions 11. Water Quality Monitoring 12. Updates to the BMP Quick Reference Guide 13. Creation of simple universal prediction model for BMP installations 14. BMP reconciliation parameter 	<p>Clearfield (#1.1, #1.9, #2.0#3.4), Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.21, #1.39), Schuylkill (#1.1, #1.2, #1.7) Montour, Sullivan (#1.1, #1.2, #1.3) Clinton (#1.7, #2.0) Columbia (#3.1, #3.6) Lycoming (#1.1, #1.2) Luzerne (#1.4, #1.6, #1.7) Adams (#1.8), Lancaster (#1.7) Lebanon (#1.1, #1.3) Berks (#1.2, #1.3, #1.5) Chester (#1.1, #1.6)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate the buffer sizing criteria for state and federal programs in different regions and landscapes in relation to the pollution potential of the site. 2. Revise buffer programs to include 5-10-year maintenance agreements and incentivize landowners up to \$5K per acre of buffer installed. 3. Develop a funding source for buffer establishment and maintenance including rental payments for agriculture as well as in developed and urban areas. Establish a recognized set of codes (sub-codes) or definitions for forest and grass buffer locations that can be incorporated into SC Plans. 4. Streambank stabilization does not receive credit in the Chesapeake Bay Model, recommended to revise crediting. 5. Improve CAST model to account for depth for streambank stabilization/restoration projects. 6. Revise current Capital RC&D cover crop and tillage reporting to be more robust and up to date. Allow for more nuanced information to be included in Transect Survey. Incorporating FSA data review as a part of the transect survey analyses should produce a more accurate implementation rate of cover crops; and may capture implementation not captured through the survey. 7. Establish a more simplified and consolidated list of BMPs. Ensure the streamlining approach is done collaboratively, and that all reporting mechanisms accurately reflect these changes. 8. Expand the reporting for cover crops to include other successful approaches accepted and create a category of cover crops that allows the application of fall nutrients and harvesting in the spring. 9. Alter policies to more readily allow input of data from a local stream monitoring station into CAST. 10. Modified credit is needed to achieve pollution reduction goals for commodity cover crops, dirt and gravel roads, AMD, combined sewer overflow, and barn yard runoff. 11. Create and provide funding for more local water quality monitoring stations to increase BMP placement and efficiency. Allow counties to use water quality data that comes from sources other than "Tier 1" data. 12. Expand the BMP Quick Reference Guide to include descriptions, requirements, etc. of all BMPs credited in CAST/Bay model. 13. Create a universal statewide model that predicts pollution reductions for BMP installation within small watershed boundaries. 14. Establish a list of the minimum parameters and attributes that should be noted when underreported Ch. 102/land development 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DCNR CWF C2P2 grant program allows for flexibility in buffer size, down to 15ft in some cases. However, it does prioritize buffers that are at least 35ft wide, as they pollution reduction benefits are much greater with buffers that attain a minimum width of 35ft. Changes to minimum buffer width crediting would need to be evaluated and made by EPA or other federal entities. As of now, the science shows that even wider buffers, at least 50ft wide, have the greatest benefits to all sizes of waterways. 2. DCNR CWF C2P2 grants that fund buffers come with a 25-year landowner agreement, which serves as a maintenance agreement. At this time, changes are not being considered to shorten the duration of the landowner agreement associated with C2P2 CWF grants for buffers or other CWF practices. It is a DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation (BRC) policy that all C2P2 grants of any type require a 25-year minimum landowner agreement. Changes to this agreement length to match it to BMP credit duration were recently explored, but due to overarching C2P2 grant policy, they were not implementable. However, buffers implemented via DCNR's new Natural Resource Inventory and Ecological Restoration ITQ Contract will have 15-year landowner/maintenance agreements. This agreement duration is based on the credit duration of the buffer BMP in the Bay Model. Due to the modeled credit duration being 15 years, it is unlikely that the agreement will be lessened further. The DCNR CWF C2P2 grant program does allow flexibility for cost-per-acre of buffer and could be utilized for grantees to explore incentivizing buffers. 3. BWRNSM has funded buffer incentive payment through the CAP Implementation Grant. For this incentive payment, a landowner agreement is created with up front rental payments for 20 years,

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		BMPs are captured. Establish a reporting mechanism(s) for captured Ch. 102/land development BMPs.	<p>including 3 years of CD funded maintenance to establishment.</p> <p>4. NRCS 580 Streambank and shoreline Protection crosswalks to non-urban stream Restoration in CAST. Streambank stabilization depends on what is being called stabilization. Stream Protocol 1 Prevented Sediment can be used, but there are “non-creditable Armoring” practices See page 31. For example, dumped rip-rip and gabions get no credit.</p> <p>5. The Stream Protocol BMPs in CAST use depth, areas and slops of banks in their calculations depending on which protocol is used.</p> <p>6. This reporting method adheres to approved CBPO protocol and is robust. Any change to this method will need to be approved by the Agricultural Workgroup. FSA data is confidential to respect the privacy of landowners and as such is not going to be used in this manner.</p> <p>7. The list of BMPs used in the model is not going to be changed as it has already been updated and approved by CBPO and the 2025 milestone is quickly approaching.</p> <p>8. Commodity Cover Crops with fall nutrient are not eligible BMPs. Page 44 of BMP Quick Reference Guide “Commodity Cover Crop: A winter cereal crop planted for harvest in the spring which does not receive nutrient applications in the fall. Any winter cereal crop which did receive applications in the fall is not eligible for nutrient reductions.”</p> <p>9. CAST is a predictive model based on BMP implementation. It is not used to display monitoring data; however, monitoring data is being tracked and</p>

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			<p>provided to CBP for comparison to the CAST modeling results. For monitoring results, please see: Chesapeake Bay TMDL Indicator (Non-Tidal Network Stations) (shinyapps.io)</p> <p>10. No Update</p> <p>11. DEP accepts all readily available data. See Existing and Readily Available Data (pa.gov)</p> <p>Complete/Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York County (PI: Joseph Duris) – Six sites (3 NTN & 3 small watershed) are equipped to provide real time loads with sampling and continuous water quality (including NO3) to evaluate water quality change as land management and conversion (ag & urban) occur. Links to these site with data are as follows: Muddy Creek at Castle Fin - USGS 01577500, West Conewago Creek near Manchester - USGS 01574000, Codorus Creek near Saginaw - USGS 01575598, Fishing Creek at Craley - USGS 01576045, Fishing Creek at Goldsboro - USGS 01573660, Kreutz Creek at Strickler - USGS 01576007 . • Chiques Creek near Marietta USGS 01575900 (PI: Hilary Dozer) – Agricultural watershed equipped to provide real time loads with sampling and continuous water quality (including NO3) to evaluate water quality change of stream restoration efforts implemented as part of NRCS’s Watershed Flood Prevention and Operations Program (PL-566) project. • Swatara Creek near Palmyra USGS 01573208 (PI: Hilary Dozer) – Sampling and continuous water quality (including NO3) to evaluate water quality change as land management and conversion (ag & urban) occur. • Susquehanna at Marietta USGS 01576000 (PI: Hilary Dozer) – Monitoring

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			<p>for PADEP to determine real-time total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP), and suspended-sediment concentrations (SSC) and loads exiting Pennsylvania and entering Maryland within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turtle Creek (Union County) (PI: John Clune) - Study designed to test the hypothesis that the net effect of stream restoration practices will reduce sediment loading to Turtle Creek determining if differences in sediment erosion and deposition exist between reference, restored and eroded stream reaches of Turtle Creek using traditional (bank pins, clay pad, etc.) and innovative (SfM, Lidar Differencing, etc.) techniques. • Fishing Creek (Clinton County) (PI: John Clune) - Synoptic sampling during high and low baseflow conditions of representative karst watershed to better characterize occurrence and distribution of nutrients in surface water to inform conservation management. <p>Planned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hammer Creek – Small agricultural watershed proposed by PADEP for USGS/SRBC to collaborate to install/operate a streamgage with continuous monitors and the collection of water-quality samples. Serve as a research site by leveraging monitoring of agencies and universities (macros, synoptics, etc.) to provide data driven results to inform conservation. • Little Conewago – Small agricultural watershed proposed by NRCS for USGS/ARS to install/operate a streamgage with continuous monitors and the collection of water-quality samples. Serve as a research site by leveraging monitoring of agencies and universities (macros,

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			<p>synoptics, etc.) to provide data driven results to inform conservation.</p> <p>Tier 1 data use</p> <p>Complete/Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrient Criteria (PI: John Clune)– use of multi-agency nutrient data to determine the Differential effects of land use on nutrient concentrations in streams of Pennsylvania and Nitrogen and Phosphorus Concentration Thresholds toward Establishing Water Quality Criteria for Pennsylvania, USA • Nutrient Inventory for Ag Watersheds (PI: Nieko Santoro) – internal USGS data compilation performed to support NRCS/EPA workgroup. <p>12. The main purpose of the BMP Quick Reference Guide is to provide summarized profiles for each CBP-approved BMP in the Watershed Model. Each profile—or reference sheet—includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General information about a BMP. • How a BMP functions within the Watershed Model. • What’s needed for the BMP to be reported for annual progress submissions; and • Links to additional information for readers who want more detailed information about the practice. <p>Implementation aspects of a practice such as cost, potential ecosystem co-benefits or impacts, and maintenance. Funding sources are not discussed in the reference sheets because they vary by region, state, or local area.</p> <p>13. The Model My Watershed tool addresses this and training for its use can be found on the Clean Water Academy. Model My Watershed</p> <p>14. Conservation district quarterly reporting to GreenPort for Chapter 102 is used to identify the</p>

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			earth disturbance activities associated with permits submitted for review by the conservation district. More information about Chapter 102 reporting can be located in PA's Nonpoint Source Quality Assurance Project Plan, published to our website here: https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/Watershed-Restoration/Chesapeake-Bay-Watershed-Restoration/Farms-and-the-Bay/Pages/BMP-Verification.aspx
Education and Outreach			
<p>Legislation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support PA SB 64, 251, 465, 1272, and 525 2. Landowners receive Tax Credits 	<p>Lancaster (#1.12, 1.8), Bradford (#1.2), Chester (#1.1), Clinton (#1.4), Columbia (2.3), Luzerne (#1.7), Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.19, #1.22, #1.35), Potter (#1.4), Schuylkill (#1.11)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support PA SB 64, 251, 465, 1272, and 525 – expanded Growing Greener Program, or similar legislation to provide agriculture cost share funding. 2. Support legislative action that would credit landowners with a tax credit for the implementation of long-term BMP implementation. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Counties are encouraged to reach out to their local legislators to discuss. 2. Counties are encouraged to reach out to their local legislators to discuss.
<p>Education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide more educational opportunities for CD staff to support DEP initiatives 2. Education and Incentive for non-stakeholders 3. Documentation method to report education and outreach activities 4. PA One Stop 	<p>Clinton (#1.3) Columbia (#2.13, #3.4), Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.11)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educational opportunities including GIS training, project design and construction training, etc. 2. Education and incentive for non-stakeholders to report conservation practices and citizen science data. 3. Provide a documentation method for reporting educational and outreach activities, audience reached, materials distributed, and actions taken by participants. 4. PA One Stop offers the ability to educate farmers on how to write and develop their own plan. Current PA One Stop classes do not offer all modern farming techniques and practices. Work with PA One Stop to update program to current practices. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Additional trainings are continuously being created and added to the Clean Water Academy. If there are specific trainings requested, contact your Project Advisor. 2. DEP Watershed Managers are working in coordination with regional efforts and education. 3. Documentation for all educational and outreach activities should be included in Conservation District and County work progress reports in your reimbursement requests. County partners should also share details of activities in write ups for the monthly newsletter.

County Programmatic Recommendation Action Item	Counties Who Provided Action Item	Details	2023 State/Federal Status Updates (2021 Status Updates carried over in Green)
			Status Update
			4. Clean Water Academy courses are open to the public including components of PAOneStop Planning. PAOneStop is currently contracted to release educational materials on the site specific to the technical aspects of creating a plan in PAOneStop.
<p>Communication:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with Integrators and Producers to Communicate WIP Goals 2. Develop BMP showcase documents 3. Marketing and outreach material 	<p>Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.25) Lycoming (#3.1)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PDA and SCC convene bi-annual meeting with integrators to communicate the goals of the Phase 3 WIP and how they can help to achieve agricultural related implementation goals including reporting their producers’ activities and helping to advance additional activities on agricultural land. 2. Develop BMP showcase documents for marketing (demonstrating before and after at project sites). 3. Develop outreach and education materials that are designed for the general public (quick and easy to read, eye-catching, “infotainment”). 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The SCC fully supports this effort and will discuss with partners and propose a plan. <p>Individual/groups of counties can convene meetings with local partners. BWRNSM has previously provided review of meeting materials and is available to speak about the Phase 3 WIP and the CAPs as needed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. BWRNSM, through a marketing contract, can review materials developed by the county. The Annual Report highlights projects, often including before/after photos. 3. BWRNSM releases an Annual Report, a monthly newsletter, success story presentation slides, county snapshots to show progress, and multiple handouts available on the Clean Water Academy and website.
Miscellaneous			
<p>State Agencies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow PFBC to raise license fees 2. PennDOT 	<p>Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union (#1.40, #1.41) Potter (#1.3)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sustained revenue source would fund much needed projects and increase fishery values. 2. PennDOT work with mowing contracts to reduce the number of times per year of mowing roadside ditches and rights-of-way, especially targeting environmentally sensitive areas. PennDOT requires crews to perform seed spreading or other vegetative establishment efforts when berms are graded or cut back. This effort exposes loose soil and creates runoff issues in the absence of matting, straw, and seeding. 	<p>2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At its May 2023 meeting, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission voted to raise fees for fishing licenses and permits for 2024. For example, a resident annual license would increase from \$23.50 up to \$26.00 per year. PFBC estimates that the increase in rates will provide addition annual revenue of \$2.4 to \$2.9 million. 2. Recommendation was shared with PennDOT.

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			Status Update
Invasive species management	Columbia (#3.2)	Provide technical assistance, monitoring, treatment and/or staff funding and support for invasive species control on public lands, emphasis on Japanese Knotweed, Tree of Heaven, and Spotted Lanternfly	2023: Recommendation was shared with DCNR.
Reduce mosquito, tick habitat	Columbia (#3.3)	Credit efforts to remove Japanese Barberry other contributors to abundant tick populations where Lyme Disease is prevalent	2023: Recommendation was shared with program responsible.
Enforce Litter Laws	Sullivan (#1.6)	Prevent litter from getting into streams and sensitive areas. Needs to be enforced to ensure compliance.	2023: Recommendation was shared with program responsible.
Promote safe disposal of household chemicals and products (3)	Columbia (#2.4)	Provide local disposal location/drop-off of household chemicals multiple times a year to reduce dumping/flushing	2023: Recommendation was shared with program responsible.