

## Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Programmatic Recommendations

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Expected Timeline	Potential Implementation Challenges	Potential Recommendations on Improvement	Resources Needed <i>*Needs further evaluation</i>			
						Technical	Suggested Source	Financial	Suggested Source
<b>Programmatic Recommendations:</b>									
P.1	Improve permitting processes at state level	Streamline permitting processes to allow for increased implementation efforts specifically chapter 105	2019/Ongoing	Evaluation of current permitting process required. Staff resources would be needed to accomplish.	Reduce time necessary to produce permit packages from partners and process permits by state.	State staff required. (? FTE)			
P.2	Improve funding program requirements	Simplify funding to allow for more flexible use of funds, i.e., block grant model	2019/Ongoing	Evaluation of existing programs needed for improvement and efficiency. State staff resources would be needed to accomplish. Limited financial resources to preserve backlog of conservation easement applications. (Important as conservation plans are required as part of this process.)	Coordination among all funding sources to reduce administration and enhance implementation.	DEP Staff (#? FTE)		*	DEP State/federal funding
P.3	Allowance for work outside of MS4 jurisdictions to increase nitrogen reductions	Provide for credit for BMP's implemented by MS4 municipalities outside their jurisdiction to enhance nitrogen reduction.	2020/Ongoing	Change in regulations required. Limited BMP funding.		Ag Technicians (2 FTE)	New County Employees	\$150,000/yr	State/Federal grant assistance
P.4	Expand staffing resources to conduct additional work described in this plan	Provide appropriate staffing levels as needed to achieve goals	Ongoing	Implementation of the county recommendations cannot be accomplished with existing staff and expertise.  Additional staffing may also be needed in other agencies to support county implementation. E.g. NRCS staff typically write the conservation plans in Adams County. If additional plans are needed, either NRCS staffing needs to be expanded, the Conservation District needs to hire a dedicated plan writer, or a private sector plan writer needs to be hired.	Any changes in regulation must be accompanied by the resources necessary to achieve the desired objective.	Evaluate as necessary		Evaluate as necessary	
P.5	Enhance local water quality monitoring	Improved tracking of Adams County specific pollution levels	Ongoing	Upgrades to the East Berlin monitoring station. Recognition of local data collection efforts.	Rely more on water quality data rather than the model and allow local data collection efforts to be recognized	USGS			
P.6	Improve statewide tracking	Improved tracking is needed by DEP related to existing data and BMPs/infrastructure across the	Ongoing	Local cooperation with the state is needed in addition to possible funding for staffing resources.	Clarification on information being documented. More inclusive allowances for urban				DEP

		spectrum including ag and urban sectors.			BMP's				
<b>P.7</b>	Evaluate current system of incentives/implementation for agricultural practices and define enhanced incentive program for BMPs with greatest impact on nutrient loads to get landowner buy-in	Ensure programs are more efficient, flexible and user friendly with incentives where possible to encourage land-owner buy-in.	2025	Landowner buy in is a challenge, existing incentive programs don't pay for certain parts of implementation (e.g. maintenance).  Cover crop practices involve costs for equipment, pest management, etc. Incentive programs should account for more than planting alone.	CREP program has not been a sought after program in Adams County because of the lack of flexibility. Additional flexibility needed to make the program successful	Additional staff: Ag Technicians (2 FTE)	New County Employees	\$150,000/yr	State/Federal grant assistance and possible technical provider circuit rider assistance
<b>P.8</b>	Evaluate current and innovative practices in the fruit growing industry	Allow specific practices to be considered BMPs in the model.	2020	Nitrogen and phosphorus numbers for orchards (and associated assumptions) need to be revisited for accuracy and completeness. Additional monitoring necessary. DEP/NRCS/Penn State Extension staff required.	Allow practices unique to the fruit growing industry to be validated for use in the model.	3 (FTE)	State and Local Staff	\$150,000	State/Federal grant assistance
<b>P.9</b>	Expand state agricultural workgroup representation	Seek orchard representation on the state agricultural workgroup	2019	Orchards are unique and the industry should have representation on the state workgroup.	Identify potential representative(s) through standard selection procedures				