

Final

**Legacy Sediment Workgroup Meeting Notes**  
**May 1, 2006**  
**US Geological Survey**  
**Pennsylvania Water Science Center**  
**215 Limekiln Road**  
**New Cumberland, PA 17070**

**Meeting Attendees**

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Discussion Topic: -Link Between Nutrient Trading and Legacy Sediment Removal/Restoration

- The Nutrient Trading Workgroup is interested in nutrient trades involving Legacy Sediment and the Steering Committee also is supportive
- Recommendation is for the Trading Workgroup and the Legacy Sediment Workgroup to move together on projects. If we move forward with a trade, then we should be able to account for reductions in the Chesapeake Bay Model
- Currently nitrogen is the most marketable nutrient because of the expense and technical limitations for removing nitrogen from point source discharges
- Future markets for phosphorous and sediment may develop with stormwater requirement changes, etc.
- Under the current tributary strategies and the “old model” (Phase 4.3 Chesapeake Bay Model) Susquehanna is on track to achieve established goals - the caveat is that the Conowingo Dam continues to trap sediment and remain in place
- Activities that generate trading credits should be established by efficiencies in the proposed Legacy Sediment BMP
- Big Spring Run, a tributary to Mill Creek and located in Lancaster County is a potential site for nutrient trading.

## Final

### Big Spring Run Site Benefits

1. Site fits the definition of Legacy Sediment
  2. Headwater tributary in a rural setting with little landuse change
  3. Much baseline data has been obtained (USGS data, F&M data, Landstudies data)
  4. Few utilities and other infrastructure would interfere with a project along Big Spring Run
  5. Willing, eager and cooperative landowner
  6. Regulatory officials (USACE, PADEP) have visited the site and understand the basic concept of legacy sediment removal/floodplain restoration
- Suggestion was made to approach the Nutrient Trading Group with a strategy for implementation on a specific site
  - Suggestion to arrange a Workgroup site visit to Big Spring Run
  - The Workgroup must recognize that looking for a “magic bullet” site is not practical and that there are no “bad bullet” sites either
  - The Workgroup may want to share the Scope of Work for the current research to the Steering Committee
  - Every site has the potential to vary in terms of nutrient reductions/benefits
  - What is the priority nutrient trading or BMP development and establishing efficiencies or both? - Suggestion is that priority is both.
  - Trading currently is only available in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
  - Loadings/reductions at multiple scale sites need to be monitored and established because it may vary by scale
  - To validate the economic benefits/detriments costs need to be tracked carefully throughout the whole process, including processes that already have been completed.
  - Costs likely will vary significantly by size and by site characteristics
  - Conceptual credit is for a one-time reduction from legacy sediment removal/floodplain restoration, and sustained reductions over time with establishment of riparian vegetation, wetland creation, etc.

### Discussion Topic – Education and Outreach

- Question- Has there been any action regarding outreach to Regulatory Agencies?
  1. Presentation by Merritts and Walter to SCRO staff
  2. Site visit to Big Spring Run by US Army Corps of Engineers and PADEP-SCRO staff
- Jeff Hartranft has discussed permitting and concept of legacy sediment removal/floodplain restoration with individuals in State and Federal Agencies and has scheduled a formal presentation to USACE Baltimore District in October 2006
- PA Historical and Museum Commission needs to be informed
- Presentations are planned by Walter and Merritts at the combined 2006 NACD North East Region Meeting and 59<sup>th</sup> PACD/SCC Joint Annual Conference to be held July 23-27, 2006 in State College, PA

## Final

### Discussion Topic – Chesapeake Bay Commission Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee proposed Responsive Workshop Proposal

- Unsure if Legacy Sediment topics were considered in the proposed workshop as recommended by previous correspondence to STAC from Legacy Sediment Workgroup representatives
- Jeff Hartranft to write a letter to STAC on behalf of the Legacy Sediment Workgroup asking for inclusion of the legacy sediment topic in the agenda and recommendation to invite Walter and Merritts as speakers
- PA Farm Bureau, Chesapeake Bay Commission, Association of State Conservation Districts, etc. to provide support letters following publication of letter from Legacy Sediment Workgroup
- Kenn Pattison agreed to telephone Ted Graham to discuss the STAC proposal and the potential to include legacy sediment topics

### Next Meeting

- Recommendation to visit the Big Spring Run site
- Dan Galeone, USGS researcher for 8 year monitoring effort in Big Spring Run will be invited on field visit
- Next Workgroup Meeting to consist of field visits to legacy sediment sites