

DEP Nutrient Trading Workgroup
Status Sheet

Status Report Date: February 1, 2006

Team Leader(s): John Hines and Andy Zemba

Update:

Since the trading discussion group was already an established group, it had scheduled a meeting prior to last Tuesday's Steering Committee meeting. The group met last Friday and had a productive meeting. Some highlights from the meeting include:

- An overview of how the currently defined threshold for agriculture relates to overall reductions needed to meet Bay goals was given. Technical staff have given their best efforts to line up our threshold/agricultural compliance definitions with related definitions contained in the Bay model, which unfortunately do not line up very well, requiring in-depth analysis. Members were interested in the fact that baseline compliance for agriculture, combined with a trading threshold as currently defined in the Department's trading policy, do not result in all the reductions needed to meet Bay goals. It was explained that the Department understands this, and will continue (as we always have) to work on other initiatives outside trading and basic compliance to help meet the agricultural goals for the Bay.
- An update was given on efforts to help define agricultural compliance in Pennsylvania.
- Southcentral Regional Office provided a draft discussion paper on broker and certification options.
- An update was given on options being considered for the bank.
- There was a discussion by the lead for the Rules of Exchange discussion group. This group is attempting to find simpler ways to communicate the concepts of trading, and is also trying to focus on larger issues that were raised during the public comment period.
- The Banking group and Rules of Exchange group have been combined.

At the next meeting the workgroup discuss:

- Ways that the trading program can be communicated properly (i.e. "Fundamentals of Trading Presentation" to be used by various sectors)
- Rules and Banking subgroup will offer clarification of options and rules.
- Introduction to WRI and Nutrient Net