

Stream Restoration Forum

The Practice, the Protocols and Their Verification

joint meeting of the
Stream Health and Urban Stormwater Work Groups
Fish Shack, CBPO, Annapolis, MD

Monday, June 4, 2018
10 AM to 3:00 PM

Conference Line: 202-991-0477

Conference Code: 178-1450

Adobe Connect: <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/uswg>

Intended Audience: practitioners, reviewers and regulators involved in stream restoration projects designed to restore local streams and reduce nutrient and sediment loads delivered to the Chesapeake Bay

Objectives and Outcomes:

- Provide a forum for practitioners, regulators and local governments to share technical resources, insights on best practices for siting and design, and real case studies where protocols are applied well
- Lay out the key technical and programmatic issues that need to be resolved to ensure high quality projects that produce reliable and verifiable pollutant reduction and biological uplift
- Reinforce the key qualifying conditions for stream restoration projects involved in TMDL implementation;
- Opportunities to provide incentives or other mechanisms for functional lift as part of TMDL credited projects
- Identify some of the emerging (and latent/persistent) permit issues that regulators should consider when reviewing these projects
- Discuss how stream restoration projects should be inspected/verified after permit conditions expire
- Create a small team to work on priority technical and policy issues and recommend solutions to the respective work groups

- Where consensus is achieved, or best practices defined, provide intensive outreach to practitioners, project sponsors and regulators via webcasts and dedicated resource website

What is not on the table for the workshop:

- Consideration of outfall stabilization retrofits are not part of the scope of this workshop (still needs approval by the two workgroups).
- No focus on state-specific crediting issues

Draft Agenda

10:00 to 10:15 Welcome and Introductory Remarks T. Schueler and N. Law

- What each Work Group has done since the EPR was released
- Process for making BMP decisions within the CBP Partnership
- Decisions reserved by state and/or federal permitting agencies

10:15 to 11:15 Panel: Technical Issues with Crediting Protocols

Moderator: T. Schueler, CSN

Panelists: Joe Berg, Biohabitats; Jeff White, MDE; Jim Morris, JMT; Doug Beisch, Stantec and Liam O'Meara, EQR

Some Likely Topics:

- Accurately defining non-conforming projects that cannot earn credit (e.g., extensive bank armoring)
- Unresolved issues applying Protocol 3 related to floodplain reconnection projects
- Updates on applying the protocols to legacy sediment removal projects
- Issues with Prevented Sediment (Protocol 1) (e.g., field methods, regional BANCS curves, consistent use of soil P and bulk density values)

11:15 to 12:00 Panel : Post-Permit Project Inspection/Verification

Moderator: David Wood

Panelists: Tom Schueler, CSN, Tim Schueler, Hazen and Sawyer and Kathy Hoverman, KCI.

Some Likely Topics:

- Proposal for visual indicators to verify stream restoration projects
- Perspectives from on practitioners

- Audience discussion

12:00 to 12:30 Working Lunch

12:30 to 1:30 Panel: Key Permitting Issues

Moderator: Josh Burch/Matt Meyer

Panelists: Nick Ozburn, Baltimore District USACE

Jeanna Richardson, Norfolk district USACE, Eric Michelsen and others TBD

Perspectives from regulators/practitioners on:

- Stream types that are appropriate/not appropriate for TMDL projects
- Pre-assessment of IBI in project reaches
- Stream restoration projects for watersheds with stream impairment

1:30 to 2:30 Panel: Integrating Functional Uplift in TMDL Projects

Moderator: Rich Starr, EPRUSA

Panelists:, Joe Berg, Biohabitats, Fairfax County TBD

- Need for a more specific minimum prescription of what to measure
- Local case studies where uplift is being measured
- Key permit monitoring conditions to measure it

2:30 to 3:00 Next Steps and Action Items from Meeting Schueler/Law