

CONFERENCE CALL MEETING NOTES
Christina Basin Coordinating Committee
9:00 am – 10:30 am **Thu Jan 26, 2006**
Call in number: 800-434-7385 **followed by 43089534**

I. Introductions - Jerry Kauffman (UD) Jerry K, Jan B, Allen Everett, Drew Reif, Jon Zangwell, Amy, Andrea Bennett, John Booser, Steve Williams, Martha Corrozi, Kathy Bunting, Colleen Arnold, Bob Struble, Dave Wolenski.

II. Policy Committee Action Items -Bob Tudor (DRBC)

- June and Dec 2006 policy committee meetings – the group concurred on 2 meetings
- Sep 2006 public legislative event (no discussion)
- DE and PA to develop interstate watershed implementation plan for Dec 2006 meeting (see implementation plans discussion below)

III. State of the Water Quality in Christina Basin

- DE – David Wolanski (DNREC)
- PA – Andrew Reis (USGS)

Suggested that if time is available on the agenda, to have Wolanski and Reif give their presentations on water quality trends at the Feb 3 TMDL public meeting. Drew and Allen will be working on statistical analyses of the PA water quality data to develop similar trends analyses to those prepared by DE for comparative purposes. They will target having these analyses by June 20 (tentative date for next policy committee meeting). PA trends analyses on DO and TSS may not be possible from the data available at all monitoring locations (some DO analysis may be possible at Downingtown and Modena where continuous monitors are installed, depending upon staff resources available). This may allow the Partnership to prepare a brief summary report on the state of water quality in the Basin. This may allow an annual update of the trends. Allen and Drew will prepare a proposed approach for discussion at the next Coordination Conference call; they will coordinate with Dave in the meantime.

Regarding the Feb 3 meeting agenda, it was determined that EPA anticipated using about 2 hours to present the proposed TMDLs, and have PADEP and DE-DNREC to make related presentations. This will be followed by presentations on the water quality trends for PA and DE. Bob Struble will work with Mary to sort out who will “mc” the meeting.

IV. Status of EPA Targeted Watershed Initiative Grant Projects

- Tasks 3.1 and 5.1 PA Restoration Projects - Dan Greig (CCCD) (no update)
- Task 3.2 DE SMARTYARDS – John Harrod (DNS) (no update)
- Task 4.1 and 5.2 DE Stream restoration projects – Steve Williams (DNREC) – Steve indicated that the post-monitoring at 3 Little Bakers will occur in the spring. Design work is nearly ready to proceed for Independence School on Pike Creek. The constructed wetlands work is expected to begin in the spring, and 5 cells are being considered. DE-DNREC is receiving a bid for a project on “Gwenshen” (?) (Red Clay watershed). Working with DelDOT on potential restoration project in White Clay Creek watershed, and in conjunction with Chuck Barcz and the White Clay W&S watershed coordinator. Are exploring other projects as well, such as Mill Creek. Coordinating with County to improve debris cleanup efforts and to get their help in identifying reaches in need of restoration.

- Task 5.2 UD Raingarden Retrofitting (Jerry Kauffman) Some minor maintenance to be done; project should be completed in spring. Signage is being prepared. About 5% of work scope remaining to be completed.

Amie reminded the group of the discussion regarding the possible need for some of the projects to be completed after the end of the existing grant and the need to determine if any extension is needed.

V. Implementation Plans

- PA watersheds assessment reports– Jan Bowers (CCWRA)
- DE tributary action team – Kathy Bunting Howarth (DNREC), Martha Corrozi (UD) Martha is leading the team and next team meeting is in February. Coordination with other DE agencies will be included in the process.

Group agreed to have a concept draft Christina implementation plan by the December Policy Committee meeting, with goal of having the implementation plan by spring/summer 2007. The 2006 legislative event can focus on accomplishments of the Partnership and water quality trends. A followup legislative event in 2007 can be held after the implementation plan is complete to request legislative assistance in pursuing additional funding.

NRCS received funding to prepare the supplement to Brandywine Watershed Workplan for water quality improvement in the Brandywine watershed (similar to the Red/White Clay plan and program). When complete, if the cost benefit analysis concludes that it is in the Federal interest, the plan supplement will serve as the justification necessary to pursue additional water quality projects funding through the PL 566 program. The preparation of the supplement will dovetail well with the development of the implementation plan.

VI. Funding (no further discussion)

VII. Recommended schedule of coordinating committee meetings for 2006 – all 9 am

- Jan 26, 2006 - conference call
- Feb 24 , 2006 - conference call
- Mar 24, 2006 - UD at Newark, DE
- Apr 21, 2006 - conference call
- May 19, 2006 - CCWRA at West Chester, PA
- Jun 20, 2006 - Policy Committee meeting
- Jul 27, 2006 - conference call
- Aug25, 2006 - conference call)
- Sep 2006 - Public legislative event)
- Oct 26, 2006 - UD at Newark, DE
- Nov 16, 2006 - CCWRA at West Chester, PA
- Dec 8, 2006 – Policy committee meeting

The group concurred that these meeting dates are acceptable, recognizing that not all people will be able to participate on all listed dates. Next Task Force meeting will be Mar 3.