

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Workgroup to Study Issues Related to Mitigation and Nutrient Credit Programs
Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 30, 2022
Start Time: 9:00 A.M.

Location: DEQ Piedmont Regional Office – Training Room
4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060

Supply/Demand of Mitigation Credits

Workgroup Directives:

- a. *What is the current and projected demand for wetland and stream mitigation credits by public and private entities?*
 - b. *What are your recommendations for legislative and regulatory changes to increase the supply of wetland and stream mitigation credits and reduce volatility in the price of mitigation credits?*
1. Confirm responses to all Directives in preparation for draft report
 2. Final comments and discussion

Break

Incentivizing Dam Removal Projects

Workgroup Directives:

- a. *What methods are in place or could be developed for promoting the removal of obsolete dams and significant river obstructions by the private sector that maximize the input of private capital and minimize the need for public funding to facilitate the removal?*
 - b. *What are your recommendations regarding the extent to which there is a scientific basis from a water quality and fish benefit perspective to expand existing service area limitations for mitigation credits generated by the removal of obsolete dams and significant river obstructions?*
 - c. *What are the potential impacts for local and Chesapeake Bay water quality, ecological services, and fisheries as a result of the removal of such obsolete dams and significant river obstructions?*
 - d. *What innovative dam removal partnerships and incentives are used in other states?*
3. Confirm responses to Directives (a.) (c.) and (d.) in preparation for draft report
 4. Review previously proposed legislation regarding Directive (b.)
 5. Final comments and discussion

Lunch

Retiring Farmland for Nutrient Credits and Nutrient Service Area Revisions

Workgroup Directives:

- a. What are the potential impacts of restricting the generation of credits on any parcel of important, prime, or unique farmland acquired for generating credit?*
 - b. What would the effect be of requiring credit purchases from the same HUC, if available, before looking at adjacent HUCs?*
 - c. Are there other changes in the nutrient credit trading regulations and/or underlying statutory authority to reduce the loss of important, prime, or unique farmland?*
6. Continue discussion and responses in preparation for draft report
7. Final comments and discussion

Next Steps

NOTE: All attendees may choose to wear face coverings at their own discretion.