



# Ten Years of Watershed Assessment in CEAP: Insights and Lessons Learned



Thursday, February 5, 2015

Two-hour Webcast

**Eastern:** 1:00p.m.–3:00p.m.

**Central:** 12:00p.m.–2:00p.m.

**Mountain:** 11:00a.m.–1:00p.m.

**Pacific:** 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

Please join us as we review insights and lessons learned from the past 10 years of USDA's Watershed Assessments in the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP). CEAP addresses USDA's need to quantify the effects and benefits of agricultural conservation practices. The goal of CEAP Watershed Assessments is to develop scientific understanding of and quantify conservation practice effects at watershed scales. The projects are focused on understanding how the suite, timing, and spatial distribution of conservation practices influences their effect on local water quality outcomes. Modeling, monitoring and human dimensions approaches were utilized in CEAP Watershed projects.

This webcast will highlight accomplishments and knowledge gained from CEAP Watershed Assessments over the last 10 years as well as related science. Presentations will include recent findings and developments, discuss some applications of CEAP Watersheds results, synthesize lessons learned to guide watershed-scale conservation addressing water quality and soil concerns, and propose opportunities for continued advances. Topic areas will include a recently published overview of key findings from ARS CEAP projects as well as new conservation insights related to nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment concerns and will review various approaches to targeting. These insights can be used to help refine conservation and watershed planning and assessment to increase effectiveness and enhance outcomes of restoration.

CEAP Watersheds component is based on a collaborative partnership among USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), and Farm Service Agency (FSA), universities and others including EPA, USGS, NOAA, and numerous state, watershed and local conservation partners and agricultural producers.

The Webcast presentation will be posted in advance at [www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts](http://www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts). Also, webcast participants are eligible to receive a certificate for their attendance.

## Expert Speakers:

**Lisa Duriancik, M.S., CEAP Watersheds Component Leader, USDA NRCS, Resource Assessment Division** – provides national leadership and management in watershed-scale assessments, evaluating effects of conservation on water and soil resources, while collaborating with key partners. Lisa has worked on CEAP since its beginning in 2003 and has contributed to synthesizing results and applying insights.

**Dr. Mark Tomer, Research Soil Scientist, USDA-ARS National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment** – conducts research on watershed and water quality assessment. Dr. Tomer is working to develop planning tools for water quality improvement in agricultural watersheds.

**Dr. Deanna Osmond, Professor and Dept. Extension Leader, Soil Science Department, North Carolina State University** – works at the interface of nutrient management, conservation tillage, and water quality. Dr. Osmond led the national NIFA-CEAP watershed synthesis.

**Dr. Douglas R. Smith, Research Soil Scientist, USDA-ARS Grassland, Soil and Water Research Laboratory in Temple, TX** – previously spent 12 years at the USDA-ARS National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory in Indiana. Dr. Smith's primary research interest is in the fate and transport of fertilizer nutrients from the point of application through the watershed continuum, and how to best optimize production agriculture with environmental quality.

**Dr. Roger Kuhnle, Hydraulic Engineer, USDA-ARS National Sedimentation Laboratory, Watershed Physical Processes Research Unit in Oxford, MS** – studies sediment transport mechanics and sediment source tracking in fluvial settings.

**Dr. Claire Baffaut, Research Hydrologist, USDA-ARS Cropping Systems and Water Quality Research Unit** – the USDA-ARS Cropping Systems and Water Quality Research Unit in Columbia, MO focuses on the impacts of cropping systems on water quality, productivity, and profitability. Dr. Baffaut's research includes modeling and monitoring to assess different aspects of cropland management in Missouri, with an emphasis on the soils of the southern Corn Belt.

**Registration:** You must register in advance to attend this webcast. Register at the Watershed Academy Webcast website at [www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts](http://www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts).

**Questions?** Please contact Beth Orr at [beth.orr@tetrattech.com](mailto:beth.orr@tetrattech.com).

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