

**Chesapeake Bay Program
Wastewater Facility and BMP Implementation
Data Submission Specifications and Requirements**

The Watershed Technical Workgroup and Wastewater Treatment Workgroup of the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team coordinate with the Chesapeake Bay Program's staff and the Management Board to establish data submission requirements that meet the communications and management needs of the Chesapeake Bay Program. Implementation Grant or workplan deliverables must include schedules for submission of point source and nonpoint source nutrient and sediment reduction activities for use in Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model annual assessment scenarios. The following wastewater facility and BMP implementation data submission requirements were developed by the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team's Wastewater Treatment Workgroup and Watershed Technical Workgroup to meet Chesapeake Bay Program water quality reporting requirements. *With the exception of the EPA required dates for reporting stated in the [reporting frequency](#) section below, the following information reflects both workgroup's latest agreements and minimum data requirements.*

Jurisdictions are required to submit quality assured data by the established due dates. If necessary, base implementation grant funds should be used by the jurisdiction to ensure compliance with the due dates and data quality requirements. Recipients are to follow the output requirements stated in the General Guidance portion of this document.

The [Chesapeake Bay TMDL Progress Schedule](#) is a tool to help provide the EPA, jurisdictions and other Chesapeake Bay Program partners with a timeline for data submissions and verification reviews to release Chesapeake Bay progress scenarios on CAST. Progress years run from July 1 through June 30, and are released by March or April of the following year. The progress schedule is refreshed each year to ensure due dates are updated properly. See [reporting frequency](#) section below.

QUALITY ASSURANCE PROJECT PLANS

Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) for the collection and use of environmental data are required from the seven watershed jurisdictions. These QAPPs, in part, document how jurisdictions are reporting implementation data for progress scenarios. They need to be up to date to assist in facilitation of the grant monitoring process by CBIG and CBRAP project officers, as well as to accommodate work of the Water Quality GIT, and its workgroups, specifically each jurisdiction's BMP verification program plans. Additionally, jurisdictions are expected to update their QAPPs when new data sources and methods become available that enable them to enhance reporting of existing or newly approved BMPs. The initial round of updates to QAPPs used for the current progress year is due by September 1st. See the Bay TMDL 2025 Progress Schedule for further details. Updates to the QAPP for the current progress year should be submitted in track changes, colored or highlighted text format so that they are easily distinguishable from previously existing QAPP documentation, which should be black. QAPPs are required for all data described in this document. EPA guidance for developing QAPPs is outlined in the *QAPP Standard*.

DATA SUBMISSIONS FOR WASTEWATER FACILITIES, CSOs, BIO-SOLIDS,-SPRAY IRRIGATION ON AG AND NON-AG LANDS, RAPID INFILTRATION BASINS, AND LARGE ON-SITE SYSTEMS

All point source data should be reported using the Point Source Data Submission application (<https://pointsource.chesapeakebay.net>) by December 1st of the current progress year.

Facility Requirements:

Significant Facilities

All jurisdictions submit wastewater facility Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data via the CBPO Point Source data submission tool for all significant dischargers within their portions of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. A significant discharger is a facility that is on the significant facility list in a jurisdictional Watershed Implementation Plan and meets one of the following criteria:

- In West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New York - Facility treating domestic wastewater and the design flow is greater than or equal to 0.4 million gallons per day (MGD).
- In Maryland - Facility treating domestic wastewater and the design flow is greater than or equal to 0.5 MGD.
- In Virginia - Facility treating domestic wastewater and the existing design flow is greater than or equal to 0.5 MGD west of the fall line or 0.1 MGD east of the fall line.
- In the District of Columbia – DC Water’s Blue Plains wastewater treatment plant is the only significant facility located in the District. DC Water submits data to EPA CBPO directly, rather than to the jurisdiction (DC’s Department of Energy and Environment).
- In the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, New York, and West Virginia - Industrial facilities with a nutrient load equivalent to 3,800 total phosphorus (TP) lbs/year or 27,000 total nitrogen (TN) lbs/year.
- In Pennsylvania – Industrial facilities with a nutrient load greater than or equal to 9,125 lbs/year of TP or greater than or equal to 27,000 lbs/year of TN.
- Any other municipal and industrial wastewater facilities assigned with individual wasteload allocations within a jurisdictional Watershed Implementation Plan.

Non-significant Facilities

Any wastewater treatment facilities reported by jurisdictions under non-significant category and not meeting the above definition are non-significant facilities. In the past, for jurisdictions that did not provide annual DMR data or state-specific default values for non-significant facilities, the estimated one-time data have been added to the annually submitted datasets at the CBPO prior to the progress model runs. Starting with the 2014 progress data submission, jurisdictions are required to provide data, either measured DMR data or state-specific default values, for all their significant and non-significant facilities in their annual progress run data submission. CBPO’s Point Source data submission application allows the states to access DMR data for non-significant facilities if data are available. If there are no annual DMR available for some or all non-significant facilities, the state estimated one-time data, default state-specific values, or previous years’ data could be used for these non-significant facilities in the report. If necessary, CBPO staff will provide the states with previous non-significant

input decks to assist in this effort. This approach will let the jurisdictions have full control and understanding of what data are included in the wastewater input decks for each model run.

Data Requirements:

Jurisdictions are required to submit monthly concentration and flow data for all parameters listed below for each significant and non-significant discharger facilities within their portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The QAQC procedures listed in Figure 1 should be performed prior to data submission; the Point Source application performs these QAQC procedures and has more information about each QAQC check.

At Facility Level: The jurisdictions must annually update their facility list, especially for significant dischargers and identify the newly added or removed facilities in the annual data report. The location (county, latitude/longitude) of discharge point, significant or non-significant, facility type (municipal or industrial), ownership (federal or non-federal) and design flow (MGD) must be reported for newly added facilities using the Point Source data submission tool.

At the Monthly Level: Concentration and flow data for the 10 identified parameters must be provided for each outfall. Jurisdictions will submit all parameters in each month's data record for each facility. Data for the following parameters will be submitted: average monthly flows and average monthly concentrations of NH₃, TKN (or TON), NO₂ (or NO₂+NO₃), TN, PO₄, TP, CBOD₅ (preferable) or BOD₅, DO and TSS. All nitrogen species need to be reported as nitrogen; all phosphorus species need to be reported as phosphorus.

In the absence of monthly monitored concentration data for one or more of the above listed 10 parameters for a facility, the jurisdiction will submit the CBP Water Quality Goal Implementation Team's Wastewater Treatment Workgroup agreed to default concentration data or calculated data based on the species relationship listed in Table 1. All default or calculated data must be flagged with an appropriate description such as:

- Average of reported monthly data;
- Default value agreed by the workgroup;
- Default value based on state specific information;
- Calculated as 67% of TP by CBP species ratio;
- Calculated as NO₂=TN-TKN; and
- Net Value (the influent concentration or load is subtracted).

The Point Source data submission application will automatically make calculations and provide the appropriate description, as appropriate, when data are presented to the data submitter. The loading data of industrial facilities with river/stream water uptake should be reported as net loads with average monthly flow and net concentrations for that respective month, as quantified. Jurisdictions not having some of these parameters should report what's available and missing elements will be defaulted according to rules established by the CBP Wastewater Treatment Workgroup. CBPO expects

jurisdictions to continue to improve tracking and reporting of data so that currently missing parameters are captured and reported in the future.

Wastewater Data Reports

Each Bay Jurisdiction, with the exception of DC, is required to submit the following wastewater data for annual progress model runs (notes, the Point Source application should be used to create and submit items 1-4; DC Water is responsible for the submissions covering the area in their domain.):

1. **DMR Data:** DMR data are traditionally used for significant facility data. However, thanks to the efforts of many jurisdictions to require nutrient monitoring for some of their non-significant facilities, more and more non-significant facilities have nutrient DMR data. Although DMR data are required only for significant facilities, we encourage the Bay jurisdictions to report any available nutrient DMR data for non-significant facilities.
2. **State-Specific Defaults:** Estimated or default values should be submitted for those non-significant facilities that do not have any nutrient DMR data or are decided by the jurisdictions to use the state default values.
3. **Facility Information Updates:** Any changes or updates to the facility information should be submitted. Any facilities that are newly added to the data report or closed during the progress year should be updated using the Active/Inactive status in the Point Source data submission tool. Any changes on SIG/**INSIG** for a facility between significant and non-significant status should also be included.
4. **Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Reduction Tables:** The CSO tables are for reporting any CSO control progresses in terms of the percent load reduction achieved and the acreages of separation completed.

Each jurisdictional agency that controls the wastewater, CSO, and biosolids data **MUST** review all wastewater facility data for accuracy prior to submission to EPA CBPO. The required quality assurance and quality control procedures are listed in Figure 1.

Additional specifications for DC Water wastewater and CSO data reporting

CBPO can facilitate formatting DC Water wastewater progress data and check quality control, including the flow allocation among the regions Blue Plains serves—for the data period July 1, **2024** through June 30, **2025** by the deadline for data submissions, December 1, **2025**. If quality data are not received by the deadline, the default is to use the previous year's information unless that yields a net benefit to the composite discharge.

Assistance is appreciated from DOEE and Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) in the timely reporting of data to the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program as it relates to model calibration, historical data needs, as well as growth and projected capacity information as requested for watershed implementation plan milestones assessments. The annual data reporting would also include daily CSO overflow estimates and LTCP progress data (separation acres and location, storage captured, and equivalent acres retrofitted with green infrastructure).

Bio-Solids, Spray Irrigation, Large Monitored Onsite System & Rapid Infiltration Basin Data

As requested by the CBP partnership, the partnership's Phase 6 Watershed Model has been built to include and track nutrient loads from these new wastewater sources. CBPO expects jurisdictions to provide available bio-solids, spray irrigation, large monitored onsite system, and rapid infiltration basin data where these nutrients are applied to the land. The data are to include, where available, the location (county, latitude, and longitude) of application, mass of bio-solids or volume of irrigation/large onsite system/rapid infiltration basin, concentrations of nutrients, and the year of applications. The data specifications are detailed in the data template listed in the next section.

It is expected that jurisdictions will annually submit updates to their bio-solids, spray irrigation, large onsite system, and rapid infiltration data by December 1st, whenever new data are available. When new data are not available, a CBP protocol exists to use default numbers for these categories. The defaults are the previous year's data.

More information on the current status of this data across jurisdictions can be found under "CAST Data Update Frequency" in the [Progress Reporting Section of TMDL Tracking on the CAST website](#).

Data Submission:

All CSO, spray irrigation, large onsite system and rapid infiltration data should be submitted via CBP's Point Source data submission application. Specific requirements for these data submissions are available at: <https://pointsource.chesapeakebay.net/NonWastewaterData/NonWastewaterData>.

Data Due Dates:

Detailed information about the reporting due dates is provided in the [reporting frequency](#) section below.

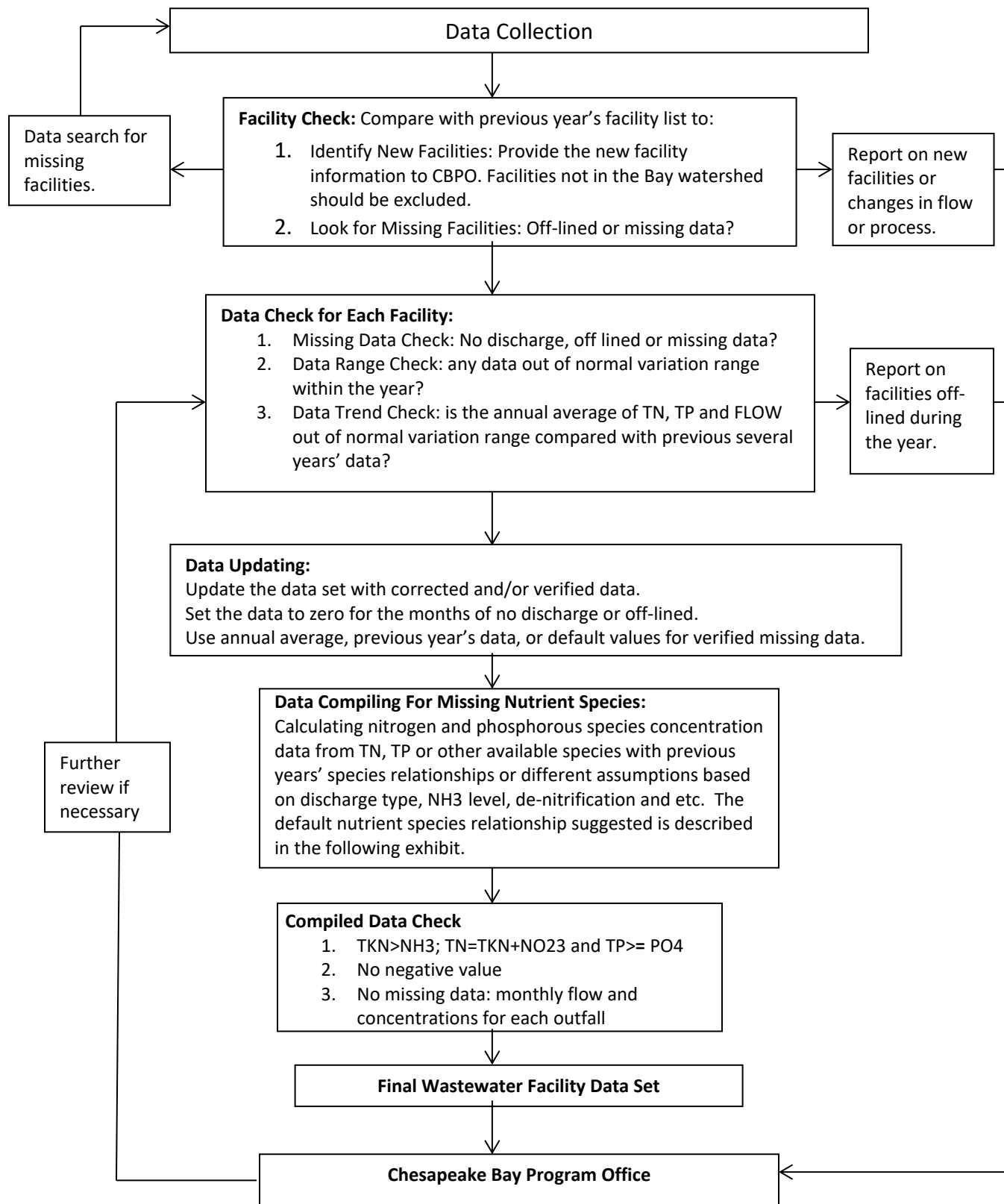
Figure 1: Wastewater Facility Nutrient and TSS Data Processing Flow Diagram

Table 1: Species Relationship

Type of Facility		NH ₃ /NO ₂₃ /TON (w/o Nitrification)	NH ₃ /NO ₂₃ /TON (w/ Nitrification)++	NH ₃ /NO ₂₃ /TON (w/Denitrification)
Municipalities (phase IV)		80/5/15 ⁽¹⁾	7/85/8	12/73/15
Municipalities (phase V)		80/3/17**	7/80/13**	12/73/15 ⁽²⁾
Industries	Chemical	7/85/8+		
	Pulp & Paper	1/0/99**		
	Poultry Facilities w/BNR			8/75/17**
	Nonchemical (includes seafood, poultry, & food processors w/out BNR)	80/3/17**	7/85/8+	8/75/17**

(1) Stearns and Wheler recommended 80/0/20; however, the PSWG felt that there would often be minimal (5%) NO_x present.

(2) Unchanged from the ratio recommended by Stearns and Wheler in Phase IV.

++Apply this relationship wherever NH₃ limits apply.

+Assumed by performing an analysis of MD chemical industry wastewater effluents which showed it is very close to the relationship for nitrifying sewage. This would apply to all chemical discharges and assumes that wastewaters are treated chemically and thus would not vary as for sewage relationships.

** Updated, as based on an analysis of actual data from plants operating in Virginia.

Type of Facility	Facilities w/out TP Control PO ₄ /TOP ratio	Facilities With TP Control PO ₄ /TOP Ratio
All	71/29 ^a	67/33 ^a

^a determined by averaging the actual data from MD and VA plants (including Blue Plains for “with TP Reduction”. Facility with TP Control is defined as a facility having a permit limit for total phosphorus.

Period	TSS Default (All jurisdictions)	TSS Default w/out NRT	TSS Default w/ NRT
1985-1990 ^b	45		
1990-2000	25		
2000-2010		15	8

Type of Facility	DO concentration 1985-1990	DO Concentration 1990-2010
All	4.5 mg/l ^(b)	5.0 mg/l

^(b) considers a number of nutrient management facilities operating across the watershed.

BMP, LAND USE AND ANIMAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Non-point source (non-wastewater) data are collected for the following purposes:

- 1) To assess existing and new BMP projects through the reporting of implementation, inspection, maintenance, and retirement dates.
- 2) Update annual estimates of construction and harvested forest acres through the reporting of permitted, disturbed acres for each category – including estimates of any unpermitted acres.
- 3) Update model estimates of permitted animals and manure nutrient concentrations for poultry and swine every two years for use in the next milestone period.

Reporting BMP Implementation:

BMP implementation information is used to create annual progress scenarios using the CBP Watershed Model (WSM) and to make assessments and report out the estimated impacts of restoration efforts. Practice and program implementation data – outside of wastewater concentration and flow data – must be submitted independently via the National Environmental Information Exchange Network (NEIEN), creating XML formats, and using the BMP schema.

EPA CBPO will not accept data in formats of Microsoft Excel, Access, or ASCII for practice implementation data submissions, unless specified by one of the Water Quality GIT workgroups. Also, jurisdictions are responsible for re-submitting data through NEIEN for corrections and additions, not CBPO personnel, unless the correction or revision is on the Bay Program office's side of the exchange.

The NEIEN BMP data exchange is capable of accepting current and historical BMP data submissions. At a minimum for annual model progress assessments, recipients should submit BMP data for the period of July 1– June 30 for the model year of the June date. Data outside these temporal ranges can be accepted through NEIEN and used by the Chesapeake Bay Program based on guidance of CBP subject matter experts and the Watershed Technical Workgroup – as long as implementation, maintenance, and inspection years are accurate or estimated to the best of the data source's ability. At a minimum, accurate implementation years should be reported when the exact date is unavailable. It's imperative model BMP data estimate as accurately as possible how on-the-ground management actions changed through time for the entire data period, 1985 to the current reporting year, to maintain the integrity of [the TMDL](#) calculations.

Jurisdictions are to report BMPs as they occur on the landscape at the most site-specific scale that conforms with legal and programmatic constraints, and at a scale compatible to data input for the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership modeling tools. Other key elements of reported BMP data are accurate implementation, maintenance, and inspection dates, pass/fail inspection results, BMP names as tracked by jurisdictions, and relevant attributes of each project like the source of data (e.g., agency). All required fields for NEIEN-reported BMPs need to be complete. Jurisdictions should also utilize the latest versions of the following NEIEN technical documents and submission instructions at <https://cast.chesapeakebay.net/Home/TMDLTracking#progressReportingSection>:

- Phase 6 NEIEN Appendix
- USDA Practices, NEIEN, and CAST BMPs
- Codes List Tables
- NEIEN Submission Instructions
- Document Exchange Template
- NEIEN Schema

Nutrient and sediment reduction activities that have not been approved for use in progress runs by the partnership will not be credited in the tools. Additionally, BMPs reported for credit need to adhere to the definition of the BMP as approved through the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team or higher or formalized by the CBP Partnership prior to establishment of the “Protocol for the Development, Review and Approval of Loading and Effectiveness Estimates for Nutrient and Sediment Controls in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.” Definitions for all BMPs can be found by downloading the “Source Data” from the [CAST documentation page](#), and relevant [BMP Expert Panel reports](#). The NEIEN Appendix lists all approved and interim BMPs. Additionally, applicable USDA practices that crosswalk to approved CAST BMPs are found here: <https://cast.chesapeakebay.net/Documentation/BMPs>. The relevant conservation practice standards from the [NRCS Field Office Technical Guide](#) can be used to supplement existing definitions in the Source Data for a better understanding of the BMP.

Requesting New BMP Reporting Options:

Jurisdictions often track BMPs or units under different names than those used by the CBP. The NEIEN Appendix allows jurisdictions to continue to track BMPs and units in unique ways and to be able to submit this information through NEIEN. Any requests for changes to the NEIEN Appendix should be made to the Watershed Technical Workgroup by August 31 for that year’s model progress assessment. The Watershed Technical Workgroup is responsible for approving the NEIEN Appendix by August 31.

Jurisdictions may also request a review of their unique resource improvement practices for inclusion in the NEIEN Appendix and availability for progress reporting. These practices include BMPs that offer scientifically similar nutrient and sediment benefits as currently approved Chesapeake Bay Program or Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) practices but may be designed and/or operated differently. To request review of functionally equivalent practices, jurisdictions must provide a written report that describes the technical specifications of the functionally equivalent practice(s) to the appropriate Chesapeake Bay Program sector workgroup (Agriculture, Forestry, Stormwater or Wastewater) by June 1 of the progress assessment year. The sector workgroup and Watershed Technical Workgroup will then review the report and recommend accepting or rejecting the functionally equivalent practice(s) for that year’s progress reporting.

BMP implementation reporting is meant to track changes in management actions – as the model simulates and estimates conditions in the watershed based on inputs, like BMP data submitted by the states and animal population data from the USDA Census of Agriculture. Changes in management action may include implementation of a new BMP, maintenance of an existing BMP (not to be reported as a new practice), or renewal of practices such as nutrient management plans. Reporting existing

practices in a new year under a new BMP name due to a reinterpretation of the BMP definitions is not considered a change in management, nor is reporting existing practices as if they were implemented in the data year of the annual progress evaluation and verification assessment. The expectation is that new BMPs are tracked, not estimated. For example, BMP implementation should not be estimated by looking at the acreage available to that BMP in the model, assigning a percent implementation to that BMP based on available acreage in CAST, converting that percent implementation to acres, and submitting that acreage for annual progress as if the acreage had been tracked on the ground. This does not apply to BMPs where surveying is a Bay Program-approved collection method and reporting implementation levels as a percent is allowed, like conservation tillage.

BMP inventories (visiting an operation and recording the practices that are on the ground at the time of the visit) are allowed only if each unit of each BMP has accurate implementation and inspection dates (at a minimum, the year should be provided as an exact date cannot always be provided). In the event that the implementation year of an existing BMP cannot be reported to the Bay Program, the practice should not be submitted with the annual data submission. The date of the visit can be recorded as an inspection date in the jurisdiction's database. A jurisdiction should track that practice within their database until the practice can be visited a second time. Once the practice can be visited a second time, and the verifier can report the time passed between the first and second visits or inspections, then practice, along with the time between the first and second inspections, can be reported to the Bay Program with the annual data submission.

For BMPs like Core and Supplemental Nutrient Application Management, EPA's expectation is that a jurisdiction tracks the degree (acres) of active plans from year to year – accounting for the acreage meeting and not meeting Bay Program BMP definitions and verification requirements – for plans with varying durations, e.g., 1-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year, etc. The expectation is that a state's BMP Verification Program Plan clearly explain how this accounting is done and how it relates to what's reported annually. EPA CBPO should be able to clearly understand how a jurisdiction determines if a nutrient management core or supplemental practice is meeting CBP verification requirements, BMP definitions, and EP protocols through documentation of acreage with plans that were not being actively implemented at the time of inspection, the timeframe for changes needing to be made for the practices to meet Bay Program requirements, and the acreage found to meet Bay Program requirements at the time of inspection.

Quality Control/Assurance of BMP Implementation Data:

Jurisdictions are solely responsible for checking their own implementation data for duplicate, missing, or mistakenly reported data prior to submission – for all sources of data, including but not limited to: NRCS and FSA; federal agency data; state agency and local data. All changes to the data must be made by jurisdictions in NEIEN. The CBPO will not change any data outside of NEIEN for progress reporting purposes unless expressly directed to do so by EPA and the jurisdiction. Part of this quality control process is careful review by jurisdictions of the following parent and sub-reports provided to the jurisdictions by CBPO:

- NEIEN Errors– available through [CAST](#); provides details of all NEIEN data submitted, indicating if data are in error (or successes) according to NEIEN specifications
- Implementation Dates – available through [CAST](#); provides detailed implementation, maintenance, inspection and retirement data for all NEIEN data submitted, indicating if data fall within the approved BMP lifespan or not.
- Credit Duration – available through [CAST](#); provides detailed information on the total amount of a BMP credited and what would be credited with no expiration for all NEIEN data submitted.
- BMP Validation – available via [CAST](#); provides list of any invalid data that matches NEIEN specifications but does not match CAST specifications.
- Submitted Versus Credited – available via [CAST](#); provides total units of BMPs submitted by land use type to CAST.
- BMP Summary – available via [CAST](#); provides summarized total units of broader BMP categories.

Jurisdictions should also provide up-to-date documentation explaining methods for tracking, compiling, and reporting BMP implementation and wastewater data through updates to their BMP Verification Program Plans, also known as Quality Assurance Project Plans – prior to submission of the data. For complete guidance on BMP verification and what’s needed in Verification Program Plans, [see Appendix Q](#).

BMP verification is the process that includes initial inspection, follow-up checks and evaluation of BMP performance. The Bay Program verification documentation includes:

- Verification guidance for each source sector;
- Information on access to federal cost-shared practice data;
- Enhanced collection and reporting of agricultural cost shared practices; and
- A report on CBP resource improvement practice definition and verification visual indicators.

The most recent versions of each jurisdiction’s approved BMP Verification Program Plans are at: http://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/programs/bmp_introduction_to_bmp_verification/bmp_additional_resources

It is expected that jurisdictions address all outstanding comments on their BMP Verification Program Plans from EPA. Addressing these comments and data problems should occur within 30 days of the completion of EPA’s review to ensure full credit of quality data. Any outstanding verification issues after publication of progress scenario results should be addressed through updates to the QAPP. Beginning with the model 2022 Progress scenario, jurisdictional QAPPs must be submitted for review in draft form with track changes by September 1, prior to the December 1st deadline for BMP data and wastewater submissions.

Reporting Construction and Harvested Forest Acres:

Jurisdictions should report the number of permitted, disturbed acres of construction and forest clearing, as well as an estimate of those acres that were not permitted. BMPs should then be submitted on only the permitted acres. This data should be reported via email to Auston Smith

(smith.auston@epa.gov) and Jeff Sweeney (sweeney.jeff@epa.gov), with a cc to Jess Rigelman (jrigelman@j7llc.com) and Olivia Devereux (olivia@devereuxconsulting.com).

More information on the current status of this data across jurisdictions can be found under “CAST Data Update Frequency” in the [Progress Reporting Section of TMDL Tracking on the CAST website](#).

Reporting Animal Information:

Animal data may be updated in the Phase 6 Watershed Model every two years. This may be done through the reporting of permitted and unpermitted animals, and the reporting of animal manure nutrient concentrations for poultry and swine.

Jurisdictions should provide the fraction of animal type by county that is considered “permitted” either through an EPA or state program. These data will be used to update the land use acres for permitted feeding operations and unpermitted feeding operations once every two years.

This data should be reported via email to Auston Smith (smith.auston@epa.gov) and Jeff Sweeney (sweeney.jeff@epa.gov), with a cc to Jess Rigelman (jrigelman@j7llc.com) and Olivia Devereux (olivia@devereuxconsulting.com).

To account for the benefits of animal feed/diet for poultry and swine, jurisdictions have the option to provide CBPO nutrient concentration data for poultry litter and other livestock manure. Jurisdictions wishing to provide data should contact Auston Smith (smith.auston@epa.gov) and Jeff Sweeney (sweeney.jeff@epa.gov) for assistance with required data elements and formatting. Data should be provided for the last three years, if possible, and updated each year to reflect new poultry litter and other livestock manure samples. Jurisdictions who don’t report volume data will receive default values according to rules established by the CBP Agriculture Workgroup. These data will be reviewed by the Partnership for use in estimating manure nutrients once every two years.

More information on the current status of this data across jurisdictions can be found under “CAST Data Update Frequency” in the [Progress Reporting Section of TMDL Tracking on the CAST website](#).

REPORTING FREQUENCY OF WASTEWATER FACILITY AND BMP IMPLEMENTATION

Annual progress reporting of wastewater data and non-wastewater BMPs are an output of CBPO grants. Grant recipients are expected to provide CBPO with complete, quality-assured data in the proper formats. This will enable CBPO to begin immediate processing as a CBP Partnership Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model annual progress scenario. It is expected that the following schedule and deadlines are followed:

- July 31 of the relevant model year – BMP listing, descriptions, and mapping due from jurisdictions for any proposed BMPs that will be submitted for that year’s progress assessment that are NOT included in the NEIEN Appendix.

- Requests to modify the NEIEN Schema or Plug-In will be evaluated as they are received for an estimated level of effort and for what progress year they are ready for.
- August 30 – Final approval for changes to the NEIEN Appendix due to the Watershed Technical Workgroup. The Watershed Technical Workgroup is responsible for approving the NEIEN Appendix and codes list by August 31 of the relevant model year.
- **September 1** – Initial update to jurisdictions’ BMP Verification Program Plans (QAPPs) due. This update must address any unresolved revision requests made in the Final 2023 Progress QAPP Review Memos. Additional revisions to the jurisdictions’ QAPPs may be necessary after review.
- **September 1** – Jurisdictions are encouraged to begin submitting their BMP implementation to NEIEN for the progress assessment. Ongoing review of submissions will occur between **September 1** and **December 1**, with the expectation that **December 1** submissions are final.
- November 1 – Data submissions and descriptions due for: 1) permitted forest harvest acres, 2) continually disturbed and permitted construction acres – including estimates of any unpermitted acres, 3) CAFO/AFO animal splits by county, 4) (optional) nutrient concentrations in manure for poultry and swine.
- **December 1** – As a result of EPA’s review of each jurisdiction’s 2024 Progress submission:
 - Jurisdictions are required to submit a draft track changes version of their updated BMP Verification Program Plans (QAPPs) for review by **December 1** this year. This updated version should address any unresolved revision requests made since the initial QAPP update due **September 1**.
 - CBPO may require additional changes to jurisdictional QAPPs as the data submitted for annual progress is evaluated after the **December 1** deadline.
- **December 1** – Final BMP submissions for the previous July 1 to June 30 data period due from jurisdictions for the 2024 Progress Phase 6 model assessment – both wastewater data and non-wastewater BMPs. Wastewater data includes the categories CSO, bio-solids, spray irrigation, large onsite systems, and rapid infiltration basins.
- **February 9** – 2024 Progress Reports available to jurisdictions on CAST-- needed for outside reporting of progress on commitments and to keep results relevant.
- **February 9** – QAPP Outstanding Comments due to CBPO
 - It is expected that jurisdictions address all outstanding comments on their BMP Verification Program Plans from EPA. Addressing these comments and data problems should occur after submission of the BMP data and EPA’s review of progress but by no later than February 10th of this year to ensure full credit of quality data.
- **Late March-April** – Progress finalized, and scenario released on CAST.
- May – Jurisdictional verification letters received from CBPO confirming completion of the verification process.

In the event that data are not submitted in time, are determined to be erroneous following the Bay Program’s annual progress evaluation and verification assessment outlined in [Appendix V](#), do not follow the Bay Program BMP Verification Framework and Protocols and/or EPA’s Grant Guidance, do not follow approved Bay Program BMP definitions, are reported with changes in new implementation levels that cannot be substantiated by changes in on-the-ground management actions, or do not use the appropriate NEIEN or wastewater formats for the CBPO to calculate annual progress, Milestones,

or other scenarios, CBPO will use the previous year's QA'd data submitted by the jurisdiction or will not account for implementation of the BMP or control measures or reassign acres to other land uses in the segment. In the event that the data does not follow approved CBP verification guidance or an assurance of quality of submitted BMP data is not described in an up-to-date QAPP, CBPO will use the previous year's QA'd data submitted by the jurisdiction or will not account for implementation of the BMP or control measures or reassign acres to other land uses in the segment.

Grant recipients can use CBIG and CBRAP grant funds to support these data submission activities.