

**New York State Soil & Water Conservation Committee**  
 10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235 -- Telephone (518) 457-3738  
**STATE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**May 21, 2013**  
**Department of Agriculture and Markets**  
**10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235**

**Present:**

G. Proios, Chair, D. Stein Vice-Chair, C. Colby, Voting Members; M. Latham, Director, B. Steinmuller, Assistant Director; T. Clark, SWCC Staff; D. Pettit, NRCS; J. Campbell, S. Van Patten, DEC; L/ Prezorski, J. Clifford, Dutchess SWCD; L. Lyons-Swift, Cortland SWCD; P. Kaczmarczyk, DOH; L. Telega, CU; C. Mural, NYFB; J. Littrell, NYACD.

**Call to Order**

G. Proios called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Introductions made. A moment of silence was observed for the victims of the tragic tornadoes in Oklahoma and the sudden loss of the Orange County SWCD Board Member and Treasurer D. Hulle.

**Review/Approval of Minutes**

It was noted by the Voting Members that the April 2013 meeting minutes were very well done and informative.

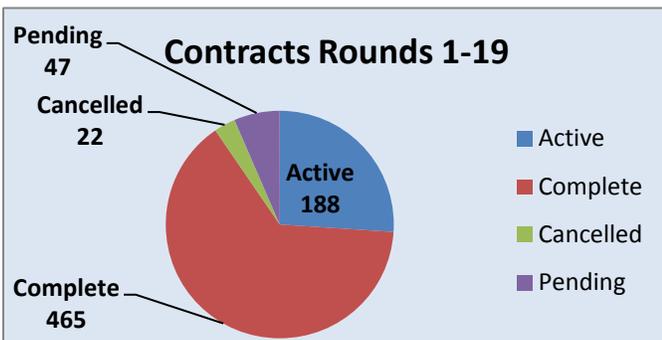
**D. Stein moved to approve the April 2013 minutes as presented; seconded by C. Colby. Motion passed; carried.**

**Correspondence**

B. Steinmuller made the correspondence available. Correspondence included a variety of Soil and Water Conservation periodicals, reports and District Newsletters and Reports.

**Ag Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program - Brian Steinmuller**

**STATUS OF ROUNDS 1-19**



Round #	Completed	Active	Pending
11	30	1	0
12	25	4	0
13	35	5	0
14	29	23	0
15	2	27	0
16	3	34	0
17	0	51	1
18	1	43	1
19	0	0	45
<b>Totals</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>47</b>



### **Staff Approved Amendment**

Cayuga SWCD – Pine Hollow Satellite Storage – Round 16 – C700963

Request: change in BMP's

Reason: Original proposal was to construct an earthen satellite storage. Instead the landowner will install a bedding recovery unit separating solids from liquid in the manure.

*Note: Jeff Ten Eyck, Region 3 AEA, approved the change in BM*

*Previous amendments: none*

Orange SWCD – Nutrient & Ag Waste Mgt in the Wallkill River WS – Round 15 – C700960

Request: change in budget

Reason: Engineering expenses less than expected. The District is moving funds from contractual services to engineering.

*Note: Brian Steinmuller, Region 6 AEA, approved the change in budget*

*Previous amendments: none*

Wayne SWCD – Central Canal Corridor Ag Program Phase 1 – Round 15 – C700957

Request: change in budget

Reason: The District hired an individual who has handled more of the engineering needs. The budget revision moves money from engineering to personnel services.

*Note: Jeff Ten Eyck, Region 3 AEA, approved the change in budget*

*Previous amendments: none*

### **Round 20 Timeline Approval and TAC Update**

**The NYS Ethics Commission Opinion 03-09 states that any Conservation District present at the meeting or SWCC Voting Members that plan to apply for funding through their Conservation District must recuse themselves from all discussion that pertains to the development of the competitive RFP. C. Colby, Voting Member left the meeting room at this time when the Round 20 RFP development and associated discussions occurred.**

B. Steinmuller distributed and discussed the Round 20 timeline for development (attached), TAC notes from the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting (attached), and a TAC recommended AgNPS/AEM Base Funding suballocation proposal (attached). Since C. Colby provided his intent to potentially apply for competitive funding through Round 20 and recused himself, a quorum was not maintained to motion on any of the Round 20 and AEM Year 10 proposals.

This information will be reintroduced and presented for a vote at the June 2013 SWCC Meeting. Round 20 and AEM Year 10 discussion concluded. **C. Colby reentered the meeting at this time.**

### **NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Program Grant Update – S. Van Patten, J. Campbell, DEC**

S. Van Patten and J. Campbell gave a report to the SWCC that provided an overview of the Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP) and highlighted Conservation District involvement in the broad program area (the PowerPoint Presentation is appended to the minutes).

The WQIP Priorities include:

- Address impairments of waterbodies listed in the PWL
- Implementation of New York State and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Initiatives

Potential applicants should be aware that the program's focus is on the implementation of projects that will help to improve impairments to waterbodies. This is a restoration grant program.

Eligible applicants for WQIP are:

Municipalities, Soil and Water Conservations District and for Aquatic Habitat Restoration, not-for-profits are also eligible.

There are four basic types of projects that are eligible:

- Non-ag nonpoint source
- Aquatic habitat restoration
- MS4s
- Municipal Wastewater treatment

Since Round 11 is not yet released, details about the specific project types cannot be discussed at this time. The release of the next RFP is forthcoming pending DEC final review.

S. Van Patten discussed how an applicant could get ready for Round 11:

- Districts could look at archived RFAs on the DEC's website to get a sense for the types of projects that have been eligible in the past.
- The applicant could commence the SEQR process for the pending project being applying for.
- It is critical that before applying, an applicant has secured all the necessary permits required to implement the project.
- To make some applications viable, the municipalities involved must have agreements in place. Applicants need to have this groundwork done and the agreements in place before applying for WQIP funds.
- If the applicant is planning to gather multiple funding sources to fund a project: in the past, some applicants have received WQIP funding and then were trying to line up funding from other sources. WQIP cannot be used like that anymore. If attempting to leverage multiple funding sources, DEC is requiring that WQIP only be applied for once other sources are in place.

As required, the Round 11 RFA will be announced in the new Statewide Grants Management System and announced the RFA on the DEC's web page. DEC also encourages everyone to sign up for the Division of Water listserv called "Making Waves".

- WQIP webpage: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/4774.html>
- Sign up for the NYSDEC Division of Water Listserv "Making Waves" at: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/NYSDEC/subscriber/new>

### **Emergency Stream Intervention Program, Resolution 13-03 in Support for District Involvement in ESI Program – B. Steinmuller**

B. Steinmuller noted that the draft resolution 13-03 was provided to all SWCC members with the release of the agenda. Discussion ensued; C. Colby asked to have the first paragraph stricken from the resolution: *"WHEREAS, Flood intensity and frequency is increasing due to climate change induced extreme weather events, as seen through the devastating results of recent storms Hurricane Irene (August 2011), Tropical Storm Lee (September 2011), and Hurricane Sandy (October 2012);"*

C. Colby did not believe that this statement added substantive point to the resolution. Discussion ensued, regarding the link of extreme weather events to climate change. It was suggested to remove the term *"climate change"* to the resolution in order to remove any controversial statement to the resolution.

G. Proios suggested another change, replace the wording: "RESOLVED, that it is the State Committee's policy that post-flood stream management techniques do not exacerbate environmental damage" with *"RESOLVED, that it is the State Committee's policy that post-flood stream management activities should not exacerbate environmental damage."* This change was agreed to with no further discussion.

**D. Stein moved to approve Resolution 13-3 with changes; seconded by C. Colby. Resolution passed; carried.**

***New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee  
Policy in Support of Conservation Districts Implementation of Emergency Stream Intervention***

WHEREAS, Flood intensity and frequency is increasing due to extreme weather events, as seen through the devastating results of recent storms Hurricane Irene (August 2011), Tropical Storm Lee (September 2011), and Hurricane Sandy (October 2012);

WHEREAS, Conservation Districts have the authority and responsibility under Soil and Water Conservation District Law (SWCD Law), Section 9 and 11-a to engage in activities to restore natural resources from damage caused by extreme weather events and resulting floods;

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Conservation Districts) maintain the expertise necessary to provide technical training and assistance to municipal equipment operators and contractors to provide environmentally-friendly, post-flood stream response for compromised channel capacity due to deposition, in-channel debris issues and corrective measures for stream avulsions. The Emergency Stream Intervention Program was designed for immediate post-flood corrective action or triage by local municipalities, working with the stream's natural tendencies while protecting aquatic habitat;

WHEREAS, the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee (State Committee) has the authority and responsibility under SWCD Law Section 4 to adopt such policies in the carrying out of Conservation District programs as it deems appropriate; to keep the directors of each of the several Conservation Districts under the provisions of this act informed of the activities and experience of all other Conservation Districts, and to facilitate an interchange of advice and experience between such Conservation Districts and cooperation between them; to approve and coordinate the programs of the several Conservation Districts; to secure the cooperation and assistance of the United States and any of its agencies, and of agencies of this state in the work of such Conservation Districts; and to disseminate information throughout the state concerning the activities and programs of the Conservation Districts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that it is the State Committee's policy that post-flood stream management activities should not exacerbate environmental damage. The New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee fully endorses the Emergency Stream Intervention Program, originally developed by the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District, for implementation by Conservation Districts state-wide; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Committee will assist and cooperate with Conservation Districts, state, and federal partners to support efforts to carry-out this program on a local and/or regional scale; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect May 21, 2013.

**SWCD Annual Plan of Work Approval**

**C. Colby moved to approve the following SWCD Annual Plans of Work; seconded by D. Stein. Motion passed; carried.**

Nassau  
NYC SWCD  
Rockland  
Westchester  
Putnam

### **CAFO Regulatory Reform Update – M. Latham**

M. Latham provided an update on the proposed CAFO regulatory reform initiative redefining medium CAFOs. Latham described how the Department and DEC collaborated on many efforts to ensure that the process is based on the need to continue protection of water quality while also working to enhance the state's milk supply as a result of burgeoning markets. Latham described where the process is now and a timeline for finalization of the permit. M. Latham also briefed the Committee on the nature of environmental organizations' opposition to the proposed regulation.

### **Engineering and Job Approval Authority Report – Tim Clark**

T. Clark reported to the Committee on his efforts to enhance technical capacity within Districts and revamp the Job Approval Authority (JAA) process for Districts. Clark distributed a brief report (appended to minutes). A survey was completed with all Districts asking for their preferences for JAA. Discussion ensued regarding the JAA process and need for practice certification. The results showed that the top five for Engineering JAA and Ecological Sciences JAA include:

#### **Engineering JAA:**

- Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
- Diversion (in-field only) (362)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Subsurface Drainage (606)

#### **Ecological Sciences JAA:**

- Channel Bank Vegetation (322)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Fence (382)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Filter Strip (393)

T. Clark described the next steps needed to continue to advance technical capacity goals:

- Determine whether State Board of Education has legal authority over non-engineering design work.
- Develop intra-agency NRCS agreement to allow State certified staff to sign off on projects partially funded by federal dollars.
- Build milestone charts for JAA practices

### **Advisory Member / Partnership Reports / Public Comments - ALL**

**NYS DOH** – P. Kaczmarczyk provided a comprehensive report on his attendance at an agricultural tour in the NYC Watershed in relation to the Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD). Discussion included waning NYC assistance for precision feed management, turbidity TMDL for the Esopus Creek, and a NYC-funded subsidy for manure exporting in the watersheds. P. Kaczmarczyk was thanked for his report.

**NYS DEC** – K. Roberts provided an update to the Committee about the U.S. EPA's Nonpoint Source Guidelines to the States that are currently out. DEC is working in response to the guidelines with partner agencies. DEC is determined to seek EPA's endorsement and approval of NYS's existing program. It is hopeful that EPA will recognize the NYS Program as one of the leaders in the nation. He noted that there will be continual opportunities for SWCC and other partners to engage with DEC on renewal of the state's NPS Program. Roberts stated that the SWCC has been considered to be the Agricultural Workgroup of the NPSCC and will have continued opportunity to provide comment and direction on state-wide NPS issues.

**USDA-NRCS** – D. Pettit advised the Committee about status of the Farm Bill. The House and Senate Committees recently passed versions of the Farm Bill. Differences exist between the two Bills, but Conservation Title for both is relatively consistent and constant with last year's committee approvals. The Conservation Title will be streamlined from 23 to 13 major programs and fairly strong on EQIP funding. Still major differences exist within the Commodities and SNAP Titles that will most likely delay full passage.

Pettit also discussed the status of the NY-NRCS budget CR for the year. Pettit advised the Committee that the CR budget and uncertainty requires him to be conservative on spending. Districts have been inquiring about Contribution Agreements with NRCS. Pettit advised the Committee that at this point commitments cannot be made on Contribution Agreements with Districts. The other major challenge with budget uncertainty impacts the ability to backfill 12 vacant positions in NY-NRCS. Pettit is hopeful that in the next couple of weeks there will be more certainty in the budget outlook.

Pettit also provided an update on the restructuring process across the state. Finally Pettit discussed the joint Soil Health Campaign underway in NY. Pettit told the Committee that demonstrations are being planned for Empire State Farm Days in August to show farmers the importance and value of soil health. There may be Cover crop plots on display linked to soil health. Pettit advised the Committee that an employee meeting on soil health is being planned. Experts from the National Soil Health and Sustainability Team at Greensboro NC will be on hand to instruct NRCS employees on Soil Health. In addition, a second day is a planned collaborative effort with the SWCC where a train-the-trainer event will be held with a smaller group of NRCS, Conservation Districts, and Cornell Cooperative Extension. Pettit told the Committee that a Soil Health Division in Headquarters has been developed and tasked with the creation and deployment of a national curriculum for soil health.

Finally Pettit discussed the budget process for next year. Pettit told the Committee that each state can propose one special project for funding consideration. The project will have a focus on partnership collaboration, be geographically defined and resource concerns identified. Pettit said he will be reaching out to partners on this in the near future since proposal concepts have to be developed by mid-June.

**NYACD** – J. Littrell reported on on-going efforts of the NYACD to address priorities in the current state legislative session. Littrell noted that a top priority of NYACD continues to be advocating for additional EPF appropriation to fully fund Parts A-C of the District Aid Program. Other priorities include: invasive species management and education authorities within District Law, eligibility for Districts to apply directly to the DOS Waterfront Revitalization Program, and to advocate for additional opportunities for Districts statewide. Littrell noted that the NY Association of Towns (NYAST) has signed on to support District eligibility for the DOS Program. NYAST support is important since it includes towns and counties that have exclusive ability to apply for Waterfront Revitalization Programs through DOS.

Littrell advised the Committee that the NYACD Annual Meeting dates are set for October 16 – 17, 2013 in Oneonta.

Finally, Littrell advised the Committee that she recently participated in a meeting at the Albany Law School that focused on the NYS 2100 Commission. The Commission, appointed by Governor Cuomo after Hurricane Sandy, is tasked with finding ways to improve the resilience and strength of the state's infrastructure in the face of natural disasters and other emergencies. The meeting dealt a lot with the protection and development of natural systems to combat the effects of a warming climate, such as sea level rise and extreme weather events. Wetland protection was a focused topic as well as Green Infrastructure and Stormwater projects and program development. Opportunities for Conservation District involvement exist in implementing the Commission's Land Use recommendations.

**CCE** – L. Telega discussed a new program area that CCE Pro-Diary is working on through the Ag Waste Management Line of the EPF. Through this new program, dairies that wish to expand their herd will be able to take advantage of CNMP and business plan services through Pro-Diary and partners.

Finally, L. Telega announced his retirement from Cornell this week and effective on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Telega announced that this would be the last time he will be with SWCC. Helene Dillard and Dean Boor have appointed D. Grantham as the representative from CCE and CU/CALS. The Committee applauded Telega's career, thanked him for his years of service to Conservation and congratulated him on his retirement. Steinmuller asked Telega if he would be willing to come back to a future meeting for a more appropriate honoring of his service to the Committee. Telega noted that he has served on many inter-governmental committees over his career and the SWCC functions extremely well, it is well administered and achieves the goals it sets for itself, partnerships are tight, and according to Telega this is a major reason why there has been an increase in funding for Conservation in NY.

**NY Farm Bureau** – C. Mural discussed FB priorities including federal proposed changes to immigration policy. FB reiterated their focus and priorities dealing with state legislative initiatives such as the proposed farm labor bill. Mural noted that passage of this bill would be very damaging to the state's family farms.

**SWCC Staff Update** – J. Clifford told the Committee that she had an opportunity to attend a Hudson Valley Green Infrastructure Tour at SUNY Orange earlier in the month. A presentation was put on by the NYC SWCD using vacant lots for GI in urban settings. Nassau and Suffolk County SWCD will be putting on the second annual Green Infrastructure at the Brookhaven National Laboratory on June 12, 2013.

**SWCC Staff Update** – M. Latham reported on the legislation pending that would define Districts as a municipal corporation for the purposes of allowing a Conservation District to enter into inter-municipal agreements (IMAs). If Districts had this legal status, opportunities to cooperate with municipalities on natural resource programs would be streamlined, since contractual agreements would be unnecessary. The legislature had a concern that was addressed making sure that the agreements would be initiated by the county not the Districts. Latham discussed other legislative priorities that are making their way through the legislature including District eligibility to participate in farmland protection programs.

Latham also advised the Committee that he recently attended a NASCA meeting in Arkansas. Latham provided a report summarizing similar issues that NYS has with many other issues, including natural gas exploration, invasive species management, and certainty programs for water quality. NASCA is working on tools for training District Directors. In many states it is the State Committees that are responsible for conducting District Director training. In NYS this is more of an Association function. Lastly, M. Latham advised the Committee that the NE NACD Meeting will be held on September 15-18 in Dover Delaware.

**SWCC Voting Member Update** – G. Proios advised the Committee on a number of issues including hydrofracking, Green Infrastructure, and energy efficiency issues. *G. Proios noted that he would like to have a meeting at Cornell University by September. Proios also mentioned that he likes the idea of having presentations continue that emphasizes opportunities for Districts. He suggested having the USGS on hand to discuss water gauging station issues. Proios also suggested having the Watershed Agricultural Council available and the USC to provide updates to the Committee.*

**Next Meeting – June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Utica State Office Building, 207 Genesee Street Genesee Street, Utica.**

**The Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.**

**Audiocast available at: <http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/webcasting.html>**

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**Timeline for Development and Release of Round 20 RFP**  
**AgNPS Grant Program**

**2013**

**May** – Hold TAC meeting to discuss AgNPS Program policies / procedures and make recommendation for any substantial changes to program policies and / or RFP

**May** – Draft RFP to be presented to TAC for Review

**June** – Hold TAC meeting to review and recommend approval of RFP

**June / July** – Present RFP to SWCC for review and approval

**July / August** – Make changes if any to RFP and present for Department review and approval

**July / August** – Hold TAC Field Meeting at a farm to discuss and evaluate specific BMP System(s)

**August / September** – Release RFP via Grants Gateway and/or Department Website

**September / October** – Hold RFP training sessions on new format and other significant changes

**October** – Initiate Q&A on Grants Gateway and/or Department Website

**Mid November** - Conclude Q&A to allow time for the SWCC review

**November** – Present Q&A to the SWCC for review

**December** - Proposal submission date (Monday 4:30 p.m.), review proposals for eligibility, distribute to reviewers for ranking

**Mid December** - Hold TAC Meeting of reviewers to discuss review process and format

**2014**

**Mid January** – Scores due back to the SWCC Albany Office

**Late January** – Hold TAC Meeting of reviewers to discuss scores

**February** – Present ranked list to the State Committee for approval

**February** – Have final ranked list and project descriptions ready for release of awards

**February - March** – Upon release of awards, send out plan of work materials

**April** – Receive and review plans of work and develop contracts

**June** – Have fully executed contracts in place

**NYSSWCC Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**  
Department of Agriculture and Markets  
**May 8, 2013**  
**10:00 a.m.**

Notes

**Present:** B. Steinmuller, C. Frasier, G. Albrecht, B. Brower, T. Clark, J. Ten Eyck, G. Albrecht, L. Lyons-Swift, B. Bzduch, R. Bush; L&W (SWCC) Staff; P. Wright, NRCS; A. Kumar, DEC; N. Billhardt, NYSCDEA; J. Littrell, NYACD; P. Kaczmarczyk, DOH; S. Wojtowicz, DOS; L. Telega, CCE.

**Call to Order: 10:00 a.m.**

**Round 19 Update:** B. Steinmuller, L. Swift and B. Bzduch reported on the status of Round 19 including data management and reporting efforts, plans of work development and anticipated contract deliverables.

**Round 20 Development Timeline:** B. Steinmuller distributed and reviewed the timeline for RFP development with the group. The group agreed with the proposed timeline and recommends approval to the SWCC. Steinmuller noted that there is a Grants Reform Initiative and a new web based portal that may impact the SWCC and Department's ability to adhere to the aggressive timeline presented. Discussion ensued. The proposed timeline will be presented to the Committee for approval at the May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 meeting.

**Round 20 RFP and Proposal Rating Sheet:** B. Steinmuller distributed a draft Round 20 RFP, Proposal Rating Sheet, and Q&A. Discussion focused on proposal formatting including changes to the SW1, SW3, and additions to the application. The TAC recommended the following changes be made to the RFP and associated documents:

*The Ag Waste Storage Screening Tool should be revised to be a more informative document. The tool should be more reflective of the Covered HUA planning tool that became a requirement in Round 19. The group came to consensus that the Covered HUA tool was very informative and useful in determining the justification for covered structures. It was agreed that the Ag Waste Storage Screening Tool could be updated to include more useful information for the proposal evaluators.*

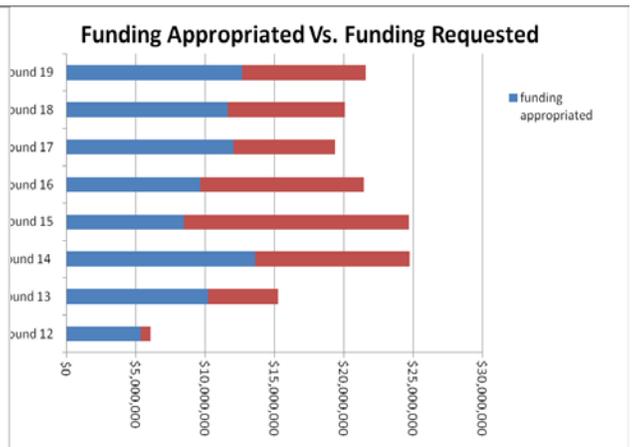
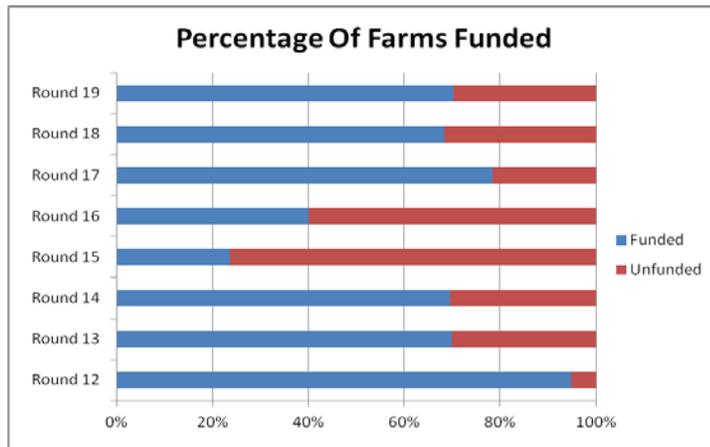
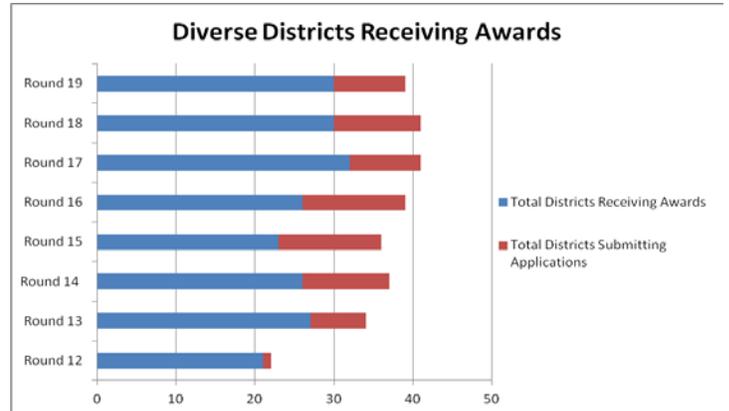
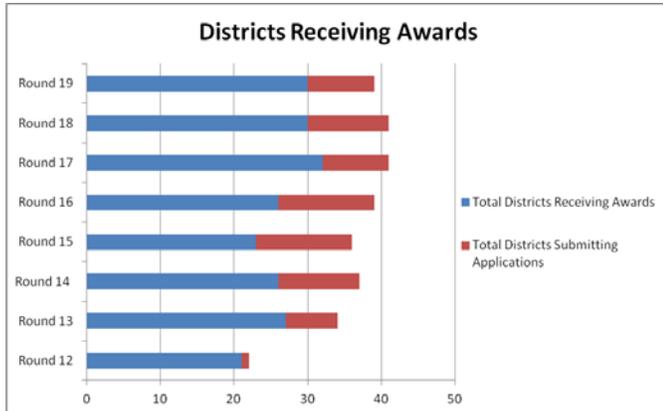
*Under Proposal Format it was recommended that the proposals include a plan map that shows the farm and the flow path and distance to the watercourse, segment, or area that is being impacted by the project.*

*On the SW1 it was recommended that the most applicable PWL segment that would be impacted by the proposed project be included for each listed farm.*

Other items were discussed and will be addressed at future meetings including the bonus points structure, proposal rating sheet, and application questions.

**Revisit policy recommendation on capping AgNPS Funding Awards** – B. Steinmuller  
B. Steinmuller reintroduced a topic that the SWCC Voting Members have asked the TAC to review in previous rounds of AgNPS funding. The policy consideration for capping AgNPS funding awards was discussed at the April 16, 2013 SWCC Meeting. The topic was brought up in the lens of poor management of multiple overdue contracts by one Conservation District. It was argued that if the SWCC instituted a funding cap, the District may not have been able to accumulate so many open contracts from one grant round to the next. Much discussion ensued. It was stated that a funding cap would not have

been effective in mitigating the problems of that District. It was stated that it is largely a problem of poor management and turnover of program staff. The TAC reviewed charts and graphs that show the breakdown of project dollars statewide. The charts show that there is a good distribution of program contracts and funding to participating Districts and farms. The TAC concluded that there is no technical merit to instituting a funding cap for AgNPS.



Based on the information provided and deliberation on the issue, the TAC reached consensus to not recommend a funding cap of AgNPS funding awards.

**Recommendation on AEM Base Year 10 / AgNPS Round 20 Funding Split** – J. Ten Eyck distributed a position paper on a recommendation to suballocate \$2.55 million from the SFY 2013-2014 EPF for AgNPS:

**Estimated Need for AEM Base Funding for Year 10 (2014 – 2015)**

- **Request that a total of \$2,550,000 (2.55 M) be set aside for the 2014/15 AEM Base Program.** The actual projected need is calculated to be \$2.46 M, but a need of \$2.53 is possible. Therefore, a safe and reasonable request is the \$2.55 being asked for. The increase is the result of the solid track record of AEM Base funding, tightening County budget allocations to Districts, and uncertainty with NRCS Contribution Agreements.

## **Justification**

- ✓ Anticipate 53 Districts to participate
- ✓ Anticipate 15 Districts to request Enhanced funding;  $15 \times 75,000 = \$1,275,000$
- ✓ Anticipate 30 Districts to participate at \$40,000;  $30 \times 40,000 = \$1,120,000$
- ✓ Anticipate 4 Districts to participate at \$25,000;  $4 \times 25,000 = \$100,000$
- ✓ Anticipate 4 remaining Districts to request a total of **\$35,000**
- ✓ Total anticipated need for year 10 = **\$2,530,000 (\$2.53 M)**

**Discussion ensued regarding the value of investing program funds into the technical human resources. The TAC reached consensus to recommend that \$2.55 million be suballocated from the SFY 2013-2014 AgNPS budget to fund Year 10 of the ABF Program. This would provide \$11.65 million for competitive AgNPS Round 20 funding.**

**Agricultural Practices Catalog Update:** B. Brower provided an update to the TAC on the Agricultural Practices Catalog. Brower gave an update on the extent of the changes including consolidating many practice sheets into more comprehensive conservation systems. Continuing updates will be made to the TAC with the goal of having the TAC conduct the final technical review and recommendation for adoption by the SWCC.



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

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## Water Quality Improvement Project Program (WQIP)

Susan Van Patten, Chief  
Procurement, Communication and Partnership Section

## Presentation Overview

- Program Overview
  - Program Priorities
  - Eligible Applicants
  - Type of Projects
  - Sources of Funding
- Latest on Round 10
- Round 11
- Contact Information



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

## WQIP Priorities

- Address impairments of waterbodies listed in the PWL
- Implementation of New York State and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Initiatives



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

## Basic Points

- WQIP funds projects that address a waterbody's impairment
- Competitive grant program
- Awardees are reimbursed for the work
- Funds are to implement projects.

## Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Not-for-Profits



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

## Project Types

- Nonagricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control
- Aquatic Habitat Restoration
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permit implementation
- Wastewater Treatment Improvement



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

### Partner Agencies

- NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
- NYS Department of State
- NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation



### Sources of Funding

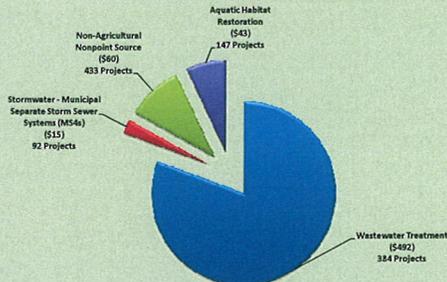
- Environmental Protection Fund (EPF)
  - Water Quality Improvement
  - Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source
- Re-programmed grant awards
  - 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act
  - Environmental Protection Funds

Distribution of Water Quality Improvement Projects

Project Types	Number of Projects	Funds Provided*
Wastewater Treatment	384	\$492
Non-agricultural Nonpoint Source	433	\$60
Aquatic Habitat Restoration	147	\$43
Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)	92	\$15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,056</b>	<b>\$610</b>

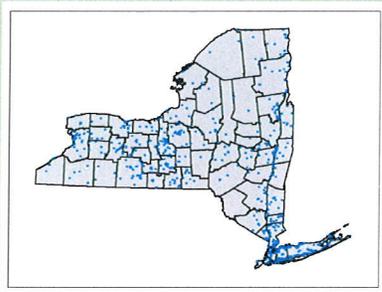
\*Dollar figures are in millions

Distribution of Water Quality Improvement Projects



Dollar figures are in millions

### Distribution of WQIP Projects



### MS4 Program

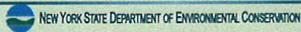
- In 2003, the WQIP program provided assistance to municipalities
- Over \$14 million has been provided municipalities to assist with Phase II Stormwater (MS4) programs

## Round 10

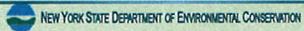


## Round 10

- Announced on November 12, 2010
- 101 projects funded
- More than \$61 million in funding

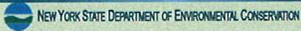


## Round 11



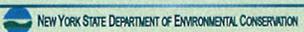
## Getting Ready for Round 11

- SEQR
- Permits
- Smart Growth Compliance
- Municipal Agreements
- Other sources of funding



## RFP Announcement

- Statewide Grants Management System
- WQIP webpage:  
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/4774.html>
- Sign up for the NYSDEC Division of Water Listserve "Making Waves" at:  
<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/NYSDEC/subscriber/new>



## Contact Us

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**Job Approval Authority Update**  
**NYS SWCC meeting May 21, 2013**

**District survey results:**

Engineering JAA top picks:

- Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
- Diversion (in-field only) (362)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Subsurface Drainage (606)

Ecological Sciences JAA top picks:

- Channel Bank Vegetation (322) (Possibly disapproved, not in eFOTG)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Fence (382)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Filter Strip (393)

**Next Steps:**

- Determine whether State Board of Education has legal authority over non-engineering design work
- Develop intra-agency NRCS agreement to allow State certified staff to sign off on projects partially funded by federal dollars
- Build milestone charts for JAA practices (draft for 575 on reverse)

# Animal Trails and Walkways

## Recommended Job Class Milestones

**Note: Guideline only; granting of approval authority is at the discretion of the State Engineer**

Mentoring: Although there is no formal mentoring requirement, you should discuss your evaluations and designs with:

Rob DeClue (Chenango County), Troy Bishopp (Madison County), or David Roberts (NRCs - Marcy)

		Job Class				
		I	II	III	IV	V (ALL)
Length (feet)	25	100	1500	5000	ALL	
Culvert (inch)	18	24	48	72	ALL	
Inv. & Eval			Complete Pasture Management Level 2 Ag. Planning Course	Complete Pasture Management Level 2 Ag. Planning Course	Prior Requirements plus: Assist in Designing 100 feet of walkways on 1 farm	Prior Requirements plus: Assist in Designing 200 feet of walkways on 2 additional farms with at least 1 culvert design
Design		Complete Pasture Management Level 2 Ag. Planning Course	Prior Requirements plus: Assist in Designing 100 feet of walkways on 1 farm	Prior Requirements plus: Assist in Designing 100 feet of walkways on 1 farm	Prior Requirements plus: Assist in Designing 200 feet of walkways on 2 farms with at least 1 culvert design	JAA Not Available at this time for Design
Construction	Complete Pasture Management Level 2 Ag. Planning Course, Assist in Designing 100 feet of walkways on 1 farm	Prior Requirements plus: Assist in Designing 200 feet of walkways on 1 farm with 1 culvert design of 24"	Prior Requirements plus: Assist in Designing 1500 feet of walkways on 1 additional farms with 1 culvert design of 48"	Prior Requirements plus: Assist in 1 walkway design of 5000 feet, 1 culvert design of 72", Completion of HY-8 Culvert Design self study course.	JAA Not Available at this time for Construction	