

**State Conservation Commission Meeting
PA Department of Agriculture Building – Room 309**

March 14, 2023

Hybrid (Virtual/In-person) Meeting

Agenda – SCC COPY

Briefing Session - 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

1. Review of Public Meeting agenda items
2. Ohio Train Derailment
3. Chesapeake Bay Update
4. Regenerative Agriculture/Climate Funding Update
5. Budget Update
6. PennVEST Clean Water Procurement Program
7. REAP Update

Executive Session - 11:30 a.m.

Business Session - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

A. Opportunity for Public Comment

B. Business and Information Items

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. January 24, 2023, Public Meeting (A)
 - b. February 14, 2023, Conference Call (A)
2. Nutrient and Odor Management Program
 - a. Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) – Rushtown Poultry, LLC, Northumberland County – Brady Seeley, SCC (A)
 - b. Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) – Philip High, Schuylkill County – Amy Zerbe, SCC (A)
 - c. Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) – Wayne County Cooperative Agricultural Society, Wayne County – Amy Zerbe, SCC (A)
 - d. Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) – Lamar Sensenig, Schuylkill County – Amy Zerbe, SCC (A)

The SCC meeting materials packet only contains portions of the above referenced Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs). If anyone wishes to view the entire NMP document, please contact Frank X Schneider, Director of Nutrient and Odor Management Programs at fschneider@pa.gov or 717-705-3895 prior to the Commission meeting, and the entire NMP will be provided.

- e. Nutrient Management Plan Approval Process – Frank Schneider, SCC (NA)

3. York County Conservation District Board Composition Change – Jeff Hill, York County Conservation District Manager (A)
4. ACAP Update – Justin Challenger, SCC (NA)
 - a. ACAP Engineering Services
5. Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads (DGLVR) Annual Summary Report and District Spending Update – Steve Bloser, Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies; Roy Richardson, SCC (NA)
6. Conservation Innovation/Federal Farm Bill/NASDA Reports – Mike Roth, SCC (NA)

C. Written Reports

1. Program Reports
 - a. Nutrient and Odor Management Program Measureables
 - b. Regulatory Revisions
 - c. 2022 – Chapter 91 Activities
 - d. 2022 NMA Planning Numbers
 - e. Nutrient Management Plans – Update Report
 - f. March 2023 Status Report on Facility Odor Management Plan Reviews/OMP Actions
 - g. REAP Update – Proposed Changes for the FY 2023 REAP Program
2. Ombudsman Program Reports – Southern Allegheny Region (Blair County Conservation District) and Lancaster County Conservation District.

D. Cooperating Agency Reports

E. Adjournment

Next Public Meetings/Conference Calls:

April 11, 2023 - Conference Call

May 9, 2023 – In-Person (and Virtual) Meeting

**STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING**

PA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In-Person and Zoom Webinar System

Tuesday, January 24, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Draft Minutes

Members Present: Executive Deputy Secretary Greg Hostetter for Secretary Russell Redding, PDA; Ramez Ziadeh, for Acting Secretary Rich Negrin, DEP; Mike Flinchbaugh; Daryl Miller; Ron Rohall; Ron Kopp; Don Koontz; Denise Coleman, NRCS; Drew Gilchrist, DCNR; Adam Walters, DCED (virtual); and Kelly Stagen, PACD (virtual).

A. Public Input – None.

B. Business and Information Items

1. Approval of Minutes –November 15, 2022 - Public Meeting and December 13, 2022 – Conference Call.

Ron Rohall moved to approve the November 15, 2022, public meeting minutes and the December 13, 2022 conference call minutes. Motion seconded by Daryl Miller. Motion carried.

2. Nutrient Management and Odor Management Program

- a. Nutrient Management Plan, Matthew Leid, Schuylkill County. Brady Seeley, SCC, reported that the Mathew Leid farm is an existing broiler operation (105,000 broilers) in Schuylkill County. This operation is a concentrated animal operation (CAO) and is regulated under the PA Nutrient Management Act. This plan is coming to the Commission for consideration because Schuylkill County Conservation District has recently terminated its NM/MM delegation agreement. Commission staff (Brady Seeley) has reviewed the plan, visited the site, and has determined the plan meets the Act 38 NM requirements. Brady presented additional information regarding this plan.

Don Koontz made a motion to approve the Matthew Leid Nutrient Management Plan. Motion seconded by Ron Rohall Motion carried.

- b. Nutrient Management Plan, John Brommer, Schuylkill County. Brady Seeley, SCC, reported that the John Brommer farm is a layer animal operation (40,000 laying hens and 4,000 roosters) in Schuylkill County. This operation is a concentrated animal operation (CAO) and is regulated under the PA Nutrient Management Act. This plan is coming to the Commission for consideration because Schuylkill County Conservation District has recently terminated its NM/MM delegation agreement. Commission staff (Brady Seeley) has reviewed the plan, visited the site, and has determined the plan meets the Act 38 NM requirements. Brady presented additional information regarding this plan.

Daryl Miller made a motion to approve the John Brommer Nutrient Management Plan. Motion seconded by Ron Kopp. Motion carried.

- c. Nutrient Management Plan, Hummel Farm, LLC, Northumberland County. Brady Seeley, SCC, reported that the Hummel Farm LLC is an existing turkey and cattle operation in Northumberland County. This operation is a voluntary animal operation (VAO) under the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Act and is not considered a CAFO by DEP. This plan is coming to the Commission for consideration because Northumberland County Conservation District has not entered into a delegation agreement. Commission staff (Brady Seeley) has reviewed the plan and determined the plan meets the Act 38 NM requirements

Daryl Miller made a motion to approve the Hummel Farm, LLC Nutrient Management Plan. Motion seconded by Ron Rohall. Motion carried.

- d. Nutrient Management Plan, Tim Gresh, Cambria County. Jamie Ulrich, SCC, reported that Tim Gresh is an existing beef operation (40 cows, 40 calves, 1 bull, 40 finishers, and 20 replacement heifers) in Cambria County. This operation is a voluntary animal operation (VAO) under the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Act and is not considered a CAFO by DEP. This plan is coming to the Commission for consideration because Cambria County Conservation District has not entered into a delegation agreement. Commission staff (Jamie Ulrich) has reviewed the plan and has determined the plan meets the Act 38 NM requirements

Ron Rohall made a motion to approve the Tim Gresh Nutrient Management Plan. Motion seconded by Don Koontz. Motion carried.

- e. Nutrient Management Plan, Ronald Snyder Farm, Schuylkill County. Amy Zerbe, SCC, reported that the Ronald Snyder Farm is a proposed swine and sheep animal operation (4,800 finishing swine, 50 ewes, 125 lambs, 2 rams, 2 beef finishing steer, and 12 laying hens) in Schuylkill County. This operation will be considered a concentrated animal operation (CAO) under the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Act. This plan is coming to the Commission for consideration because Schuylkill County Conservation District recently terminated its delegation agreement. Commission staff (Amy Zerbe) has reviewed the plan and has determined the plan meets the Act 38 NM requirements

Daryl Miller made a motion to approve the Ronald Snyder Farm Nutrient Management Plan. Motion seconded by Ron Rohall. Motion carried.

- f. Nutrient Management Plan Valcor Stable Farm (aka Valerie Jorgenson Farm), Monroe County. Amy Zerbe, SCC, reported that the Valcor Stable Farm is an existing equine operation (20 mature riding horses, 1 pony, 1 boar, and 10 free range laying hens) in Monroe County. This operation is considered a concentrated animal operation (CAO) under the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Act. This plan is coming to the Commission for consideration because Monroe County Conservation District has not entered into a delegation agreement. Commission staff (Amy Zerbe) has reviewed the plan and has determined the plan meets the Act 38 NM requirements.

Don Koontz made a motion to approve the Valcor Stable Farm Nutrient Management Plan. Motion seconded by Ron Kopp. Motion carried.

3. Conservation District Fund Allocation Program (CDFAP) Statement of Policy (SOP) Update. Frank Schneider, SCC, reported that the Commission has traditionally adopted “statements of policy” (SOPs) to outline policies and procedures for the operation of programs and activities under its jurisdiction. This includes an SOP for the Conservation District Fund Allocation Program (CDFAP). This SOP has also been codified into Chapter 83 of the Commission’s regulations. This codification makes it difficult to keep these SOPs current and up-to-date and has resulted in codified SOPs that are not consistent with current Commission policies and procedures. Commission staff was given approval at the November 2022 Commission meeting to remove the CDFAP SOP from Chapter 83 and make it a standing policy of the Commission, rather than have it published in the PA Code. However, after further research, it was recognized that the CDFAP SOP Chapter 83 reference was specifically identified in Act 13.

Ron Rohall made a motion to rescind the Commission’s November 2022 approval to remove the CDFAP SOP from Chapter 83 and revert to the CDFAP SOP that was approved by the Commission in November 2014. Motion seconded by Don Koontz. Motion carried.

4. ACAP Program Update and Setback Discussion. Justin Challenger, SCC, reported that the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Fund (CSF) was created by the legislature and signed by the Governor as a part of the FY 22/23 state budget. The Fund represents an historic investment to reduce non-point source (NPS) pollution in commonwealth’s streams, rivers and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay. The Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) which was also created under the current budget, is funded by the Clean Streams Fund. The purpose of the program is to assist farmers with agricultural conservation best management practices that will reduce nutrient and sediment runoff on farms and improve water quality and soil health. Since the program was created, Commission staff wrote program guidelines (including required output measures) and distributed delegation agreements to conservation districts. Commission staff also determined the apportionments for each county using a formula prescribed by law--with the first of three allocations set to be distributed within the next several weeks to month. The formula considers agriculturally impaired stream miles, cropland acres, number of farms, and number of livestock and poultry operations. Commission staff also lead frequent meetings with an Advisory Group made up of conservation stakeholder groups, to provide input on program guidelines and policies. All agree that the greatest risk factor in carrying out the work in the narrow window of time is availability of technical assistance to design and implement practices. For this reason, the Commission also formed a Technical Assistance Advisory Group to help accelerate capacity building. At the December call, staff presented the Commission with a proposal to require a 35’ stream setback for ACAP contracts that are implementing manure storage structures and heavy use protection areas. This recommendation comes from USDA-NRCS over concerns that Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) requires this setback and that state and federal funding sources should not compete. Staff presented Commission members with a modified proposal for stream setbacks, which defers to a conservation or Ag E&S plan to require it as a condition for ACAP funding, with opportunity to seek waiver from the Commission if circumstances are not practical to install a setback. Discussion was appropriate, and depending on the views of the Commission...a vote to accept, reject, or modify a setback requirement was also appropriate.

Ron Rohall made a motion to accept the setback policy as presented, with a start date of January 1, 2024. Motion seconded by Don Koontz. Motion carried.

5. Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road (DGLVR) – 5-Year Agreement Approval. Roy Richardson, SCC, reported that the Commission provides funding to conservation districts to implement the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads Maintenance Program through 5-year program agreements with each district. The current agreements will expire on June 30, 2023. Commission staff, with the help of the policy and planning workgroup, have developed a proposed 5-year agreement to begin on July 1, 2023, and run through June 30, 2028. If approved, staff will start the process of acquiring signatures so that all agreements are fully executed by July 1, 2023.

Don Koontz made a motion to approve the new, proposed 5-year DGLVR agreement. Motion seconded by Daryl Miller. Motion carried.

6. Annual Conservation District Audit Report; Calendar Year 2021. Jaci Kerstetter, DEP, reported that starting in 1999, the Commission required conservation district financial records to be audited under the supervision of a certified public accountant. Those audits must be independent of the county audit completed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to ‘Financial Statement’ audits per Comptroller General. Finding of the annual audits were discussed.

Ron Rohall made a motion to approve the Annual Conservation District Audit Report, 2021. Motion seconded by Don Koontz. Motion carried.

7. 2023 Conservation District Director Appointment Update. Barb Buckingham, SCC, reported that the Commission is responsible for tracking conservation district director appointments. Districts are required to report information on appointments to the Commission annually. As of January 11, 2023, 56 counties (85% of all counties) have submitted their county’s list of director appointments for 2023. Reminder letters will be sent to those who did not.

Action: No action required.

8. Leadership Development Program Update. Matthew Miller, PACD, reported that PA’s ‘Building for Tomorrow’ Leadership Development Program is a collaborate effort of PA’s Conservation Partnership, which includes the Commission, PDA, DEP, USDA-NRCS, PACD and county conservation districts. The professional development program for conservation district directors and staff was created by the partnership over 25 years ago. The program, administered by PACD, is designed to provide professional development opportunities for conservation district managers and staff. Matt gave a report including more details of the Leadership Development Program.

Action: No action required.

C. Written Reports – Self Explanatory

1. Program Reports
 - a. Nutrient and Odor Management Program Measurables Report
 - b. Regulatory Revisions Workgroup Updates
 - c. January 2023 Status Report on Facility Odor Management Plan Reviews/OMP Actions
 - d. NMP Update Report – Multiple Plans
2. Ombudsman Program Reports – Southern Allegheny Region (Blair County Conservation District) and Lancaster County Conservation District.

D. Cooperating Agency Reports – PACD, NRCS, Penn State, DEP, DCNR, DCED, PDA

1. **PACD** – Kelly Stagen thanked DCNR for the grants to PACD, which are appreciated by the Districts and PACD. The PACD Winter meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., and the Committee meetings have been on-going. The NACD meeting is scheduled for February 2023 in New Orleans, LA. Congratulations to PDA for a successful Farm Show. Welcome to Rich Negrin as Acting Secretary of DEP and a returning welcome to Secretary Russell Redding and Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn. Welcome to Doug Wolfgang as Executive Secretary of the SCC.

NRCS – Denise Coleman thanked Doug Wolfgang, Justin Challenger, and Eric Cromer for their work on ACAP. There will be exciting opportunities to train technically, new NRCS and District employees. The EQIP ranking was closed. Decisions were made on which contracts are being funded for 2023. There should be additional money remaining for Climate Practices, including: waterways, grasslands, cover crops, forestry, and may include livestock. NRCS will be having a State CIG grant application round. The People’s Garden Initiative is going out to residents of Philadelphia for urban gardens for \$10,000 to \$75,000 in possible funds. A Philadelphia Service Center will be opened on Broad Street in Philadelphia. NRCS is looking forward to hiring staff for this Center.

PSU – No report.

DEP –Ramez Ziadeh reported the following: Growing Greener Grant Announcement – The 2022 Growing Greener Grants were awarded on December 28, 2022 with a total grant award in the amount of \$17,824,000. There was an additional allocation made in the amount of \$1,845,535.00 from funds received through a Mariner East 2/Revolution Pipeline Corridor settlement, and \$273,046 through abandon mine bond forfeiture. Twenty Two of the 85 grants went to County Conservation Districts, totaling \$3,900,892.

Nutrient and Manure Management Delegation Agreement Update - The State Conservation Commission (SCC) voted to approve a new joint Nutrient Management and Manure Management Delegation agreement during their July 20, 2022 meeting. The delegation agreement is between the SCC, DEP, and the county conservation district (CCD). All CCDs that have decided to participate in the program have submitted their grant application. Form approval was received from Office of General Counsel and Office of Attorney General on January 13, 2023, and the Grants Center will be sending out agreements for digital signature by the CCDs, SCC and DEP executives, fiscal, and comptroller. Once agreements have been finalized, first and second quarter invoices that have been submitted for payment will be

processed.

Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management Website Update – DEP’s Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management has fully consolidated the programs reporting to the “new” Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management on the DEP website, found here:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/Watershed-Restoration/Pages/default.aspx>.

This website consolidation streamlines and updates existing content and creates new content that will assist partners as they work to improve water quality. The Bureau worked with the marketing consultant Water Words that Work to ensure the content was user friendly and the organizational structure was streamlined.

Some notable changes:

- BWRNSM, Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration Division and Nonpoint Source Management Division landing pages describe our mission, what we do and who we are to aid in better public transparency of our programs.
- NEW Conservation District Support Section includes an updated map and list of CDFR contacts as well as a new tab focused on the Chesapeake Bay Technical Assistance and Engineering Program (with the map of engineering coverage)
- Watershed Support Section includes the updated map of CD Watershed Specialist project advisors and additional web resources for Watershed Specialists.
- Transitioned Chesapeake Bay Office pages to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration Division pages, updated content to current state of affairs.

PAG-12 Administrative Extension Published December 17 - The PAG-12 is the NPDES General Permit for Operation of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). The Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management and Bureau of Clean Water have consulted with the DEP Agricultural Advisory Board (AAB) on the reissuance of the PAG-12 since the inception of the AAB PAG-12 workgroup in December 2020. The AAB received copies of the pre-Draft and Draft permit in July 2022. EPA received the Draft permit in June 2022 and provided official comments on the Draft permit in September 2022. The AAB did not have comments on the pre-Draft; however, they provided written comments on the Draft Permit in September 2022. Two AAB members also posted comments publicly during the public comment period. Comments received included two specific request to administratively extend the permit. Therefore, the administrative extension of the PAG-12 was posted the *PA Bulletin* on December 17, 2022. All existing permittees will maintain coverage; however, after the current permit expires on March 31, 2024 until the permit is reissued, per EPA policy, new PAG-12 permits will cannot be approved. New operations should apply for coverage under an individual permit. DEP has mapped out a proposed path over the next year to adequately address the remainder of the comments raised as we continue to work to reissue the PAG-12.

Pennsylvania Clean Water Academy - The Pennsylvania Clean Water Academy serves as a comprehensive training library for DEP and Conservation District Staff. Highlights include the following:

- 29,000 Individual Course Completions since the LMS was activated
- Conservation Districts that complete most training content include: Washington, Allegheny, Lancaster and Blair Conservation Districts
- The most completed course in PA Clean Water Academy is “Introductory Water Quality Standards”

DCNR – Drew Gilchrist reported that the DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation and Bureau of Forestry recently announced an investment of \$11.8 million in funding for twenty Community and Watershed Forestry Program projects. The DCNR Community and Watershed Forestry Program aims to improve local water quality and wildlife habitat and increase community resiliency through the installation of sustainable forest practices. The program provides financial assistance to municipalities and non-profit conservation organizations to identify locations in need of riparian forest buffers, the conversion of lawn to forests or meadows, and urban tree-planting; and to design, implement, and establish those practices. Projects funded throughout PA include:

- Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts – \$100,000 - Installation of approximately 18 acres of meadows and/or upland forests statewide; at least 2 lawn conversion trainings. Work to include landowner outreach and engagement, watershed forestry plantings and post-planting establishment.
- Friends of Pittsburgh Urban Forest – \$300,000 - To implement a proactive tree care program in the Pittsburgh region, including hiring a Tree Tender Program Coordinator:
- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay - \$3,002,500 – The establishment of 180 acres of Forested Riparian Buffer, 40 acres of Lawn Conversion, and 324 acres of Riparian Buffer implementation at the new Big Elk Creek State Park in Chester County;
- Erie City - \$335,000 – Installation of 2 acres of riparian forest buffers and three acres of meadows/upland trees, city tree inventory and tree care/training workshops, education and landowner outreach
- Easton City - \$100,000 - Coordinate Easton City TreeVitalize Program for years 2023-2026; engage residents in planting and caring for trees along streets, in parks, and in other public spaces in Northampton County. recruit and train community leaders through Tree Tenders curriculum.
- Pottstown School District - \$440,000 - Coordinate Pottstown School District TreeVitalize Program for years 2023-2026; engage residents in planting and caring for trees (est. to be 560 trees) on school district property:

The 2023 DCNR Community Conservation Partnership Program which funds Community and Watershed forestry Programs, is now open through April 5, 2023. Minimum grant requests are \$50,000 and require 20 % match. Contact your local BRC Regional Advisor for more information.

DCNR Regional Advisor Map

https://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=1753442&DocName=d_001184.pdf

Frequently Asked Questions – Community and Watershed Forestry

Program https://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=4597593&DocName=CWF_FAQs.pdf

DCED – No report. Adam Walters reminded the Commission that he will be filling in for Jessica Passiment for the next few months. DCED is always happy to support the Commission in their endeavors.

PDA – Executive Secretary Greg Hostetter thanked all of the Farm Show volunteers and exhibitors. There was a good crowd this year, and the first two opening days were above capacity in attendance. The Farm Show theme was Rooted in Progress. The Flinchbaugh family received the Leopold Award. The Farm Show focused on Youth with the Extension and FFA. The Scholarship Foundation awarded thirteen scholarships. There are four

million dollars in new grants through the PA Farm Bill. Governor Tom Wolf and Governor-Elect Josh Shapiro attended the Farm Show. There are many changes happening with the transition...including new staff. Dr. Wolfgang agreed to return to the PDA as an interim veterinarian until a vacancy is filled. This is very helpful with HPAI occurring. The new governor will be focusing on economic development. He wants Agriculture and DCED to be a big part of this initiative. He would like to widen broadband availability; work on regulations; and shorten permitting times. Greg welcomed Daryl Miller to the Commission.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next Public Meetings: February 14, 2023 – Conference Call

March 14, 2023 -- Public Meeting, In-Person and Virtual

STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION CONFERENCE CALL**Microsoft Teams Conference Call****Tuesday, February 14, 2023 @ 8:30 am*****DRAFT MINUTES***

Members Present: Executive Deputy Secretary Greg Hostetter for Secretary Russell Redding, PDA; Ramez Ziadeh for Acting Secretary Rich Negrin, DEP; Mike Flinchbaugh; Ron Rohall; Ron Kopp; Don Koontz; Daryl Miller; Drew Gilchrist for Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn, DCNR; Tim Peters, NRCS; Brent Hales, Penn State; and Adam Walters, DCED.

A. Public Input: None.

B. Agency/Organization Updates

1. DCNR – Drew Gilchrist

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn today announced the Mount Jewett to Kinzua Bridge Trail has been named Pennsylvania's 2023 Trail of the Year. Trails play an important role in supporting communities across the commonwealth by connecting people to nature, recreation opportunities, communities and the surrounding history, new businesses, and so much more. The [Pennsylvania Trails Advisory Committee](#) designates the Trail of the Year to help build enthusiasm and support for trails across the state, and to raise public awareness about the value of Pennsylvania's land and water trail network. The Mount Jewett to Kinzua Bridge Trail is a 7.8-mile-long section of the larger Knox and Kane Rail Trail in McKean County. The former rail line now provides a level trail for walking, jogging, biking, and horseback riding. In Winter months, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling are also popular. The trail highlights the environmental and historical aspects of the area in a series of interpretive signs placed along the 7.8 miles. The trail offers amenities, such as pavilions, focused artwork, railroad trestles, and dining options within close proximity of the rail trail. The Mount Jewett to Kinzua Bridge Trail is also important to the community, which has used the trail for events like senior citizen rides, special hikes, bike races, and marathons. To find out more about this trail visit the [ExplorePaTrails website](#) which offers details on more than 650 trails covering almost 12,000 miles in Pennsylvania.

2. DEP – Ramez Ziadeh

Public Comment Period Open for Draft Pennsylvania Post-Construction Stormwater Management (PCSM) Manual: The draft Pennsylvania Post-Construction Stormwater Management (PCSM) Manual is open for a 90-day

public comment period (January 28-April 28, 2023), and the associated Pennsylvania Bulletin notice provides an overview of the draft manual and can be viewed at: [Pennsylvania Bulletin \(pacodeandbulletin.gov\)](http://pacodeandbulletin.gov) Anyone is welcome to submit written comments during the public comment period. If you are planning to submit written comments, doing so through DEP's eComment website is the most efficient way.

2023 Virtual Conservation District and PA Agency Ag Meeting: *Pennsylvania Partners Making an Impact!*

Mark your calendars for the 2023 Virtual Conservation District and PA Agency Ag Meeting! April 3, 2023, 1:00pm to 4:00pm – Statewide Information April 6, 2023, 9:00am to Noon – Chesapeake Bay Information

County conservation districts and your partners have a huge impact at the local, state, and federal levels. And all of this PROGRESS is happening because of expanding PARTNERSHIPS and PROJECTS! We invite your district to join this half-day meeting to hear from local, state, and federal partners about how your work is connecting the dots everywhere and inspiring partners at every level. Staff from PA state agencies, USDA-NRCS, and conservation districts are encouraged to attend. More information to come! Registration will open in February.

Source Water Protection Webinar - On Wednesday, February 1, 2023, the Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management (BWRNSM) held a webinar titled “Source Water Protection Webinar Wednesday.” This webinar provided an overview of how Source Water Protection can be an integral part of improving water quality within a watershed. Presenters included Jamie Shallenberger *SRBC*, Rupert Rossetti *Octoraro Watershed Association*, Alexandra Neumann *Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay*, Calvin Yahn *EPA Region 3*, and Mike LaSala *LandStudies*. Each presenter approached the topic from multiple perspectives and give a well-rounded overview of how Source Water Protection can become a successful part of a county's Countywide Action Plan (CAP) and future watershed protection planning.

USDA-EPA Federal Crediting Task Force “Kickoff” Meeting – On February 6, 2023, the BWRNSM director attended a virtual “kickoff” meeting hosted by EPA Region 3 Regional Director Adam Ortiz and USDA Undersecretary Robert Bonnie. Others in attendance were the Cabinet Secretaries or their designees for the states' Agriculture and Environmental Departments in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The purpose of this meeting was to demonstrate high-level support for accounting for all USDA funded conservation practices in the Chesapeake Bay modeling tools. The Pennsylvania Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) highlighted this issue through quantification of estimated nutrient and sediment reductions not accounted for due to strict Chesapeake Bay Program policies regarding crediting of practice

implementation. Pennsylvania will be represented on the Task Force by Kate Bresaw (DEP), Frank Schneider (SCC) and Nick Hepfl (HRG, Inc.).

Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Implementation Grant potential additional funding opportunity – DEP BWRNSM continues to provide funding annually since 2019 to counties that have developed and are implementing CAPs to meet Pennsylvania’s collective water quality goals in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. DEP uses the state Environmental Stewardship Fund (ESF) as the primary source of funding, adding federal Chesapeake Bay funds, such as the Most Effective Basin (MEB) and MEB Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (MEB IJIA) funding, as it is made available to DEP through the federal allocation from EPA. For Fiscal Year 2023, EPA is considering augmenting the MEB allocation to DEP and SCC; staff worked together to propose to EPA that they split the funds between both agencies. We hope to hear about EPA’s final allocation for FY23 by mid to late February.

Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Snapshots for Tier 2 Counties – BWRNSM technical staff collaborated with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) to create CAP “snapshots” for the Tier 2 counties: Bedford, Centre, Cumberland and Lebanon. The snapshots are based on data developed from EPA’s Chesapeake Bay model that summarize the CAP’s numeric goals to meet the 2025 nutrient and sediment reductions for the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The snapshots provided by DEP’s BWRNSM are utilized by the CAP Coordinators to communicate to local stakeholders and the general public. County CAP information can be found at [Countywide Action Plans \(pa.gov\)](#).

3. NRCS – Tim Peters

Tim reported on the agreement for engineers between NRCS and SCC regarding the vacancies for these positions. There will be a new engineer starting in March 2023. There are still four vacant positions, which NRCS is hoping to fill soon, possibly with new graduates. NRCS is also expecting funding to increase for EQIP and CSP.

4. Penn State University – Brent Hales

Penn State is in the process of establishing the Ag Conservation Assistance Training Center. They hope to have it up and running by July 1, 2023. Penn State will be in partnership with the other agencies on this call. They are also preparing for Spring meetings with commodity groups and others. 4H has grown in recent times. PA 4H is the only land grant in the country that has grown in the past year.

5. PACD – No report.

6. DCED – Adam Walters – No report.
7. PDA – Executive Deputy Secretary Greg Hostetter

Congratulations to Dr. Hales on the success of the 4H Program. Regarding the task force that was mentioned by Ramez at DEP, Pennsylvania was highlighted, and Greg spoke on behalf of Pennsylvania on task force objectives. There are two additional HPAI cases in Lancaster County (two duck flocks and one chicken flock). Routine inspections in control zones are suspended for now. Control zone locations can be found on the map checker. The Governor put a directive out to Senior-level staff to be in the office at least three days per week. Agriculture is requiring Senior-level staff to be in the office at least four days per week. Meetings are occurring regarding the development of the One Stop Shop. The main focus is tying into permitting and business climate being responsive to getting things done faster.

C. Information and Discussion Items

- 1. Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program – ACAP (Justin Challenger and Eric Cromer)** – Nearly two-thirds of delegation agreements have been returned by conservation districts so far with the balance expected to be returned by the end of February. The Commission staff is working with the Comptroller to start advancing the first apportionments to districts with signed delegation agreements. In addition, Commission staff is working with partner organizations including Penn State University College of Ag Sciences, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and others to move forward with a Technical Assistance Center to build capacity needed to carry out ACAP and other agricultural cost share programs. Commission staff is proposing to begin spending funds to get trainings and job approvals started by amending the PDA master agreement with Penn State University, until a stand-alone contract is executed by July 1 and will seek Commission approval at this meeting.

Mike Flinchbaugh made a motion to approve expenditure of up to \$100,000 in ACAP contractual services funding to get the Center up and running until the Commission has the stand-alone contract with Penn State, as early as July 1, 2023. Motion seconded by Daryl Miller. Motion carried.

- 2. Conservation Excellence Grant (CEG) potential funding opportunity – (Doug Wolfgang and Eric Cromer)** – CEG was created under the Pennsylvania Farm Bill in 2019. The program provides funding to conservation districts for agricultural best management practices in Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. CEG has been vastly successful and provided the framework for ACAP. Current annual funding levels include roughly \$2.8 million, made up of state funding from the Nutrient Management Fund and Most Effective Basin (MEB) Infrastructure Investments and Job Act (IIJA) funds from the EPA. EPA is considering merging its MEB funds with MEB IIJA funds and making the

total amount available to the state, which could be split between DEP and the Commission. If this occurs, there may be opportunity for an increase in CEG funds in FY 2023.

3. **Resource Enhancement and Protection Act (REAP) update (Joel Semke)** – REAP tax credit program, administered by the Commission, has been in existence since 2007. The program provides tax credits for agricultural best management practices and purchasing of no-till and precision agricultural equipment. To date, roughly 3,500 farmers have accessed \$140 million in tax credits, leveraging \$66 million in other public funding and \$200 million of producer funds to install conservation on farms. The FY 22/23 REAP application period opened on August 1, 2022. The REAP tax credit allocation was \$13 million, all of which was allocated by the submission deadline of November 18, 2022. Changes to the program for FY 22/23 include a cap on eligible costs for no-till equipment and precision ag equipment, and limited eligibility for under-barn manure storages. Joel Semke provided additional information.

4. **USDA/EPA Task Force for Crediting Best Management Practices (Frank Schneider)** – USDA and EPA have formed a task force that will make recommendations to the Chesapeake Bay Program principals staff committee and Management Board on Crediting Federal Conservation Investments (i.e. NRCS BMPs). The taskforce was established as EPA and USDA are united in their commitment to give farmers the credit they deserve and to more fully credit farmer conservation efforts in cooperation with the Bay States and ag community and to maintain scientific integrity and ensure producer privacy is protected. The objectives would include developing a full accounting of practices, considering double counting; Identifying and verifying expired practices; crediting more practices; and developing time-savings methodologies. The deliverables of the taskforce include development of an Action Plan: Recommended solutions and will include additional support documentation, as needed. A final plan will be presented to CBP partnership within 1 year. Each state has nominated 2-3 persons to represent their interests. In Pennsylvania, the representatives are: Kate Bresaw, DEP, Nick Hepfl, HRG, and Frank Schneider, SCC. A ‘kick-off’ virtual event was held on February 6, 2023.

5. **PennVEST Clean Water Procurement Program Draft Guidelines and Upcoming Request for Proposals – (Doug Wolfgang)** – Act 54 of 2022, the Clean Streams Fund, provides \$22 million to PennVEST for the Clean Water Procurement Program. The long-term objective of the program is to improve water quality through the purchase of verified nutrient or sediment reduction resulting from the installation of practices or combinations of practices determined to be effective and practical to manage nutrient and sediment to protect surface water and groundwater, as further defined under Act 54, with the goal of helping the Commonwealth to achieve the most current total maximum daily load limits for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment as established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (the “Chesapeake Bay TMDL”). The Commission staff and DEP met with PennVEST to comment on draft program guidelines and discuss the upcoming request for proposals.

6. No-Till Alliance Soil Health Meetings Recap - (Doug Wolfgang)

The No-Till Alliance is a non-profit organization that promotes soil health and farm profitability through no-till and cover crop practices. The group recently conducted farmer meetings in Hanover and Meadville, with high attendance at both locations. The keynote speaker for these events was Cameron Mills, a well-known and innovative no-till and cover crop advocate from Indiana. Cameron and his wife, Cara, farm nearly 4,000 acres and ‘plant green’ corn and soybeans into diverse cover crops (including oats, rape seed, radish, buckwheat, vetch, clover, flax, ARG and turnups). The family pastures the cover crops with beef, pork, and chickens with a direct marketing business that has grown exponentially in recent years. Other speakers included Eric Rosenbaum, Rosetree Consulting, along with a farmer panel including Andy Flinchbaugh, Matt Kerr, William Thiele, and Lucas Criswell. The Commission staff attended both events and presented on ACAP and REAP opportunities. Pennsylvania is a national leader in no-till and cover crop practices, and this momentum was obvious at the two meetings.

7. Legislation – (Doug Wolfgang)

Senate Bill 283 (Schwank) was recently introduced to incentivize cover crops by reducing crop insurance rates. The crop insurance rebate program would establish a crop insurance rebate program in the amount of \$5 per acre for each acre of cover crops planted. In addition, the RIPE100 is a Federal proposal to directly pay farmers a minimum of \$100 per acre for voluntary land stewardship that can provide a greater benefit to the public through carbon sequestration, improved soil health, cleaner water, water conservation, flood mitigation, pollination, biodiversity and other environmental services.

8. Commission Staffing Update – (Doug Wolfgang)

The Commission recently posted several new position vacancies in the Financial and Technical Assistance Division, including one Conservation Program Specialist 2 and four Conservation Program Specialist 1 positions. The positions will be headquartered in Harrisburg and regionally for the purpose of assisting conservation districts with carrying out ACAP and other ag conservation programs.

9. Statement of Financial Interests (Doug Wolfgang) – State Conservation Commission members are reminded that as “Public Officials” they are required to complete their Statements of Financial Interests forms as required by state ethics laws. Information will be sent to members in late February and members must complete these forms (online) no later than May 1, 2023.

Conservation District Directors are also considered Public Officials and most District Employees are considered Public Employees. Any conservation district employee that meets one or more of the criteria in the definition below **MUST** fill out a Statement of Financial Interest. Completing a statement is not optional. It is required by law. For district directors and district employees, statements are to be completed and filed with the conservation district no later than May 1, 2023. The general rule with this form is “when in doubt, fill it out”.

"Public Official" includes any person (*such as a conservation district director*) appointed by a governmental body (such as the board of county commissioners or the county council).

"Public Employee" includes any individual employed by the Commonwealth or a political subdivision (*like a conservation district*) who is responsible for taking or recommending official action of a non-ministerial nature with regard to: Contracting or procurement; Administering or monitoring grants or subsidies; Planning or zoning; Inspecting, licensing, regulating, or auditing any person; or Any other activity where the official action has an economic impact of greater than a de minimis nature on the interests of any person.

Conservation district directors and staff can refer to the Director Handbook (pp. 4-6) or the Red Ethics Pamphlet (p. 12-15 & 31-36) for additional information. If you require additional forms go to www.ethics.state.pa.us and click on "forms" on the left side of the page.

- 10. Next Meeting – March 14, 2023 (hybrid meeting format)**
- 11. Adjournment at 9:25 a.m.**



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 21, 2023

TO: Douglas M. Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Brady Seeley, Conservation Program Specialist 2
State Conservation Commission

SUBJECT: Nutrient Management Plan Review and Requested Action
Rushtown Poultry, LLC, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania

Action Requested

Action is requested on the Rushtown Poultry, LLC Nutrient Management Plan for their Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) located in Northumberland County.

Background

I have finalized the required review of the subject Nutrient Management Plan (NMP, or plan) listed above. Final corrections to the plan were received at the State Conservation Commission's (SCC) Harrisburg office on February 14, 2023. As of that date, the plan was considered to be in its final form. The operation, located in Northumberland County, is considered to be a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under the PA Nutrient and Odor Management Act (Act 38 of 2005). Rushtown Poultry's animal operation is also considered a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) under DEP authority and is required to obtain an approved Act 38 NMP. The Commission is the proper authority to take action on this plan, because Northumberland County Conservation District is not a delegated to perform plan review and action responsibilities under the Act 38 program.

A brief description of the operation, including my staff recommendation, is attached. Also attached is the stamped NMP cover page and operation map.

Thank you for considering this plan for Commission action.

Farm Description

Rushtown Poultry is an existing layer animal operation in Northumberland County. Rushtown Poultry's operation consists of a total of 34.9 acres with 1.9 acres of hayland, and 33 acres of farmstead and associated agricultural land. A permanent hay field is used as a vegetative treatment area for the eggwash water. The hay is harvested and used as compost material in the composter. Animals raised on the operation are 561,648 laying hens. Total animal equivalent units (AEUs) housed at Rushtown Poultry's operation is 1,757.96 AEUs. With 1.9 acres available for manure application, Rushtown Poultry's animal density calculation works out to 925.24 AEUs / acre, classifying the operation as a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under Act 38 of 2005. Due to Rushtown Poultry having more than 82,000 laying hens, this classifies the operation as a CAFO which requires them to obtain an approved Act 38 NMP.

Approximately 10,950 tons of poultry manure is generated per year on the operation. All manure generated at Rushtown Poultry is exported via the open market system with an annual manure auction taking place in January using a certified manure broker. NBSs are developed and submitted for all importers after the manure auction for all manure that is exported. Animal mortalities are composted on site and compost is exported at that same time as the manure. The NMP does include the proper signed Exporter / Broker Agreement.

The receiving stream for the operation is Logan Run which is a Cold-Water Fishery.

There are no required Best Management Practices listed to be implemented on Rushtown Poultry's animal operation.

Based on my review, the NMP developed for Rushtown Poultry's animal operation meets the requirements of the PA Act 38 Nutrient Management Regulations, and I therefore recommend Commission approval.

Nutrient Management Plan

For Crop Year(s)

2024

2025

2026

Prepared For

Operator's Name, Mailing Address, Telephone Number(s)

Rushtown Poultry, LLC Bradlyn Martin
90 Court Street Bethel, Pa 19507
717-376-8104

Operation's Location Address (if different than above)

970 Rushtown Road Danville, PA 17821

NON-FINAL FORM

Version 1

This NMP may be revised prior to a formal action by the Conservation District Board. The final form of the plan will be available at least 7 days prior to Board action. You may contact the Conservation District to determine the current status of the NMP

Dec. 21, 2022
Month and Year

Site Name (CAFOs)

Rushtown Poultry LLC

Prepared By

Nutrient Management Specialist's Name, Address, Telephone Number(s)

DARREN SHENK
1 RUTH ROAD DENVER PA 17517
717-629-7737

Nutrient Management Specialist's Program Certification Number

NMC 1906

NON-FINAL FORM

Version 2

This NMP may be revised prior to a formal action by the Conservation District Board. The final form of the plan will be available at least 7 days prior to Board action. You may contact the Conservation District to determine the current status of the NMP

Feb. 14, 2023
Month and Year

Administratively Complete Date

December 21, 2022

Plan Approval Date

Plan Update Submission Date(s)

(updates to the approved plan not requiring board action)

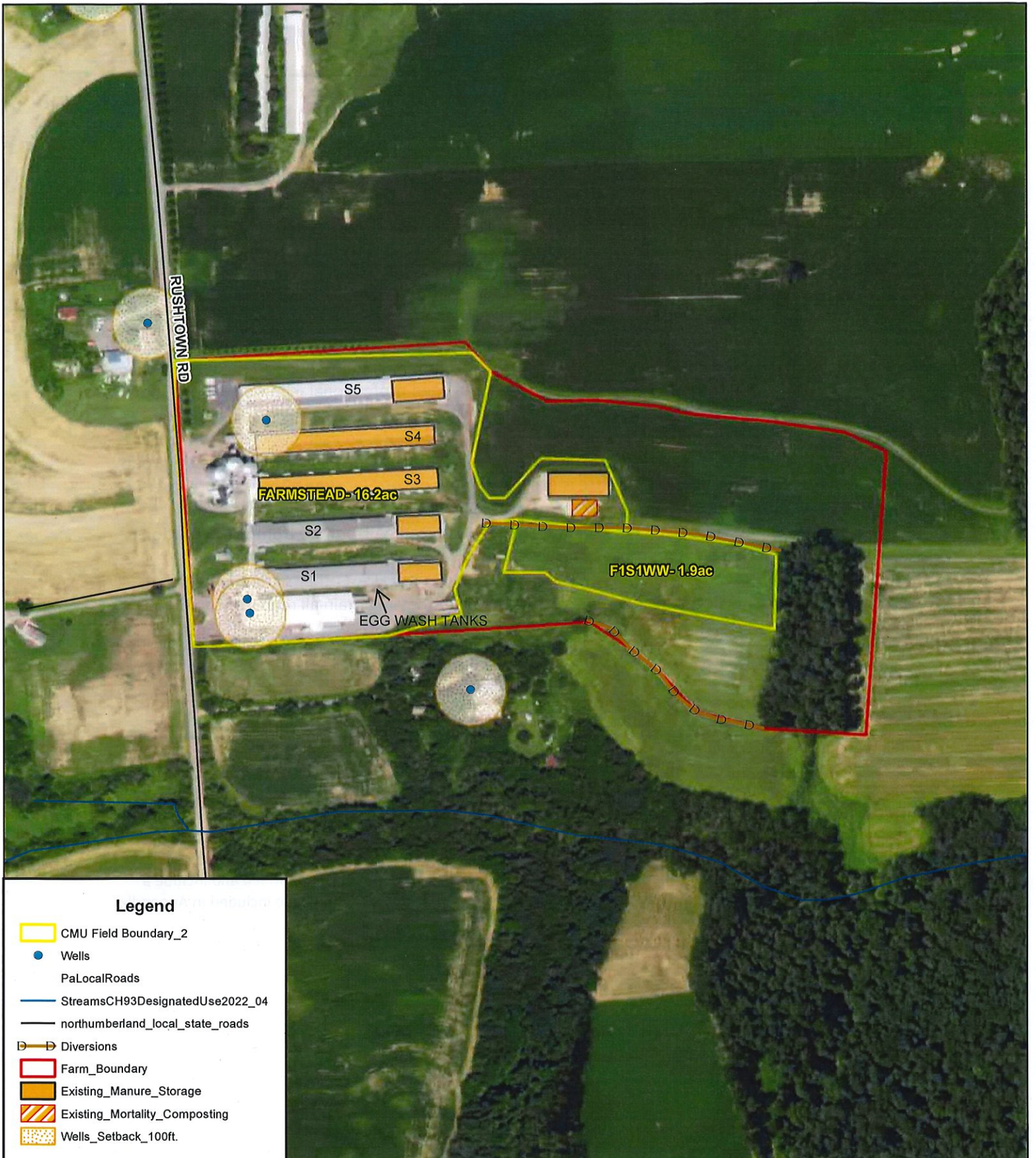
FINAL FORM

This version of the plan will be considered for action by the Conservation District Board at their March 14, 2023 meeting

Feb. 14, 2023
MONTH, DAY AND YEAR

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN MAP

RUSHTOWN POULTRY LLC



Legend

- CMU Field Boundary_2
- Wells
- PaLocalRoads
- StreamsCH93DesignatedUse2022_04
- northumberland_local_state_roads
- Diversions
- Farm_Boundary
- Existing_Manure_Storage
- Existing_Mortality_Composting
- Wells_Setback_100ft.



650 325 0 650 Feet





**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 14, 2023

TO: Douglas M. Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Amy C. Zerbe, Nutrient Management Program Regional Coordinator
State Conservation Commission

SUBJECT: Nutrient Management Plan Review and Requested Action
Philip High, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania

Action Requested

Action is requested on the Philip High Nutrient Management Plan for their Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) located in Schuylkill County.

Background

I have finalized the required review of the subject Nutrient Management Plan (NMP, or plan) listed above. Final corrections to the plan were received at the PDA Region 2 office on February 10, 2023. As of that date, the plan was considered to be in its final form. The operation, located in Schuylkill County, is considered to be a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under the PA Nutrient and Odor Management Act (Act 38 of 2005). The Commission is the proper authority to take action on this plan because Schuylkill Conservation District is not a delegated to perform plan review and action responsibilities under the Act 38 program.

A brief description of the operation, including my staff recommendation, is attached. Also attached is the stamped cover page and operation map.

Thank you for considering this plan for Commission action.

Farm Description

The Philip High operations is an existing poultry operation in Schuylkill County. Mr. High's operation consists of a total of 62.4 acres with 37.4 acres of cropland, 1.0 acre of pasture, 7.1 acres of farmstead, and the remaining balance of acreage being forest and other associated agricultural lands. The current crop rotations utilized on the operation include 1 year corn grain followed by 1 year soybeans and continuous grass hay.

Animals raised on the operation include 73,000 broilers, 2 ewes, 6 lambs, 1 ram, 8 finishing pigs, and 1 horse. Total animal equivalent units (AEUs) housed at Mr. High's operation is 127.51 AEUs. With 38.4 acres available for manure application, Mr. High's animal density calculation works out to 3.32 AEUs/acre, classifying the operation as a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under Act 38 of 2005.

Approximately 650 tons of poultry manure and 10 tons combined bedpack manure is generated per year on the operation. The majority of the poultry manure is exported, up to 538 tons per year, and all combined bedpack manure is applied to owned acres via mechanical manure application or grazing. Mr. High does a complete cleanout after every flock, and mortalities are composted with broiler manure and various other carbon sources such as grass clippings in a covered concrete compost shed. Mortality compost is mechanically applied on owned acres. Poultry manure that is not field applied to Mr. High's operation is exported directly to a known brokers, Glenn Martin of Springside Trucking or Nancy Zimmerman of E-Z Carrier Inc., or to a known landowner, Lyndon Martin, and applied to cropland according to the Nutrient Balance Sheets included in Appendix 8 of the plan. The NMP does include the proper signed Exporter/Broker and Exporter/Importer Agreements.

The receiving stream for the operation is the Lower Little Swatara Creek which is a Cold-Water Fishery.

There are no Best Management Practices listed to be implemented on Philip High's animal operation.

Based on my review, the NMP developed for Philip High's animal operation meets the requirements of the PA Act 38 Nutrient Management Regulations, and I therefore recommend Commission approval.

Nutrient Management Plan

NON-FINAL FORM

Version 1.0

This NMP may be revised prior to a formal action by the Conservation District Board. The final form of the plan will be available at least 7 days prior to Board action. You may contact the Conservation District to determine the current status of the NMP

January 9, 2023
Month, Day and Year

For Crop Year(s)

2025

2026

Prepared For

Operator's Name, Mailing Address, Telephone Number(s)

Philip High

60 Martin's Rd, Pine Grove PA 17963

570-345-6268

Operation's Location Address (if different than above)

NON-FINAL FORM

Version 2.0

This NMP may be revised prior to a formal action by the Conservation District Board. The final form of the plan will be available at least 7 days prior to Board action. You may contact the Conservation District to determine the current status of the NMP

February 10, 2023
Month, Day and Year

Site Name (CAFOs)

Prepared By

Nutrient Management Specialist's Name, Address, Telephone Number(s)

Matthew Leid

203 Wild Cherry Rd Schuylkill Haven PA 17972

717-587-2181

Nutrient Management Specialist's Program Certification Number

2352-NMC

Administratively Complete Date

January 9, 2023

Plan Approval Date

Plan Update Submission Date(s)

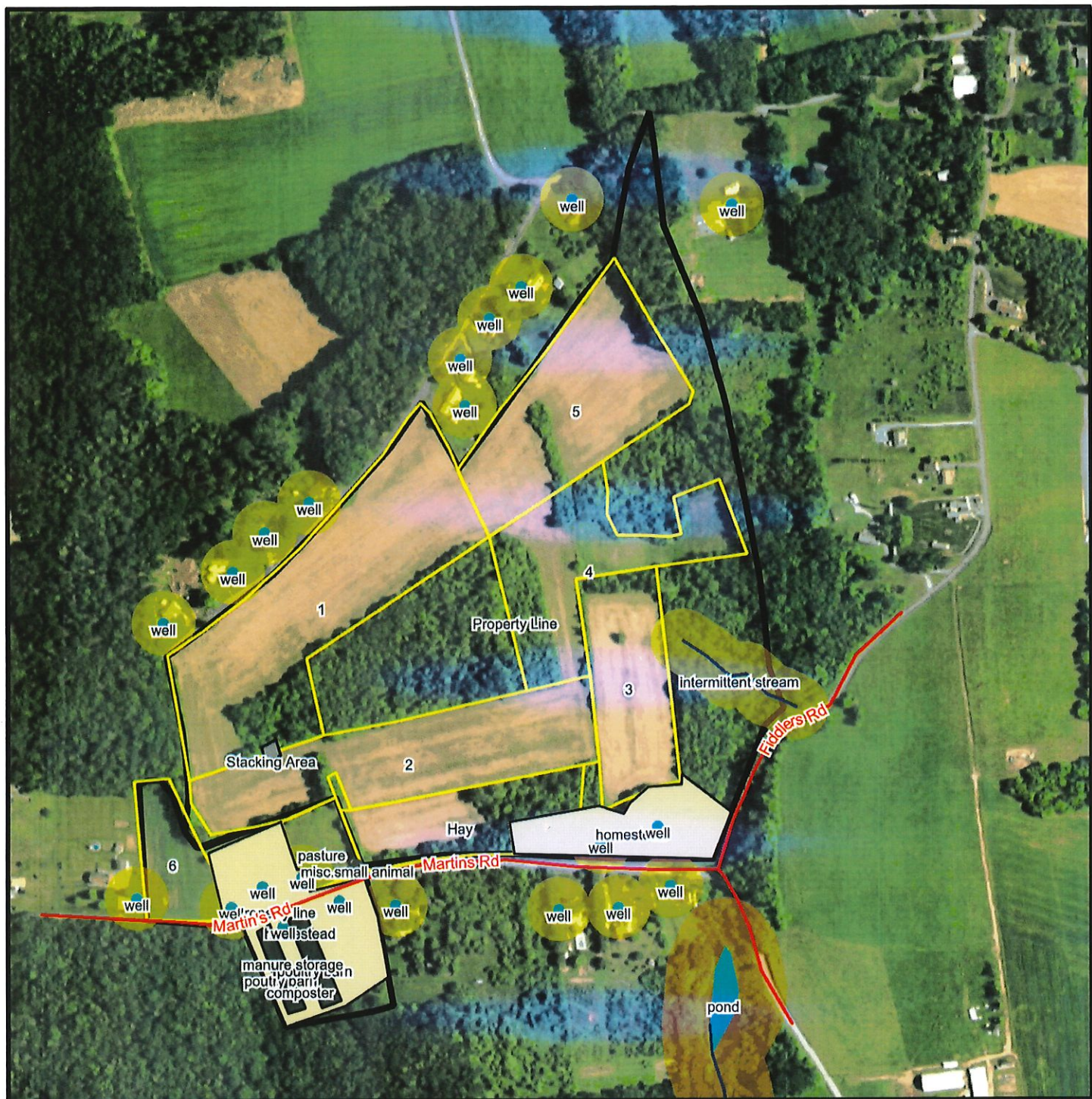
(updates to the approved plan not requiring board action)

FINAL FORM

This version of the plan will be considered for action by the Conservation District Board at their March 14, 2023 meeting

February 10, 2023
MONTH, DAY AND YEAR

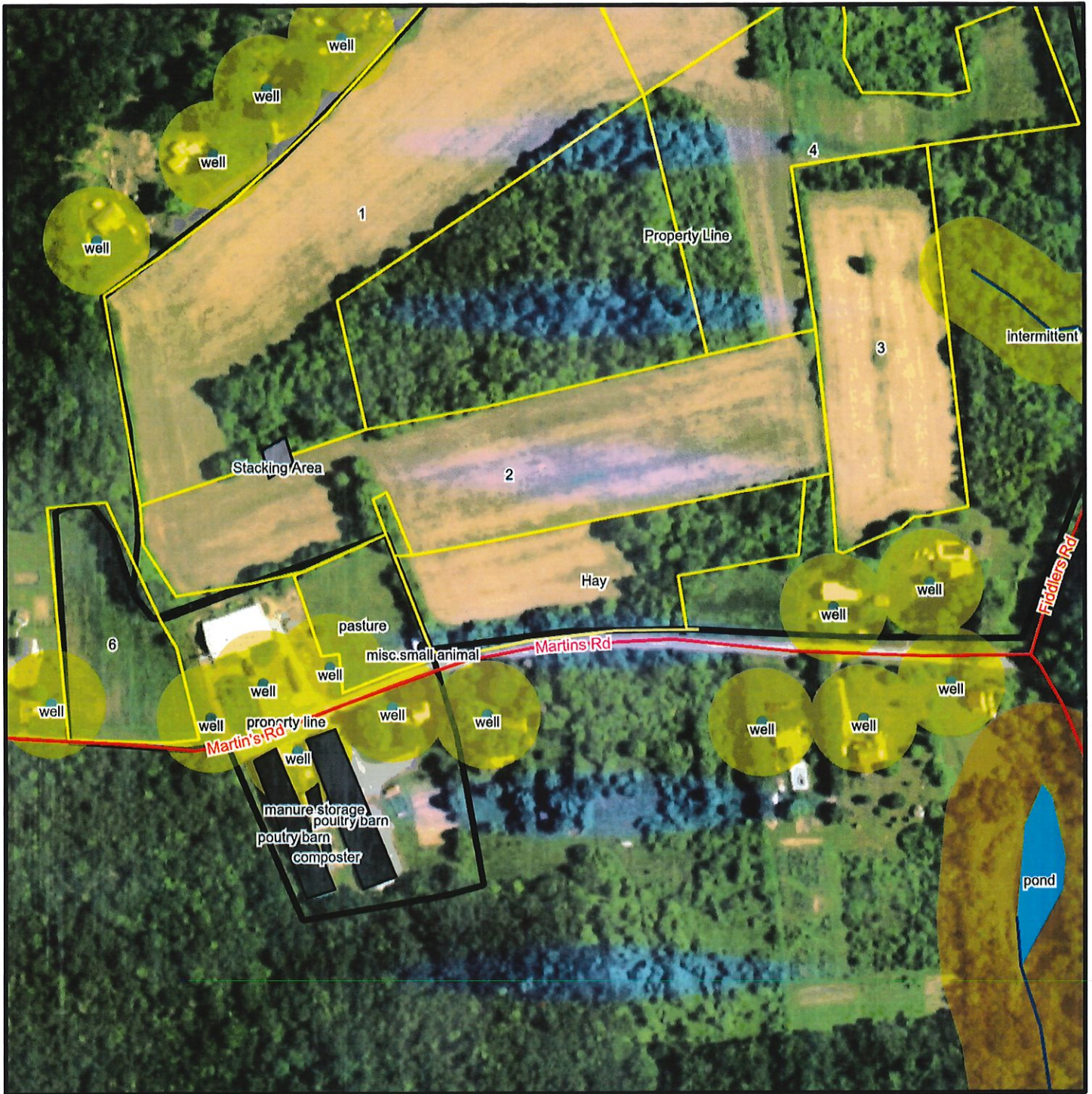
Phil High Farm



* 452.0 feet per inch
 0 226 452 678 904 feet



- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------|------|
| field / CMU | water | manure stacking | AHUA |
| farm boundary | stream | vegetative buffer | well |
| homestead | sinkhole area | 100' manure setback | road |
| forest | sinkhole | 150' manure setback | |



Phil High Farm





* 268.0 feet per inch



-  field / CMU
-  farm boundary
-  homestead
-  forest

-  water
-  stream
-  sinkhole area
-  sinkhole

Legend

-  manure stacking
-  vegetative buffer
-  100' manure setback
-  150' manure setback

-  AHUA
-  well
-  road





**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: January 18, 2023

TO: Douglas M. Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Amy C. Zerbe, Nutrient Management Program Regional Coordinator
State Conservation Commission

SUBJECT: Nutrient Management Plan Review and Requested Action
Wayne County Cooperative Agricultural Society, Wayne County,
Pennsylvania

Action Requested

Action is requested on the Wayne County Cooperative Agricultural Society Nutrient Management Plan for their Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) located in Wayne County.

Background

I have finalized the required review of the subject Nutrient Management Plan (NMP, or plan) listed above. Final corrections to the plan were received at the PDA Region 2 office on January 17, 2023. As of that date, the plan was considered to be in its final form. The operation, located in Wayne County, is considered to be a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under the PA Nutrient and Odor Management Act (Act 38 of 2005). The Commission is the proper authority to take action on this plan, because Wayne County Conservation District is not a delegated to perform plan review and action responsibilities under the Act 38 program.

A brief description of the operation, including my staff recommendation, is attached. Also attached is the stamped cover page and operation map.

Thank you for considering this plan for Commission action.

Farm Description

The Wayne County Cooperative Agricultural Society operates the Wayne County Fair, an existing racehorse training and boarding operation when not in use for the Fair. is an existing equine operation in Wayne County. The operation consists of a total of 126.1 acres with 22.1 acres of farmstead and 0 acres of cropland or pasture. Animals housed on the operation include 30 mature horses. Total animal equivalent units (AEUs) on the operation is 33.00 AEUs. With 0 acres available for manure application, the operation's animal density calculation works out to 33.00 AEUs/acre, classifying the operation as a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under Act 38 of 2005.

Approximately 270 tons of horse manure is generated per year on the operation. Manure is removed from the horse barns and stacked inside a roofed manure stacking facility. No manure is mechanically applied on this farm. All horse manure is exported off the operation to Bunnell Waste Removal and is not applied to agricultural land but is instead used for making compost. The NMP does include the proper signed Exporter/Importer Agreement. Any animal mortalities that may occur would be taken off the operation for disposal by rendering.

The receiving stream for the operation is Dyberry Creek, which is a High Quality - Cold Water Fishery (HQ-CWF).

There are no Best Management Practices listed to be implemented on the operation at this time.

Based on my review, the NMP developed for the Wayne County Cooperative Agricultural Society's animal operation meets the requirements of the PA Act 38 Nutrient Management Regulations, and I therefore recommend Commission approval.

NON-FINAL FORM

Version 1.0

This NMP may be revised prior to a formal action by the Conservation District Board. The final form of the plan will be available at least 7 days prior to Board action. You may contact the Conservation District to determine the current status of the NMP

January 3, 2023
Month, Day and Year

Nutrient Management Plan

For Crop Year(s)

2025 2026

Prepared For

Operator's Name, Mailing Address, Telephone Number(s)

Wayne County Cooperative Agricultural Society

c/o Jeff Firmstone

120 Bethany Lake Court, Honesdale, PA 18431
570-470-1875

Operation's Location Address (if different than above)

Horse Barns: 216 Miller Drive, Honesdale, PA 18431

NON-FINAL FORM

Version 2.0

This NMP may be revised prior to a formal action by the Conservation District Board. The final form of the plan will be available at least 7 days prior to Board action. You may contact the Conservation District to determine the current status of the NMP

January 17, 2023
Month, Day and Year

Site Name (CAFOs)

N/A

Prepared By

Nutrient Management Specialist's Name, Address, Telephone Number(s)

Nathan A. Dewing
TeamAg Inc.
120 Lake Street
Ephrata, PA 17522
717-721-6795

FINAL FORM

This version of the plan will be considered for action by the Conservation District Board at their March 14, 2023 meeting

January 17, 2023
MONTH, DAY AND YEAR

Nutrient Management Specialist's Program Certification Number

552-NMC

Administratively Complete Date

January 3, 2023

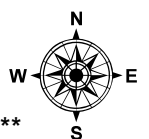
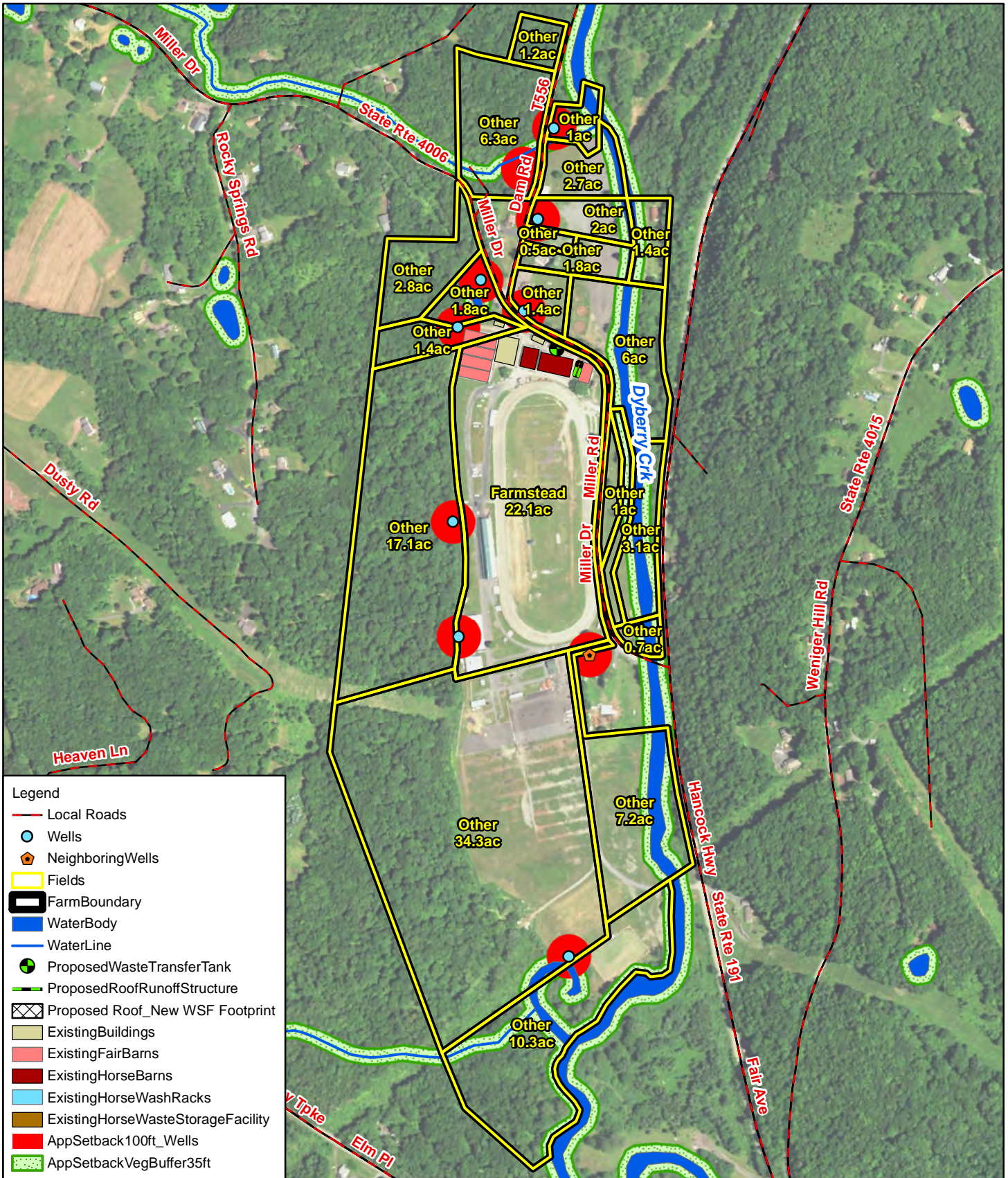
Plan Approval Date

Plan Update Submission Date(s)

(updates to the approved plan not requiring board action)



Wayne County Cooperative Agricultural Society Operator Management Map



****Field verification of application setbacks and buffers is required prior to land application of manure.****



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 24, 2023

TO: Douglas M. Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Amy C. Zerbe, Nutrient Management Program Regional Coordinator
State Conservation Commission

SUBJECT: Nutrient Management Plan Review and Requested Action
Lamar Sensenig, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania

Action Requested

Action is requested on the Lamar Sensenig Nutrient Management Plan for their Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) located in Schuylkill County.

Background

I have finalized the required review of the subject Nutrient Management Plan (NMP, or plan) listed above. Final corrections to the plan were received at the PDA Region 2 office on February 24, 2023. As of that date, the plan was considered to be in its final form. The operation, located in Schuylkill County, is considered to be a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under the PA Nutrient and Odor Management Act (Act 38 of 2005). The Commission is the proper authority to take action on this plan because Schuylkill Conservation District is not a delegated to perform plan review and action responsibilities under the Act 38 program.

A brief description of the operation, including my staff recommendation, is attached. Also attached is the stamped cover page and operation map.

Thank you for considering this plan for Commission action.

Farm Description

The Lamar Sensenig operation is an existing poultry operation in Schuylkill County. Mr. Sensenig's operation consists of a total of 143.0 acres with 66.5 acres of cropland, 17.7 acres of pasture, 12.0 acres of farmstead, and the remaining balance of acreage being forest and other associated agricultural lands. The current crop rotation utilized on the operation is continuous grass hay.

Animals raised on the operation include 96,000 broilers, 7 beef cows, 7 beef finishers, and 5 beef calves. Total animal equivalent units (AEUs) housed at Mr. Sensenig's operation is 258.15 AEUs. With 84.2 acres available for manure application, Mr. Sensenig's animal density calculation works out to 3.07 AEUs/acre, classifying the operation as a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under Act 38 of 2005.

Approximately 920 tons of poultry manure and 250 tons of beef manure are generated per year on the operation. The majority of the poultry manure is exported, up to 705 ton per year, and all of the beef manure is applied to owned acres via grazing. Manure from the poultry barns is cleanout out and stacked in a roofed manure storage facility. An emergency field stack site is located in the plan but is not normally utilized. Mortalities are composted with broiler manure in the roofed composter/manure storage facility or incinerated on-site. Mortality compost and the ashes from the incinerator are comingled with poultry manure and either mechanically applied on owned acres or exported along with the balance of the poultry manure. Poultry manure that is not field applied to Mr. Sensenig's operation is exported directly to a known operator, Haz-Wald Farms (located in Luzerne County), and applied to cropland according to the Nutrient Balance Sheets included in Appendix 8 of the plan. The NMP does include the proper signed Exporter/Broker and Exporter/Importer Agreements.

The receiving streams for the operation are an Unnamed Stream that flows into the Lower Little Swatara Creek and Swatara Creek which are Cold-Water Fisheries.

There are no Best Management Practices listed to be implemented on Lamar Sensenig's animal operation.

Based on my review, the NMP developed for Lamar Sensenig's animal operation meets the requirements of the PA Act 38 Nutrient Management Regulations, and I therefore recommend Commission approval.

NON-FINAL FORM

Version 1.0

This NMP may be revised prior to a formal action by the Conservation District Board. The final form of the plan will be available at least 7 days prior to Board action. You may contact the Conservation District to determine the current status of the NMP

January 12, 2023
Month, Day and Year

Nutrient Management Plan

For Crop Year(s)
2024-2026

NON-FINAL FORM

Version 2.0

This NMP may be revised prior to a formal action by the Conservation District Board. The final form of the plan will be available at least 7 days prior to Board action. You may contact the Conservation District to determine the current status of the NMP

February 24, 2023
Month, Day and Year

Prepared For

Operator's Name, Mailing Address, Telephone Number(s)

Lamar Sensenig
439 Birds Hill Rd Pine Grove PA 17963
717-821-2396

Operation's Location Address (if different than above)

Site Name (CAFOs)

Prepared By

Nutrient Management Specialist's Name, Address, Telephone Number(s)

Dean R. Patches
136 Horst Dr Lebanon PA 17046
717-304-5129 cell 717-865-4461 home

Nutrient Management Specialist's Program Certification Number
574-NMC

Administratively Complete Date

January 12, 2023

Plan Approval Date

Plan Update Submission Date(s)

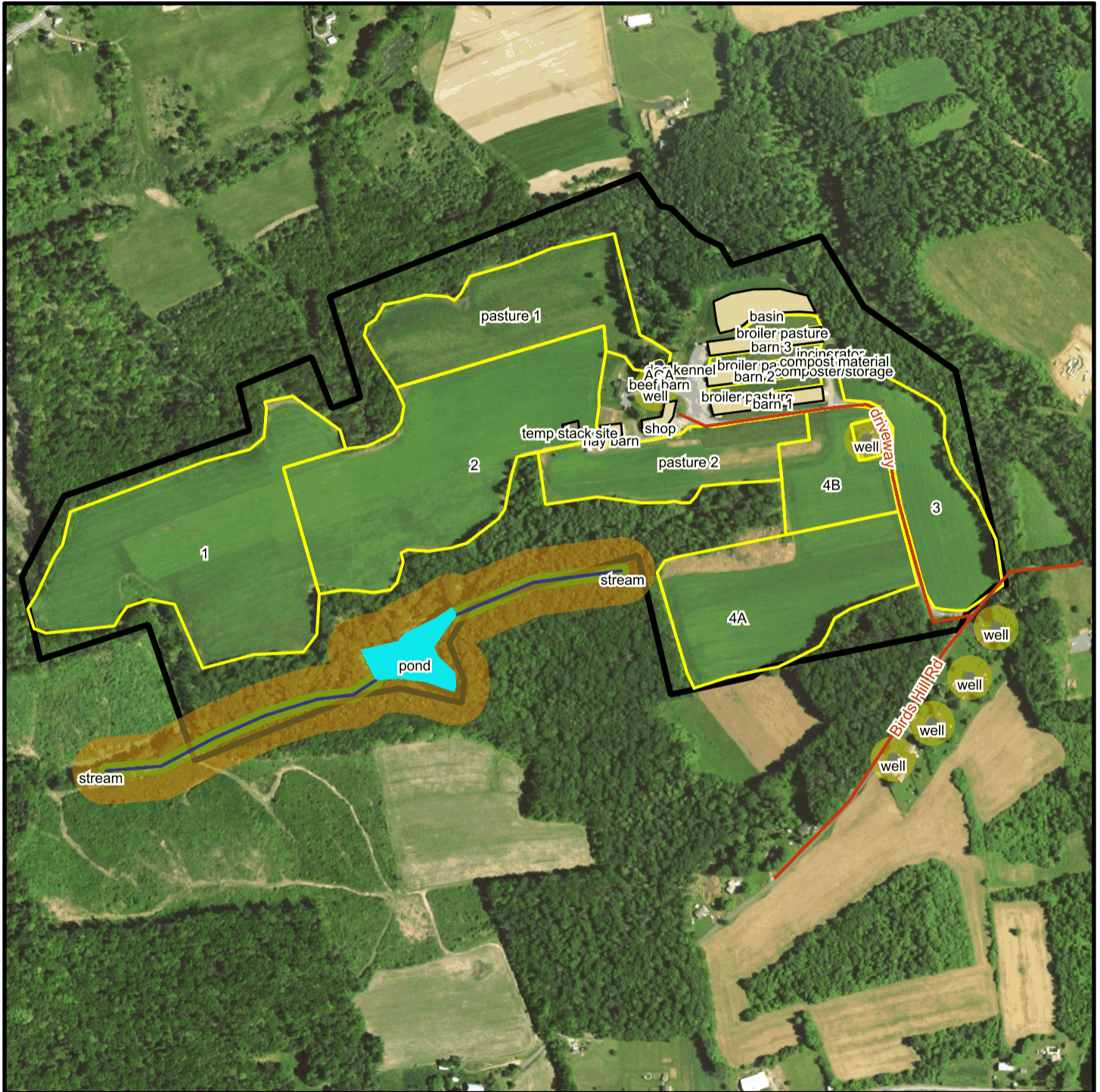
(updates to the approved plan not requiring board action)

FINAL FORM

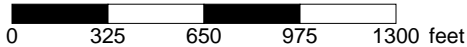
This version of the plan will be considered for action by the Conservation District Board at their March 14, 2023 meeting

February 24, 2023
MONTH, DAY AND YEAR

Lamar Sensenig 2024 Farm Map



* 650.0 feet per inch



Legend

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------|------|
| field / CMU | water | manure stacking | AHUA |
| farm boundary | stream | vegetative buffer | well |
| homestead | sinkhole area | 100' manure setback | road |
| forest | sinkhole | 150' manure setback | |



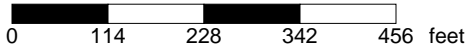
Field Acreages

Field	Label	Description	Acres	Suitable Acres
1	1		20.5	20.5
2	2		19.6	19.6
3	3		7.58	7.58
4A	4A		12.29	12.29
4B	4B		4.75	4.56
broiler pa	broiler pasture		1.75	1.75
pasture 1	pasture 1		10.8	10.78
pasture 2	pasture 2		6.9	6.9
		Totals	84.17	83.96

Lamar Sensenig 2024 HQ Map



* 228.0 feet per inch



Legend

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------|------|
| field / CMU | water | manure stacking | AHUA |
| farm boundary | stream | vegetative buffer | well |
| homestead | sinkhole area | 100' manure setback | road |
| forest | sinkhole | 150' manure setback | |





COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

March 3, 2023

To: State Conservation Commission Members

From: Douglas M. Wolfgang
Executive Secretary

RE: Nutrient Management Plan Approval Process – Frank
Schneider, SCC

Detailed information regarding ‘Agenda Item B.2.e - Nutrient Management Plan Approval Process’ will be shared at the SCC March 14, 2023 public meeting.



Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future

Memo

To: State Conservation Commission Members

From: Jeff Hill

Date: 2/27/23

Re: Application to Adjust Conservation District Board Composition

YCCD's Board of Directors experienced a death of a sitting board member at the end of 2022. The board member was in their 1st year of their term. After a District Board Nominating Committee meeting, it was determined that the best course of action would be to adjust the boards composition. This would also help reflect the changing current conditions found in York County related to the increase of warehouses, housing and general construction. By making this change, we would also be able to use an associate board member to fill this vacancy.

State Conservation Commission
(717)787-8821/FAX (717)705-3778



2301 North Cameron St., Room 310
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

Application for Changing the Composition of a Conservation District Board

All changes in the farmer director/public director ratio on a conservation district board of directors MUST be approved by the State Conservation Commission before going into effect.

County: York

Proposed Composition Change: York proposes to adjust the board from 5- ag directors, 3- public directors and 1 county commissioner to 4- ag directors, 4- public directors and 1 county commissioner.

Please explain the reasons for proposing this change:

The York County Conservation District Board recently experienced a death of a sitting board director. The Nominating Committee reviewed all options available to them for the open position. Although agriculture is deeply rooted in York County, the county is experiencing growth in all aspects of industry/ infrastructure. Therefore, the Board of Directors respectfully requests approval to move towards a balanced board of 4 agriculture directors, 4 public directors, and 1 county commissioner that is more reflective of York County.

Date the conservation district board took official action to recommend this change: 2/9/23

On 2/15/2023 the governing body of York County approved action requesting the State Conservation Commission's approval to make the above described change in composition of the conservation district board of directors.

Chief Clerk Signature: [Signature] Date: 2/15/2023

On _____ the State Conservation Commission **approved/rejected**ed this request to change the composition of the board of directors of the _____ Conservation District from _____ to _____.

Reason: _____

Executive Secretary Signature: _____ Date: _____



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

March 2nd, 2023

To: Members
State Conservation Commission

From: Justin Challenger
Director, Financial & Technical Assistance Programs

RE: Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program Update

On December 21, 2022, Delegation Agreements were sent out to all Conservation Districts for consideration. As of March 2, 2023, 59 districts have signed and sent in their agreements to the SCC and are being processed. Additionally, 17 agreements have been fully executed, and advance payments have been processed for payment by SCC staff. Staff continue to process advance payments as they are fully executed.

A few districts have reached out to the SCC to discuss multi-county or multi-agency agreements to administer ACAP in their respective counties. The SCC has met with these districts to discuss inter-county agreements for how the program will be administered.

SCC has developed a webpage on the PDA website where they plan to keep updated ACAP information and webinar recordings. The webpage currently has the ACAP Guidelines, SCC BMP List and a draft ACAP Application. Previous webinars are also posted to the website.

https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/StateConservationCommission/ACAP/Pages/default.aspx

Bidding requirements for ACAP have been approved by the Department of General Services. These requirements follow the federal bidding requirements with details on what is required for each bidding threshold. The SCC will overview these requirements with districts at their next update meeting on March 8th.

ACAP Workgroup Meetings

The ACAP Center Subcommittee continues to discuss the Center and the expansion of Boot Camp Trainings. Jennifer Fetter of Penn State will be spearheading the development of the Center, which includes laying out the framework and building staff capacity. SCC plans to meet with Penn State to discuss the needs of the ACAP program as well as other outputs.

The ACAP Technical Assistance Workgroup advises on the task of Trainings for Technical Assistance as well as technical support across the state. This group met on February 22nd to discuss engineering, RFPs, Job Approval Authority, Certifications for BMPs and Admin Training. With the development of the Center starting to take shape, SCC anticipates this group to reconvene to discuss the actual needs for districts state-wide on a more regular basis. Staff will present an update on the current engineering availability to districts as well as plans for additional technical assistance/engineering during their next district update on March 8th.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Date: March 3, 2023
To: State Conservation Commission
From: Roy Richardson, DGLVR Program Coordinator
Through: Douglas M Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
RE: Annual Summary report and 5-year spending update

Background

The State Conservation Commission (Commission) provides funding to conservation districts to implement the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads Maintenance Program. Conservation districts report program accomplishments in a GIS system maintained by the Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies (Center). These accomplishments are compiled into an annual summary report each year and this report is provided to the House and Senate Transportation Committees. Steve Bloser from the Center will provide a report on the 2022 calendar year accomplishments.

Roy Richardson will also give an update on the district's two years spending status. Conservation Districts have two years to spend funding in order to be eligible for future allocations.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

March 3, 2023

To: State Conservation Commission Members

From: Douglas M. Wolfgang
Executive Secretary

RE: Conservation Innovation; Federal Farm Bill;
NASDA Reports - Mike Roth, SCC

Detailed information regarding ‘Agenda Item B.6 - Conservation Innovation; Federal Farm Bill; and NASDA Reports’ will be shared at the SCC March 14, 2023 public meeting.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 27, 2023

TO: State Conservation Commission Members

FROM: Frank X. Schneider, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

THROUGH: Douglas M. Wolfgang
Executive Secretary

RE: Nutrient and Odor Management Programs Report

The Nutrient and Odor Management Program Staff of the State Conservation Commission offer the following report of measurable results for the time-period of January / February 2023.

For the months of January and February 2023, staff and delegated conservation districts have:

1. Odor Management Plans:
 - a. 17 OMPs in the review process
 - b. 13 OMPs Approved
 - c. 1 OMP approvals Rescinded
2. Reviewed and approved 128 Nutrient Management (NM) Plans in the 4th quarter of 2022.
 - a. Those approved NM plans covered 43,988 acres
 - b. Those approved NM plans included 81,946 Animal Equivalent Units (AEUs), generating 1,316,280 tons of manure.
3. Managing ten (10) ACTIVE enforcement or compliance actions, currently in various stages of the compliance or enforcement process. Monitoring an additional eight (8) other cases of enforcement / compliance / interest.
4. Continue to daily answer questions for NMP and OMP writers, NMP reviewers, delegated Conservation Districts, and others.
5. Assisted DEP with various functions and as workgroup members in Federal and State settings for the Chesapeake Bay Program.
6. Continue to work on regulatory changes for the following regulations (Separate Memo Attached):
 - a. Act 38

- b. Act 49
 - c. NM Certification
 - d. OM Certification
- 7. Approved 49.5 hours of NM and OM continuing education.
- 8. Facilitated the following trainings:
 - a. No trainings these months, next certification cycle starts in March 2023
- 9. Reviewed 7 Public Review Specialists NMP reviews as part of the certification training



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Frank X. Schneider
Director, Nutrient and Odor Management

THROUGH: Douglas M. Wolfgang
Executive Secretary

DATE: February 16, 2023

RE: Regulatory Revisions Workgroup Updates:

Title 25. Environmental Protection - Chapter 83. State Conservation Commission; Subchapter D:
Nutrient Management

- The 1st unofficial draft regulatory changes were shared with the Nutrient Management Advisory Board (NMAB) on 2/22/23
- SCC staff will work with smaller workgroups on specific issues.
- SCC Staff plan to present to the DEP Agricultural Advisory Board (AAB) in March to informally review possible changes.
- Sent 1st unofficial draft regulatory changes to DEP Legal for legal review.

Title 7. Agriculture - Chapter 130b. Nutrient Management Specialist Certification

- The 1st unofficial draft regulatory changes were shared with the Nutrient Management Advisory Board (NMAB) on 1/25/23
- Sent 1st unofficial draft regulatory changes to PDA Legal for legal review.

Title 7. Agriculture - Chapter 130e. Commercial Manure Hauler & Broker Certification

- The 1st unofficial draft regulatory changes were shared with the Nutrient Management Advisory Board (NMAB) on 1/25/23
- Sent 1st unofficial draft regulatory changes to PDA Legal for legal review.

Title 7. Agriculture - Chapter 130f. Odor Management Specialist Certification

- The 1st unofficial draft regulatory changes were shared with the Nutrient Management Advisory Board (NMAB) on 1/25/23
- Sent 1st unofficial draft regulatory changes to PDA Legal for legal review.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 14, 2023

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Frank X. Schneider, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

Kathryn Bresaw
DEP, Bureau of Clean Water

SUBJECT: Calendar Year 2022 Chapter 91 Activities

Below is a summary of the Chapter 91 education, outreach, and compliance activities performed by delegated county conservation districts during calendar year 2022.

DEP collects data, on a quarterly basis, on the Manure Management (Chapter 91.36) requirements that were added to the Nutrient Management and Manure Management Delegation Agreements in July 2012.

In calendar year 2022, delegated conservation districts performed the following activities in regards to Manure Management.

- 467 MMP outreach events (does not include any Act 38 only outreach activities)
- 44,961 MMP outreach contacts (does not include any Act 38 only outreach activities)
- 1,860 MMP outreach consultant contacts (does not include any Act 38 only outreach activities)
- 83 MMP training events
- 733 farmers reached at MMP training events
- 18 consultants reached at MMP training events.
- 40 Chapter 91 complaints processed
- 21 instances of Chapter 91 compliance required
- 1 Chapter 91 compliance issue referred to DEP
- 17 MMP Status Reviews performed at 7 conservation districts



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 14, 2023

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Frank X. Schneider, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

SUBJECT: Calendar Year 2022 Nutrient Management Plan Data

Attached is the most recent Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) approval data for Calendar year 2022. I would like to thank Brady Seeley for developing this report based on the data submitted by the delegated conservation districts.

The report shows that there is a total of 1,268 Pennsylvania farms that have NMPs approved for their operations. These approved operations have a net total of 267,985 acres under plan, which does not include the acres of importing farms with developed Nutrient Balance Sheets (NBS).

The last report given to the commission was on December 13, 2021. This report, when compared to the 2021 report, shows an increase of 36 operations with approved NMPs, and a increase of 19,749 planned acres on these farms.

ATTACHMENT

Calendar Year 2022
Active Act 38 NMPs up to 12/31/22

County	CAOs	Acres	VAOs	Acres	CAFO/CAO	Acres	CAFO/VAO	Acres
ADAMS	13.00	386.34	4.00	1,043.50	8.00	4,618.00	3.00	4,134.40
ALLEGHENY	6.00	42.69	1.00	2,278.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ARMSTRONG	0.00	0.00	5.00	3,651.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BEAVER	1.00	42.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BEDFORD	2.00	19.45	0.00	0.00	7.00	1,540.60	2.00	772.00
BERKS	32.00	1,900.17	0.00	0.00	37.00	3,330.48	10.00	4,819.27
BLAIR	3.00	131.30	4.00	1,169.90	0.00	0.00	4.00	11,376.30
BRADFORD	2.00	9.00	2.00	1,152.60	9.00	2,932.20	2.00	3,126.80
BUCKS	11.00	124.60	3.00	837.40	1.00	452.40	0.00	0.00
BUTLER	2.00	10.97	3.00	361.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CAMBRIA	0.00	0.00	2.00	516.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CARBON	1.00	2.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CENTRE	14.00	222.16	0.00	0.00	1.00	1,218.00	1.00	1,696.60
CHESTER	10.00	381.57	0.00	0.00	7.00	1,603.80	5.00	3,857.40
CLARION	2.00	58.70	1.00	24.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CLEARFIELD	3.00	73.23	5.00	502.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CLINTON	25.00	634.56	0.00	0.00	1.00	260.30	2.00	5,472.90
COLUMBIA	2.00	22.30	1.00	17.00	4.00	2,817.90	1.00	762.50
CRAWFORD	0.00	0.00	9.00	1,254.42	1.00	413.10	2.00	5,889.00
CUMBERLAND	10.00	426.09	4.00	395.10	6.00	2,515.10	5.00	2,533.37
DAUPHIN	13.00	505.84	0.00	0.00	9.00	833.40	0.00	0.00
ELK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ERIE	0.00	0.00	3.00	1,117.10	1.00	237.40	0.00	0.00
FAYETTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FRANKLIN	19.00	537.13	3.00	1,045.26	20.00	3,485.63	13.00	14,065.29
FULTON	3.00	8.40	0.00	0.00	10.00	2,093.60	0.00	0.00
GREENE	1.00	29.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HUNTINGDON	2.00	9.50	9.00	6,811.50	9.00	3,541.90	3.00	6,340.60
INDIANA	3.00	30.70	4.00	158.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JEFFERSON	4.00	118.67	2.00	1,052.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JUNIATA	34.00	1,487.08	6.00	2,021.52	6.00	274.33	5.00	4,733.35
LACKAWANNA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LANCASTER	202.00	8,018.10	8.00	1,485.41	85.00	22,495.17	23.00	12,304.30
LAWRENCE	1.00	10.70	1.00	1,067.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEBANON	59.00	2,172.73	5.00	1,335.70	31.00	3,725.71	2.00	1,969.60
LEHIGH	3.00	181.20	1.00	50.00	1.00	34.80	1.00	9,663.50
LUZERNE	2.00	50.20	0.00	0.00	2.00	319.20	0.00	0.00
LYCOMING	12.00	258.54	2.00	213.30	2.00	599.00	1.00	700.00
MCKEAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MERCER	0.00	0.00	1.00	280.80	0.00	0.00	1.00	1,473.43
MIFFLIN	14.00	1,368.42	1.00	79.00	8.00	1,209.46	1.00	776.10
MONROE	5.00	156.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MONTGOMERY	2.00	84.40	1.00	102.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MONTOUR	3.00	86.87	0.00	0.00	3.00	667.20	1.00	866.60
NORTHAMPTON	1.00	61.00	1.00	126.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NORTHUMBERLAND	15.00	842.85	2.00	1,082.00	4.00	152.70	5.00	3,933.33
PERRY	14.00	1,029.28	2.00	253.95	12.00	2,142.40	4.00	3,439.23
PIKE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PHILADELPHIA	2.00	9.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
POTTER	0.00	0.00	2.00	255.83	0.00	0.00	3.00	3,448.50
SCHUYLKILL	10.00	621.23	1.00	123.10	10.00	1,173.70	3.00	2,745.00
SNYDER	56.00	2,298.76	7.00	2,603.88	14.00	1,871.13	3.00	1,354.80
SOMERSET	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	2.80	7.00	7,928.70
SULLIVAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	73.10	0.00	0.00
SUSQUEHANNA	0.00	0.00	3.00	678.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TIOGA	2.00	177.37	6.00	2,554.90	7.00	2,659.60	1.00	1,582.10
UNION	35.00	1,374.08	4.00	583.80	11.00	1,999.72	1.00	1,058.30
VENANGO	1.00	32.50	2.00	311.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WARREN	0.00	0.00	2.00	2,569.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WASHINGTON	1.00	168.00	2.00	320.50	1.00	134.40	0.00	0.00
WAYNE	1.00	22.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WESTMORELAND	0.00	0.00	4.00	2,261.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WYOMING	1.00	75.30	2.00	363.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
YORK	10.00	347.00	3.00	874.70	17.00	1,386.54	2.00	697.50
Totals	670.00	26,660.27	134.00	44,988.43	347.00	72,814.77	117.00	123,520.77

Total CAO Num	Total CAO Acre	Total VAO Num	Total VAO Acre
1,017.00	99,475.04	251.00	168,509.20



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 28, 2023

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Karl J. Dymond
State Conservation Commission *KJ Dymond*

SUBJECT: March 2023 Status Report on Facility Odor Management Plan Reviews

Detailed Report of Recent Odor Management Plan Actions

In accordance with Commission policy, attached is the Odor Management Plans (OMPs) actions report for your review. No formal action is needed on this report unless the Commission would choose to revise any of the plan actions shown on this list at this time. This recent plan actions report details the OMPs that have been acted on by the Commission and the Commission's Executive Secretary since the last program status report provided to the Commission at the January 2023 Commission meeting.

Program Statistics

Below are the overall program statistics relating to the Commission's Odor Management Program, representing the activities of the program from its inception in March of 2009, to February 27, 2023.

The table below summarizes approved plans grouped by the Nutrient Management Program Coordinator areas.

	Central	NE/NC	SE/SC	West	Totals
2009	7	6	28	1	42
2010	5	7	25	2	39
2011	10	12	15	2	39
2012	9	17	16	2	44
2013	10	11	38	3	62
2014	13	16	44	2	75
2015	15	15	61	2	93
2016	19	16	59	5	99
2017	25	24	44	3	96
2018	14	13	40	1	68
2019	12	11	14		37
2020	9	11	42	1	63
2021	15	15	30	1	61
2022	15	11	19	2	47
2023	5	1	5	2	13
Total	183	186	480	29	
Grand Total					878

As of February 27, 2023, there are eight hundred and seventy-eight **approved** plans and/or amendments, nine plans have been **denied**, fourteen plans/ amendments have been **withdrawn** without action taken, one hundred and three plans/ amendments were **rescinded**, and seventeen plans/ amendments are going through the **plan review process**.

OMP Actions Status Report

Action	OMP Name	County	Municipality	Species	AEUs	OSI Score	Status	Amended
1/10/2023	Dividing Ridge, LLC – Home Farm	Somerset	Allegheny Twp	Cattle	232.00	21.0	Approved	
1/10/2023	Flint Road Farm, LLC – Home Farm	Juniata	Walker Twp	Broilers	105.63	43.7	Approved	A
1/10/2023	Hissong Farmstead Inc – Units 1 & 2	Franklin	Montgomery Twp	Cattle	1785.75	55.7	Approved	B
1/10/2023	King, Elam K – King Farm	Lancaster	W Earl Twp	Cattle	3.40	93.6	Approved	
1/10/2023	Martin, R. Eugene – Martin Family Farm	Berks	Tulpehocken Twp	Broilers	211.19	44.3	Approved	A
1/10/2023	Silver Springs Ranch, LLC – Star Hill Site	Wyoming	Monroe Twp	Horse	187.96	26.0	Approved	A
1/19/2023	Blank, David – Veal Farm	Clinton	Logan Twp	Veal	90.99	53.3	Approved	A
1/19/2023	Kevin Brubaker LLC – Chicken Ridge Farm	Berks	Jefferson Twp	Broilers	235.34	26.9	Approved	
2/6/2023	Mercer-Vu Farms, Inc – Home Farm	Franklin	Montgomery Twp	Cattle	1685.40	66.9	Approved	
2/6/2023	Apple Shamrock Dairy Farms, LLC – Dairy Farm	Crawford	Steuben Twp	Cattle	2891.80	37.0	Approved	C
2/6/2023	Edgin, Monte	Huntingdon	Cromwell Twp	Horse	13.20	13.8	Rescinded	
2/6/2023	Stoltzfus, Samuel G – Ferris Lane Farm	Clinton	Logan Twp	Veal	75.95	84.1	Approved	
2/8/2023	Hoover, David – Layer Farm	Lehigh	Lynn Twp	Layers	192.50	19.0	Approved	
2/21/2023	Kreider, Noah W & Sons, LLP – Donegal Facility	Lancaster	E Donegal Twp	Layers	5204.80	35.0	Approved	C

As of February 27, 2023



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: February 28, 2023
TO: State Conservation Commission
FROM: Joel Semke – REAP Coordinator
SUBJECT: Proposed changes for the FY 2023 REAP Program

Every year, the State Conservation Commission reviews the REAP Program and welcomes input from partners on how to improve the program. The changes range from minor revisions that are meant to improve the administration of the program to major changes that address what is eligible for REAP tax credits. Staff invites suggestions and comments regarding potential changes to the FY 2023 REAP program.

The proposals listed below reflect suggestions from staff and partners regarding potential changes to the REAP program that were first introduced to the Commission in February 2023. Please note: Each proposal is subject to legal review prior to being incorporated into the FY 2023 REAP Guidelines and Application packet. It is the intent of Commission staff to present a further revised list of proposed changes at the April meeting of the Commission; and it is the intent of Commission staff to present final versions of the proposed FY 2023 REAP Guidelines and Application at the May 2023 meeting of the State Conservation Commission. Staff welcomes further comments and suggestions regarding the following proposals:

1. PERFORMANCE UPGRADE KITS (PUKS)

Proposal: Add PUKs to the list of REAP-eligible no-till equipment. Note: PUK is a John Deere moniker. Other brand's performance upgrade kits would also be eligible for REAP tax credits. The intent of the proposal is to offer a cheaper alternative to farmers who are looking to upgrade the precision performance of their no-till planting equipment.

PUKs enable a farmer to replace the existing row units on their no-till planters with new row units that typically include precision nutrient placement upgrades – as well as upgrades to overall performance of the planter. This extends the effective lifespan of the equipment and increases the no-till performance of the planter without the need to buy a completely new no-till planter.

Potential qualifications: The row units must be installed by a qualified farm equipment dealership. Planters that are still within their REAP lifespan are not eligible for a PUK. The REAP-eligible cost of the PUK is capped at \$75,000 and will have a REAP lifespan of 3 years.

2. COVER CROPS

Proposal 1: Add Cover Crop planting drones to the list of REAP-eligible equipment on a trial basis – under the existing Cover Crop Equipment BMP.

The intent of the proposal is to make it easier for farmers to try aerial seeding of cover crops.
Option: cap the REAP-eligible cost at \$10,000.

Proposal 2: Revise the minimum standard for **multi-species** cover crop to include a minimum seeding rate for the broadleaf species (perhaps 5lbs/ac)

The intent of the proposal is to ensure the implementation of the Commissions soil health goals in relation to the 90% REAP tax credit for multi-species cover crop.

Proposal 3: Revise the REAP Guidelines for Cover Crops to prioritize applications for multi-species cover crops.

The intent of the proposal is to allocate more of REAP's annual funding toward cover crop projects with the most water quality/soil health benefits.

Options

- a. Single-species cover crop planting rates greater than 1.5 bu/ac are not eligible for REAP tax credits.
- b. If the applicant has received REAP tax credits for single-species cover crop more than 1X in the past, the applicant will only be eligible for multi-species cover crops in subsequent REAP applications.
- c. Reduce the REAP-eligible costs for single-species cover crop to \$40/ac.
- d. Reserve a small "pot" of REAP funding for single-species cover crops. When that pot is exhausted (first-come, first-served), no more applications for single-species will be accepted.
- e. Mix of all of the above

3. PRECISION NUTRIENT APPLICATION

Proposal: Add plans and data that are needed for automatic (computer-controlled) variable rate application of nutrients to the list of REAP-eligible BMPs.

The intent of the proposal is to further incentivize sub field-level precision application of nutrients.

4. OTHER



BUILDING BRIDGES

Farmers Municipalities* Citizens
Conservation Districts* Agribusiness*

To: Members February 28, 2023
State Conservation Commission
From: Beth Futrick
Agriculture/Public Liaison
Through: Douglas Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission
Re: Ombudsman Program Update – Southern Alleghenies Region

Activities: November - December

- Administering NFWF-INSR Grant
 - Organize GI restoration projects
 - Met with engineers and partners to prepare for 2023 projects
 - Prepare Agricultural BMP projects
 - Prepare for municipal outreach (stormwater workshops)
 - Organizing a regional farmer event to promote grass-based farms and soil health
- Meetings /Events with Keystone Development Center to prepare a regional food feasibility study.
 - Value-Add processor meeting - Jefferson County
 - Block-chain update for regional food with Penn State University/Extension
 - Farmer meeting – data collection for feasibility study
 - Value-add processor and chef meeting – Blair County
 - PASA Conference – presentation on the feasibility study updates
 - Organizing a regional famer/food event

Conflict Issues/Municipal Assistance

----Allegheny Co – neighbor complaint – heavy use area and road use --resolved
----Clinton Co. – assist with zoning and ACRE information
----Snyder Co – fly complaint

Meetings/Trainings/Events

--Penn State Extension committee meeting -Blair County
--Senator Ward's office – preparation for municipal stormwater workshops
--PASA Conference

Reports & Grant Applications

NFWF – Reimbursement request (2)
Growing Greener Grant application submitted and awarded for manure storage designs
CREP mini-grant – to support multifunctional riparian buffer workshops



BUILDING BRIDGES

Farmers * Municipalities * Citizens
Conservation Districts * Agribusiness

To: Members
State Conservation Commission

March 14, 2023

From: Shelly Dehoff
Agriculture/Public Liaison

Re: Agricultural Ombudsman Program Update

Activities: Since mid-January 2023, I have taken part or assisted in a number of events, including the following:

- Coordinating manure injection educational and promotion effort for farmers in Lancaster County, and handling incentive program applications and invoice payment processing; compiling data for end of year reporting; exploring options with dribble bars for Amish farmers in future
- Events as South Central Task Force Agriculture Subcommittee Planning Specialist:
 - Hosted/facilitated February Subcommittee meeting
 - Creating smaller working group to create publication and PowerPoint presentation as part of educational campaign under Center for Poultry and Livestock Excellence grant, when people travel to Dominican Republic or Haiti offering relief after natural disasters; re: bringing foreign animal diseases back to the U.S.
 - Coordinating details for grain bin rescue kit trainings for 5 fire depts in 4 counties; first 2 were completed in Schuylkill Co.
 - Hosted “Mending the Stress Fence” program at Messick’s Open House session in Lancaster Co.
 - Proposing ideas for 2 breakout sessions for 2024PA State Association of County Fairs related to vulnerability assessments at fair grounds, and human trafficking awareness at fairs
 - Working with PSU Extension and Cumberland Co EMA for farm/ag safety day in October 2023
- Participated and recorded minutes for January and February Lancaster Co. Agriculture Council meetings
- Coordinated Conservation Foundation of Lanc Co meetings, and Exec Comm meetings
- Continued participation in LCCD’s Operational Assessment committee evaluate workplace dynamics, onboarding and leadership structure
- Wrote Annual Report articles for LCC about Ombudsman Program and Conservation Foundation
- Met with PennAg reps to workforce development efforts that PennAg is involved with, and how Ombudsman can partner and give input
- Participated in Mushroom Farmers of PA meeting for an update on mushroom industry and phorid fly reduction successes
- Beginning to work with Eric Cromer/SCC to develop publication highlighting the ACAP program
- Had meeting with LCCD staff and Sustainable Chesapeake regarding recording of manure injection acres in PracticeKeeper and what would be best method to help DEP and NFWF with data collection
- Helping create Prezi show about careers in conservation/natural resources, suggesting courses of study and highlighting soft skills. Is for Lancaster CD, but would be easily adaptable for other CDs.
- Listened to NMA continuing ed credits webinar

Local Government Interaction: I have been asked to provide educational input regarding agriculture:

Moderation or Liaison Activities: I have been asked to provide moderation or liaison assistance with a particular situation:

Lancaster Co— received request from neighbor about why manure is spread so early in the morning, late at night or all night long; contacted farmer just to gather info and get back to neighbor

Lancaster Co—additional time spent on neighbor and duck farm air quality issues

Clinton Co—ongoing discussions with municipal engineer about wording in ordinance and if changes need made

Bucks Co—helped CD technician with ideas for handling odor complaints from neighbors

Research and Education Activities:

Agenda Item C.2

Columbia Co—municipality asked for input and lots of feedback on edits to ordinance for keeping of livestock and poultry on very small lots and in Residential zones or towns

Lancaster Co—request about amounts and types of barley grown in Lancaster Co; foreign company interested in building processing facility; connected them with USDA NASS

Fly Complaint Response Coordination: I have taken complaints or am coordinating fly-related issues in:

Lehigh Co—talked with CD employee to give advice on how to handle the complaint and possible future actions depending on response from neighbors

Schuylkill Co—municipality registered a complaint on behalf of multiple residents