



Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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Technical Committee Meeting Notes

Date: July 13, 2023 **Time:** 9:00am-12:00 pm **Location:** Zoom or Holiday Inn Stevens Point Convention Center, 1001 Amber Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54482, Stonefield Room

PC/Laptop/Tablet/Smart Phone:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85744622720>

Phone Dial-in: 312-626-6799; **Meeting ID:** 857 4462 2720

Mission: Lead WI Land+Water technical assistance activities related to the innovation, evaluation and implementation of conservation practices, standards, services, and the associated programs and policies.

Committee Members

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Hanewall, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shawn Esser, Vice Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tina Barone, Sec. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ketty Clow | <input type="checkbox"/> Ben Dufford | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Fredrich | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Goepfert |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erik Heagle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Klose | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zach Mohr | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathon Lisowe |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan O'Connell | <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Pozorski | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Smetana | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Trudell |

Non-Voting Advisors

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matthew Woodrow – DATCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant – DNR | <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Hurley - NRCS |
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WI Land+Water Staff Liaison (non-voting)

- Kate Brunner

Brian Goepfert virtual

Guests

Geoff Schramm (Ozaukee County)-virtual, Cale Severson (Buffalo County)

All attendees, unless listed as virtual, attended in-person

WI Land+Water meetings are open meetings. Individuals may observe in person, via conference phone, or via web conference if desired. Order and time allowed for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the committee chair. Please inform your chair if you cannot attend.

ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE

- I. Call to order: 9:05 am
 - a. Roll Call - adopt agenda. Added item XIV to agenda. Motion to adopt agenda made by Heagle 2nd Klose. Motion passed.
 - b. Approve previous meeting minutes. Motion to approve minutes by O'Connell 2nd Fredrich. Motion passed.
- II. WI Land+ Water Annual Conference Review (All)
 - a. Isabelle, training coordinator, resigned. Replacement will be hired in the next few weeks.
 - b. Award Nominations – Chris sent email out about this
 - c. Conference Planning – will discuss later in agenda
- III. SOC Update (Brunner)
 - a. CPS 590 will be starting soon. Team will be finalized this week. Technical Advisors at different points. Major revision process. Winter spreading will likely be focused on. Publication later 2024 or early 2025 publication date. Mike Stanek (lead) and Eric Hurley will be very involved in process. Meeting start in August.
 - b. CPS 635 Vegetated Treatment Area working on. Out for review likely later this year. So far just focusing on simplifying especially setbacks. Will be focusing on slope next.
 - c. Teams are working on 3 different DNR standards – 2 Dry Basins (out later this year). Phosphorus removal for urban runoff (probably a year out).
 - d. Conservation Crop Rotation is completed but NRCS has new document system so they are putting it in there now. Should look very similar to draft. Their goal is to get published by September.
- IV. New DNR Advisor(s) and Thank You to Mike Gilbertson! (All)
 - a. Committee has flexibility on Advisors. Committee would like to stick with one dedicated advisor and then just invite others in as needed.
 - b. Discussion of who should be the dedicated DNR Advisor. Chris Clayton, Andrew Craig, Bernie Machaud, Mike's replacement?
 - c. Will wait and see who replacement is and then revisit this. In the meantime we will invite DNR staff in as needed/applicable.
 - d. Hanewall will ask Chris Clayton about what he suggests for a replacement advisor.
- V. Direct Runoff from Feedlots Companion Document Subcommittee Update (Barone)
 - a. Can be put on Tech Committee Hub page. Brunner will look into this.
 - b. If there are comments/revisions that's okay. We plan on this being a living document so revisions are possible. Revisions don't need to go through long process, we will make them as they occur. The first revision will likely be after the new VTA standard is released.

- c. Send to all in organization. Can be used for FPP farm walkovers to determine if there's direct runoff from a feedlot
 - d. Suggest doing webinar training to rollout.
 - e. There's a place for better models. Next step may be additional VTA research to apply to APL-lots model. Adam Morris from NRCS has been looking at models in relation to VTA standard review.
 - f. Clow made motion to approve the Companion Document. Smetana 2nd. Motion approved.
- VI. Hydrologic Restoration General Permit Update (Mohr)
- a. Meeting last week. New DNR permit if connected floodplain, fixing degraded wetlands, etc. Reviewed permit draft 2.0 and then had discussion.
 - b. Mohr wonders if this will meet NRCS standards. Would be nice if they put NRCS standards in the permit. DNR is considering this.
 - c. Hanewall suggested using NRCS Standards listed as having hydrologic restoration or connection by DATCP in the ATCP 50 comment period.
 - d. Requirements of biodegradable oils and sediment curtains in GP were suggested to be removed.
 - e. HEC-RAS data isn't required in the GP. DATCP and NRCS has offered assistance with HEC-RAS to Counties. DATCP trying to get H&H Engineer on staff.
 - f. Floodplain Zone A and Zone AE discussion.
 - g. Team is trying to make it easier to get permits when following conservation practices that are improving hydrologic connectivity.
 - h. Version 3.0 this week or next week. Hoping to put out to public review later summer and have permit out for use in September or October.
- VII. Floodplain Zone A Conservation Practice No-Rise Checklist Trial Sites (Clow et al.)
- a. Clow said at Area Technician's meeting NRCS brought up the checklist.
 - b. Heagle has used it a little in the County but most floodplain stuff is Zoning.
 - c. Goal is to try to keep running it on sites.
 - d. Wisconsin Wetlands Association interested in checklist.
 - e. FEMA is dictating the rules even though Counties have to regulate. Counties must follow to be eligible for flood insurance.
 - f. County staff should contact DATCP if need help with floodplain because will need engineering stamp. Woodrow will have to be the one to sign off. Will have to be conservation project through SWRM (or other types of funding (like TRM) and follows an NRCS standard).
- VIII. La Crosse County Navigability/Shoreland Zoning Watershed Assessment (Hanewall)
- a. Watershed Assessment. Mixed navigability determinations from multiple DNR staff.
 - b. Developing County-wide assessment. Land Conservation and Zoning were struggling

- c. Ran NRCS watershed tools. Drainage areas with 1 square mile is a good starting point for looking at navigability. Slope and presence of perennial water, existence of bed and bank, and now starting to determine a mathematical determination for the ability to float.
 - d. 10 year storm is likely the volume ability that will produce navigable water.
 - e. Hoping to get buy in from DNR local water regs.
 - f. Some DNR consider if it could float 1 day a year its navigable.
 - g. Need 6-8" of water to float a canoe but will need a little additional inches to navigate it.
 - h. Heagle said his Zoning now has a charge for a navigability determination (\$250) where they take x-sections, photos, rainfall, presence of watermarks, etc and then forward data packet to DNR water regs for concurrence. Only for the specific landowner on that stretch of stream.
 - i. Hanewall said that this is both running models in the office and then checking in the field.
 - j. There aren't any plans to have a public hearing to approve the navigability determination across the County.
 - k. Hanewall said they have a meeting with DNR early August to look at this.
- IX. SITCOM (AITCOM) Update (O' Connell)
- a. No Technical Committee members attended.
 - b. There was discussion about the length of time approval for various projects is taking. Many different agencies can be part of this process and each has its own timeline and process. SITCOM may set up a separate committee to look into the approval process.
 - c. Mentor Program – could give new staff a lifeline. This is going to be offered. Clow said pilot program will be starting soon. Will rollout at Land & Water Conference in 2024. Need Mentors, reach out to Clow or O'Connell if interested.
- X. Livestock Facility Siting Technical Expert Committee Update (Hanewall/Woodrow)
- a. Final report put together with recommendations. Recommend the new standards be put in ATCP 51
 - b. Every 4 years open it up
 - c. 10 experts – 2 producers included. Met 7 times
 - d. Advisors were brought in only for specific meetings. At office of Secretary and they decide whether they bring up ATCP 51 for revision.
- XI. ATCP 50 Rule Change Status: Silurian Bedrock & SWRM Programming (Woodrow)
- a. Public Comments are currently being reviewed and they have to comment on all of them.
 - b. Most comments were in support of ATCP 50.
 - c. Biggest changes will be updating to current standards and adding in new standards (phosphorous removal systems, etc). Trying to future proof. Silurian Bedrock to be added.
- XII. 2023 Technical Tour (All)

- a. Kewaunee County will host.
 - b. May be more educational than tour with Depth to Bedrock Verification Protocols covered
 - i. Depth to bedrock Verification vs. DATCP Depth to Bedrock Verification Protocols (Pros, cons and differences)
 - ii. How, why, what and where- how they started verification and where they are today
 - iii. Show inventory of data and how it is used
 - iv. Show depth to bedrock maps vs verification
 - v. Show in field verification, tools used and how data is collected
 - vi. What they do for farmer education
 - vii. Where they plan to go
 - viii. Challenges encountered
 - ix. Future verification and how will data be impacted by soil loss (erosion, compaction, etc.)
 - c. Hanewall and Brunner will work with Kewaunee to determine date, details, etc. Typically mid-morning start time (9-10).
 - d. There is money in the budget for this event.
- XIII. 2024 Annual Conference Breakout Session Planning (All)
- a. Get ideas together and talk to your networks
 - b. Bring 3 ideas at least. You can send your ideas to Brunner ahead of time.
 - c. Will run differently than last year to try to do better
- XIV. Proposed Revisions to National Handbook of Conservation Practices for NRCS
- a. If interested in making comments code 398, 430, 585, 384 they have been posted in the federal register and there is a 30 day comment period that closes July 31, 2023.
 - b. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/06/30/2023-13929/proposed-revisions-to-the-national-handbook-of-conservation-practices-for-the-natural-resources>
- XV. Adjourn Motion to Adjourn at 11:54 AM by Heagle 2nd Fredrich. Motion passed.

Next Meeting will be August 22 at 9 am (in person, no virtual option) then merge with PIC for Conference Planning at Portage County Annex (same as last year)