**Conewago Monitoring Team Meeting**

**June 22 2011, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
303 Church Hall, Penn State Harrisburg**

**MINUTES**

**Attending:**

Matt Royer, PSU
Justin Kauffman, PSU
Mike Yanchuk, DCCD
Jeremy Zidek, ZedX
Jineen Boyle, DEP
Mike Langland, USGS
Dawn Hintz, SRBC
Dan Bogar, DEP
Matt Kofroth, Lanc. CCD
Tony Shaw, DEP

1. **Partner Updates**

Dan Bogar, DEP. Dan shared reports from 2009-10 macro sampling. IBI scores show all sites except for #1 (Colebrook) and #2 (Lawn) are impaired. Where exactly the line between impairment and attaining is is a matter of best professional justment. IBI 63 is the breakline, but there is a plus or minus grey area that is left to biologist’s best professional judgment. For example, Colebrook station IBI was 51, but it is not impaired due to the bugs on the list.

Mike Langland, USGS. First gage is installed and everything is working. Data will soon be available to public in real time on USGS website. Mike attended a Chesapeake Bay public meeting where the objective was tying together tidal and nontidal monitoring. There was some discussion of shallow groundwater monitoring, which could show some results from BMP implementation in a year or two.

Mike Yanchek, DCCD. Met with Gary Walters, DEP. Set up samples 4x per year to start in July at 7 sites. DEP lab to analyze. (note: Monitoring Plan need to be corrected to eliminate Aberdeen Mills and Deodate Road as water quality monitoring sites. Other mainstem chemistry sites are #12 and #3. USGS gage will monitoring at #11, and will also take over #3 once gage is installed there). 319 mini grant covering cost of monitoring Lebanon County sites.

1. **Short Term Monitoring**

The team continued its discussion of short term monitoring from last meeting. Best ideas include:

1. BMP Implementation. Consider tracking BMPs implemented as monitoring. Include both ag and other sectors.
2. Riparian habitat

Other ideas include periphyton (algae sampling). When we are talking about short term monitoring, aren’t we really taking about pre- and post-project monitoring? This team needs to work with BMP Team to get information on projects being implemented.

Also consider value of short term monitoring in messaging, outreach, getting residents to move off center. What are the early signals? Largest response is after a project is implemented. Seeing the aesthetic value of the project.