FOLLOW UP FROM 2013 EXPERT PANEL MEETING

Remedial Options Program Task Team

PROCESS

- October 2013 Expert Panel Meeting
  - Extended discussion with 9 focused questions posed to the panel
  - Questions focused on
    - Strengths and weaknesses of the program
    - Critical data gaps and research needs
    - Suggestions for improving the success of the program
  - Expert panel responded and group discussed those responses
  - Notes were recorded

- ROPs group (Nancy, Robert, Ceil, Scott, Rich, Jim) organized those comments into specific action items with names and projected timeframes

ACTION ITEMS DELEGATED TO MONITORING TEAM

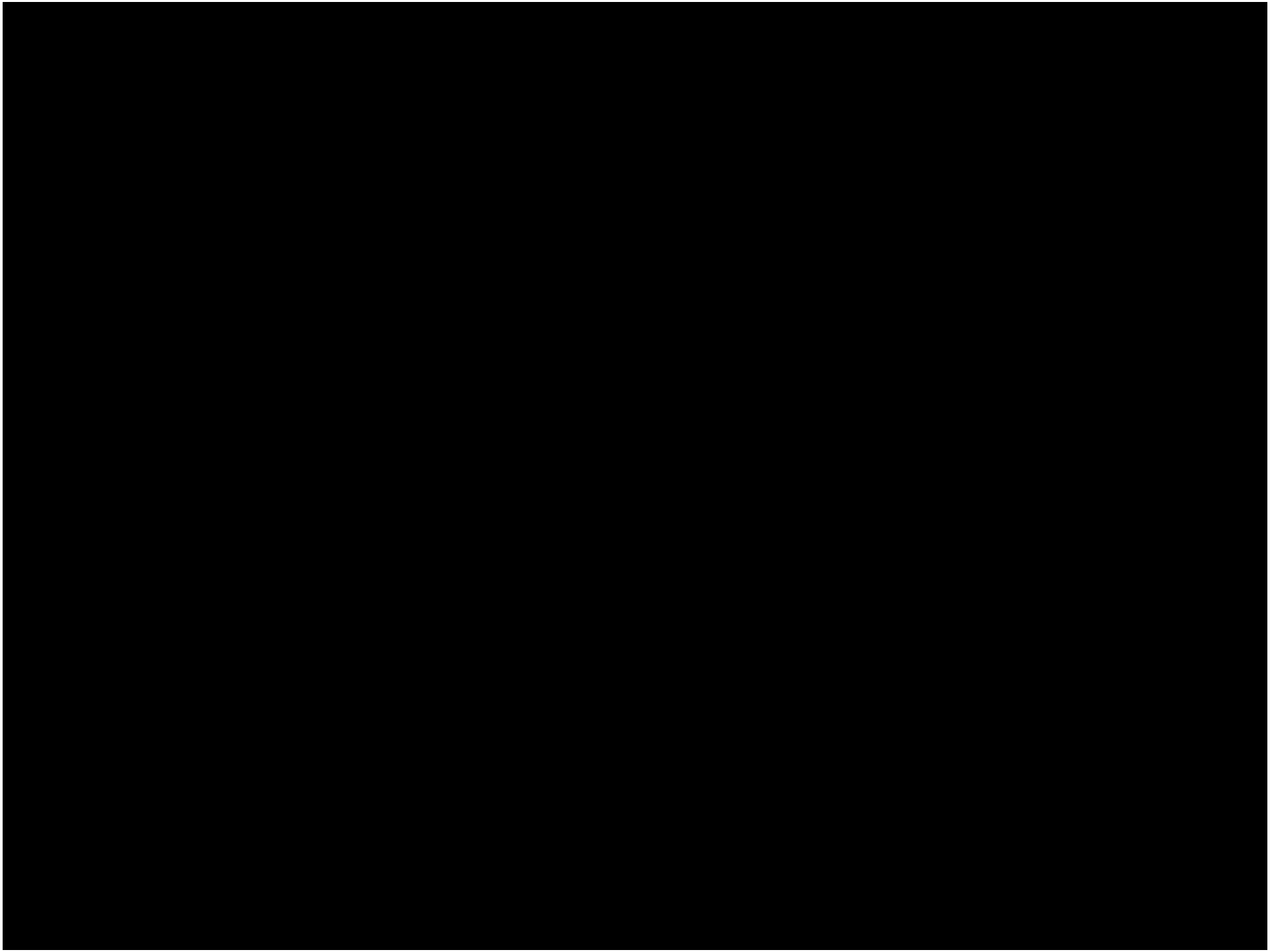
- Relative Risk Model example – develop hypothetical example of how RRM will be incorporated into monitoring plans
- Integrate monitoring programs – make sure monitoring program meets multiple objectives from various programs (Remediation, NRD restoration, Chesapeake Bay Program, etc.)
- Review monitoring plan for endpoints with low variability and high sensitivity and for sufficient background data.
- Quantify habitat improvement metrics to the extent possible and practical.
- Refine the monitoring plan to include transparent and well-defined links between specific monitoring endpoints and Adaptive Management decision-making.
- Address concerns regarding the biological monitoring program – Hg uptake dynamics, corbicula uptake and depuration, resident macroinvertebrates, long-term monitoring program with indigenous/resident species.

ACTION ITEMS DELEGATED TO COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

- Explore with the VADEQ TMDL team the challenges in instituting BMPs on agricultural lands and explore ways to alleviate concerns
- Explore other impediments or objections the public may have to implementation of bank stabilization measures.
- Identify community leaders.
- Communicate possible short-term impacts of bank stabilization and evaluate trade-offs for control vs. construction schedule.
- Manage expectations of stakeholders. Tailor communication appropriately to Stakeholder groups.
- Develop Communication Plan

ROPS ACTION ITEMS

- Track protocols and monitoring requirements of Chesapeake Bay Program (1Q Robert)
- Track protocols for Waynesboro MS4 (1Q DEQ)
- Update CSM based on new information (2Q-3Q – Robert, Nancy, and Scott)
- Review currently planned and possible future changes to hydrology of the South River system including land use changes and climate change and then incorporate representative scenarios into the EFDC model for bank and other remedy design (1Q-4Q Anchor QEA)
- Conduct a ROPs workshop/discussion on the pros and cons of incorporating biochar into bank stabilization treatments and reach consensus on next steps (2Q-3Q Nancy)
- Explore short-term impacts of bank stabilization and evaluate trade-offs for control vs. construction schedule (1Q-4Q Anchor QEA)
- Conduct an engineering failure analysis of the bank stabilization and other remedies that might be implemented (e.g. What can go wrong?) (4Q Rich and Jim)
- Track remedies at other appropriate benchmarking sites (Ongoing Scott, Clay, and Nancy)



QUESTIONS FOR EXPERT PANEL (AND SRST)

1. What information requires clarification?

2. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the ROPs program? How can we improve it?

3. What critical research and study areas tied to remedy selection are not being addressed?

4. What critical data gaps need to be addressed to reduce uncertainties and potential unintended consequences associated with the Phase 1 IRM?

QUESTIONS FOR EXPERT PANEL (AND SRST)

5. How can we improve the adaptive management approach for the river remedy?

6. What does remediation success look like based on your experience at other sites?

7. What is your feedback on the proposed approach for developing the floodplain conceptual model?

8. In what areas of the program is stakeholder acceptance at risk? What can we do to gain the necessary buy in?

9. How can we improve our research, field pilot, deployment and monitoring programs to reduce the potential for unintended adverse effects to ecosystem?