

New York State Restore Clean Water Action Items  
 2014-2015 Programmatic Two-Year Milestones January 1, 2014-December 31, 2015  
 Final Progress Report as of December 31, 2015

Target Date	Milestone (WIP page reference) <sup>1</sup>	Deliverable	Lead Agency	Comments/Status Updates																																				
<b>Agriculture</b>																																								
12/31/2015	NYS funding for agricultural conservation (p. 54)	Implement two rounds of the NYS Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS) for practice implementation and two years of the AEM Base Program, supporting technical assistance by Soil & Water Conservation Districts through the AEM Tiers:  Tier 1: Resource Inventory Tier 2: Environmental Assessment Tier 3: Conservation Planning Tier 4: BMP System Implementation Tier 5: Evaluation of Implemented Practices or Plan Update	NYSDAM/USC	This milestone is based on proposals funded through AgNPS Rounds 20 and 21 (1/1/2014-12/31/2015) and work through the AEM Tiers completed by Districts and the USC using funding from AEM Base Years 9 and 10.  <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">AgNPS</th> <th style="text-align: center;">R20</th> <th style="text-align: center;">R21</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Proposals Funded</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Districts</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Farms</td> <td style="text-align: center;">32</td> <td style="text-align: center;">33</td> <td style="text-align: center;">65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BMP Systems Being Installed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">42</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45</td> <td style="text-align: center;">87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AgNPS Share</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$2.7M</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$3.4M</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$6.1M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sponsor Share</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$151K</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$180K</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$331K</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Farmer Share</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$1.9M</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$2.3M</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$4.2M</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total \$</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>\$4.5M</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>\$5.9M</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>\$10.65M</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	AgNPS	R20	R21	Total	Proposals Funded	9	11	20	Districts	8	8	8	Farms	32	33	65	BMP Systems Being Installed	42	45	87	AgNPS Share	\$2.7M	\$3.4M	\$6.1M	Sponsor Share	\$151K	\$180K	\$331K	Farmer Share	\$1.9M	\$2.3M	\$4.2M	<b>Total \$</b>	<b>\$4.5M</b>	<b>\$5.9M</b>	<b>\$10.65M</b>
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<sup>1</sup> As part of the adaptive management process for achieving water quality goals, jurisdictions may submit programmatic milestones that modify, are in place of, or are in addition to milestones listed in their Phase I WIPs so long as the jurisdiction can demonstrate that they will be as effective toward meeting water quality goals.

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12/31/2015	Dairy Acceleration Program (DAP is a New York State funding program supported by the Environmental Protection Fund)	Cost-share farm business planning and CNMP development/updates in a coordinated manner for dairy farms with fewer than 300 cows	Cornell/NYSDEC/NYS DAM	DAP is a new NYS funding program to cost share farm business planning and CNMP development and updates for dairy farms with fewer than 300 cows. \$864,000 has been awarded to 128 dairy farms. Projects awarded include 53 new CNMPs and 41 updated CNMPs. Of the total CNMPs awarded, 50 include a business plan. 41 farms were awarded funds to design BMPs identified in their CNMP. 66 projects have been completed to date. Additional funding has been allocated to continue the program through 2018.																																								
12/31/2015	Voluntary conservation practices (p. 101)	Further develop and implement tracking, reporting and verification mechanisms for voluntary conservation practices installed on agricultural lands	USC	As part of the NY NRCS CIG funding received by the USC, methods were developed to track and verify cover crop and conservation tillage for reporting to the Chesapeake Bay Program. All grant deliverables were met in 2015 and USC staff are currently working on the grant closeout.																																								

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12/31/2015	BMP data collection	Collection of agriculture BMP data in New York following the Agricultural Environmental Management approach and using the newly-developed online data management system to collect farm BMP data and convert to NEIEN-compliant format for 2014 and 2015 Progress Run reporting	USC	All BMP data for 2014-2015 has been entered into the AEM Online BMP database by USC member counties. All data has been processed and NEIEN-compliant XML files have been generated and sent to DEC.																				
12/31/2015	Annual BMP data collection pilot program	Develop and pilot a new data collection and verification effort for CAFO permitted farms to identify, quantify and report non-cost shared BMPs	NYSDEC & USC	<p>The pilot project began during the summer of 2014 with Cortland County SWCD staff participating in DEC CAFO inspections in Region 7. DEC and USC finalized a contract and workplan for to continue this project in April of 2015. NYSDEC regional staff worked to notify USC member SWCDs of pending CAFO inspections. In 2015, the following USC member counties attended CAFO inspections and completed data collection and verification of practices during their inspections:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1432 899 1864 1240"> <thead> <tr> <th>County</th> <th>Inspections</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Broome</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chenango</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cortland</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Delaware</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Madison</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Schuyler</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Steuben</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tioga</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>22</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	County	Inspections	Broome	1	Chenango	3	Cortland	1	Delaware	2	Madison	3	Schuyler	1	Steuben	9	Tioga	2	TOTAL	22
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12/31/2015	Ag. Technical workgroup and implementation partners coordination	Host conference calls of the NYS representatives on ag-focused CBP workgroups and expert panels including local, state and federal partners	NYSDEC & Partners	<p>Coordinate funding and implementation priorities between local, state and federal partners.</p> <p>New York submitted an application to the 2014-2015 Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) for the Chesapeake Bay watershed that was intended to increase enrollment in USDA</p>																				

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				<p>conservation programs. This proposal was not funded.</p> <p>New York submitted an application to the 2016 RCPP for the Chesapeake Bay watershed that is intended to address nutrient and water quality improvements through increasing landowner enrollment in USDA EQIP and implementing conservation practices identified as priorities in New York's WIP. The pre-proposal was accepted to go to the full proposal submittal.</p> <p>DEC, USC and DAM are participating in New York's Riparian Forest Buffer Initiative led by FSA and NRCS.</p>
<p>12/31/2015</p>	<p>Agricultural Environmental Management Outreach and Education (p. 25)                  (AEM is a New York State funding program supported by the Environmental Protection Fund)</p>	<p>Deliver outreach programs for farmers and agricultural professionals in the watershed about agricultural environmental management, including Cornell Cooperative Extension, Soil &amp; Water Conservation District, NYSDAM, and NRCS workshops as well as two years of multi-day trainings: Conservation Skills Workshop, Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) Training, and Water Quality Symposium</p>	<p>USC/NYSDAM/                  Cornell/NRCS</p>	<p>Water Quality Symposiums held in March of 2014 and 2015, Conservation Skills workshop held in September 2014 and 2015, and the Northeast Region CCA Training in December 2014 and 2015 each offered a week-long track of training on various Agricultural BMP implementation for SWCD and other professionals.</p> <p>USC member counties held several other workshops and field days: Cortland County attended Farm City Day and provided USC outreach materials on the CB and AEM information. Tioga County SWCD sponsored "Sundaes at the Farm" in August 2014.</p> <p>USC Grazing Specialist assisted with planning, organization and coordination of the 2-day Grasstravaganza event held at Morrisville College (July 2014), which provided information to farmers on grazing practices and management. In 2015, USC Grazing Specialist presented at two soil health workshops, held several pasture walks with member districts, and facilitated a training for young farmers. A Conservation Skills grazing workshop was held in Cortland for SWCD staff (September 2015).</p>

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				<p>USC Ag coordinator, Ag Team Leader, and Stream Team Leader organized and coordinated a week long training session for SWCD and NRCS employees on Riparian Corridor Management (presentation topics included ESI, and buffers, given by the USC Stream Team Leader and Stroud Research Facility, respectively). Other training sessions facilitated by USC members held at the training session included topics on Nutrient Management, grazing and soil health. The Buffer Coordinator also setup and completed a CRP/CREP Eligibility Workshop (August 2015).</p> <p>USC sponsored cover crop workshop (November 2014) and Riparian Buffer Workshop (September 2014) held at NRCS Big Flats Material Center.</p>
12/31/2015	Implementation/Outreach	<p>NFWF Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grant. The project supports a nutrient reduction workgroup that promotes initiatives including Precision Feed Management, benchmark analysis, Adaptive Nitrogen Management processes and tools such as on-farm Mass Nutrient Balances, ISNT, CSNT, and Adapt-N modeling, and a non-linear dairy ration optimizer augmented with electronic scale heads to maximize feed efficiencies. Farm demonstrations for outreach will be used.</p>	Cornell/USC	<p>This project included farmer outreach events to discuss Adaptive N management and precision feed management. During the spring of 2015, a work session was held of the Nutrient Reduction Workgroup. At this session, program partners, Cornell University, Cornell Cooperative Extension, AMTS and the USC reviewed deliverables of the grant and accomplishments completed including lessons learned from Precision Feed Benchmarking, Mass Nutrient Balances, ISNT and CSNT and electronic scales. This workshop wrapped up the grant deliverables. The USC also continued to work with Herkimer County Cornell Cooperative Extension to train SWCD staff from Cortland, Tioga, Chenango, Madison, and Onondaga Counties on the use of the Precision Feed Management Screening matrix/tool. As a result, additional data was captured on farms that were meeting the Precision feed management benchmarks. Through this process, an additional 24 farms were worked with where precision feed management data was captured and entered into the AEM online database.</p>

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				This grant project is now complete.
09/31/2015	Research initiative	Compare end of season nitrate capture and N release in spring and summer as impacted by cover crop species, biomass, timing and method of cover termination, and test various tools for N management in cover-crop based corn systems. 3 methods of custom planting by soil and water conservation district will be tested to determine economic feasibility	Cornell/USC	This project (supported by a 2011 NRCS CIG award) is complete and all deliverables achieved.
09/30/2015	Research initiative	To demonstrate applicability of coupled biochemical/biophysical systems (denitrifying bioreactor (DNBR) and active drainage management) to attenuate nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) in shallow groundwater using both diffuse and inline bioreactors. The outcome of this project will be to install 6 DNBR systems for treatment and monitoring, provide quantifiable, numerically defensible N and P reduction attributable to DNBRs, inform the NRCS state denitrifying bioreactor interim standard (747), to provide outreach to producers and stakeholders, and to train conservation and watershed management personnel to site, install, and manage DNBRs	Cornell/USC	Six systems have been installed and are being monitored for water quality data. In addition to the monitoring component of the project, there have been stakeholder outreach events and trainings on the design of the bioreactors. USC received a grant extension in order to install additional DBNR's at other potential sites in Cortland County. Cornell is working with NRCS on revising the NY standard for DNBRs. The grant was extended to August 2016.
12/31/2015	Implementation/Outreach	NFWF CB Stewardship Fund grant for the integration of 8,510 feet of stream rehabilitation with 100 buffer and 450 grazing acres. These practices combined with outreach, training and support will	USC	As of the end of 2015, 4,026 feet of stream has been restored, 28.25 acres of riparian buffers implemented, 6.28 acres of prescribed grazing implemented and one training was held for SWCD on leveraging funding for buffers.  Overall, two rounds of applications have been accepted and contracts have been completed with

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		provide long-term responses to flood events		SWCD member counties. Under Round 1, 10 projects were approved, of which 7 projects have been completed. In Round 2 of applications, 15 applications were submitted and 8 were approved and have contracts signed. Of this round, 2 projects have been completed. Projects consist of both stream and agriculture components. Currently Round 3 of applications is open and SWCD's are submitting applications.
12/31/2015	Implementation/Outreach	Promote the widespread use of soil health practices and demonstrate effective outreach programs for delivering technical assistance to small dairies implementing whole farm strategies to reduce nutrient and sediment loss (NYS NRCS CIG)	USC	500 acres of cover crops were installed in 2014 and 710 acres of cover crops were implemented in 2015 and will be evaluated in 2016. Two annual Soil Health Workshops have been sponsored and three farmer meetings have been held. Benchmarking tools for CC and CT have been explored and evaluated. Remote sensing has been utilized to evaluate CC and compare to measured performance.
12/31/15	Compliance and Enforcement of CAFO Permits	Continue to implement enhanced oversight of facilities in the Susquehanna and Chemung River Basins regulated by NYSDEC SPDES permits.	NYSDEC	During calendar years 2014 and 2015, DEC conducted 73 compliance inspections at CAFOs in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
<b><i>Nonpoint Sources (Non-Agriculture)</i></b>				
12/31/2015	Wetland restoration	Continue wetland restoration on public and private lands	USC	In 2014, USC restored and enhanced 49 acres of wetlands and preserved 155 acres of high quality wetland in the Chesapeake Bay watershed by working with partners. 336 acres of high quality wetland was preserved in 2015. In April 2015, the USC wetland team constructed 3 potholes on property owned by Carantouan Greenway, in Tioga County, NY, completing 2 acres of wetland re-establishment.

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12/31/2015	Flood mitigation	Continue streambank berm removal program to reconnect streams to their floodplains	USC	<p>In 2014-2015, five berm removal projects were completed by USC in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Projects were completed in Chenango, Delaware, Steuben, and Tioga Counties with a total of 4,635 feet of berm and 97,835 cubic feet of material removed.</p> <p>USC received additional funding from DEC's WQIP grant and will continue work in 2016.</p>
12/31/2015	Post-flood emergency stream intervention	Hold post-flood emergency stream intervention training sessions for municipal officials, contractors and machine operators	USC/NYSDEC	<p>Two demonstration sites were completed in Tioga County in 2014. In 2014-2015, three-day trainings were held in Cortland, Madison, Otsego, Steuben, and Tompkins Counties. Seven 90-minute primer workshops were held throughout the watershed. Four additional six-hour trainings were held in 2015. In 2015, trainings were given to 201 attendees.</p> <p>USC was awarded a WQIP grant from DEC to accomplish future trainings.</p>
12/31/2015	Stream buffers	Continue the "Trees for Tribs" stream buffer program in the Susquehanna and Chemung river watersheds	NYSDEC/USC	<p>In 2014-2015, four Trees for Tribs projects totaling 906 plants were implemented in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. 1.35 acres were newly planted in riparian areas and 1.3 acres were replanted in a CREP site that was damaged by flooding.</p>
12/31/2015	Acid whey utilization (This project is supported by the New York State Environmental Protection Fund)	Partner with Cornell University to improve understanding of the composition and agronomic utilization of acid whey	NYSDEC/Cornell	<p>Cornell University began the project in 2014 with 3 objectives: (1) evaluate the compositional variability and volume of acid whey produced; (2) Evaluate the use of dairy bedding solids and liquid from anaerobic digestion of the material; and (3) Evaluate existing BMPs and develop guidance for land application of acid whey. As of 12/31/15, Cornell has completed analysis of acid whey samples; has collected anaerobic digestion residual samples for analysis; and has begun developing BMPs for use of acid whey.</p>

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<b>Stormwater</b>				
12/31/2014	Low Cost Green Infrastructure for Municipalities	Partner with EFC to develop a new low cost green infrastructure guide for municipalities within the watershed	NYSDEC	DOW staff have developed a draft guidance document to identify and assemble low cost green infrastructure practices for implementation by municipalities. Work on this project will continue in 2016.
12/31/2015	BMP Data Collection	Collection of stormwater BMP data in New York using the newly-developed Notice of Intent; converting to NEIEN-compliant format for 2014 and 2015 Progress Run reporting	NYSDEC	The Notice of Intent has been in use since July 2013 and BMP data is recorded in DEC's <i>Stormshadow</i> database. Due to technical problems with the software used to convert to NEIEN-compliant format, DEC was unable to report all data for the 2014 Progress Run and is currently working on reporting for the 2015 Progress Run.
12/31/2015	MS4 Outreach and Compliance	Begin developing a template for recordkeeping through various outreach efforts to demonstrate compliance with the MS4 permit	NYSDEC	An initial version of the template was developed during the milestone period. NYSDEC is now seeking technical support for the template to finalize development and begin implementation.
12/31/2015	Evaluation of statistics for non-farm fertilizer sales	Evaluate the availability of information on the sales of non-farm fertilizer	NYSDEC	Information about non-farm fertilizer sales is available from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. Beginning in 2016, DEC will use this information to verify continued receipt of the phosphorus reduction credit in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.
12/31/2015	Compliance and Enforcement of MS4 communities, industrial stormwater and construction sites	Continue to implement enhanced oversight of facilities in the Susquehanna and Chemung River Basins regulated by NYSDEC SPDES permits	NYSDEC	During calendar years 2014 and 2015, DEC conducted 15 MS4 compliance inspections and 58 construction stormwater inspections in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. DEC also issued 4 Notices of Violation for construction stormwater violations in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

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12/31/2014	Expanded Phase II MS4 Coverage	Expand the Phase II MS4 coverage based on the new and expanded urbanized areas identified in the 2010 Census	NYSDEC	This deliverable is complete. Based on the 2010 Census, no new MS4s were identified in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. MS4 coverage was expanded as necessary based on changes in urbanized area identified in the 2010 Census.
<b>Wastewater</b>				
12/31/2014	Bay Significant wastewater treatment plant permit modifications	Issue SPDES discharge permits that include Waste Load Allocations to achieve 2017 targets outlined in New York's Phase II WIP	NYSDEC	This deliverable is complete. Modified permits for 29 of 30 Bay Significant WWTPs were issued in August 2014. The Binghamton-Johnson City WWTP is subject to a Consent Order for reconstruction of the plant and its permit will be modified as necessary when construction is complete.
12/31/2015	Bay Non-Significant wastewater treatment plant permit modifications	Begin public comment period for modified SPDES discharge permits	NYSDEC	This deliverable is complete. DEC finalized its plan for nutrient monitoring at Non-Significant WWTPs in June 2015 and selected 37 treatment plants for monitoring. The 37 facilities account for 85% of the total nitrogen and phosphorus loads from New York's Non-Significant wastewater facilities. Fourteen of the 37 facilities already had monitoring requirements and DEC modified the permits of the remaining 23 to include monitoring requirements in summer 2015.
12/31/2015	Reconstruction of Binghamton-Johnston City wastewater treatment plant	Oversee compliance with consent order	NYSDEC	DEC continues to oversee compliance with the consent order for reconstruction of the WWTP. The consent order targets April 1, 2017 to substantially complete reconstruction, August 1, 2017 to treat dry weather flows to the final effluent limits, and December 31, 2017 to meet all final effluent limits. During calendar year 2015, DEC held 13 meetings with representatives of the WWTP and consulting engineers to discuss the the reconstruction project, and reviewed 8 sets of engineering plans for different aspects of the project.

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12/31/2015	Continue to use EPA's Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS)	Continue to use the ICIS data management system to submit individual SPDES permit data as appropriate	NYSDEC	During calendar years 2014 and 2015, DEC entered individual SPDES permit data into the ICIS database as appropriate. DEC worked with EPA to create new parameter codes in ICIS necessary to track compliance with the new Bay Significant WWTP permits.
12/31/2015	Compliance and Enforcement of wastewater permits	Continue to implement enhanced oversight of facilities in the Susquehanna and Chemung River Basins regulated by NYSDEC SPDES permits	NYSDEC	During calendar years 2014 and 2015, DEC conducted 166 compliance inspections at Bay Significant WWTPs in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and 169 inspections at Bay Non-Significant WWTPs in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. DEC also issued 4 consent orders and 3 Notices of Violation to wastewater facilities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.