Overview of Results of 2022 Program Review of District Duties

4VAC50-70-130. Review of duties performed by soil and water conservation districts.

A. The department shall periodically conduct a comprehensive review of the RMP duties performed by each soil and water conservation district to evaluate whether requirements set forth by this chapter have been satisfactorily fulfilled. The department shall develop a schedule for conducting periodic reviews and evaluations. Each district shall receive a comprehensive review at least once every five years; however, the department may impose more frequent, partial, or comprehensive reviews with cause. Such reviews where applicable shall be coordinated with those being implemented by agency staff for other purposes that may include annual spot checks of BMPs implemented by districts through the Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program.

B. If a review conducted by the department indicates that the soil and water conservation district has not administered, enforced where authorized to do so, or conducted its duties in a manner that satisfies the requirements set forth within this chapter, the department shall document such deficiencies and convey the needed corrective actions in writing to the soil and water conservation district's board of directors within 30 days following the review.

C. When the department determines:

- 1. The deficiencies are due to the district's failure to satisfactorily perform the required duties with the resources at its disposal, the department shall provide close oversight, guidance, and training as appropriate to enable the district to fully perform the duties required by this chapter. If after such actions there remains one or more deficiencies that cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the department, the department may delay or withhold RMP allocated funding under its authority and control from the district that is not satisfactorily performing its RMP duties. Such duties may be assigned to another soil and water conservation district. Funds withheld from the district with deficiencies may be directed to the district that is performing the additional RMP duties.
- 2. The deficiencies are due to a work demand generated by the duties required by this chapter that exceed the district's existing resources, the department shall endeavor to assist the district in the performance of its duties and in finding a solution to the shortage of resources.

Recommended Motion:

No action is required by the Board for this agenda item.



Darryl Glover
Deputy Director for
Dam Safety,
Floodplain Management and
Soil and Water Conservation

Laura Ellis Interim Deputy Director for Administration and Finance

September 26, 2022

Mr. Franklin Zitta, Chair Appomattox River Soil and Water Conservation District Post Office Box 277 Dinwiddie, Virginia 23841

Dear Mr. Zitta:

As you may be aware, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (Department) conducts program review related to the duties of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Districts) in implementing the Resource Management Plan Program. The results of the program reviews are shared with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. This year, a program review was conducted for the Appomattox River Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Board and the Department wish to commend the District Board and District staff for all of their time and efforts related to implementing the Resource Management Plan Program (Program). As shown by the program review results, your District has exceeded expectations in administering and promoting this critical Program.

Thank you again for all of the District's assistance to agricultural producers and citizens and for all the District's efforts to improve Virginia's water quality.

Sincerely

Charles A. Arnason, Chair Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board Matthew S. Wells, Director Department of Conservation and Recreation

cc: Sara Cravath, District Manager



Review of Appomattox River Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Implementation of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) Program

The review of local program effectiveness is a responsibility of the Department of Conservation and Recreation as defined by Virginia RMP Regulations (4VAC50-70-130.), which states that the

"The Department shall periodically conduct a comprehensive review of the RMP duties performed by each soil and water conservation district to evaluate whether requirements set forth by this chapter have been satisfactorily fulfilled. The department shall develop a schedule for conducting periodic reviews and evaluations. Each District shall receive a comprehensive review at least once every five years; however, the Department may impose more frequent, partial, or comprehensive reviews with cause. Such reviews where applicable shall be coordinated with those being implemented by agency staff for other purposes that may include annual spot checks of BMPs implemented by districts through the Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program."

Programmatic requirements for a District are set out in the RMP regulations contained in 4VAC-50-70 et. seq. Specific checklists address the criteria for RMP program administration, RMP plan review, and RMP inspections.

The following approved Resource Management Plans were selected as part of this program review:

- 1. RMP 42-20-0012
- 2. RMP 42-20-0013
- 3. RMP 42-20-0018
- 4. RMP 42-20-0021
- 5. RMP 42-20-0031

The following Resource Management Plans Verification Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

- 1. RMP 42-20-0013
- 2. RMP 42-20-0018
- 3. RMP 42-20-0031

The following Resource Management Plans Compliance Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

Results of the Program Review

A. General Program Administration

Appomattox River Soil and Water Conservation District receive a score of 30 out of a possible 30 points. The district has established a Technical Review Committee (TRC). All information is protected from FOIA as required. Technical Review Committee and district board meetings were conducted in accordance with the Administrative Process Act and all Guidance.

B. Review of Approved Plans

Appomattox River Soil and Water Conservation District receive a score of 100 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC has reviewed all of the RMPs within the required time (90 days) for revised submittals and requests for additional information. Clear comments were provided to the plan developer. All of the required information and minimum standards were contained in the RMPs.

C. Verification Inspection of RMPs

Appomattox River Soil and Water Conservation District receive a score of 100 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC conducted a verification inspection when a request was submitted by the producer. All of the required information was complete and a current NMP was submitted and a NMP verification was provided by the NMP planner. The inspection ensured all of the required minimum standards had been completed by the producer.

D. Compliance Inspection of RMPs

No compliance inspections are due at this time.

E. Summary/Recommendations

Appomattox River Soil and Water Conservation District has very adequately acted as the RMP program authority. They have excellent records and should be commended for their implementation and promotion of the program. There are no recommendations for the district at this time.



Darryl Glover
Deputy Director for
Dam Safety,
Floodplain Management and
Soil and Water Conservation

Laura Ellis Interim Deputy Director for Administration and Finance

September 26, 2022

Mr. Charles Hill Carter, III, Chair Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District 205 Bulifants Boulevard, Suite C Williamsburg, Virginia 23188

Dear Mr. Carter:

As you may be aware, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (Department) conducts program review related to the duties of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Districts) in implementing the Resource Management Plan Program. The results of the program reviews are shared with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. This year, a program review was conducted for the Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Board and the Department wish to commend the District Board and District staff for all of their time and efforts related to implementing the Resource Management Plan Program (Program). As shown by the program review results, your District has exceeded expectations in administering and promoting this critical Program.

Thank you again for all of the District's assistance to agricultural producers and citizens and for all the District's efforts to improve Virginia's water quality.

Sincerely

Charles A. Arnason, Chair Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board Matthew S. Wells, Director Department of Conservation and Recreation

cc: Jim Wallace, District Manager



Review of Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Implementation of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) Program

The review of local program effectiveness is a responsibility of the Department of Conservation and Recreation as defined by Virginia RMP Regulations (4VAC50-70-130.), which states that the

"The Department shall periodically conduct a comprehensive review of the RMP duties performed by each soil and water conservation district to evaluate whether requirements set forth by this chapter have been satisfactorily fulfilled. The department shall develop a schedule for conducting periodic reviews and evaluations. Each District shall receive a comprehensive review at least once every five years; however, the Department may impose more frequent, partial, or comprehensive reviews with cause. Such reviews where applicable shall be coordinated with those being implemented by agency staff for other purposes that may include annual spot checks of BMPs implemented by districts through the Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program."

Programmatic requirements for a District are set out in the RMP regulations contained in 4VAC-50-70 et. seq. Specific checklists address the criteria for RMP program administration, RMP plan review, and RMP inspections.

The following approved Resource Management Plans were selected as part of this program review:

- 1. RMP-18-15-0002
- 2. RMP-18-15-0003
- 3. RMP-18-15-0004
- 4. RMP-18-16-0001
- 5. RMP-18-21-0001

The following Resource Management Plans Verification Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

- 1. RMP-18-15-0004
- 2. RMP-18-16-0001

The following Resource Management Plans Compliance Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

Results of the Program Review

A. General Program Administration

Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District receive a score of 30 out of a possible 30 points. The district has established a Technical Review Committee (TRC). All information is protected from FOIA as required. Technical Review Committee and district board meetings were conducted in accordance with the Administrative Process Act and all Guidance.

B. **Review of Approved Plans**

Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District receive a score of 90 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC exceeded the 90 day time requirement on three of the RMPs selected. Clear comments were provided to the plan developer. All of the required information and minimum standards were contained in the RMPs.

C. Verification Inspection of RMPs

Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District receive a score of 100 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC conducted a verification inspection when a request was submitted by the producer. All of the required information was complete and a current NMP was submitted and a NMP verification was provided by the NMP planner. The inspection ensured all of the required minimum standards had been completed by the producer.

D. Compliance Inspection of RMPs

No compliance inspections are due at this time.

E. Summary/Recommendations

Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District has very adequately acted as the RMP program authority. They have excellent records and should be commended for their implementation and promotion of the program. There are no recommendations for the district at this time.



Darryl Glover
Deputy Director for
Dam Safety,
Floodplain Management and
Soil and Water Conservation

Laura Ellis Interim Deputy Director for Administration and Finance

September 26, 2022

Ms. Carey Lynn Allen, Chair James River Soil and Water Conservation District Post Office Box 129 Prince George, Virginia 23875

Dear Ms. Allen:

As you may be aware, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (Department) conducts program review related to the duties of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Districts) in implementing the Resource Management Plan Program. The results of the program reviews are shared with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. This year, a program review was conducted for the James River Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Board and the Department wish to commend the District Board and District staff for all of their time and efforts related to implementing the Resource Management Plan Program (Program). As shown by the program review results, your District has exceeded expectations in administering and promoting this critical Program.

Thank you again for all of the District's assistance to agricultural producers and citizens and for all the District's efforts to improve Virginia's water quality.

Sincerely

Charles A. Arnason, Chair Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board Matthew S. Wells, Director Department of Conservation and Recreation

cc: Brianna Morring, District Manager



Review of James River Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Implementation of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) Program

The review of local program effectiveness is a responsibility of the Department of Conservation and Recreation as defined by Virginia RMP Regulations (4VAC50-70-130.), which states that the

"The Department shall periodically conduct a comprehensive review of the RMP duties performed by each soil and water conservation district to evaluate whether requirements set forth by this chapter have been satisfactorily fulfilled. The department shall develop a schedule for conducting periodic reviews and evaluations. Each District shall receive a comprehensive review at least once every five years; however, the Department may impose more frequent, partial, or comprehensive reviews with cause. Such reviews where applicable shall be coordinated with those being implemented by agency staff for other purposes that may include annual spot checks of BMPs implemented by districts through the Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program."

Programmatic requirements for a District are set out in the RMP regulations contained in 4VAC-50-70 et. seq. Specific checklists address the criteria for RMP program administration, RMP plan review, and RMP inspections.

The following approved Resource Management Plans were selected as part of this program review:

- 1. RMP 12-15-0001
- 2. RMP 12-15-0002
- 3. RMP 12-15-0003
- 4. RMP 12-15-0004
- 5. RMP 12-16-0001

The following Resource Management Plans Verification Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

No verification inspections are required at this time.

The following Resource Management Plans Compliance Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

Results of the Program Review

A. General Program Administration

James River Soil and Water Conservation District received a score of 30 out of a possible 30 points. The district has established a Technical Review Committee (TRC). All information is protected from FOIA as required. Technical Review Committee and district board meetings were conducted in accordance with the Administrative Process Act and all Guidance.

B. **Review of Approved Plans**

James River Soil and Water Conservation District received a score of 100 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC has reviewed all of the RMPs within the required time (90 days) for revised submittals and requests for additional information.

Clear comments were provided to the plan developer. All of the required information and minimum standards were contained in the RMPs.

C. Verification Inspection of RMPs

James River Soil and Water Conservation District receive a score of 100 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC conducted a verification inspection when a request was submitted by the producer. All of the required information was complete and a current NMP was submitted and a NMP verification was provided by the NMP planner. The inspection ensured all of the required minimum standards had been completed by the producer.

D. Compliance Inspection of RMPs

No compliance inspections are due at this time.

E. Summary/Recommendations

James River Soil and Water Conservation District has very adequately acted as the RMP program authority. They have excellent records and should be commended for their implementation and promotion of the program. There are no recommendations for the district at this time.



Darryl Glover
Deputy Director for
Dam Safety,
Floodplain Management and
Soil and Water Conservation

Laura Ellis Interim Deputy Director for Administration and Finance

September 26, 2022

Mr. Richard W. Hoover, Chair Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District Strasburg Service Center 722-B East Queen Street Strasburg, Virginia 22657

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As you may be aware, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (Department) conducts program review related to the duties of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Districts) in implementing the Resource Management Plan Program. The results of the program reviews are shared with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. This year, a program review was conducted for the Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Board and the Department wish to commend the District Board and District staff for all of their time and efforts related to implementing the Resource Management Plan Program (Program). As shown by the program review results, your District has exceeded expectations in administering and promoting this critical Program.

Thank you again for all of the District's assistance to agricultural producers and citizens and for all the District's efforts to improve Virginia's water quality.

Sincerely

Charles A. Arnason, Chair Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board Matthew S. Wells, Director Department of Conservation and Recreation

cc: Dana Gochenour, Senior Conservation Specialist



Review of Lord Fairfax River Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Implementation of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) Program

The review of local program effectiveness is a responsibility of the Department of Conservation and Recreation as defined by Virginia RMP Regulations (4VAC50-70-130.), which states that the

"The Department shall periodically conduct a comprehensive review of the RMP duties performed by each soil and water conservation district to evaluate whether requirements set forth by this chapter have been satisfactorily fulfilled. The department shall develop a schedule for conducting periodic reviews and evaluations. Each District shall receive a comprehensive review at least once every five years; however, the Department may impose more frequent, partial, or comprehensive reviews with cause. Such reviews where applicable shall be coordinated with those being implemented by agency staff for other purposes that may include annual spot checks of BMPs implemented by districts through the Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program."

Programmatic requirements for a District are set out in the RMP regulations contained in 4VAC-50-70 et. seq. Specific checklists address the criteria for RMP program administration, RMP plan review, and RMP inspections.

The following approved Resource Management Plans were selected as part of this program review:

- 1. RMP 13-15-0001
- 2. RMP 13-15-0003.1
- 3. RMP 13-15-0004.1
- 4. RMP 13-15-0005
- 5. RMP 13-16-0001

The following Resource Management Plans Verification Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

- 1. RMP 13-15-0001
- 2. RMP 13-15-0003.1
- 3. RMP 13-15-0004.1
- 4. RMP 13-15-0005
- 5. RMP 13-16-0001

The following Resource Management Plans Compliance Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

No compliance inspections are required at this time.

Program reviews will consist of a personal interview between the Department and the District staff, a review of the District files and other applicable documents, a review of a sample of the RMPs approved by the District Board, review of the certification and compliance inspections (if applicable), and a review of the information entered into the DCR Conservation Planning Suite. Individual checklists will be used for each plan selected during the program review. A plan review, inspection review, and compliance review checklist will be used to determine that the selected RMPs were reviewed, approved, and inspected by the District in accordance with the RMP regulations. Each District will then be evaluated with a rating worksheet which reflects combined results from the individual checklists. Programs receiving a score of 70 percent or greater in each of the four review areas will be considered to have satisfactorily fulfilled their RMP duties. If one or more of the four program review areas receive a score of less than 70 percent, a program will be considered to have not satisfactorily fulfilled their RMP duties.

Results of the Program Review

A. General Program Administration

Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District received a score of 30 out of a possible 30 points. The district has established a Technical Review Committee (TRC). All information is protected from FOIA as required. Technical Review Committee and district board meetings were conducted in accordance with the Administrative Process Act and all Guidance.

B. **Review of Approved Plans**

Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District received a score of 100 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC has reviewed all of the RMPs within the required time (90 days) for revised submittals and requests for additional information. Clear comments were provided to the plan developer. All of the required information and minimum standards were contained in the RMPs.

C. Verification Inspection of RMPs

Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District received a score of 100 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC conducted a verification inspection when a request was submitted by the producer. All of the required information was complete and a current NMP was submitted and a NMP verification was provided by the NMP planner. The inspection ensured all of the required minimum standards had been completed by the producer.

D. Compliance Inspection of RMPs

No compliance inspections are due at this time.

E. Summary/Recommendations

Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District has very adequately acted as the RMP program authority. They have excellent records and should be commended for their implementation and promotion of the program. There are no recommendations for the district at this time.



Darryl Glover
Deputy Director for
Dam Safety,
Floodplain Management and
Soil and Water Conservation

Laura Ellis
Interim Deputy Director for
Administration and Finance

September 26, 2022

Mr. Larkin D. Moyer, Chair Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District 100-B Dominion Drive Farmville, Virginia 23901

Dear Mr. Moyer:

As you may be aware, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (Department) conducts program review related to the duties of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Districts) in implementing the Resource Management Plan Program. The results of the program reviews are shared with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. This year, a program review was conducted for the Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Board and the Department wish to commend the District Board and District staff for all of their time and efforts related to implementing the Resource Management Plan Program (Program). As shown by the program review results, your District has exceeded expectations in administering and promoting this critical Program.

Thank you again for all of the District's assistance to agricultural producers and citizens and for all the District's efforts to improve Virginia's water quality.

Sincerely

Charles A. Arnason, Chair Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board Matthew S. Wells, Director Department of Conservation and Recreation

cc: Deanna Fehrer, District Manager



Review of Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Implementation of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) Program

The review of local program effectiveness is a responsibility of the Department of Conservation and Recreation as defined by Virginia RMP Regulations (4VAC50-70-130.), which states that the

"The Department shall periodically conduct a comprehensive review of the RMP duties performed by each soil and water conservation district to evaluate whether requirements set forth by this chapter have been satisfactorily fulfilled. The department shall develop a schedule for conducting periodic reviews and evaluations. Each District shall receive a comprehensive review at least once every five years; however, the Department may impose more frequent, partial, or comprehensive reviews with cause. Such reviews where applicable shall be coordinated with those being implemented by agency staff for other purposes that may include annual spot checks of BMPs implemented by districts through the Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program."

Programmatic requirements for a District are set out in the RMP regulations contained in 4VAC-50-70 et. seq. Specific checklists address the criteria for RMP program administration, RMP plan review, and RMP inspections.

The following approved Resource Management Plans were selected as part of this program review:

- 1. RMP 5-17-0003
- 2. RMP 5-17-0004
- 3. RMP 5-21-0001
- 4. RMP 5-21-0002
- 5. RMP 5-21-0003

The following Resource Management Plans Verification Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

No verification inspections are required at this time.

The following Resource Management Plans Compliance Inspections were reviewed as part of this program review:

Results of the Program Review

A. General Program Administration

Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District received a score of 30 out of a possible 30 points. The district has established a Technical Review Committee (TRC). All information is protected from FOIA as required. Technical Review Committee and district board meetings were conducted in accordance with the Administrative Process Act and all Guidance.

B. **Review of Approved Plans**

Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District received a score of 90 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC exceeded the 90 day time requirement on three of the RMPs selected due to pandemic related office closure. Clear comments were provided to the plan developer. All of the required information and minimum standards were contained in the RMPs.

C. Verification Inspection of RMPs

Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District received a score of 100 out of a possible 100 points. The TRC conducted a verification inspection when a request was submitted by the producer. All of the required information was complete and a current NMP was submitted and a NMP verification was provided by the NMP planner. The inspection ensured all of the required minimum standards had been completed by the producer.

D. Compliance Inspection of RMPs

No compliance inspections are due at this time.

E. Summary/Recommendations

Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District has very adequately acted as the RMP program authority. They have excellent records and should be commended for their implementation and promotion of the program. There are no recommendations for the district at this time.