Watershed Agricultural Program SOP

3.1.01.5

<u>PRIORITIZING RELEASE OF BMPS – SOP</u>

Issue:
Due to the constraints placed on funds available for BMP Implementation and the unknown dates of when said funds will actually be available for BMP implementation, a structured process will need to be followed as to how and when BMP projects are released from the "in the box" status, to "out for bid" and beyond status. This process will need to be followed for an undetermined amount of time and potentially the remainder of CAT 487.

Proposed process of ranking, approving and releasing certified BMP Projects for implementation as follows:
1. CREP where there are no longer extensions, and/or the participant will not receive SIP/PIP if implementation does not occur
2. Emergency repairs
3. Stream/Army Corp permitting (June 15 through September 30) will expire
4. Projects previously out for bid whereas bids were not accepted due to funding availability or no bids received.
5. Remaining rollover designs that fit financially with consideration given to Backlog BMPs within the remaining "Cash on Hand" scenario considering the PC and Farm Ranking
6. By date of when each project was prioritized and assigned to a workload year

Priority and consideration given to:
1. Permitting timelines and deadlines
2. Outside Program contracts (CREP), outside funding and other partnering program priorities
3. Current (active) nutrient discharge issues direct to a WC (water course)
4. Nonfunctioning BMPs (unable to be operated &/or maintained creating a threat to WQ, Human and/or animal safety issue)
5. BL BMPs (and other potential contract deliverables)
   a. Should consideration be given to spread funding available across many projects rather than investing all potential available funds on one larger project?
6. Individual Engineering staff 's implementation capacity

Items to consider:
- **This process will be followed, but flexibility may need to be granted to the WAP Ag Program Manager and/or WAP CO to make decision following the intent of this prioritized process.**
- **All projects selected will be reviewed by planning, technical, engineering, and participant(s) to validate efficacy and correctness for implementation based on weather and time of year.**

Approved by Ag Program Manager: 3-9-2021