



# Standards Oversight Council (SOC)

Supporting Technical Standards for Urban and Rural Soil and Water Conservation

Gini Knight, SOC Coordinator  
702 E. Johnson Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703  
(608) 441-2677 || Fax (608) 441-2676 || [gini@wlwca.org](mailto:gini@wlwca.org) || [socwisconsin.org](http://socwisconsin.org)

## 590 Nutrient Management Standard Team

### DRAFT MEETING NOTES

February 1, 2013 || 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Hancock Ag Research Station - [N 3909 County Highway V, Hancock, WI 54943](#)

*Attendees:* Kevin Masarik, Tony Smith, Nikki Wagner, Sara Walling, Sue Porter, Carrie Laboski, Matt Zoschke, Todd Schaumberg, Terry Kelly, Pat Murphy, Laura Chern, John Koepke, Joe Bragger, Gini Knight

#### 1. Welcome, review of agenda, introductions

#### 2. Review SOC process and team member responsibilities

*Mini-lecture with Q&A (Gini)*

#### 3. Establish group agreements

*Team members developed an initial list of agreements establishing how they would operate with each other as a team for this project.*

- Provide agenda and meeting materials at least one week in advance. Team members to provide SOC Coordinator any meeting materials at least one week plus one day in advance of meeting
- Always have coffee and tea
- Provide easy access to contact information of team members and contributors
- Ensure internet access is available at meeting sites
- Substitutes for team members are discouraged. All team members have committed to being present at each meeting. If they cannot attend, they will provide their input before or after the meeting.
- No filibustering
- Strive to make sure all views are represented
- Honor different perspectives
- Encourage information sharing and respect the source
- End meetings on a positive note

WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection • WI Dept. of Safety and Professional Services • WI Department of Natural Resources • Natural Resources Conservation Service • University of WI Extension • WI Land & Water Conservation Association

**DATCP**  
Richard  
Castelnuovo  
(608) 224-4608

**Safety & Prof.  
Services**  
Vacant

**WDNR**  
Gretchen Wheat  
& Mary Anne  
Lowndes  
(608) 264-6273

**NRCS**  
Pat Murphy &  
John Ramsden  
(608) 662-4422

**UWEX**  
Ken Genskow  
(608) 262-8756

**WLWCA Reps**  
Perry Lindquist  
(262) 548-7867  
& Bruce Olson  
(608) 785-9867

**WLWCA Staff**  
Jim  
VandenBrook  
(608) 441-2677

- Voice concerns and be open to talking through differences

#### 4. Review team charge, timeline, and historical context of 590

*Mini-lecture/discussion (Pat)*

*Review of historical process and versions of 590 standard. Review of current team charge. There was acknowledgement that everyone cannot be present on the team, as teams beyond this number are less productive and more difficult to manage. We acknowledged that WI Vegetable and Potato growers and others are not currently represented as team members. We have received and will consider information from WAPAC and an informal group of broad stakeholders called Rethinking Nutrient Management.*

#### 5. List success criteria for team process in creating standard

*In the morning, the team reviewed SOC's process for standards development. Here, the team was able to craft more specific criteria for ensuring a successful standard revision process.*

*SOC already defines the following criteria:*

- *Coordinate solicitation and selection of a manageable and diverse team of members with appropriate technical expertise*
- *Provide access to best knowledge and technology at that time*
- *Encourage input from outside reviewers*

*Team suggested the criteria below that will sure they have created the best draft standard as they could at this time. The team will have done the best job they could if the draft standard presented is or has:*

- *Practical – it can be done,*
- *Science and data driven,*
- *Aligned with NR 243, when practical,*
- *Implementable across a variety of farms and landscapes*
- *Undaunting enough to encourage farmer participation*
- *Strives for fairness across different farm types*
- *Allows flexibility in “how to” implementation*
- *Considered all options*
- *Provides outreach or educational materials to demonstrate to farmers that complying with the standard is implementable*
- *Farmer buy-in*
- *Relevant across all farm types*

6. List key technical issues, questions, or concerns of current WI 590 standard. Categorize issues if possible.

**Important Issues to the Group**

**N Management** – subgroup: Kevin, Sue, Carrie, Todd, Laura, Joe

- *Drain tile monitoring*
- *Nutrients and tile lines*
- *N sensors and aerial imagery*
- *Drain tile quantifications*
- *Need research to understand N management and understand if practices and/or products will actually achieve desired goals*
- *Tile function is important for defining requirements*
- *If we could get everyone to follow UW recs it will help groundwater*
- *Define the risk and show deliberate steps to reduce the risk*
- *Maintain the wiggle room, flexibility*
- *Red flags get an emotional reaction, negative. Could be softer*
- *Nitrification inhibitor and urease inhibitor and slow release N: some products work and others don't*
- *Management of nitrate leaching loss from tiled fields*
- *Organic N release rate and form revisited may need N fertilizer to be available*
- *How to efficiently integrate nitrogen enhancers into the standard*

**Adaptive NM**

- *Include historical yield data*
- *Digested v.s non-manipulated manure nutrient content*
- *How to efficiently to integrate N enhancers into the standard*
- *Address variable rate technology and precision agriculture*
- *Who will or is qualified to evaluate these strategies? Rely on UW and protocol*
- *Implementation of adaptive management so that valid results and interpretation are maintained*
- *Balance economic benefits of N and environmental risks*

**Winter Spreading**

- *When, where, and how*
- *Don't require high cost fixes NOT everyone can afford storage and freestahls*

WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection • WI Dept. of Safety and Professional Services • WI Department of Natural Resources • Natural Resources Conservation Service • University of WI Extension • WI Land & Water Conservation Association

**DATCP**  
Richard  
Castelnuovo  
(608) 224-4608

**Safety & Prof.  
Services**  
Vacant

**WDNR**  
Gretchen Wheat  
& Mary Anne  
Lowndes  
(608) 264-6273

**NRCS**  
Pat Murphy &  
John Ramsden  
(608) 662-4422

**UWEX**  
Ken Genskow  
(608) 262-8756

**WLWCA Reps**  
Perry Lindquist  
(262) 548-7867  
& Bruce Olson  
(608) 785-9867

**WLWCA**  
Jim  
VandenBrook  
(608) 441-2677

- *Solid vs Liquid manure*
- *Sand bedding*

### **Low Risk Resource Assessment**

- *How do you decide low risk and what it means? There will always be unique cases.*
- *Low risk fields vs low risk farms*
- *Intermittent streambanks setbacks consistent with perennial*
- *Separation to groundwater and bedrock*
- *Groundwater protection in vulnerable areas*
- *Setbacks from surface water*
- *Vegetative waterways, application*
- *Setbacks from groundwater conduits*
- *Simple 590 format*
- *590 EZ format*
- *Ability for farmers to write their own*
- *Simple format for low input*
- *If low risk, which criteria would be waved, like soil testing, group fields?*
- *Plan format for farms with no current soil tests – 101 ppm P*
- *What about the 590 is so arduous?*
- *Apply to crop removal until they get soil tests*
- *Adequate landbase for on farm nutrients*
- *Allow growers to be exempt ... continuing compliance.... CAFO manure*
- *Address farm succession concerns: Some farmers discouraged because they think that they will have to always create a NMP if they start. Address understanding of benefits.*
- *Soil sampling timeframe and intensity on low risk areas sampling scheme*
- *The PI is a technological mandate. The PI of 6 may not be needed always.*
- *Want PI tables in the Tech Note. Disinfranchising farmers. You can only use a computer.*
- *Re-address pastures. How do we soil test the same as fields? How to meet a PI of 6 in a pasture. Make a low risk assessment.*

### **Outreach**

- *Realistic communication of the effectiveness of practices – never going to reach zero, designed to balance profitability and water quality. Minimize pollution. For outreach.*
- *Research to show that NM is effective*

### **214 / Rules**

- *Consistency with 590 and NR243. More to consider now.*

- Residential, municipal, industrial wastewater, biosolids, septage NR 214. Wastewater rates.

### **Considerations Section / Set Backs**

- Irrigated manure and nutrient restrictions, this is a big issue, a separate group is dealing with this in NR 214. N, air, and water protection.

### **Operations & Maintenance**

- Spills and response planning.

### **Job Sheets**

- Manure pile siting recommendations, sited in NR 313, could go in the Technical Note or Job Sheet to the producer.

### **SNAP**

- Keep Snap easy to use.

### **Other/ No particular subgrouping**

- Karst protection spelled out in the 590. WI NE taskforce recommendation that could be incorporated. Low risk resource assessment.
- Pathogens. ARS is doing work in Marshfield. Residential setbacks could be considered.
- Maintain the ability for farmers to handwrite plans. This is a NR151 issue separate for the standard requirements.
- Direct conduits and concentrated flow areas. Perennial and intermittent what to do.
- For all WI farms - the same standard.
- Land based availability for all manure. Is the plan sustainable with adequate land for manure application.

## **7. Next steps**

Review timeline for full team meetings and subgroups, future meeting dates and logistics, etc

- Future meetings will be from 9am to 3pm
- Next meeting – Wed, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 3pm at Hancock Ag Research Station
- 2013 meetings to be scheduled for
  - mid Apr, mid Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec
- 2014
  - 1<sup>st</sup> qtr – Draft for Initial Review
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> qtr – Draft for Broad Review
  - 4<sup>th</sup> qtr – Submit final draft to NRCS State Conservationist

## 8. Review action register, wrap up

- Gini to provide link to Handbook, Practice Standard Format, NRCS Ag Tech Note
- Gini to explore blog/google group options for team discussion boards, with preference for the ability to sort by topic
- Pat (and anyone else interested) to review neighboring state's 590 standards
  - Iowa draft standard currently accepting comments -  
<http://www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/nutrientmanagementtools.html>
  - Minnesota – standard has not been updated since 2007  
<http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ecs/nutrient/planning/planning.htm>
- Pat and Sue will prepare a comparison document of the WI 590 standard with the National 590 standard to determine where any and if changes need to be made in order to comply with national standard, specifically in regards to nitrogen management
- Matt/Kevin to develop list of existing tools available for assessing nitrogen risk management; compare restriction maps, <http://www.manureadvisorysystem.wi.gov/>, with ground water data
- Carrie will provide an update to the changes in A2809, and how that will affect the standard
- All team members will review nitrogen mgmt related content in standard; collect data and resources to bring to next team meeting for nitrogen management discussion
- Gini to schedule mid-April and mid-June meetings
- Gini to provide easy access to team contacts:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AoKctEF0gDQydEixSF9QS0IVWjA4TktpMHF2VkxVSUE&usp=sharing>