

Symposium Title: Water Quality Credit Trading

Chair: Doug Parker, UMD

Organizers: Doug Parker (UMD), Tom Simpson (UMD), Charles Abdalla (Penn State), Kristen Saacke Blunk (Penn State), Tatiana Borisova (WVU), Jim Pease (VT)

Abstract:

Water quality credit trading is being promoted at the national, regional, state and local levels as a method to meet water quality goals more cheaply and quicker than through strict regulatory and voluntary programs. Can the proposed benefits of water quality credit trading programs be realized? This symposium will discuss the basics of water quality credit trading as well as the potential pitfalls. Evaluation of water quality credit trading programs can play a key role in how they operate and how they are perceived. Several existing water quality credit trading programs will be discussed. The symposium will end with a discussion of the role of extension and research in the water quality credit trading arena.

Program:

I: Water Quality Credit Trading Basics, *Doug Parker, UMD Moderator*

Introduction: Why Trading? Why Now?

Tom Simpson, UMD

Key Economic Ideas for Water Quality Credit Trading Programs

Marc Ribaud, USDA/ERS

Moving from Theory to Practice: Challenges in Implementing Water Quality Credit Trading Programs

Leonard Shabman, Resources for the Future

II. Implementing Water Quality Credit Trading Programs *Jim Pease, VTU Moderator*

Federal Trading Policy

Jeff Potent, Rutgers University

Eastern North Carolina Projects (Tar-Pamlico and Neuse River Watersheds) *Mike Templeton, North Carolina*

DCNR

III. Evaluation and Educational Opportunities, *Tom Simpson, UMD Moderator*

Evaluation of Trading Programs

Doug Parker, UMD

Research Opportunities and Challenges

Jim Shortle, Penn State

Educational Opportunities and Roles for Extension

Charles Abdalla, Penn State