



# Salt Management Strategy (SaMS) Second Stakeholder Advisory (SAC) Committee Meeting

Wednesday June 13, 2018

10am – 12pm

Northern Virginia Regional Commission

# Welcome

- Today's Agenda
  - Welcome: SAC member name & organization
  - Review: SaMS Scope
  - Discussion on Consensus
  - Goals, Objectives, and Participation Guidelines
  - Workgroups
    - Breakout session
    - Report back
- After the meeting
  - Workgroup preferences
  - Feedback on workgroups



# SaMS Scope

- Final product: A document outlining recommendations to address the project's goals and objectives
- During SaMS development:
  - All SAC members will be in at least 1 workgroup
  - Each workgroup will develop recommendations for specific components of the strategy
  - The SaMS Document will incorporate recommendations from each workgroup
- Once complete, the recommendations in the document will be implemented through adaptive management:
  - Regulated within Accotink: Permittees will have a resource to help guide development of action plan
  - Non-regulated and/or located outside of Accotink: Resource to help guide voluntary, proactive action

# SaMS: What It Is and What It Is Not

- The SaMS is not a TMDL IP, it is a broader strategy
  - It will address both non-regulated and regulated sources within the Accotink Creek Watershed
  - It is intended for proactive application in the broader NoVA region
- For regulated sources in the Accotink Creek Watershed
  - TMDL Action Plans will only be required where a TMDL is established
  - The SaMS is not intended to constitute an MS4 Action Plan for any permittee
  - The SaMS is intended to be a reference/resource for permittees to use in preparing Action Plans for their service area
- Outside the Accotink Creek Watershed
  - No regulatory requirement if no TMDL
  - Proactive, enhanced management intended to defer/avoid additional TMDLs
    - Incorporation into program plans/SOPs
  - Enhanced BMPs encouraged by all stakeholders/partners – regulated and non-regulated
- For Non-regulated entities
  - SaMS recommendations will be voluntary; potential cost-savings a key incentive
  - Actively seeking to partner with private applicators to explore ways to incentivize and promote BMP use and enhancement
  - Planning broad education and outreach to promote awareness and voluntary adoption

# Striving for Consensus

- Consensus defined as:
  - Support for given proposal
  - Everyone can “live with it”
- Challenges to consensus
  - Low participation in feedback
  - Less than full attendance at meetings
  - Opposing, unresolved, positions
- Goal for decision-making is to achieve consensus
  - However, we must keep the project moving forward

# Proposed: Process for Topics w/o Consensus

- Proposal:
  - Strive for consensus
  - When consensus is not possible, use majority vote and record dissenting views
- Resolving non-consensus:
  - Ask those who “cannot live with it” to identify their concerns and propose solutions
  - Document concerns
    - In meetings = “parking lot”
    - Through survey responses
  - Work to explore potential agreement/resolution
- When consensus is ultimately not attained, move to **majority vote**
- Document non-consensus topics
  - When majority vote is met and when majority vote is not met
  - Add unresolved topic to an appendix or fact sheet in the final SaMS document for unresolved topics
- Points for discussion:
  - *Thoughts on the proposal*
  - *What should be the threshold for a quorum?*
  - *What should be the threshold for majority vote?*
- DEQ’s Role

# Survey Results:

## Goals, Objectives, and Participation Guidelines

- Low participation
  - 11 respondents of 68
- Agreement on Participation Guidelines
- Some disagreement on elements of goals and objectives
  - See handout for details

# Finalizing Goals & Objectives

## Goals:

The aim of this effort is to develop a salt management strategy for Northern Virginia, that:

1. Uses a stakeholder-driven process to proactively address salt loads in the region and address the Accotink Creek chloride (salt) TMDLs.
2. Generates increased public awareness that leads to positive behavior changes, and long-term support for the continual improvement of deicing/anti-icing practices and actions.
3. Ensures continued protection of public safety, improves water quality and terrestrial habitat, and lessens the effects of deicing/anti-icing salts on drinking water resources, property and road infrastructure through information sharing and implementation of best practices over time.

# Finalizing Goals & Objectives

## Objectives:

1. Comprehensively describe the effects of deicing/anti-icing salt use and identify and summarize the costs and benefits of winter storm operations.
2. Collaboratively develop a suite of best practices to minimize the negative effects of deicing/anti-icing salts.
3. Develop a comprehensive education and outreach plan to increase awareness of the benefits and impacts of winter salt use for both the public and political leaders to promote positive behavioral changes.
4. Explore funding opportunities, operational cost savings, and broader incentives, such as certification requirements/tort reform, to support implementation.
5. Develop recommendations for a monitoring and research program to better understand water quality patterns and impacts related to salt application throughout Northern Virginia.
6. Develop options to assess effectiveness and methods to track and report salt usage.

# Finalizing Participation Guidelines

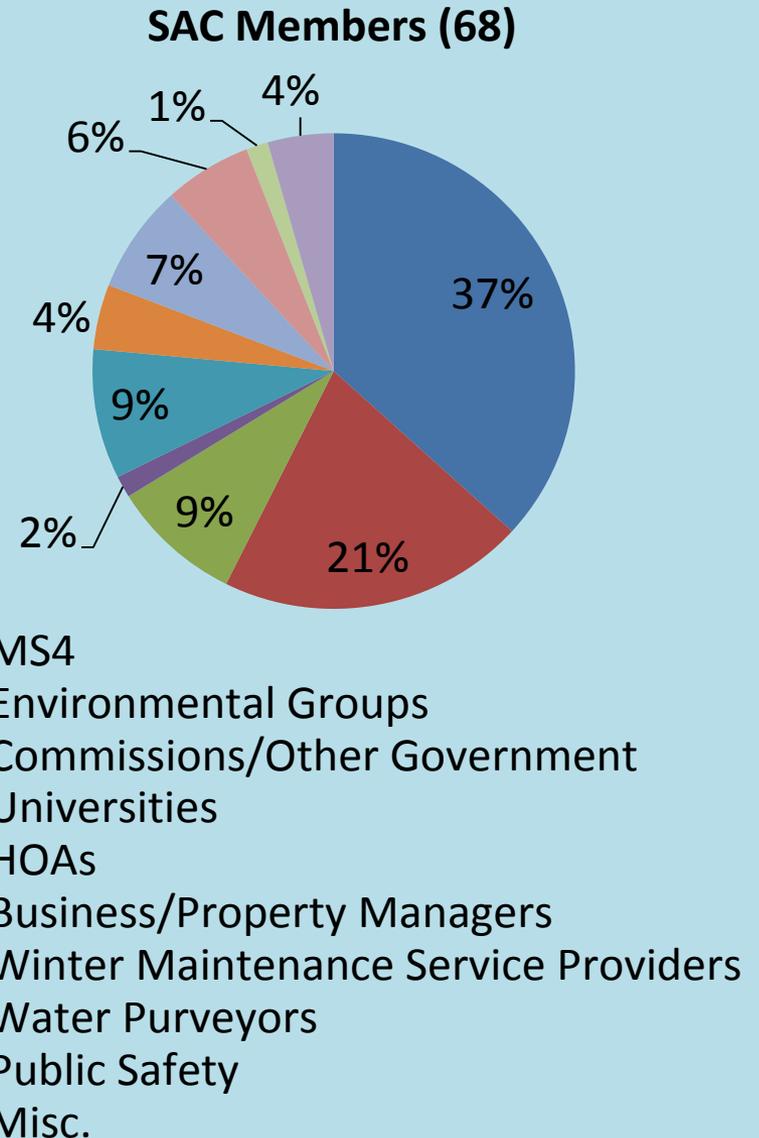
- Come Prepared to Contribute
- Listen and Learn
- Speak One at a Time. No Side Conversations
- Respect Everyone's Perspectives, Assume All are Here with Good Intent
- Openly Share Your Perspectives, Assume Others Will Also
- Share Resources and Expertise
- Recognize Different Levels of Knowledge/Expertise among Participants (No Question is Dumb)
- Participate Without Reacting Emotionally (Thick Skin)
- Economize Words and Practice Good Time Management
- Facilitate Discussions to Stay on Topic and Efficiently Engage all Participants
- (Participants) Share Facilitation Responsibilities with DEQ
- Place Tangent Ideas/Questions in a "Parking Lot" to be Addressed Later
- Follow a Process to Resolve/Address Conflicting Opinions
- Have Realistic Expectations for Implementation

# Workgroups

- DEQ's Expectations:
  - All SAC members will be in at least 1 Workgroup
  - Workgroups will provide recommendations for specific components of the strategy
- 6 workgroups:
  - Traditional Best Management Practices
  - Non-Traditional Practices
  - Education and Outreach
  - Water Quality Monitoring and Research
  - Salt Tracking and Reporting
  - Government Coordination

# Steering Committee

- Small and balanced body comprised of SAC members to:
  - consider recommendations and outputs of workgroups
  - discuss progress after the second workgroup meetings
  - provide the SAC with overarching recommendations on the strategy as a whole
  - discuss time-based performance goals for SaMS implementation, and
  - serve as a review committee for the draft strategy prior to being shared publicly
- Membership may consist of:
  - DEQ
  - Designated representatives from each workgroup
  - Selected additional SAC members to ensure balanced representation
- Feedback will always be sought from the entire SAC



# Workgroup Survey Summary

- Participation
  - 36 SAC members indicated workgroup preferences
  - 25-29 SAC members provided feedback on other questions
- Feedback was sought on:
  - The proposed list of workgroups & steering committee
  - The scope of the proposed workgroups
  - Workgroup membership
- General results = overall support for proposals
  - In support or can live with:
    - Questions on workgroups' scope/focus areas & limiting organization representation to 2 members/workgroup
  - Workgroup size limit of 15
    - 57% in support, 39% can live with it, 4% cannot live with it (n = 28)
  - Steering Committee proposal
    - 96% in support, 4% cannot live with it (n=27)

# Breakout Session

## Questions to discuss:

- 1. What should the size limits on workgroups be?*
- 2. What criteria should be in place to determine workgroup membership?*
- 3. Are there any concerns about DEQ determining workgroup membership?*

# Questions for Written Input on Workgroups

Specific to a given workgroup:

- One thing this workgroup should accomplish is ...
- The experiences/interests I (note your name) can bring to this workgroup include ....
- A challenge this workgroup will face is....., and to address it I suggest.....