

2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement

Chesapeake Bay Stakeholder Advisory Group

October 20, 2014



www.chesapeakebay.net/
chesapeakebaywatershedagreement/page

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Chesapeake Bay Program website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/chesapeakebaywatershedagreement/page>. The website header features the Chesapeake Bay Program logo (a bird in flight over water) and the text "Chesapeake Bay Program Science, Restoration, and Partnership". A search bar and a "Contact Us" link are also present. The main navigation menu includes: Home, Discover THE CHESAPEAKE, Learn THE ISSUES, Track THE PROGRESS, Take ACTION, In The NEWS, Bay Resource LIBRARY, and About The BAY PROGRAM. Below the navigation is a banner for "Track the Progress" featuring a map of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, a line graph showing progress over time, and a pie chart showing land use: Agriculture 42%, Urban/Suburban 32%, and Wastewater 46%. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Track the Progress > What Guides Us > Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. The page title is "Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement". The "What Guides Us" section contains the following text: "Since the Chesapeake Bay Program's foundation in 1983, its partners have used written agreements to guide the restoration of the nation's largest estuary. Setting goals and tracking progress holds partners accountable for their work, while developing new agreements over time ensures our goals are aligned with the best available science to attain restoration success." It also includes sections for "Health", "Restoration", and "Tracking Tools". The "Restoration" section states: "In 2009, it became clear that we needed a new agreement that would accelerate the pace of restoration and align federal directives with state and local goals to create a healthy Bay. Bay Program partners gathered input from citizens, stakeholders, academic institutions, local governments and more to draft an inclusive, goal-oriented document that would address current and emerging environmental concerns." The "Tracking Tools" section mentions: "On June 16, 2014, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement was signed. Signatories include representatives from the entire watershed, committing for the first time the Bay's headwater states to full partnership in the Bay Program. This plan for collaboration across the Bay's political boundaries establishes goals and outcomes for the restoration of the Bay, its tributaries and the lands that surround them." A link is provided for the "Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (pdf)". The "Vision" section states: "Chesapeake Bay Program partners envision an environmentally and economically sustainable Chesapeake Bay watershed with clean water, abundant life, conserved lands and access to the water, a vibrant cultural heritage, and a diversity of engaged citizens and stakeholders." The "Goals" section begins with: "This agreement contains 10 goals that will advance the restoration and protection of the Bay watershed. Each goal is linked to a set". The browser's taskbar shows the time as 8:25 AM on 10/15/2014.



Signatory Participation in the Development of Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement Management Strategies (09/16/14)

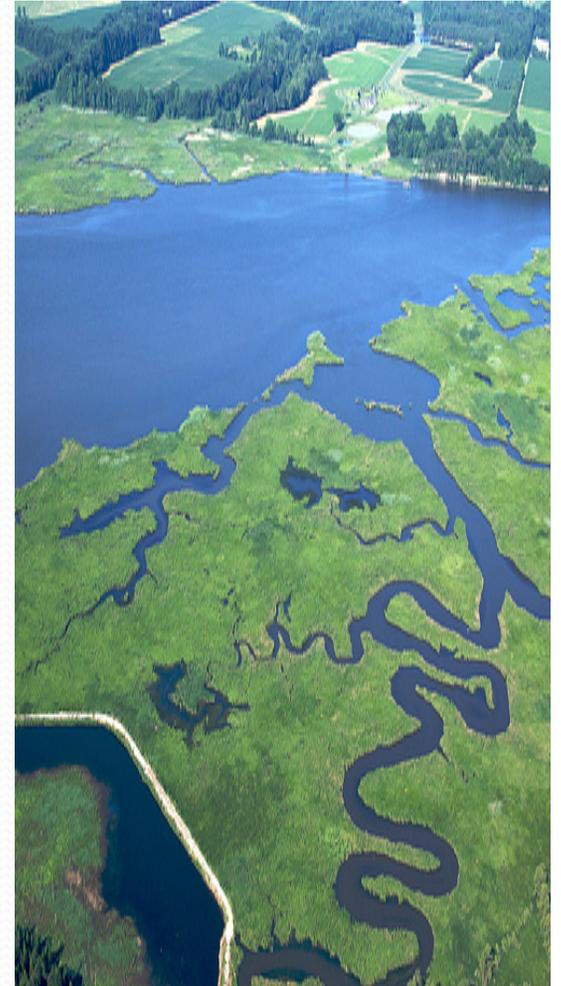
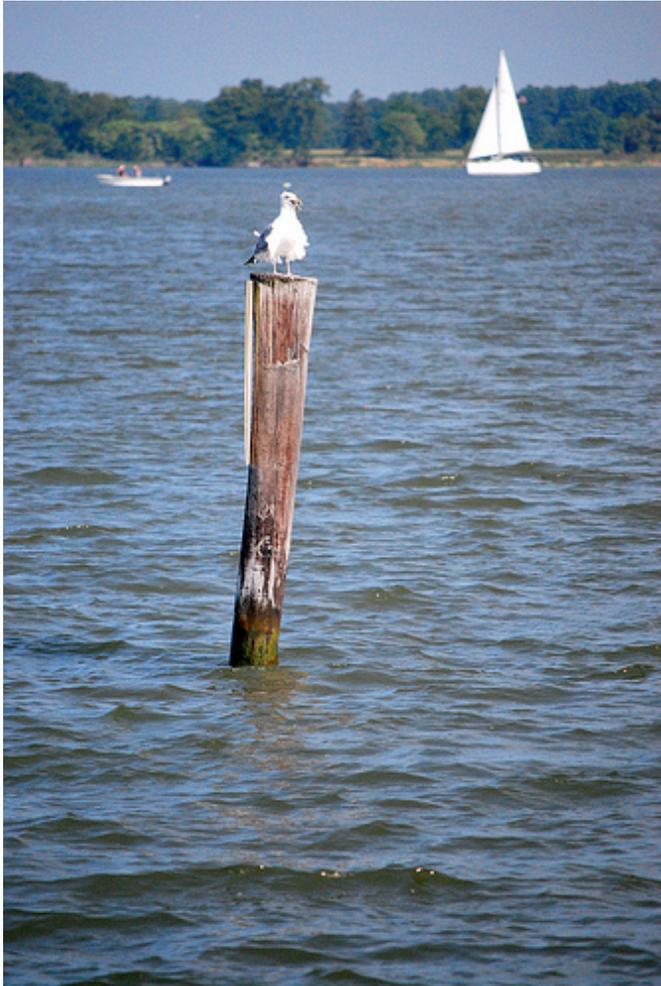
The table below provides the compiled list of planned signatory participation in the development of Management Strategies: As provided by the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, participation in Management Strategies or participating in the achievement of Outcomes is expected to vary by signatory based on differing priorities across the watershed. This participation may include sharing knowledge, data or information, educating citizens or members, working on future legislation and developing or implementing programs or practices.

Outcome	Participating Jurisdictions/CBC	Participating Agencies (bold = lead federal agency)
Sustainable Fisheries Goal		
Blue Crab Abundance	MD, VA, CBC	NOAA
Blue Crab Management	MD, VA, CBC	NOAA
Oyster	MD, VA, CBC	NOAA, USACE, FWS
Forage Fish	MD, VA, DC, PA, CBC	NOAA, FWS
Fish Habitat	MD, VA, DC, DE, PA, NY, CBC	NOAA, DOI (FWS/USGS), USACE, NRCS
Vital Habitats Goal		
Wetlands	MD, DC, DE, PA, VA, NY, CBC	DOI (FWS/USGS), NOAA, EPA, USACE, NRCS
Black Duck	MD, DC, DE, VA, NY, CBC	DOI (FWS/USGS), USACE, NRCS
Stream Health	MD, DC, PA, VA, NY, DE, CBC,	DOI (FWS/USGS), EPA, USACE, NPS, NRCS
Brook Trout	MD, PA, VA, NY, CBC	DOI (FWS/USGS), NPS, FS, USACE, NRCS
Fish Passage	MD, PA, VA, CBC	FWS, NOAA, USGS, USACE
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation	MD, DC, VA, CBC	FWS, EPA, USGS, USACE

Agreement “Principles”

- Collaborate to achieve the Goals and Outcomes of this Agreement.
- Achieve Goals and Outcomes in a timely way and at the least possible cost to our citizens.
- Represent the interests of people throughout the watershed fairly and effectively, including a broad diversity of cultures, demographics and ages.
- Operate with transparency in program decisions, policies, actions and reporting on progress to strengthen public confidence in our efforts.
- Use science-based decision-making and seek out innovative technologies and approaches to support sound management decisions in a changing system.
- • Maintain a coordinated watershed-wide monitoring and research program to support decision-making and track progress and the effectiveness of management actions.
- Acknowledge, support and embrace local governments and other local entities in watershed restoration and protection activities.
- Anticipate changing conditions, including long-term trends in sea level, temperature, precipitation, land use and other variables.
- Adaptively manage at all levels of the Partnership to foster continuous improvement.
- Seek consensus when making decisions.
- Use place-based approaches, where appropriate, that produce recognizable benefits to local communities while contributing to larger ecosystem goals.
- Engage citizens to increase the number and diversity of people who support and carry out the conservation and restoration activities necessary to achieve the Goals and Outcomes of the Agreement.
- Explore using social science to better understand and measure how human behavior can drive natural resource use, management and decision-making.
- Promote environmental justice through the meaningful involvement and fair treatment of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin or income, in the implementation of this Agreement.

Goals and Outcomes:





Sustainable Fisheries:

- *Blue Crab Abundance Outcome: 2012 Target of 215 adult females, refine targets as necessary*
- *Blue Crab Management Outcome: By 2018 “evaluate ... allocation based management framework”*
- *Oyster Outcome: “Restore oyster habitat and populations in 10 tributaries by 2025”*
- *Forage Fish Outcome: “By 2016, develop a strategy for assessing forage fish based available ...for predatory species*
- *Fish Habitat Outcome “Continually improve”*



Vital Habitats:

- *Wetlands Outcome: Create or reestablish 85,000 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and enhance function of 150,000 acres by 2025.*
- *Black Duck: Restore, enhance and preserve wetlands habitat that support a wintering population of 100,000 black ducks*
- *Stream Health Outcome: “Continually improve stream health and function Above the baseline for the watershed”*
- *Brook Trout: “eight percent increase in occupied habitat by 2025”*
- *Fish Passage Outcome: “By 2025, restore historical fish migratory route by opening 1000 additional stream miles”*
- *Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Outcome “Achieve and sustain the ultimate outcome of 185,000 acres” (Goals taken from water quality standards)*
- *Forest Buffer Outcome “Restore 900 miles per year....until at least 70 percent of riparian areasare forested”*
- *Tree Canopy Outcome “Expand urban tree canopy by 2,400 acres by 2025”*



Water Quality:

- *2017 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP) Outcome (60% of loads reduced)*
- *2025 WIP Outcome (100% of practices necessary to achieve water quality standards”*
- *Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring Outcome “Continually improve capacity to monitor and assess the effects of management actions”*

Toxic Contaminants:

- *Toxic Contaminants Research Outcome “Continually increase our understanding of the impacts and mitigation options for toxic contaminants. Develop a research agenda (for) mercury, PCBs and other contaminants of emerging and widespread concern”*
- *Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention Outcome “Continually improve practices and controls... Build on existing programs to reduce the amount and effects of PCBs in the Bay and watershed. Use research finding to evaluate the implementation of additional policies, programs and practices”*

Healthy Watersheds:

- *Healthy Watersheds Outcome “100% of state-identified healthy waters and watershed remain healthy”*

Stewardship:

- *Citizen Stewardship Outcome “Increase the number and diversity of trained and mobilized citizen volunteers”*
- *Local Leadership Outcome “Continually increase the knowledge and capacity of local officials”*
- *Diversity Outcome “Identify minority stakeholder groups ...and create meaningful opportunities and programs to recruit*

Land Conservation:

- *Protected Lands Outcome “By 2025, protect an additional two million acres.... Including 225,000 acres and wetlands and 695,000 acres and forest land of highest value for maintaining water quality”*
- *Land Use Methods and Metrics Development Outcome “By 2016, development a watershed-wide methodology and local-level metrics for characterizing the rate of farmland, forest and wetland conversion”*
- *Land Use Options Evaluation Outcome “By the end of 2017, evaluate policy options, incentives and planning tools that could assist (local governments) in improving their capacity to reduce the rate of conversion of agricultural lands, forests and wetlands....”*

Public Access:

- *Public Access Site Development Outcome* “By 2025, add 300 new public access sites...”



Environmental Literacy:

- *Student Outcome “Continually increase students’ age-appropriate understanding of the watershed....with a target of at least one meaning watershed educational experience in elementary, middle and high school..”*
- *Sustainable Schools Outcome: “Continually increase the number of schools in the region the reduce the impact of their buildings and grounds on the local watershed...”*
- *Environmental Literacy Planning Outcome “should develop and comprehensive and systemic approach to environmental literacy...”*



Climate Resiliency:

- *Monitoring and Assessment Outcome “Continually monitor and assess the trends....”*
- *Adaptation Outcome “Continually pursue, design and construct restoration and protection projects to enhance the resiliency of the Bay...”*

Management Strategy Development

- Document to include
 - Outcomes and Baselines
 - Participation
 - Factors influencing ability to meet goals
 - Current efforts and identified gaps
 - Management approach
 - Monitoring and Assessing Progress
 - Workplan



MS Timelines

- Now – March/April 2015: Draft Strategy Development
- April 2015: Public Input solicited
- May 2015: Internal program review
- May 2015: Approval by Management Board and PSC
- June 2016: Deadline for strategies

Strategies updated annually (as necessary)

Strategies re-evaluated biennially

Funding Mechanism	Project	Lead GIT	Cost
Grant MD CBIG/CBT	Forage fish indicator/metric development	1	\$50,000
	Identification of additional healthy waters	4	\$50,000
	Development of baseline indicator of citizen stewardship	5	\$75,000
	CBSAC Research Needs	1	\$85,000
	Metrics finalization and state implementation plans/Environmental literacy planning	5	\$75,000
	Synthesis of Local Leadership Development Programs	6	\$20,000
	Striped bass health indicator development	1	\$40,000
	Accelerate wetland restoration in support of WIPs / GIT integration	2	\$50,000
	Summarizing potential benefits of nutrient and sediment practices to reduce toxic contaminants	3	\$50,000
	Leveraging local lessons / Development of a crowd sourced database as part of the Chesapeake Network to promote shared outreach and marketing case studies, results, and materials	5	\$35,000
	Total		
Grant VA CBRAP	Landscape level demonstration project designed to test incentives for forestland retention through the TMDL model	4	\$50,000
Total			\$50,000
Grant ICPRB	Stream Health Outcome Baseline/Defining new Metric	2	\$20,000
Total			\$20,000
IA FWS	Brook Trout monitoring support to EBTJV/Web-based Decision Tool Development	2	\$40,000
	Black Duck Prioritization	2	\$30,000
Total			\$70,000
IA USCG	Citizen monitoring of land conversion to development, tree cover, and riparian buffers	3,4	\$60,000
Total			\$60,000



IA USACE	Climate change, marsh erosion, and the Chesapeake Bay TMDL	3	\$82,000
Total			\$82,000

Contract	Facilitation and technical content development support for GIT development of management strategies	6	\$50,000
Total			\$50,000

To Participate:

Chesapeake Bay Program
Science, Restoration, and Partnership

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What Guides Us

Management Strategy Mailing Lists

Public input is essential to management strategy development and evaluation: each strategy will include a period for public review and comment before it is adopted.

To stay informed about the development of one or more management strategies sign up for the appropriate mailing list(s) below. Emails will include information about relevant meetings and public input periods. You may unsubscribe from these lists at any time.

- 2017 and 2025 Watershed Implementation Plans
- Black Duck
- Blue Crab Abundance and Management
- Brook Trout
- Citizen Stewardship
- Climate Adaptation
- Climate Monitoring and Assessment
- Diversity
- Environmental Literacy Planning
- Fish Habitat
- Fish Passage
- Forage Fish

Track the Progress

Agriculture 42%

Urban/Suburban 32%

Wastewater 46%