GIT Goals and Objectives

GIT	Sub-team	Goal/Objective
GIT 1: Fisheries http://www.chesapeakebay.net/team_fisheries_info.aspx?menuitem=51029	**GIT Goal**	The Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (GIT) is focused on ecosystem-based fisheries management that encourages sustainable Chesapeake Bay fish populations, which support viable recreational and commercial fisheries, and provides for natural ecosystem function.
	Oyster Metric Team	**Oyster Outcome**: Restore native oyster habitat and populations in 20 tributaries by 2025 **Actions**: Launch a Bay-wide oyster strategy using scientific support for decision making; Restore priority tributaries and support enforcement; Expand commercial aquaculture; Complete 'Oyster Metrics' report and begin selecting tributaries for restoration efforts
	Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee	**Blue Crab Outcome**: Maintain sustainable blue crab interim rebuilding target of 200 million adults (1+ years old) in 2011 and develop a new population target for 2012 through 2025 **Actions**: Support continued interjurisdictional blue crab management; Revise blue crab population rebuilding target; Complete 2011 Blue Crab Stock Assessment and CIE review comments; Convene Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee (CBSAC) to develop Blue Crab reference points
	Full GIT	Improve interjurisdictional management of fisheries resources that move across political and administrative jurisdictions
	Full GIT	Improve the connection between science and management to ensure decision making leads to productive and sustainable fisheries.
	Fisheries Ecosystem Workgroup	Develop ecosystem approaches to fisheries management
	Full GIT	Promote coalition building, information sharing, and appropriate coordination of management decisions that can feed into broader fisheries commissions and councils (e.g., Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission [ASMFC] and the Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council [MAFMC]).
	Invasive Catfish Workgroup	Develop bay-wide policy agreement on blue catfish management.
	Full GIT	Identify communication pathways to influence land-use decisionmaking.
GIT 2: Habitat http://www.chesapeakebay.net/habitat_git_info.aspx?menuitem=47173	**GIT Goal**	Restore a network of land and water habitats to support priority species and to afford other public benefits, including water quality, recreational uses and scenic value across the watershed.
	Fish Passage Workgroup	**Objective:** During the period 2011-2025, restore historical fish migratory routes by opening 1,000 additional stream miles **Actions:** Evaluate projects by documenting the presence or absence of target fish species (river herring, American shad, Hickory shad, Brook Trout and/or American eel) to opened stream reaches or by documenting changes to physical habitat and overall diversity of fish and macro-invertebrate assemblages; Improve tools for stream and fish passage including the continued development of a Chesapeake Bay Fish Passage Prioritization Framework to implement high priority dam removal and fish passage projects.
	Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Workgroup	**Objective:** Serve the broader Bay community by providing technical expertise, guiding managers on the protection and restoration of SAV, and applying research findings to issues impacting SAV in the Bay **Actions:** Support work towards the attainment of water clarity criteria in areas and at depths that are designated by Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia for the application of those criteria (i.e., SAV use). The water clarity criteria reflect the light requirements that are necessary for the growth and maintenance of SAV populations throughout the shallow waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries. Continue to perform aerial SAV surveys, using data for criteria assessment and management actions. Work towards bringing bay-wide abundance to 185,000 acres by planting SAV where possible and supporting work that improves water clarity.
	Wetlands Action Team	**Objective:** Restore 30,000 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and enhance the function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands by 2025. In cooperation with other GIT Working Groups and Chesapeake Bay partners, protect an additional 225,000 acres of wetlands within the entire Chesapeake Bay Watershed. **Actions:** Identify and work through partners to help facilitate creation of the tools, models and other science needs for prioritizing and improving wetland protection, restoration and enhancement activities as well as the science implements necessary for measuring and correlating water quality and wildlife habitat accomplishments; Work with experts in black duck ecology to help deliver the habitat needed in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed to deliver the Black Duck Outcome in EO 13508 (Restore a three-year average wintering black duck population in the Chesapeake Bay watershed of 100,000 birds by 2025.); Focus restoration efforts on projects that benefit species requiring high-quality wetland habitats, and incorporate water quality objectives where possible.
	Stream Habitat Workgroup	**Objective:** Effect positive overall change on streams in the greater Chesapeake Bay watershed by providing balanced, comprehensive management recommendation **Actions:** Serve as a clearinghouse for stream data by engaging in data networking, and using our technical expertise to identify needed research; Use our policy expertise to provide science-based solutions that improve stream conditions and the overall health of the greater Chesapeake Bay watershed.
GIT 3: Water Quality http://www.chesapeakebay.net/wq_git_info.aspx?menuitem=47174	**GIT Goal**	Evaluate, focus, and accelerate the implementation of practices, policies, programs that will restore water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to conditions that support living resources and protect human health.
	Agriculture Workgroup	Reduced Loads from Agricultural Lands and Animal Operations.
	Urban Stormwater Workgroup	Reduced Stormwater Loads from Developed Lands.
		Reduced Loads from Air Emissions.
	Wastewater Workgroup	Reduced Loads from Municipal and Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plants and Septic Systems.
	Sediment Workgroup	Reduced Sediment Loads from Streams and Shorelines.
	Offsets and Trading Workgroup	Support the implementation of practices, policies, and programs within the realm of nutrient and sediment trading and offsets that will assist efforts to restore water quality.
	Milestone Workgroup	Ensure that pollutant reduction progress is tracked, verified, reported, and credited through the Chesapeake Bay Program decision support tools.
GIT 4: Healthy Watersheds http://www.chesapeakebay.net/mhw_info.aspx?menuitem=47106	**GIT Goal**	Maintain healthy watersheds across a range of landscape contexts.
	GIT Goal	**Objective:** Convene the GIT4 forum at least three more times to discuss ongoing programs and projects for the purpose of: Identifying tools and approaches that are successful in maintaining healthy watersheds (especially those focused on local contexts); Identifying opportunities and mechanisms to promote healthy watershed maintenance (e.g., publications, web sites, conferences, programs); Considering options for how to track progress toward our common goal.
		Objective: Develop an on-line workspace to develop and pilot communications tools that support the GIT4 mission.
	Watershed Health Workgroup	**Objective:** Support the effort being led by Dr. Greg Garman and Scott Stranko to develop a fish community indicator of watershed health, in partnership with GIT2 and STAR (non-tidal monitoring group).
	Watershed Health Workgroup	**Objective:** Propose and collaborate on a workshop (e.g., through STAR and/or STAC) to define the linkage between healthy watershed protection and the Bay TMDL.
GIT 5: Stewardship http://www.chesapeakebay.net/fcs_info.aspx?menuitem=47114	**GIT Goal**	To promote individual stewardship and assist citizens, communities and local governments in undertaking initiatives to achieve restoration and conservation in the Chesapeake region.
	Chesapeake Conservation Corps Action Team	**Goal:** "Expand Chesapeake Conservation Corps workforces," as called for in Executive Order 13508 **Actions:** The Action Team will work together to: examine existing models and programs, especially those focusing on underserved communities, assess issues and needs, identify mechanisms for measuring progress, develop a multi-year funding strategy, enhance the capacity of existing programs, promote ongoing training of leaders and participants, and provide support for ongoing projects.
	Master Watershed Stewards Action Team	**Goal:** "Expand Master Watershed Steward programs," as called for in Executive Order 13508 **Actions:** The Action Team will work together to: examine existing models and programs, assess issues and needs, identify mechanisms for measuring progress, and develop a multi-year funding strategy.
	Public Access Planning Action Team	**Goal:** "Expand public access to the Bay and its tributaries through existing and new local, state and federal parks, refuges, reserves, trails and partner sites," as called for in Executive Order 13508 **Actions:** Create a consistent baseline inventory of currently available public access sites and a common language and methodology to assure future tracking and communication is consistent among all partners; Develop a public access plan by 2012 that will guide expansion, assess demand, determine gaps, and identify opportunities for public access sites in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. This plan will also be used to focus and collaborative investment for public access development and improvement.
	Land Conservation Priorities System Action Team	**Goal:** "Establish a watershed-wide GIS-based land conservation targeting system," as called for in Executive Order 13508 **Actions:** The USGS and NPS will lead the development of "a watershed-wide strategic, publicly accessible land conservation geographic information and targeting system to support sound conservation planning and decision-making." This prioritization system will incorporate multiple land conservation values, including those of ecological, cultural, historic, scenic viewshed, recreational, and working importance to the Chesapeake landscape. It will also be used to foster collaborative, strategic land conservation priority setting and implementation, including the leveraging of partner resources and capabilities to achieve mutual land conservation goals.
	Education Workgroup	**Goal:** Ensure that elementary and secondary students in Chesapeake Bay Watershed states graduate environmentally literate with the tools they need to make informed choices to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. Actions: Provide a forum for cross-jurisdictional coordination and support on all aspects of environmental education, including the following four goals: (1) The education community in the region functions in a unified manner and is coordinated with other Citizen Stewardship activities, including extension, training, outreach, and communications programs, to fully engage various audiences;(2) Every student in the region graduates with the knowledge and skills to make informed environmental decisions and are empowered to positively affect local, regional, and national environmental outcomes; (3) All educators in the watershed responsible for instruction about or in the environment have access to sustained professional development opportunities, tools, and resources that support their efforts to provide students with high-quality environmental education; (4) Every school in the region incorporates environmental outcomes into their facility management plans that support positive ecological and human health impacts of the building and grounds.
GIT 6: Enhance Partnering…. http://www.chesapeakebay.net/eplm_info.aspx?menuitem=47098	**GIT Goal**	Continually improve the leadership and management of the CBP Partnership and assist Bay stakeholders in building their capacity to become environmental leaders in their communities.
	IT Infrastructure Workgroup	**Goal:** Provide superior information technology and administrative support and enhance meeting management.
	Budget and Assistance Coordination Workgroup	**Goal:** Coordinate budgets and optimize grants.
		Goal: Support GITs in implementing adaptive management through the decision framework.
	ChesStat Process Implementation Workgroup	**Goal:** Continue to develop ChesapeakeStat website to support decision-making.
		Goal: Address governance issues.