



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

**Drafting the New
Chesapeake Bay Agreement,
Goals and Outcomes –**

**Principals' Staff Committee Meeting
June 27, 2013**

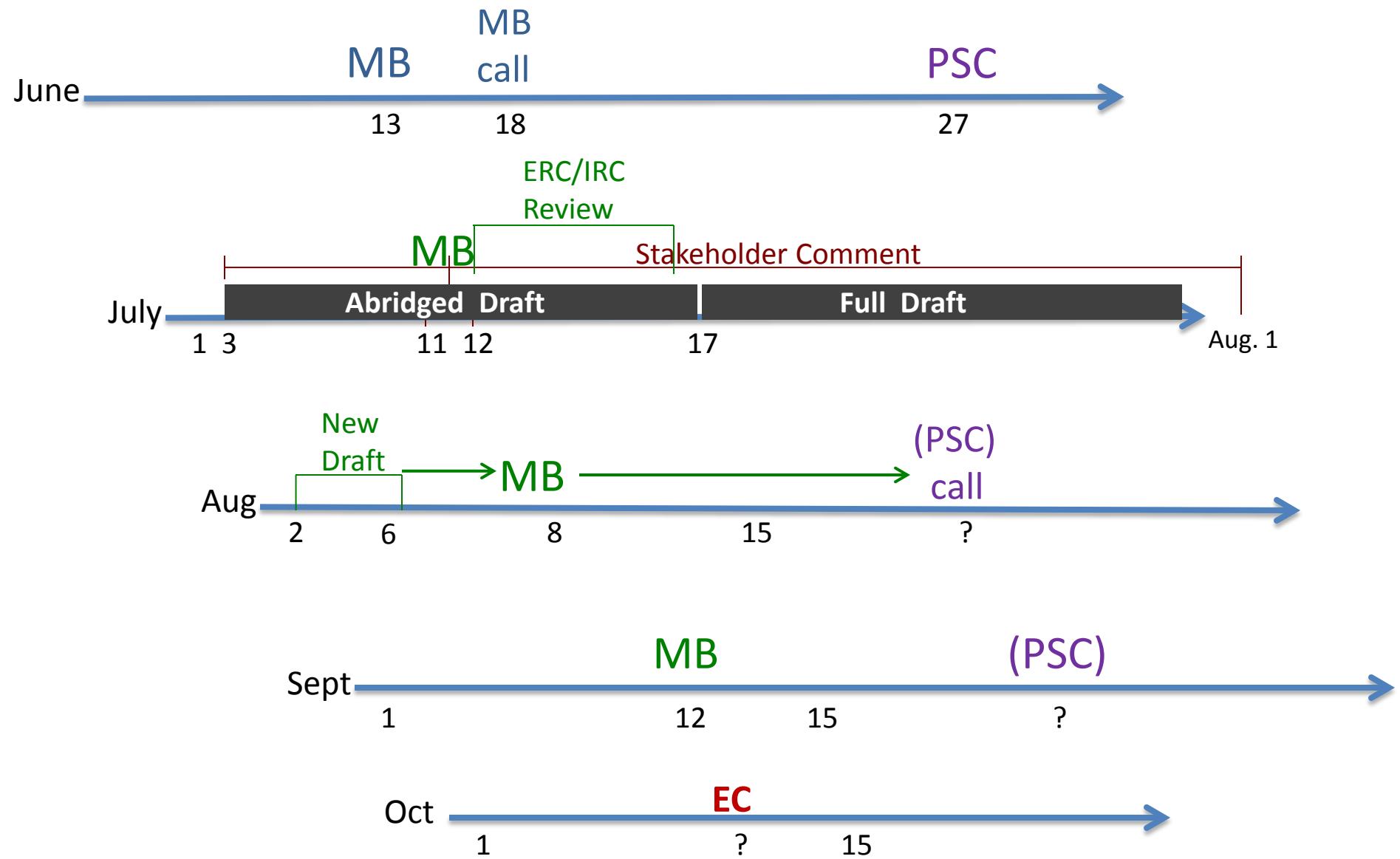
**Reflecting Management Board Meetings
June 13 and 18, 2013**

Chesapeake Bay Agreement

Overview

- **Timeline, Process and Stakeholder Input**
- **Themes:**
 - Preamble, Mission, Vision
- **Goals and Outcomes**
- **Participatory Language**
 - Principles and Operational Commitments
 - Management Strategies
 - Governance Document
- **Timeline**

Agreement Timeline



Participatory Language

Participatory Language

Preamble

Themes:

- Scope of the Chesapeake Bay watershed
- History of Partnership, membership, CWA Sec. 117
- Seek to restore and protect the Bay ecosystem to benefit both the people and the living resources of the region
- Overview of accomplishments; scope of future work
- Acknowledges that the partnership cannot deal with every issue; recognizes need to direct individual and collective efforts to deal with the most important issues

Participatory Language

Vision

Themes:

Envision a healthy, balanced and sustainable Chesapeake watershed with:

- Clean water that is swimmable and fishable
- Healthy populations of living resources
- Abundant forests, thriving farms and maritime communities
- Resilient land and water habitats
- Conserved lands that reflect the region's heritage
- Ample access to the Bay and its tributaries
- Environmentally literate students, citizens and organizations committed to implementing actions to achieve goals and outcomes

Mission

- Working through a deliberate, coordinated and cooperative approach, we strive to accelerate efforts to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem and its abundant living resources. We work both independently and collaboratively—with our partners and stakeholders—to implement targeted management strategies that will achieve our shared goals and outcomes and inspire others to take action.

Goals and Outcomes

Goal/Outcomes

Sustainable Fisheries Goal:

Protect, restore, and enhance the finfish, shellfish and other living resources, their habitats and ecological relationships to sustain all fisheries and provide for a balanced ecosystem in the watershed and Bay.

- **Blue Crab Outcome:** Maintain sustainable blue crab population based on the current 2012 target of 215 million adult females (1+ years old) and continue to refine population targets between 2013 through 2025 based on best available science.
- **Oyster Outcome:** Restore native oyster habitat and populations in ~~20~~ ? tributaries by 2025.

Goal/Outcomes

Sustainable Fisheries Goal:

Protect, restore, and enhance the finfish, shellfish and other living resources, their habitats and ecological relationships to sustain all fisheries and provide for a balanced ecosystem in the watershed and Bay.

- **Fisheries Outcome:** GIT 1 is considering one of the following three areas for a third outcome:
 - Forage fish outcome
 - Invasive species outcome
 - Ecosystem-based fisheries outcome

Outcomes

Vital Habitats Goal:

Restore, enhance, and protect 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.

- **Wetlands Outcome:** Restore a total of **30,000-83,000** acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands, primarily on resource and agricultural lands and enhance function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands.
Note: Not yet vetted by GIT by materials deadline (see suggested language)
- **Wetlands Outcome Alternative:** Restore a total of **75,000** acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands, primarily on resource and agricultural lands and enhance function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands.
Note: Suggested by GIT 6-25-13, not yet approved by MB

Outcomes

Vital Habitats Goal:

Restore, enhance, and protect 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.

- ***Black Duck***: Restore wetland habitats to support a wintering black duck population in the watershed of 100,000 birds by 2025.

Goal/Outcomes

Vital Habitats Goal:

Restore, enhance, and protect 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.

- **Stream Health Outcome:** Restore stream health and function by 10% above the **2008 level** throughout the watershed by 2025.
Note: STAR's NTWG will re-assess baseline. Monitoring and assessment of IBI should be compiled by states between 2008-2016 and between 2017 and 2025.
- **Brook Trout:** Restore naturally reproducing brook trout populations with an 8% increase in total cumulative brook trout patch area by 2025 in Chesapeake headwater streams.

Goal/Outcomes

Vital Habitats Goal:

Restore, enhance, and protect 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 Outcome**: During the period 2011-2025, restore historical fish migratory routes by opening 1,000 additional stream miles, with restoration success indicated by the presence of river herring, American shad, Hickory shad, Brook Trout and/or American eel.
- **Fish Passage Outcome Alternative**: During the period 2011-2025, restore historical fish migratory routes by opening 1,000 additional stream miles, with restoration success indicated by the presence of Alewife, Blueback herring, American shad, Hickory shad, American eel and/or Brook Trout.

Note: Suggested by GIT 6-25-13, not yet approved by MB

Goal/Outcomes

Vital Habitats Goal:

Restore, enhance, and protect 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.

- **Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Outcome:** Achieve and maintain 185,000 acres of SAV or sufficient water clarity to support 185,000 acres of SAV in the Chesapeake Bay by 2025.
- **Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Outcome Alternative:** Achieve and sustain the ultimate outcome of 185,000 acres of SAV Bay-wide. This will be demonstrated by have xx% of Bay segments achieving and sustaining their segment acreage targets for SAV by 2025.

Note: xx% is currently being addressed by SAV Workgroup and Water Quality GIT.

Note: Suggested by GIT 6-25-13, not yet approved by MB.

Goal/Outcomes

Vital Habitats Goal:

Restore, enhance, and protect 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.

- **Forestry Outcome:** 1) Restore 900 miles per year of riparian forest buffer and conserve buffers until at least 70% of riparian areas are forested, and 2) Expand urban tree canopy by 1,000 acres per year in 120 communities by 2025.

Goal/Outcomes

Water Quality Goal:

Reduce pollutants to achieve the water quality necessary to support the aquatic living resources of the bay and its tributaries while protecting human health.

- **2017 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP) Outcome:** Have practices and controls in place by 2017 that are expected to achieve 60 percent of the load reductions necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards compared to 2009 levels.
- **2025 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP) Outcome:** Have all practices and controls installed by 2025 necessary to achieve the Bay's DO, water clarity/SAV, and chlorophyll a standards.
 - **Agricultural Conservation:** Work with producers to apply new conservation practices on 4 million acres of agricultural working lands in high priority watersheds by 2025 to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

Goal/Outcomes

Water Quality Goal:

Reduce pollutants to achieve the water quality necessary to support the aquatic living resources of the bay and its tributaries while protecting human health.

Toxic Contaminants Outcomes:

- (a) Identify and Implement practices to reduce loadings of persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic (PBT) contaminants and non-PBT contaminants that have an effect on the ecosystem resources and human health.
- (b) Improve knowledge of the effects of contaminants of emerging concern on the health of fish and wildlife so future strategies can be considered.

Goal/Outcomes

Maintain Healthy Watersheds Goal:

Protect state-identified healthy waters and watersheds, recognized for their exceptional quality and high ecological value.

- **Healthy Watersheds Outcome:** By 2025 100% of state-identified currently healthy watersheds remaining healthy (baseline year: _____).

Goal/Outcomes

Land Conservation Goal:

Conserve landscapes treasured by citizens to maintain water quality and habitat; sustain working forests, farms and maritime communities; and conserve lands of cultural, indigenous and community value.

- **Protected Lands Outcome:** Protect an additional two million acres of lands from the 2010 baseline year, throughout the watershed currently identified as high conservation priorities at the federal, state or local level by 2025, including 225,000 acres of wetlands and 695,000 acres of forest land of highest value for maintaining water quality.

Goal/Outcomes

Public Access 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.

- **Public Access Site Development Outcome:** Increase public access by adding 300 new public access sites by 2025 (from the 2010 baseline).

New Goal

Environmental Literacy :

Every student in the region graduates environmentally literate having participated in teacher supported meaningful watershed educational experiences.

Environmental Literacy Alternative

* suggested by GIT5, not yet approved by MB

- Every student in the region graduates with a fundamental understanding of the region's natural systems, the ability to utilize scientific evidence to make informed decisions regarding environmental issues, and the citizenship skills to act responsibly to protect and restore their local watershed, which is informed by participation in teacher-supported meaningful watershed educational experiences in elementary, middle, and high school.

Goal/Outcomes

Environmental Literacy :

Every student in the region graduates environmentally literate having participated in teacher supported meaningful watershed educational experiences.

- **Student Outcome:** Increase the number of students participating in meaningful watershed educational experiences in elementary, middle, and high school.
- **Educator Outcome:** Increase the number of teachers receiving sustained professional development to provide and support student meaningful watershed educational experiences.

Goal/Outcomes

Environmental Literacy :

Every student in the region graduates environmentally literate having participated in teacher supported meaningful watershed educational experiences.

- **School Outcome:** Increase the number of schools in the region maintaining their buildings, grounds, and operations using best practices to support environmental and human health.
- **Local Education Agency Outcome:** Increase the number of local education agencies implementing system wide approaches for environmental education that includes meaningful watershed educational experiences.

New Goal

New Goals Proposed

*Proposed by GIT 5

Stewardship Goal:

- Promote and support initiatives that increase the number and diversity of stewards who carry out local conservation and restoration to achieve the goals and commitments of the agreement.

New Goal/Outcomes

New Goal and Outcomes Proposed

*Proposed by LGAC

Local Leadership Goal:

- Engage, empower, and facilitate leadership by local governments and other stakeholders.

Local Leadership Outcomes:

- Build capacity of local governments by supporting annual leadership training for local elected officials and senior staff.
- Increase communication between state and local governments to ensure that local governments understand the role they can play in achieving the goals outlined in the Agreement.

Outcomes

Identified Gaps

- Social/Environmental Indicators
- Sound Land Use Planning
- Accelerating Implementation
- Climate Change

Participatory Language

Principles

Themes:

- Work together in an environment of mutual respect and trust
- Work to improve local water quality and natural environment
- Strive to improve both the environment and the economy
- Support and embrace local governments and entities
- Advance the environmental literacy
- Utilize science-based decision-making and seek out innovative technologies
- Need for a Recognize forward-looking approach that anticipates changing conditions
- Institute and adhere to adaptive management principles
- Operate with transparency in program decisions, policies and science.

Participatory Language

Operational Commitments

Themes:

- Implement an adaptive management system
- Develop management strategies for each outcome
- Evaluate progress on a biennial basis
- Engage the Advisory Committees
- Strengthen ongoing relationships with local stakeholders
- Maintain a coordinated Bay-wide monitoring and research program
- Recognizing changing environmental conditions
- Commit to an environmentally literate public
- Advance the CBP's technological capability and use it to evaluate progress
- Develop governance guidelines and procedures
- Incorporate efficiency strategies to solving mutual obstacles to restoration

Key Elements of CB Watershed Agreement

Management Strategies:

Draft - 6/11/13 - NOTE: Not Yet Reviewed/Approved by Management Board

Process:

- Developed by Goal Implementation Teams for each outcome in Agreement within _____ months of signing of Agreement (WIPs serve as strategies for WQ standards outcomes);
- Approved by Management Board and **evaluated on a biennial basis to assess progress**;
- **Implement an adaptive management process through the CBP Decision Framework** to transparently assess progress and clearly communicate any changes. Climate change adaptation shall be considered as a component of each management strategy, as appropriate.
- **Build stakeholder input** into the development of each of the strategies prior to approval;
- **Work collaboratively to develop and implement the strategies for solving mutual obstacles to restoration implementation**; and
- **Track progress in meeting outcomes** and implementing strategies and make available to the public in a transparent manner on ChesapeakeStat .

Key Elements of CB Watershed Agreement

Management Strategies:

Draft - 6/11/13 - NOTE: Not Yet Reviewed/Approved by Management Board

Content of Strategy:

- **Outcome**
- **Jurisdictions and agencies involved in the strategy.** Should include a brief description of their role.
- **Factors influencing ability to meet goal.** Should consider climate change adaptation, impact of land use changes, regulatory obstacles, etc.
- **Current efforts and gaps.** Should include efforts that are already being taken by jurisdictions and agencies as well as locals and NGOs, and identify gaps that the partnership should fill.
- **Management Approach.** Outline the general approach needed to fill the gaps and each partner's role in that approach. The approach should include how the stakeholders will be kept informed and involved, how the local governments will be involved.
- **Monitoring Progress.** Should include how the progress toward the outcome will be monitored, and any resources needed to implement the monitoring program.
- **Assessing Progress.** The strategy should have an approach for how, and how often, the progress will be assessed. Should include reviews of actions as well as the results of the monitoring.
- **Adaptively Manage.** Should be about how the assessment of progress will lead to changes in actions, when the outcome itself needs to be changed and under what conditions.

Key Elements of CB Watershed Agreement

Management Strategies:

Content of Biennial Workplan (the first workplan will be included in the above strategy)

- **Contain commitments, actions and resources that each of the jurisdictions, federal agencies and partners is providing to help achieve each of the outcomes they are supporting;**
- **Contain biennial targets and outputs that are related to meeting the outcomes.** The second biennial workplan should have an assessment of the first biennium as part of this section
- **Discussion of any changes needed to keep on track (for the second biennial workplan and beyond).**

NOTE: Not Yet Reviewed/Approved by Management Board

Agreement Timeline

