

The Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (Fish GIT) is requesting that the Management Board determine if the [Blue Crab Management Outcome](#) “By 2018, evaluate the establishment of a Bay-wide, allocation-based management framework with annual levels set by the jurisdictions for the purpose of accounting for and adjusting harvest by each jurisdiction” has been achieved.

The rationale for this request is that the Fish GIT completed the process we laid out in our Management Strategy and workplan for the Blue Crab Management Outcome. The management strategy stated that the three management jurisdictions (Maryland, Virginia and Potomac River Fisheries Commission) would obtain stakeholder input to determine if an allocation-based management framework would serve as an improved method for achieving a stable and productive crab fishery in the Chesapeake Bay. The management strategy also specified that this evaluation could lead to the recommendation that the jurisdictions continue with the current management approach or an alternative approach.

Maryland, Virginia and Potomac River Fisheries Commission have completed their stakeholder engagement process and evaluated the feedback, which is documented in the [Allocation Update to the Bay Program](#). Based on evaluation of stakeholder feedback and status of the fishery under the current management framework the jurisdictions unanimously determined that the current management framework (managing to adult female reference points) should be maintained and that it is not appropriate to move toward an allocation framework at this time.