



Protecting and Restoring the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

The background of the lower section is a vibrant, painterly illustration of a natural landscape. On the left, a large green tree stands on a rocky bank. In the center, a deer with large antlers stands on a grassy slope. To its right, a fox is running. The sky is filled with several birds in flight. In the foreground, a large fish is shown with its mouth open, as if jumping out of the water. The overall scene is bright and colorful, with a mix of greens, blues, and earthy tones.

Changes to Partnership Agreement Outcomes

Dave Goshorn, GIT 6 Chair

January 24, 2020



Background

- The Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement is a signed document reflecting a moment in time and will not change
- The signatories anticipated that changes to Goals and Outcomes would be needed as we learn through adaptive management. Those recommended changes are to be approved by the PSC or EC.
- During the Quarterly Review SRS meetings, the MB reviews progress on each outcome and at times, our progress necessitates changes to outcomes.
- Those changes will be reflected on ChesapeakeProgress and other CBP web materials on www.chesapeakebay.net.

The 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement:

On June 16, 2014, the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Partners signed a new *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*.

This new Agreement is the most inclusive, collaborative, and goal-oriented agreement for any watershed in the nation. Signatories include representatives from the entire Chesapeake watershed, including: the original signatory partners of MD, VA, PA, DC, the Chesapeake Bay Commission and the U.S. EPA (representing the federal government). For the first time, the Bay's headwater states of Delaware, New York, and West Virginia (DE, NY and WV) are now full partners in the Chesapeake Bay Program.

The new Agreement reflects improvements in our scientific knowledge, changes in laws, regulations and policies over the past decade and evolutions that have taken place within the Partnership, including the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and jurisdiction's Watershed Implementation Plans. The new Agreement identifies the Partnership's collective commitments for restoring and protecting the watershed through 10 goals and 29 outcomes.



An Integrated and Adaptive Ecosystem Approach to Protecting and Restoring a National Treasure

The CBP Partners recognize that all aspects of the ecosystem are connected and that this Agreement's Goals and Outcomes support the health and the protection of the entire Bay watershed.





Diversity

Current Outcome: Identify **minority** stakeholder groups not currently represented in the leadership, decision-making or implementation of current conservation and restoration activities and create meaningful opportunities and programs to recruit and engage these groups in the Partnership's efforts.

Revised Outcome: Identify stakeholder groups not currently represented in the leadership, decision-making or implementation of current conservation and restoration activities and create meaningful opportunities and programs to recruit and engage these groups in the Partnership's efforts.

Abundant Life

Clean Water

Conserved Lands

Engaged Communities

Climate Change

[Home](#) > [Conserved Lands](#) > [Land Conservation](#)

Land Use Options Evaluation

Current Outcome: Continually improve our knowledge of land conversion and the associated impacts throughout the watershed. By 2016, develop a watershed-wide methodology and local-level metrics for characterizing the rate of farmland, forest and wetland conversion, measuring the extent and rate of change in impervious surface coverage and quantifying the potential impacts of land conversion to water quality, healthy watersheds and communities. Launch a public awareness campaign to share this information with local governments, elected officials and stakeholders.

Revised Outcome: Continually improve our knowledge of land conversion and the associated impacts throughout the watershed. By **December 2021**, develop a watershed-wide methodology and local-level metrics for characterizing the rate of farmland, forest and wetland conversion, measuring the extent and rate of change in impervious surface coverage and quantifying the potential impacts of land conversion to water quality, healthy watersheds and communities. Launch a public awareness campaign to share this information with local governments, elected officials and stakeholders.



Fish Passage

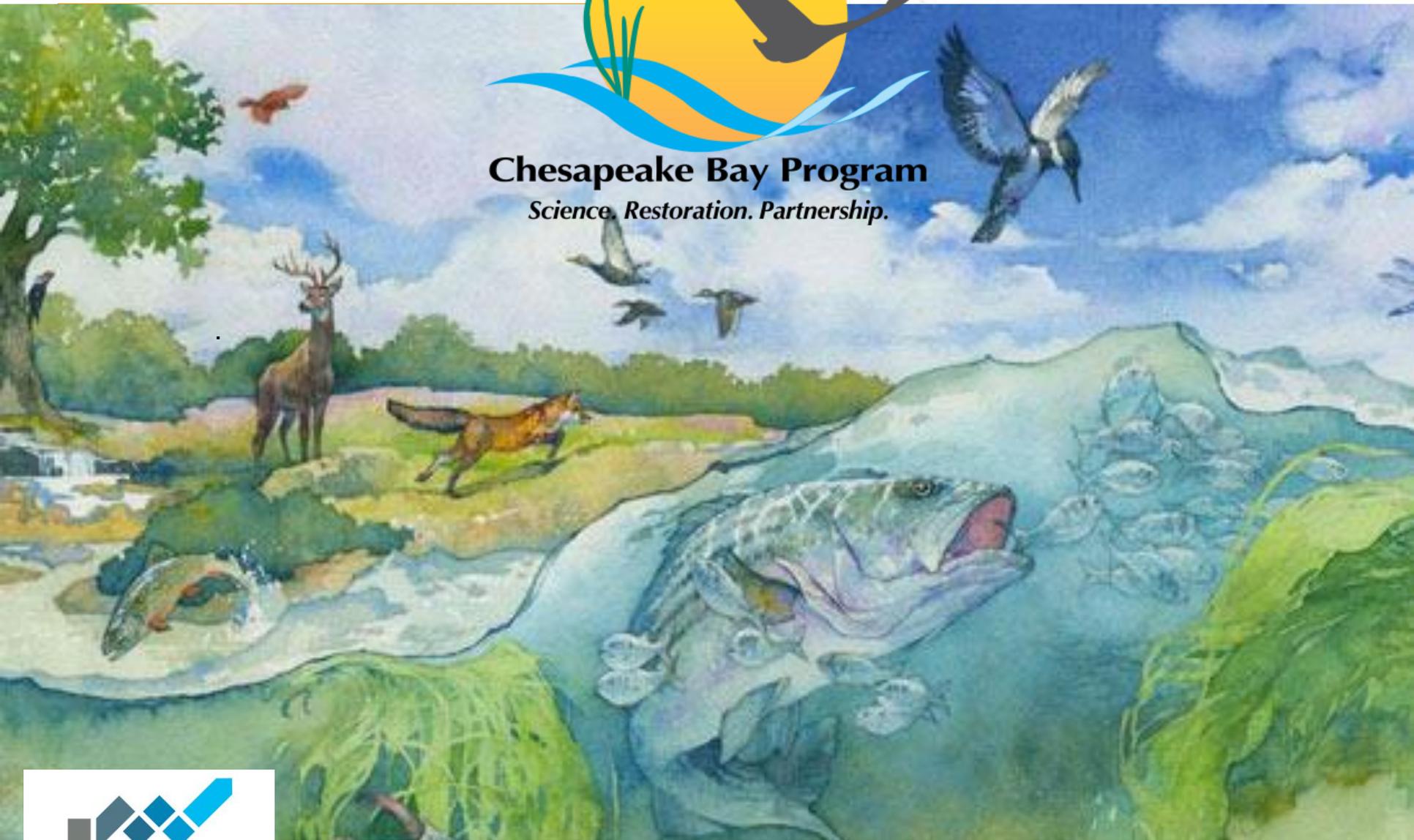
Current Outcome: Continually increase **available** habitat to support sustainable migratory fish populations in Chesapeake Bay freshwater rivers and streams. By 2025, restore historical fish migratory routes by opening **1,000 additional stream miles**, with restoration success indicated by the consistent presence of alewife, blueback herring, American shad, hickory shad, American eel and brook trout, to be monitored in accordance with available agency resources and collaboratively developed methods.

Revised Outcome:

Continually increase **access to** habitat to support sustainable migratory fish populations in Chesapeake Bay freshwater rivers and streams. By 2025, restore historical fish migratory routes by opening **an additional 132 miles every two years to fish passage**, with restoration success indicated by the consistent presence of alewife, blueback herring, American shad, hickory shad, American eel and brook trout, to be monitored in accordance with available agency resources and collaboratively developed methods.



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.



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<https://www.chesapeakeprogress.com/>