| ACTIONS – 2022-2024 | | | | | | |
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| Action # | Description | Performance Target (s) | Responsible Party (or Parties) | Geographic Location | Expected Timeline |  |
| Management Approach 1: Identify an appropriate suite of metrics to measure the multiple facets of stream health to complement the bay-wide Chessie BIBI | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | Provide recommendations on reporting the Chessie BIBI metric to document improvement in stream health consistent with the Agreement Outcome | 1. ICPRB and USGS report on the Chessie BIBI in stream miles and/or catchment scale. 2. SHWG to provide recommendations on units to report Chessie BIBI (miles, catchment, both) | ICPRB, USGS, US EPA CBPO | Chesapeake Bay Watershed | April 2022 | |
| 1.2 | Determine and Report Progress | 1. ICRPB, USGS and EPA CBPO provide recommendations for organization responsible to periodically acquire and process available stream data from Bay States and DC. 2. Acquire and process available stream data from Bay States and District of Columbia for the period of 2018 – 2023. Next call for data 2024) 3. CBP calculate and report % change in Chessie BIBI index 4. US EPA CBPO will publish and disseminate results | ICPRB, USGS, US EPA CBP Data Team, STAR | Chesapeake Bay Watershed | June 2023 | |
| 1.3 | Identify additional parameters/metrics to describe and quantify stream health to complement existing biological indicators (e.g. Chessie BIBI) | 1. Consolidate and summarize existing Bay Program, USGS and other relevant research on stream metrics to include databases associated with the Chessie BIBI, USGS, Chesapeake Bay Healthy Watersheds Assessment 2. Complete Phase 3 of the “Management Approaches to Reduce Stressors of Stream Health” (Action 4.1) 3. Submit funding request to support Phase of the “Management Approaches to Reduce Stressors of Stream Health” work plan | SHWG, Healthy Watersheds GIT, USGS | Chesapeake Bay Watershed | June 2024 | |
| Management Approach 2: Provision of adequate funding and technical resources to support functional life in stream restoration projects, in addition to nutrient and sediment reductions. | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Support pooled monitoring approach throughout Chesapeake Bay watershed | 1. SHWG provide input to existing pooled monitoring research program, including topics for research and dissemination support of the effort/results prior to issuance of the request for proposal | CBT lead on Pooled Monitoring Initiative (members include MDE, USACE, FWS, MD DNR, MD SHA). SHWG lead(s) meet with CBT two times per year. | Maryland (current effort)  District of Columbia, Virginia, and other interested jurisdictions (future, expanded effort)  Potential other Chesapeake Bay Watershed funding partners/collaborators (future, expanded effort) | Annual  December 2022  December 2023  See the CBT website for updates throughout the year at <https://cbtrust.org/restoration-research/> | |
| 1. Provide input on short- and long-term funding at the request of Chesapeake Bay Trust to support opportunities to expand /develop efforts (e.g., to other Bay Program jurisdictions) of the research program. | Chesapeake Bay Trust Pooled Monitoring Initiative; SHWG |
| 3. Identify selected research findings and/or their application beyond the research study to present at SHWG meeting(s), providing an opportunity to ask new questions, clarify the current state of scientific knowledge, and refine the top key restoration questions in the community for future study. | 3. SHWG, The Chesapeake Bay Trust’s Pooled Monitoring Initiative (with help from Maryland Water Monitoring Council Stream Restoration Monitoring Sub-Committee and Maryland Stream Restoration Association) | Chesapeake Bay | Annual (December 2022, 2023) | |
| Management Approach 3: Active and engaged participation by local communities with Federal and State partners is central to Bay restoration (See Management Strategy for full Approach). | | | | | | |
| 3.1 | Develop a “Stream Restoration Permit Committee” of the Stream Health Work Group that brings practitioners, regulators and the regulated community together to resolve issues and find common ground to identify actions to streamline the stream restoration project permit review process | 1. Identify members of the Stream Health Work Group to form the Committee | Permitting Committee: USACE (Baltimore, Norfolk), MDE, MDNR, Fairfax County, VA DEQ, Ecosystem Services, and Ecosystem Planning and Restoration LLC. | Chesapeake Bay Watershed | ~~January 2022 – Ongoing~~  Form committee by April 2022  Implement survey by December 2022  Provide summary of survey results in April 2023 | |
| 1. Develop meeting schedule |
| 1. Develop and distribute survey |
| 1. Summarize survey results and provide recommendations to Stream Health Work Group (and Bay Program Partnership) on priority actions identified from the survey |
| 3.2 | Engage with under-served, under-represented communities to increase participation in stream health concerns | 1. Identify communities based on EPA’s Environmental Justice Screening Tool 2. Meet with community representatives to discuss the SHWG’s goals and understand and document their concerns 3. Share findings with LGAC | SHWG Co-Chair, other GITs, LGAC ?, others | Chesapeake Bay Watershed | Ongoing | |
| Management Approach 4: Develop and Promote holistic stream restoration design guidelines that identify the level of degradation and improvement of stream functions and key stressors/factors limiting potential uplift. | | | | | | |
| 4.1 | Collaborate with USGS as a part of their new Science Plan to investigate and define stream stressors and their management to improve stream health. This collaboration will be in order to better understand what factors lead to functional uplift and which may lead to degradation. | 1. Stream Health Work Group will collaborate with USGS to conduct a literature review and survey of Bay jurisdictions to determine what stressors and drivers are most affecting stream health and responsible for causing impairment of streams consistent with state-defined 303(d) listings. | USGS will be responsible for conducting the initial review of literature on stream health stressors and will report out to the Stream Health Work Group. The SHWG membership/state representatives or referred colleague will facilitate implementation of the survey. | Chesapeake Bay Watershed | Work is underway and expected to be complete by December 2021 | |
| 1. Determine which stressors, as identified by work with USGS, can be changed through management activities, especially those management activities that align with practices identified in the new jurisdiction Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) to reduce nutrient and sediment delivery to the Bay | SHWG, USGS, Center for Watershed and Protection, Technical Advisory Group for CBT/GIT project “Management Approaches to Reduce Stressors of Stream Health”  Responsible parties for phase 3 (Action 4.1.3) will be determined upon GIT funding and completion of phases 1 and 2.  Tentative RPs: SHWG, USGS, and others may include ICPRB | Work is underway and expected to be complete by March 2022; ongoing | |
| 1. Following the implementation of management efforts, identify how stream health is changing and how it can be better characterized through both biological and non-biological metrics | December 2024; ongoing | |
| 4.2 | Develop report and recommendations on the State of Science for Stream Restoration and impacts on stream health | 1. Form Planning Committee for STAC Workshop 2. Submit request for STAC workshop on the “State of the Science” stream restoration workshop | SHWG, STAC, MWMC, MSRA, USWG, Forestry WG |  | February 2022 – December 2022 | |
| Management Approach 5: Work with CB partners to include the Enhancing Partnering, Leadership and Management GIT to enhance the capacity of local governments, organizations and landowners of beneficial stream restoration and maintenance practices. | | | | | | |
| 5.1 | Improve communications and understanding of stream health | Develop summary documents of the results of the “Management Approaches to Reduce Stressors of Stream Health” reports as part of Action 4.1 | SHWG, CBPO Communications Team/Indicators Coordinator/Data Team | Bay-wide | December 2024 | |
| 5.2 | Committed cooperation and coordination with other groups within the Chesapeake Bay Program to assure shared resources and information and further the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement | 1. Have one member of the stream health workgroup other than the staffer, attend in person or listen in on the work group meetings of other relevant work groups and goal teams | Stream Health Work Group Membership | Chesapeake Bay Watershed | Ongoing | |
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