



Narrative Analysis

**[PUBLIC ACCESS
FEBRUARY 13, 2020]**

The narrative analysis summarizes the findings of the logic and action plan and serves as the bridge between the logic and action plan and the quarterly progress meeting presentation. Based on what you learned over the past two years from your successes and challenges, you will describe whether the partnership should make adaptations or change course.

Use your completed pre-quarterly logic and action plan to answer the questions below. After the quarterly progress meeting, your responses to these questions will guide your updates to your logic and action plan. Additional guidance can be found on [ChesapeakeDecisions](#).

1. Examine your red/yellow/green analysis of your management actions. What lessons have you learned over the past two years of implementation?

Summarize what you have learned about what worked and what didn't. For example, have you identified additional factors to consider or filled an information gap?

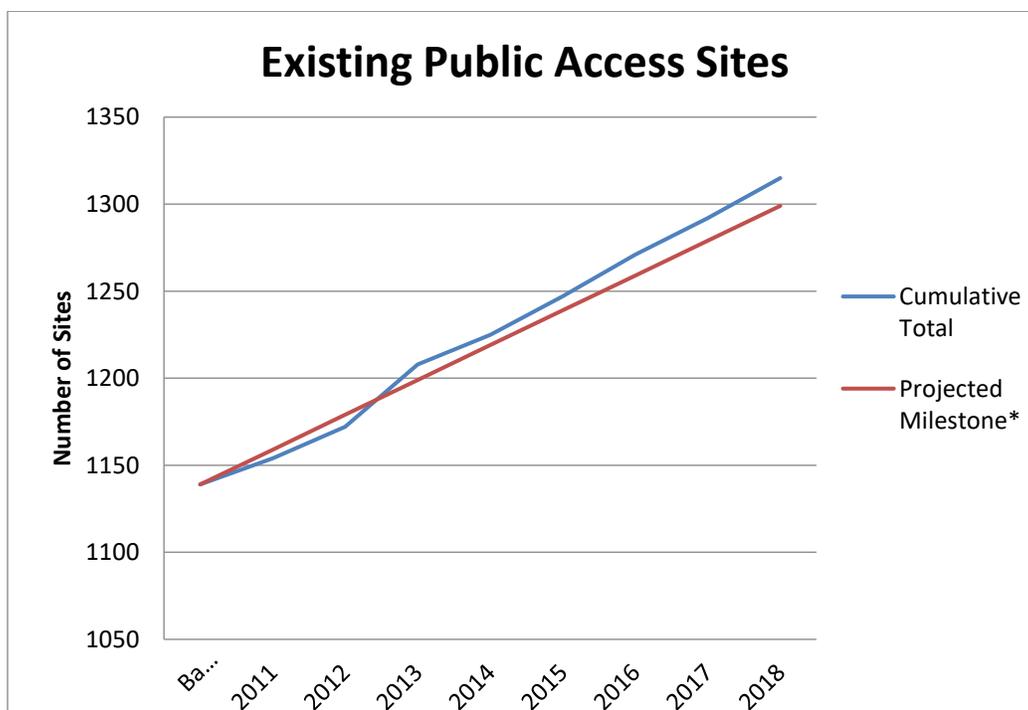
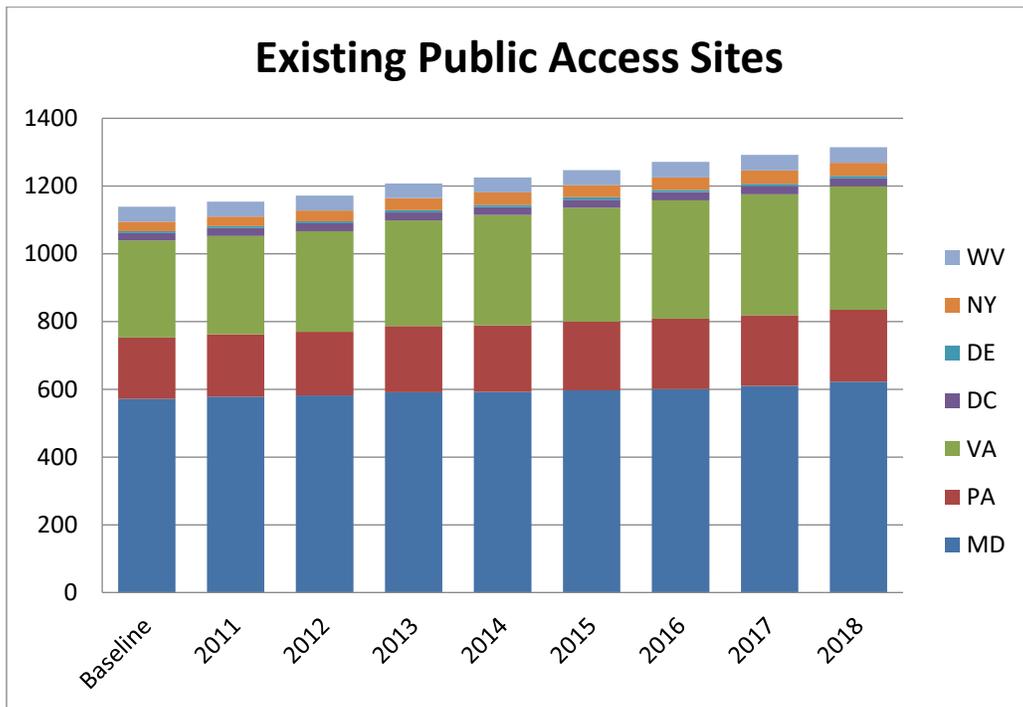
The workgroup is continuing to track annual progress of the outcome and is in the progress of finalizing the 2019 data. Several of the actions in our 2018-2019 Logic and Action Table have been accomplished, and others have not been accomplished because of workgroup capacity. Some actions have become out of date as a result of federal/state/local policy/programming shifts, are no longer relevant, or were initially targeted for a particular jurisdiction. For example, the management approach / action tasking NPS to fill in strategic access gaps along state/federal recognized trails has not been addressed because the NPS Gateways program has more recently prioritized interpretive program development versus funding new access site development. In addition, the action focused on preventing loss of access on public rights-of-way has become less of a barrier to increasing access. Development of the 2020-2021 Logic and Action Plan will refocus and prioritize based on workgroup collective capacity, new programming priorities and the most relevant and current gaps/factors influencing success.

2. Regardless of how successful your short-term progress has been over the past two years, indicate whether we are making progress at a rate that is necessary to achieve the outcome you are working toward. The example graph below illustrates this concept.

The goal established in the Bay Program was to provide 300 new public access sites by 2025. Since it is now about the half way point to 2025, and since 2012 and the end of 2018:

- We have added **176 new sites** 59% of 300 site goal

- Boating access opportunities have been a key focus and **151 of the new sites** offer some form of boating access.
- **Eighty-one** of the new sites were developed on already existing public lands.
- Paddle-in camping was developed at **17** sites
- The urban areas received **33** new public access sites.
- **Forty-eight** of the new sites filled gaps along existing water trails.
- Of the 176 sites developed **52** are listed as meeting universal accessibility standards.



3. What scientific, fiscal and policy-related developments will influence your work over the next two years?

This may include information learned at the previous biennial SRS meeting or more specific information about your outcome such as an increase or decrease in funding, new programs that address gaps, and new scientific data or research. Describe how these developments are likely to impact your recommended measure(s) of progress, the factors you believe impact your ability to succeed, and newly created or filled gaps. These changes should be reflected in the first three columns of your revised logic and action plan after your quarterly progress meeting.

As has been the case over the past few years, the key factors affecting the development of public access sites continue to be adequate funding at the federal, state and local level to both build and maintain public access areas in the most needed locations. For example, the management approach / action tasking NPS to fill in strategic access gaps along state/federal recognized trails has not been addressed because the NPS Gateways program has prioritized interpretive program development versus funding new access site development.

In addition, the desire to work towards meeting the needs of the diverse population in the Bay watershed and assure that all communities have appropriate access opportunities as well as the continued concerns raised by climate change, the associated sea level rise, and their subsequent impact on both existing and new access sites are current issues related to public access development.

Finally, as mentioned in the last SRS cycle, while the number of new access sites is important, more emphasis is now also on the quality of the sites and the types of access that can be provided. Our goal is not just sites but more new site users so that we can build on the number of conservation stewards in the watershed. The work group has continued to note the need for programming and educational opportunities to engage all segments of the population in how to utilize public access sites to interact with the Bay watershed's natural resources.

4. Based on your response to the questions above, how will your work change over the next two years?

Describe the adaptations that will be necessary to more efficiently achieve your outcome and explain how these changes will lead you to adjust your management strategy or the actions described in column four of your logic and action plan. Changes that the workgroup, GIT or Management Board consider significant should be reflected in your management strategy.

All states and partners are looking for ways to leverage available funding to meet the need for the development of desired new access sites. Sea level rise is evaluated for all new sites with a constant desire to be sure newly developed sites will still be available for at least 20 years once completed. While the number of new access sites is important, more emphasis is now being placed on the quality of the sites and the types of access that can be provided. The goal is not just more sites but also on how we can engage new users at these sites to ultimately increase the number of people who become good stewards of the resource. This has led to an emphasis in the sharing of programming and other opportunities which might be used to engage more communities among the partners.

5. What, if any, actions can the Management Board take to help ensure success in achieving your outcome?

Please be as specific as possible. Do you need direct action by the Management Board? Or can the Management Board direct or facilitate action through other groups? Can you describe efforts the workgroup has already taken to address this issue? If this need is not met, how will progress

toward your outcome be affected? This assistance may include support from within a Management Board member's jurisdiction or agency.

Continue to support the efforts of the states and other partners in funding, development and management of public access sites. This would include appropriate staffing for maintenance as well as technical assistance in the development of new sites by NGO's and other potential partners. Also to look at ways of expanding the diversity of site users as well as the number of new users which could ultimately lead to more Bay stewards. Programs such as kids in kayaks and the Youth Conservation Corps could be good vehicles to help make this happen.