



2017 WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLANS (WIP) WATER QUALITY GOAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (GIT3)

2014 WATERSHED AGREEMENT: GOAL & OUTCOME LANGUAGE

OUTCOME: By 2017, have practices and controls in place that are expected to achieve 60 percent of the nutrient and sediment pollution load reductions necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards compared to 2009 levels.

WATER QUALITY GOAL: Reduce pollutants to achieve the water quality necessary to support the aquatic living resources of the Bay and its tributaries and protect human health.

OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO MANAGEMENT BOARD:

Remove

Proposal is to remove or recognize that outcome is completed.

The 2014 Chesapeake Bay Agreement called for having practices and controls in place to achieve 60 percent of the needed nutrient and sediment reductions by 2017 as compared to 2009. In 2018, the mid-point assessment found that the jurisdictions made considerable progress in reducing pollution that is reflected in measurable ways, including record acreage of underwater grasses and the highest estimates of water quality standards attained in more than 30 years. While the 60 percent goals for reducing phosphorus and sediment as measured under the current suite of modeling tools used at the time were exceeded, the goal for reducing nitrogen was not met. The Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partnership used the Phase 5.3.2 version Chesapeake Assessment and Scenario Tool (CAST) for this assessment.

Following this mid-point assessment, the jurisdictions developed the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans using updated modeling tools and planning targets to optimize their pollution control strategies moving forward toward the 2025 targets.

This interim assessment of progress toward the nutrient and sediment water quality goals was important to drive implementation, resources, and adaptive management to accelerate progress toward meeting the water quality goals. Moving forward, it is recommended to include progress check points in as an output of an updated water quality outcome.