



STATE OF THE BAY 2021 CBC BRIEFING

CAC 2/25/2021

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Chesapeake Bay Commission



This Presentation

1. Chesapeake Bay Commission
2. Progress & Challenges
3. Federal Requests
4. State General Assembly Action

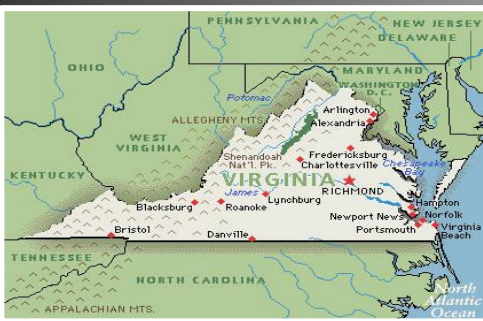


Chesapeake Bay Commission

Tri-State Legislative Commission

Established by MD, VA, PA laws in 1980's to:

- Assist legislatures in evaluating and responding to Bay and watershed concerns;
- Promote intergovernmental cooperation and coordination for resource planning;
- Enhance the functions and powers of existing offices and agencies;
- Coordinate region's policy interests with Congress.



Who's at the Table?







2021 Leadership

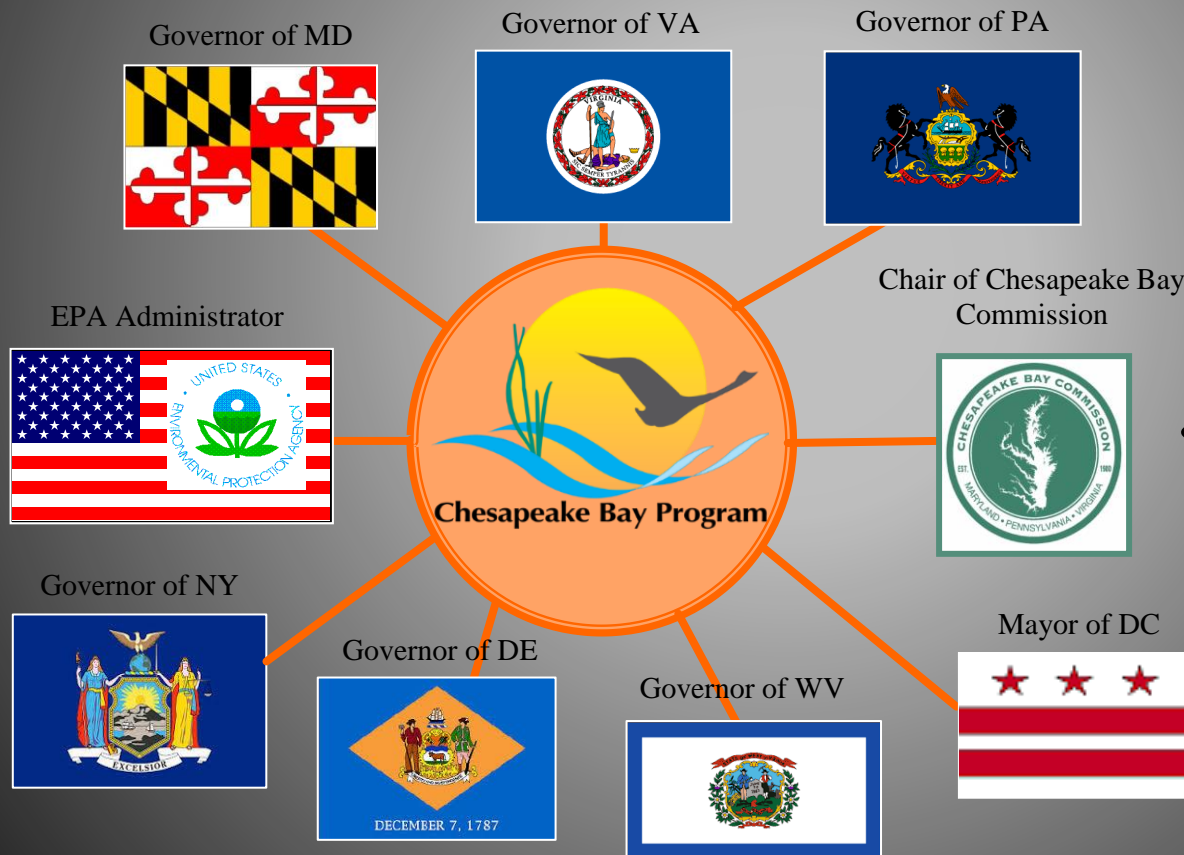
Chair Delegate David Bulova (VA-D) and Vice-Chairs Senators Gene Yaw (PA-R) & Guy Guzzone (MD-D)



Three state Delegations with seven members each:

-  Two Senators
-  Three House members
-  One Governor or Cabinet Secretary
-  One citizen representative

Chesapeake Bay Program



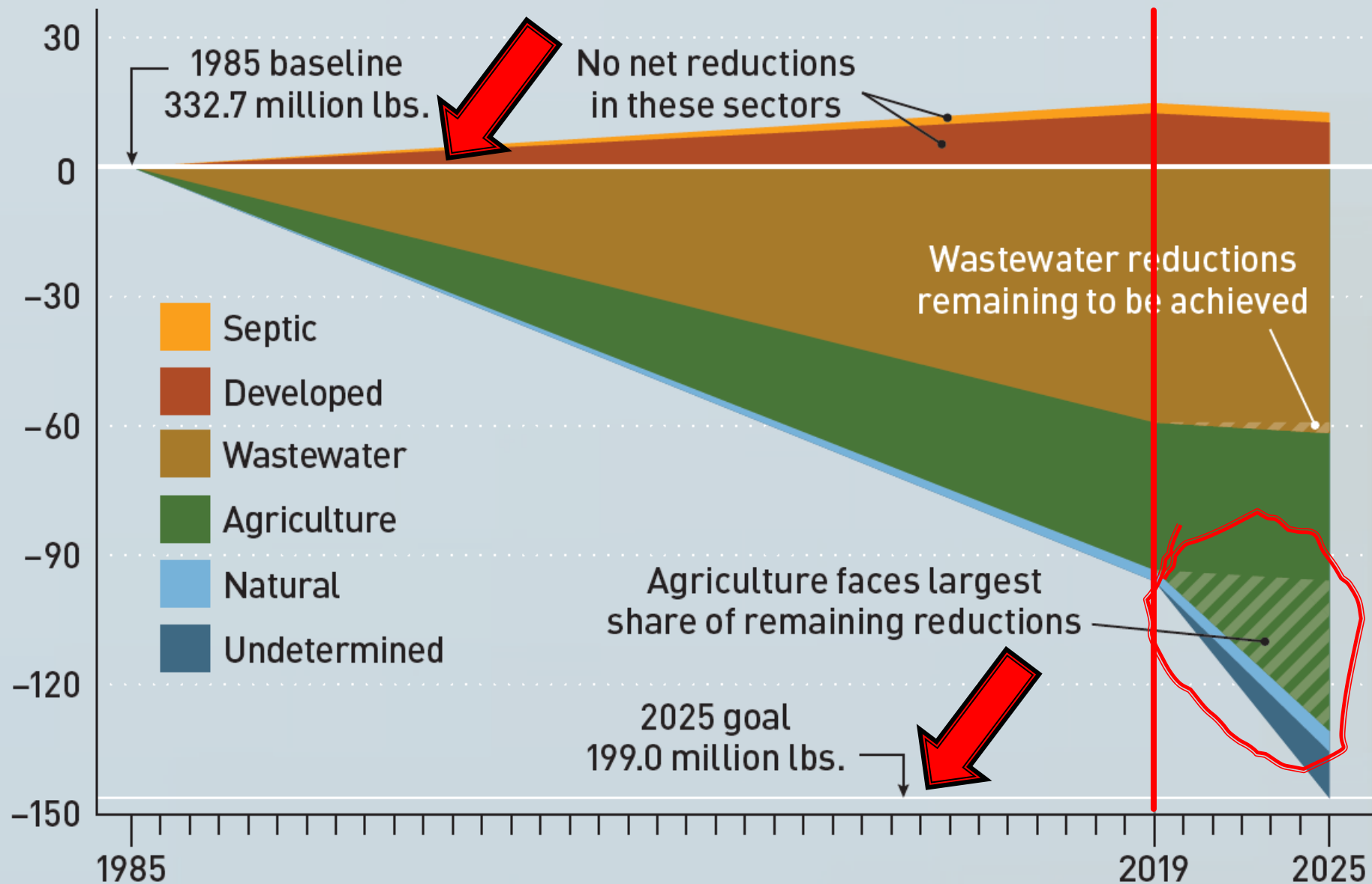
Of all the partners, only the CBC represents the legislatures



2. Background

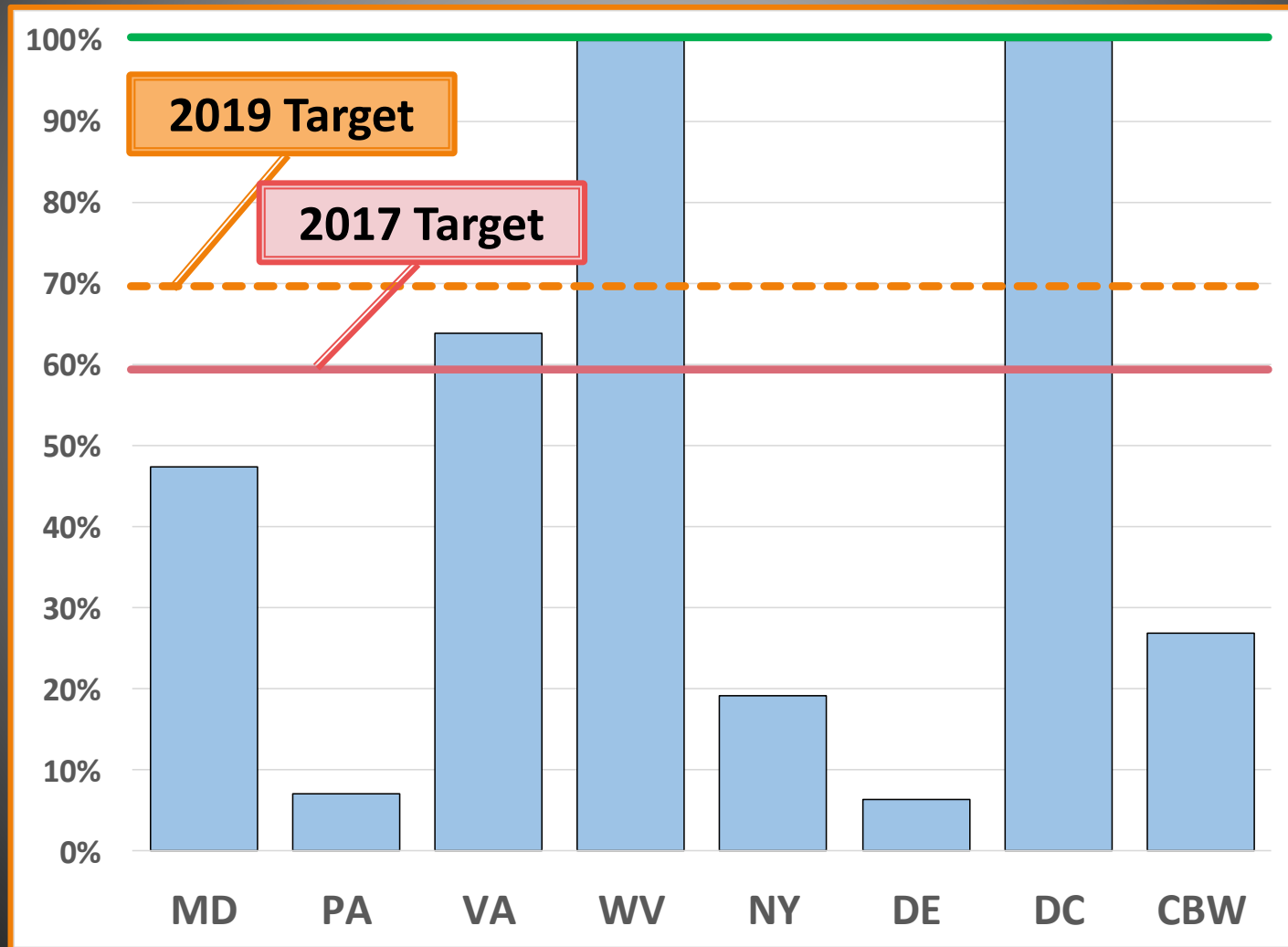
Where nitrogen reductions are coming from

CHANGE IN NITROGEN LOADINGS, MILLIONS OF POUNDS PER YEAR

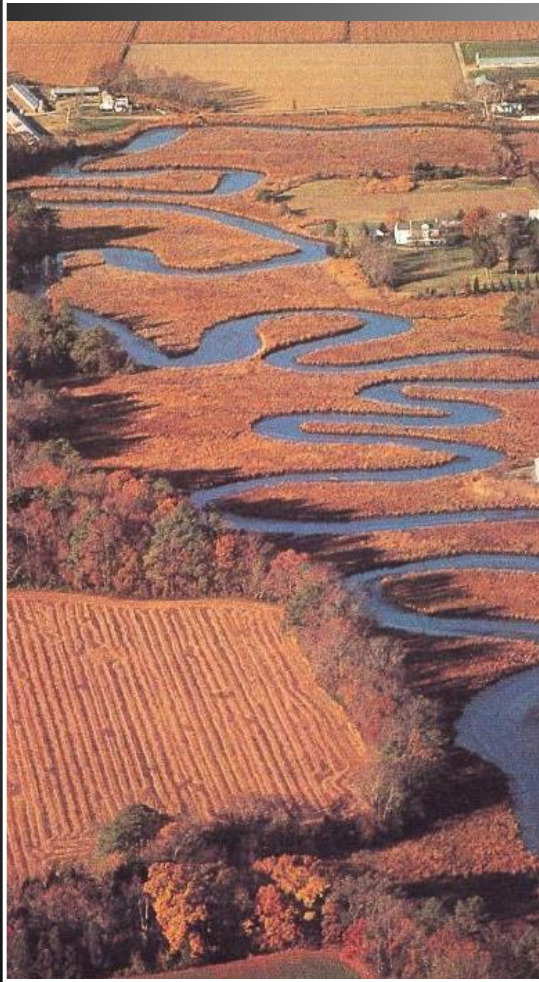


Percent of Nitrogen Goal Achieved

2009-2019



Agricultural Conservation



Practices & Programs

60% of future nitrogen reductions planned will come from **8 BMPs** -- the same that have delivered the reductions to date

- Animal Waste Management Systems
- Nutrient Management Core Nitrogen
- Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plans
- Tillage Management (Continuous High-Residue)
- Forest Buffers
- Forest Buffers (Streamside with Exclusion Fencing)
- Grass Buffers
- Cover Crops (Traditional)

TMDL: Challenge *is* Increasing

2025 Nitrogen Goals for Clean Water

52.5 M lbs.	Remaining N Reductions
+ 5.0 M lbs.	Climate Change
+ 6.0 M lbs.	Conowingo
<hr/>	
63.5 M lbs.	Revised N Reductions

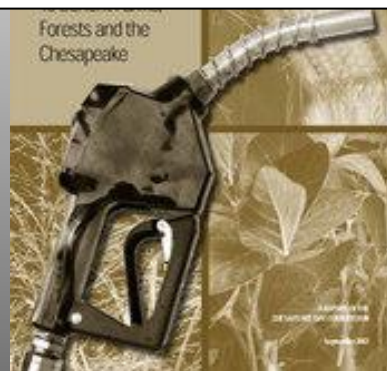
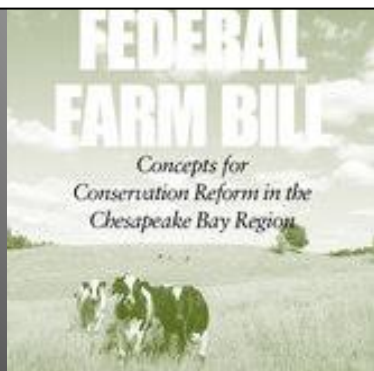
A wide-angle landscape photograph taken from an elevated position, looking over a series of rolling hills. The foreground is dominated by tall, golden-brown grass. Below this, a green field is visible, followed by a line of dark green trees. In the middle ground, there's a patch of golden-brown field, possibly corn, and more green fields interspersed with clusters of trees. Some small buildings or houses are visible in the distance, nestled among the trees. The background shows a vast, hazy landscape under a dramatic sky with large, dark clouds and a bright, low sun that creates a strong golden glow across the entire scene. The overall mood is peaceful and scenic.

3. Federal Requests

Federal Opportunities



Appropriations: Full Funding
Agriculture: Long-term practices & TA
Stormwater: Green infrastructure, TA, & DOD



Appropriations

CBC Priorities

- ✓ Fund ACE at authorized levels
 - EPA \$90.5M
 - USFWS WILD Program \$15M
 - NPS Gateways & Watertrails \$3M
- ✓ USGS \$16.05M
- ✓ DOD Fund for BMP installation & maintenance



Federal



FY22 Budget Request

*...72% of the pollutant load reductions are planned to come from the **agricultural sector**. This can only happen with increased CTA. The Commission also supports targeted, enhanced CTA to the **Susquehanna River** basin and other high-impact agricultural basins in the Bay watershed.*

...was significant
cases enhancing or di
catalyst for the restoration effort
three more from state, local and private pa
Congress begins deliberations on the FY 2022
Bay Commission offers this report to identify the
Also highlight four priorities where targeted action
Commission

Infrastructure and Climate Policy

- Civilian Conservation [Climate] Corps
- Stormwater and Green Infrastructure (MS4s)
- “Conservation Construction”
 - Oyster Reefs
 - Living Shorelines
 - Fish Passage
- Parks and Open Space

Agriculture

- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
 - Increase Mandatory Farm bill funding (EQIP, RCPP, CREP, ACEP)
 - Special focus on Pennsylvania
- Streamline Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Further incentivize practices that support water quality and climate goals.
- Technical Assistance



3. State General Assemblies

PA and the Bay

Bay Watershed

- Half of PA land area
- 30% of the PA population
- 57% of PA farms in watershed

Pennsylvania


- 35% of the Bay watershed
- Susquehanna provides 50% of the Bay's freshwater; 43% of the nitrogen



Resources Needed

\$324 M/y
Funding Gap

- Includes
\$24M/y staff



\$100M/y focused on
4 practices would achieve
HALF of the reductions
necessary

1. Ag compliance
2. Soil health
3. Forest buffers
4. Grass buffers

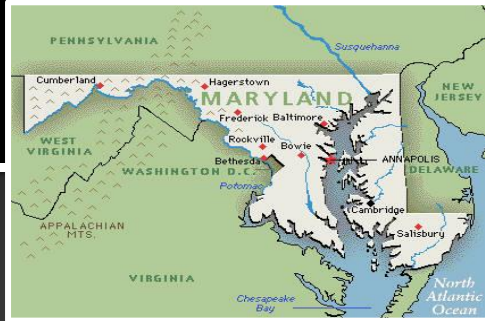
Photo: NRCS-PA



Pennsylvania

- Dedicated Water Fund
- Nutrient Procurement Bill
- Agricultural Cost-Share Bill
- Fertilizer Bill

- ❖ Environmental Justice
- ❖ Carbon Sequestration
- ❖ Livestock Stream Exclusion
- ❖ Flexible Buffers
 - ❖ Under Consideration



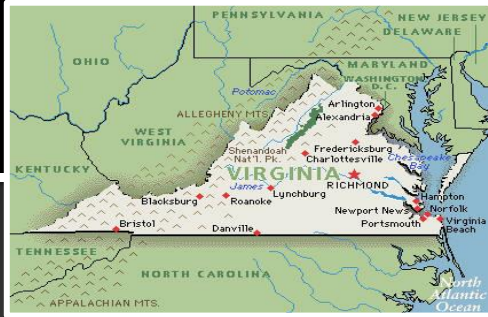
2021

90-day session

**January 13-
April 12**

Maryland

- Clean Water Commerce Reauthorization
- Climate Solutions Act
- Trees in Underserved Communities
- State Revolving Loan Fund Expansion
- PFAS Prohibitions and Requirements
- Stormwater Regulation Updates
- Environment and Natural Resources – Enforcement Information



Virginia

2021

30-day session
January 13-
February 11

16-day Special
Session*
February 10-
February 27

- Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty Program established
- Tree Preservation Study
- Agricultural Tax Credits
- Stormwater Local Assistance Fund Guidelines
- Prohibition on balloon releases
- Budget Amendments

* Dates overlap

STATE OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

2021 CBC BRIEFING



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