

Future CBP Goal recommendation development

Purpose: To develop recommendations from the Citizens Advisory Committee regarding the future goals and purposes of the Chesapeake Bay Program

Background: The CBP is currently working to implement a decision making framework that supports adaptive management, provides transparency in program activities, and promotes programmatic accountability. Part of this effort requires a very explicit articulation of program goals. A review of current and past program priorities is underway, and the logical extension of this review is to begin considering what the program should be doing in coming years. The CBP Principal Staff Committee intends to move toward development of a new CBP agreement in 2013, and so now is the time for the advisory committees to provide advice on the future of the program.

Framework: The CBP has organized its current activities into six Goal Implementation Teams (GITs). Information on the GITs is available at: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/about/organized> The GITs are generally focused on:

1. Sustainable Fisheries
2. Vital Habitats
3. Water Quality
4. Healthy Watersheds
5. Stewardship
6. Program Governance

Advisory committees are being asked to consider the current scope of CBP activities and make recommendations about retaining, dropping, or adding program goals.

In developing recommendations the advisory committees are asked to consider:

- The Bay ecosystem is changing. Both the human and the natural components of the system are in flux with development and climate change constantly altering what is desired and what is possible in this system.
- The CBP is a partnership. The goals identified for the management of the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem will vary in the need for collaboration among the partners. Some goals may only be possible if all the partners cooperate fully. Others may be pursued with the partners acting entirely independently. It will be important to identify which goals will require agreement among all the partners.

Desired Outcome: Recommended future goals for the CBP Partnership that are appropriate to the nature of the partnership and appropriate in the context of the Chesapeake Bay system.