

# Review of Statutes and Regulations that Protect Submerged Aquatic Vegetation in the Chesapeake Bay

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GIT Lead: Becky Golden, Contracted to the Chesapeake Legal Alliance

- SAV Outcome: **Sustain** and increase the habitat benefits of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the Chesapeake Bay
- Determine if **SAV restoration goals** are achievable given increased proximity & frequency of **nearshore activities and practices**
- Objectives
  - Review statutes & regulations currently in place to **protect existing SAV**
  - Determine if these **regulations are adequate** to protect existing & expanding SAV
  - **Recommend language to the CBP** for new statutes and regulations or changes to existing language



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- Deliverables
  - Searchable database of current federal and state regulations protecting SAV
    - Second draft is in review
  - Final report summarizing current federal and state regulations protecting SAV
    - First draft is in review and revision
  - Analysis of gaps and comparisons between states and/or regions
    - In progress
  - Recommendations on language to strengthen existing regulations, if necessary
    - TBD
  - Presentation of findings and recommendations
    - Spring SAV Workgroup meeting

