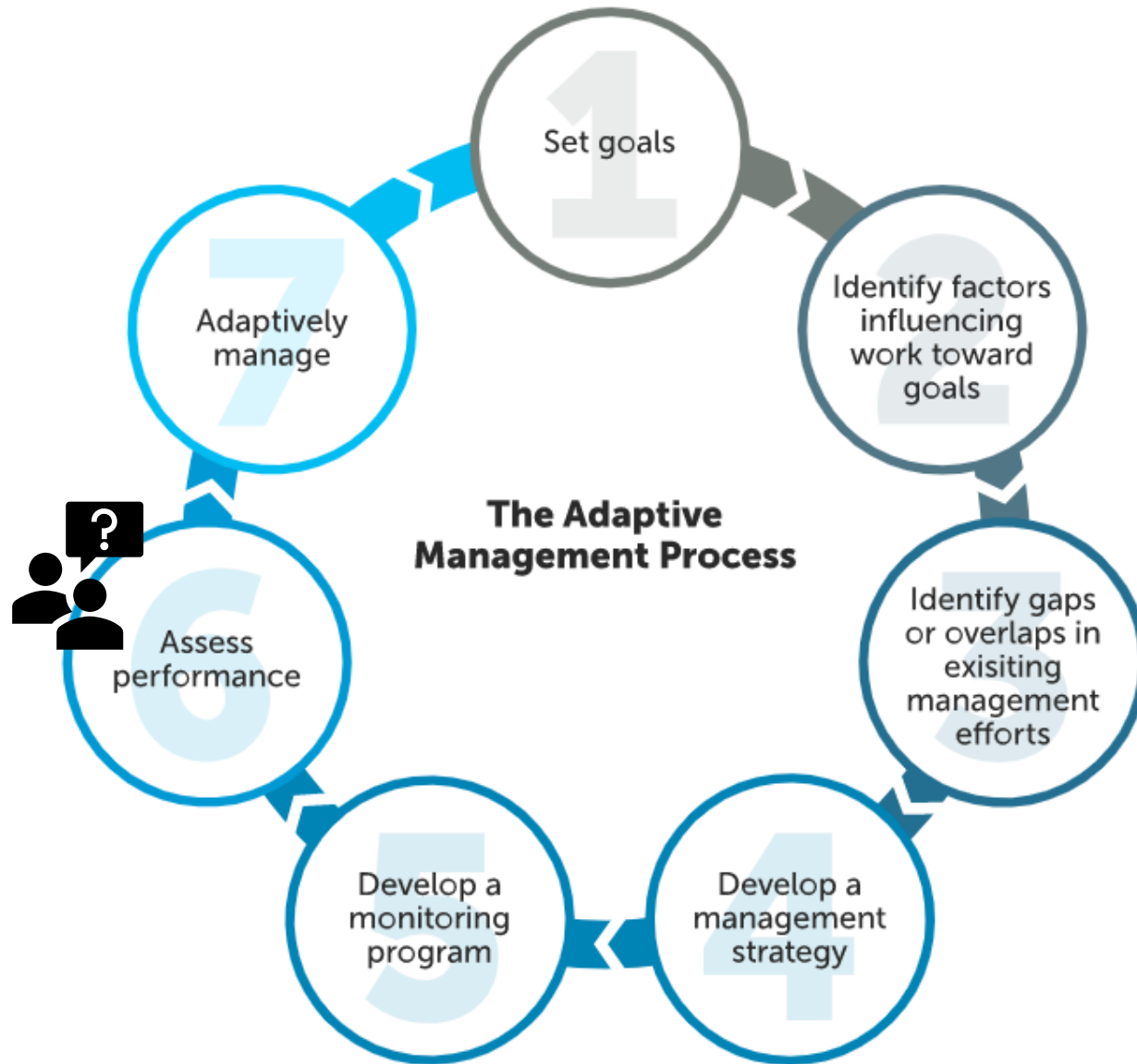


Decision Framework  
for the Healthy  
Watersheds  
Outcome

# Adaptive Management



## How to Assess Performance

- How do we know if the information and resources are having the intended impact?

# What is our current strategy?



1) Tracking the health of watersheds and our effectiveness in protecting them



2) strengthening local commitment and capacity to protect healthy watersheds



3) improving protection of state-identified healthy watersheds under federal programs and federal agency decision-making



4) supporting state-based efforts to improve assessment and protection of healthy watersheds



5) improving cross-outcome collaboration, cooperation and integration to serve multiple related outcomes.

# FACTORS and Actions affecting our ability to meet the desired outcome?

Scientific and  
technical  
understanding

- Where are healthy watersheds?
- Status over time, vulnerabilities, resilient areas
- Where prioritize watershed protection

Population  
Growth

- Human and natural factors (Conversion of natural lands to development , changing stream flow, channel stability)

Public and  
landowner  
engagement

- Communicating knowledge of the location of healthy waters and how to sustain them

Federal  
Engagement

- Support from agencies outside EPA to further watershed protection

Local  
Government  
Engagement

- Communicating the location of healthy waters and how to sustain them

Use Conflict

- Competing for limited resources in a TMDL environment

Funding and  
finances

- Incentivizing conservation of healthy watersheds in programs

# Key Factors:



Land Use Change – and those that influence land use change (Amount, Type and way in which land use change occurs)



Actors (key factor in healthy watershed protection because of their role in local land use decisions):

- Local governments
- Planning district commissions
- Watershed organizations
- Others

# What are we trying to accomplish?

Need to understand which healthy watersheds are vulnerable and why

Participation from all states/jurisdictions in the HWGIT

Increased monitoring for unassessed waters and remonitoring

Engagement from federal agencies (other than EPA)

Understand effects of land conversion on healthy watersheds

package and deliver materials to the correct audience/ outreach and communication with local decision makers.

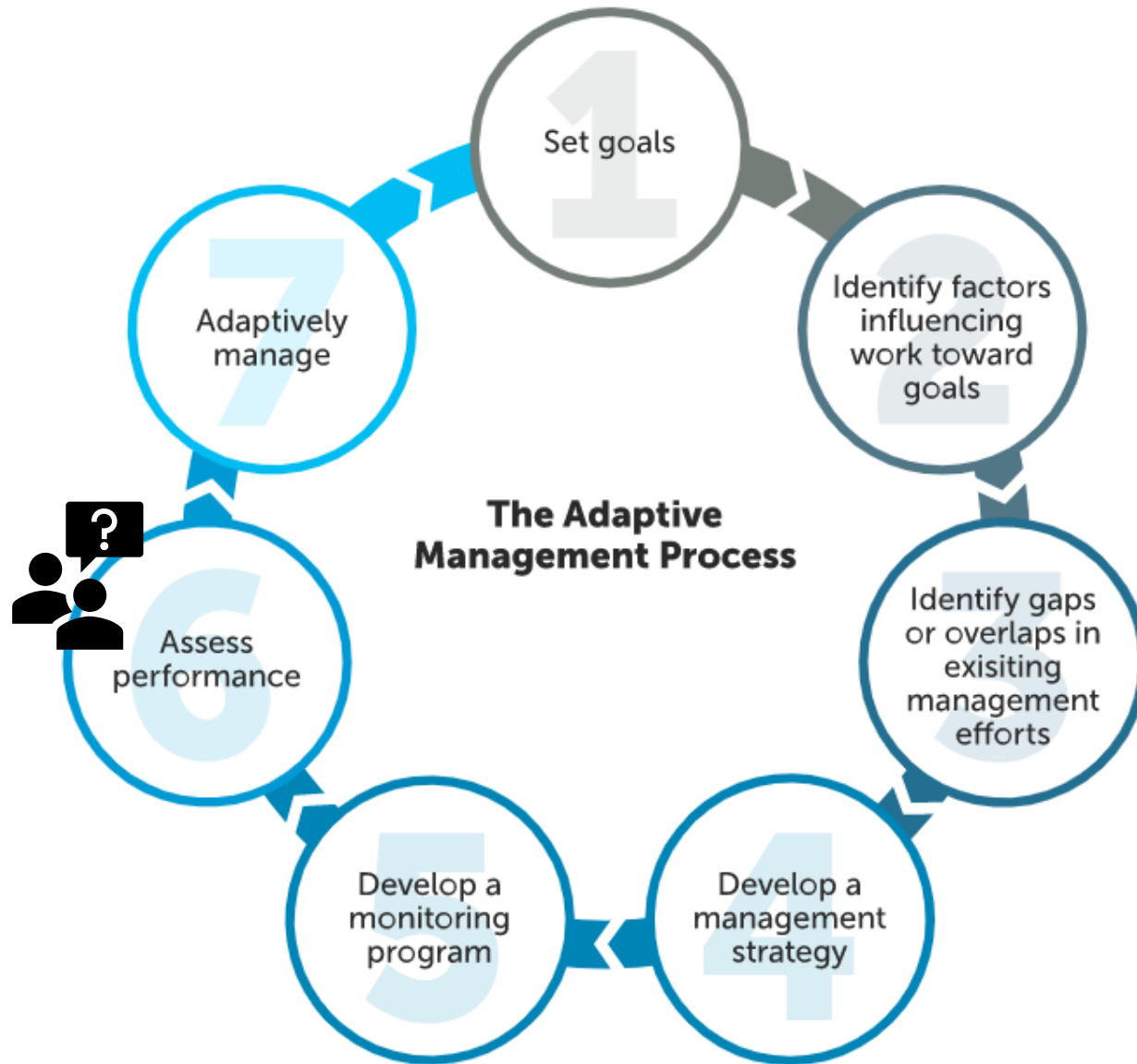
# What are we trying to accomplish?



Identification and protection of State-Identified Healthy Waters and Watersheds



Increased attention and activities related to identification and protection of State Identified Healthy Waters and Watersheds



## How to Assess Performance

- How do we know if the information and resources are having the intended impact?