

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement: Annotated Outline Draft (6/17/13)

Draft Agreement Contents

The agreement would have the following sections:

Section 1: Preamble - An introductory or preliminary statement that sets out in detail the underlying facts and assumptions, and explains the document's purpose, intent and objectives.

Section 2: Vision - A concise statement that defines the mid- to long-term goals of the Chesapeake Bay Program. It is intended to serve as a clear guide for choosing current and future courses of action.

Section 3: Mission - A brief statement, typically one or two sentences, that defines why the organization exists. It identifies its core purpose and focus that normally remains unchanged over time. A mission is something to be accomplished whereas a vision is something to be pursued for that accomplishment.

Section 4: Goals and Outcomes – The Goals in this agreement are the high-level, intended results towards which the Partnership's efforts are directed. The Outcomes related to each goal are the specific, time-bound and measurable targets which directly contribute to the achievement of the goal(s). (See attached for a list of proposed Goals and Outcomes).

Section 5: Principles - The principles (*values*, often called core values) prescribe the attitude, behavior, and character of the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership.

Section 6. Operational Commitments - *Describes the overarching framework by which the Chesapeake Bay Program and its partners and stakeholders agree to operate. Principles and operational commitments are related and aligned with each other.*

Section 7: Effective Date – Effective immediately upon signature (with Management Strategies to be developed within six months).

Section 8: Affirmation and Signatures – Affirms the Executive Council's commitment to work collectively to achieve the goals and outcomes of the agreement. Signed by the Governor's of the six states, the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the EPA Administrator on behalf of the Federal government and the Federal Leadership Committee for the Chesapeake Bay (FLC).

Supplemental Materials:

A. CBP Governance Document – Describes the organizational functions and governance for the Chesapeake Bay Program; would be an update to the 2009 CBP Governance document. Key revisions would include EPA's oversight role for the Bay TMDL and EPA's representation of the FLC in the Partnership.

B. Management Strategies – Developed by Goal Implementation Teams for each of the outcomes in the Agreement within six months of its signing. Contains the commitments, actions and resources that each of the jurisdictions, agencies and partners are providing to each of the outcomes they are supporting.

Draft Goals and Outcomes:

Sustainable Fisheries Goal: Restore, enhance, and protect the finfish, shellfish and other living resources, their habitats and ecological relationships to sustain all fisheries and provide for a balanced ecosystem in the watershed and bay.

- *Blue Crab Outcome*
- *Oyster Outcome*
- *Fisheries Outcome*

Vital Habitats Goal: Restore a total of 100,000 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands, primarily on resource and agricultural lands and enhance function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands.

- *Wetlands Outcome* (Black Ducks)
- *Stream Health Outcome* (Brook Trout)
- *Fish Passage Outcome*
- *Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Outcome*
- *Forestry Outcome*

Water Quality Goal: Reduce pollutants to achieve the water quality necessary to support the aquatic living resources of the bay and its tributaries while protecting human health.

- *2025 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP) Outcome*
- *2017 WIP Outcome*
- *Agricultural Conservation Outcome*

Healthy Watersheds Goal: Protect state-identified healthy waters and watersheds, recognized for their exceptional quality and high ecological value.

- *Healthy Waters Outcome*

Land Conservation Goal: Conserve landscapes treasured by citizens to maintain water quality and habitat; sustain working forests, farms and maritime communities; and conserve lands of cultural, indigenous and community value

- *Protected Lands Outcome*

Public Access Goal: Expand public access to the Bay and its tributaries through existing and new local, state and federal parks, refuges, reserves, trails and partner sites.

- *Public Access Site Development Outcome*

Environmental Literacy Goal: Every student in the region graduates environmentally literate having participated in meaningful watershed educational experiences.

- *Student Outcome*
- *Educator Outcome*
- *School Outcome*
- *Local Education Agency Outcome*

Identified Gaps: Toxic Contaminants, Social/Economic Indicators, Land Use