



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Joint HWGIT & LUWG Meeting -
January 13th, 2025

Overview of the “Big Questions” Outcome Assessment Assignment

For the purpose of reviewing the Outcome Assessment requests to lay the groundwork for the January 13th joint meeting discussions

Agenda

1 Overview of Outcome Assessment Assignment

2 Review of the Current LUWG/HWGIT Outcomes

3 Timeline Overview





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Outcome Assessment Assignment



EXERPT FROM THE DRAFT EC CHARGE:

Therefore, let it be resolved that we, the Chesapeake Executive Council, in recognition of the consensus-based work of the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee, guided by the findings of their “A Critical Path Forward for the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership Beyond 2025” report and our continued commitment to meet the goals of the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, hereby direct the Principals’ Staff Committee to complete the following by **December 31, 2025**:

1. Revisions to the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, not a new Agreement. **Revisions to outcomes** should be executed pursuant to the Governance and Management Framework for the Chesapeake Bay Program. While not all outcomes will need revision, some **reviews will likely result in consolidating, reducing, updating, removing, replacing, or adding new outcomes.**

Proposed revisions should be considered as they are being reviewed, with every effort to complete most reviews and revisions by the end of calendar year 2025. Furthermore, it is the intent of the Chesapeake Executive Council, **that these changes reflect:**

- A renewed and greater emphasis on **engaging all communities** of the watershed as active stewards of a healthy and resilient Chesapeake Bay and its watershed;
- Our mandate to address water quality **and living resources** throughout the Bay and watershed;
- **Elevating conservation** as a key pillar of the Chesapeake Bay Program, alongside science, restoration, and partnership;
- A grounding in the most recent scientific understandings and issues that have emerged since the current Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement was signed in 2014;
- Goals and outcomes that are **measurable and time bound**. Time frames should be sufficient to accomplish the outcomes as quickly as possible. In particular, our regulated nutrient and sediment load reductions, especially those within non-point sources;
- Acknowledgement that our scientific understanding is continuously evolving and that our efforts need to constantly adapt accordingly; and
- The fact that while each partner shares a common goal, we are all approaching this goal from different perspectives, challenges, and opportunities.

**Why an
Outcome
Assessment?**

The “Big Question” Assignment:

What advice do you have for the Management Board on how to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes within your GIT?

Guidelines: You do not have to answer all these questions, but the first two are necessary.

1. In reviewing your outcome, provide advice to the Management Board on whether "to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes".
 - a. Don't need to provide updated Outcome language at this point in the process.
 - b. If consolidation is recommended, which outcome(s) do you advise combining with?
 - c. Should the outcome be moved or restructured?
2. Consider if the Outcome is SMART, and specifically, whether the current outcome meets the definition of an outcome, as described in the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (“Agreement”), or if that outcome is an output or indicator.
 - a. Review ERG’s Beyond 2025 Report for existing assessment of **Specific, Measurement, and Timebound.**
 - b. Consider the Secret Sauce
3. Consider the challenges to and opportunities for achieving the outcome. You are encouraged to leverage past documentation and learnings from the Strategy Review System process, as well as Charting a Course to 2025 report and Beyond 2025 Small Group recommendations as they pertain to the outcome.
4. Consider how the outcome relates or could relate to the Bay Agreement mission, vision, and themes/pillars

Guidelines Continued

5. Consider the timescale for completing the outcome (5, 10, 15 years). Determine if achieving the outcome is an incremental step or is it a final outcome.
6. Consider resource needs and availability (high, medium, low).
7. Consider the risk or unintended consequences of removing the Outcome.
8. What value is added by having the Chesapeake Bay Program work on the outcome?
9. Consider how the Outcome, as written, benefits the public. Does the outcome reflect public input already received and have the potential to galvanize public support/engagement?
10. See [Resource Binder for supplemental information](#), including:
 - a. 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (Item 2)
 - b. Charting a Course to 2025 report (Item 4)
 - c. Beyond 2025 Recommendations (Item 5)

Review of Current LUWG/HWGIT Outcomes

Land Use Methods and Metrics Development (LUMM) Outcome

“Continually improve the knowledge of land conversion and the associated impacts throughout the watershed. By 2021, develop a Chesapeake Bay watershed-wide methodology and local level metrics for characterizing the rate of farmland, forest and wetland conversion, measuring the extent and rate of change in impervious surface coverage and quantifying the potential impacts of land conversion to water quality, healthy watersheds and communities. Launch a public awareness campaign to share this information with citizens, local governments, elected officials and stakeholders.”

*What **advice** do you have for the Management Board on **how to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, or replace the LUMM Outcome**? Submit your feedback through the Mentimeter survey [**here**](#)*

Land Use Options Evaluation (LUOE) Outcome

“By the end of 2017, with the direct involvement of local governments or their representatives, evaluate policy options, incentives and planning tools that could assist them in continually improving their capacity to reduce the rate of conversion of agricultural lands, forests and wetlands as well as the rate of changing landscapes from more natural lands that soak up pollutants to those that are paved over, hardscaped or otherwise impervious. Strategies should be developed for supporting local governments’ and others’ efforts in reducing these rates by 2025 and beyond.”

What **advice** do you have for the Management Board on **how to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, or replace the LUOE Outcome**? Submit your feedback through the Mentimeter survey [**here**](#)

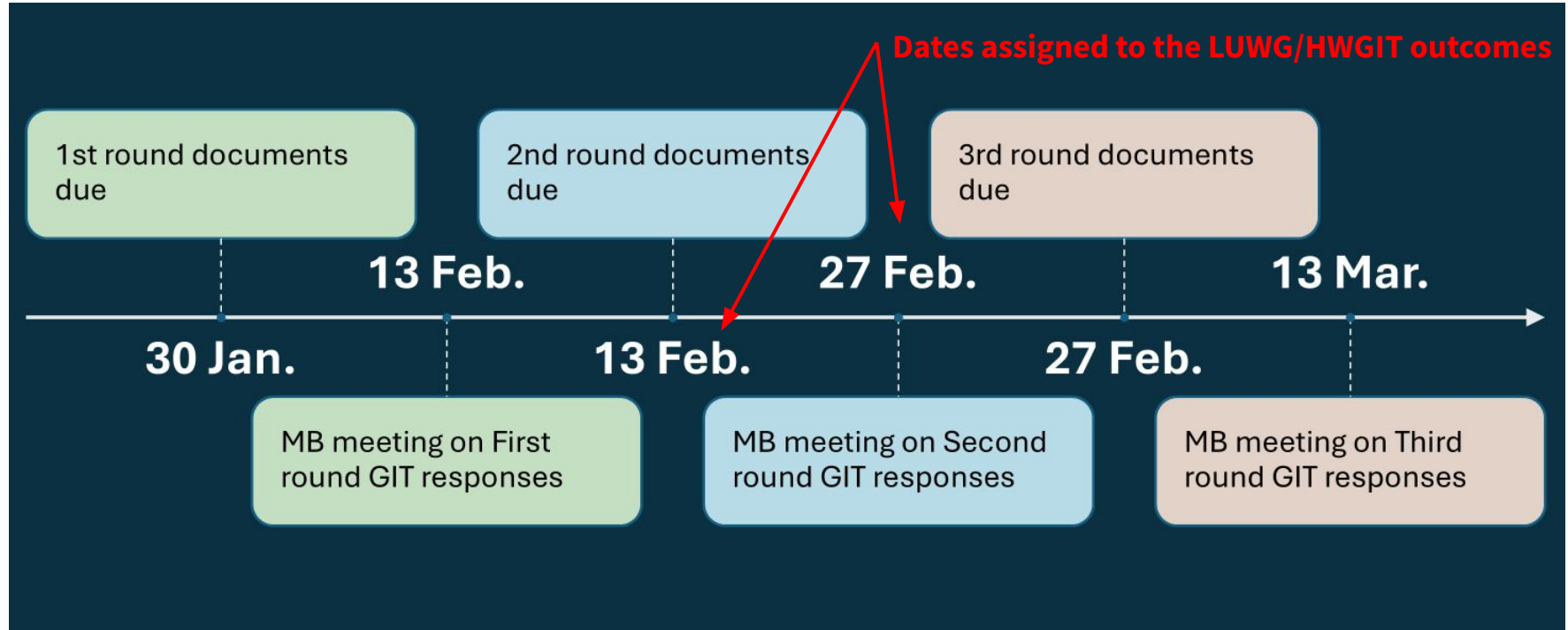
Healthy Watersheds Outcome

“100 percent of state-identified currently healthy waters and watersheds remain healthy.”

*What **advice** do you have for the Management Board on **how to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, or replace the Healthy Watersheds Outcome**? Submit your feedback through the Mentimeter survey [here](#)*

Timeline Overview

Short-Term Outcome Assessment Timeline



Continued Management Board Process and Timeline

April 10, 2025	<p>Continued discussion to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes.</p> <p>Outcomes identified as being kept or combined are assigned to workgroups for rewriting</p>
May 7-8, 2025	Finalize outcome assessment/evaluation
May 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PSC Check in on Draft List of Outcomes. Share approach for structure development and governance review• Advisory Committee Presentation – all together
June 12, 2025	Work through any PSC feedback on outcomes. Prepare final outcome list for public sharing
July 1, 2025	<p>Discussion of overall Partnership Structure.</p> <p>Includes all partnership Goal Teams/workgroups/action teams</p>
August 14, 2025	Continue Grouping /Structure Development/ Governance
August 2025	PSC Check-in Grouping /Structure Development/ Governance
September 11, 2025	Continue work on Structure/ Governance and draft list of outcomes
October 9, 2025	Finalize outcomes and Complete Draft of New Structure
October 2025	Presentation of Final Draft to PSC
November 2025	Preparation of Final Package Based on PSC feedback