Stream Health workgroup (SHWG) conducted a survey in 2015 to permit reviewers and applicants to help identify issues and challenges related to the issuance of stream restoration permits to meet nutrient and sediment load reductions as part of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. Since the survey was completed, local governments have implemented many projects with many lessons learned and modifications to the permitting process. This survey is follow-up survey to track and report progress and identify remaining or new issues on permitting stream restoration projects.

The results of the survey will be summarized by the SHWG who will initiate discussions with its membership and other Bay Program partners to acknowledge progress and address identified issues. Recommendations will be made to the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership based on the responses to this survey.

**Please self-identify as a stream restoration permit applicant or permit reviewer and fill out the corresponding section.**

PART A: GENERAL QUESTIONS FOR ALL:

1. Please select from the list the role/responsibilities that best describe your involvement in stream restoration.

* Permit Reviewer
* Stream restoration applicant
* Public agency
* Private (consultant, non-profit)

1. How many years you have been involved with stream restoration?
2. Briefly explain your training and professional experience relevant to stream restoration:
3. What states have you applied for, or review stream restoration permits in? Check all that apply.
   * Delaware
   * District of Columbia
   * Maryland
   * New York
   * Pennsylvania
   * Virginia
   * West Virginia
   * Federal application pool
   * US Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District
   * US Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk District
   * US Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District
4. What Is the time frame allotted for the review and permit agency decision on a stream restoration permit application?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. Don’t know
   4. Not applicable

If yes, please provide the time frame

**PART B: FOR APPLICANTS**

1. Are you the owner of the project or an agent of the owner (i.e. consultant)?
   1. Owner
   2. Agent
   3. Other (please identify)
2. What type of design approaches are used for stream restoration projects (Please select all that apply)
   1. Natural Channel Design
   2. Legacy Sediment Removal
   3. Regenerative Stream Conveyance (RSC)
   4. Other
3. Does the pre-application meeting provide constructive input to the application?
   * Yes
   * No
   * Sometimes, but not always
   * I do not participate in pre-application meetings
   * Don’t know
   * If no, what type of input or feedback would be constructive?
4. Please select from the list below concerns/issues provided by permit reviewers, about the proposed project which may prevent authorization? Please enter “N/A (not applicable” if the review process does not identify issues.

* Incomplete application
* Lack of clarity of application
* Expertise of applicant
* Flooding of adjacent property
* Adverse impacts to other resource
* Other (list)
* Please provide examples of above responses, and or other issues.

1. Have you been asked to provide additional or corrected information to complete your application?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. If yes, please describe the additional information which has been requested.
2. Have you experienced a delay in obtaining State 401 WQC or other State approvals within the timeframe allotted for review and issuance?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. If yes, please share reasons given for why a delay occurred:

* Unclear application guidance & instructions
* Lack of pre-application meetings & guidance
* Inconsistent review process and comments
* Complexity of permit requirements
* Flooding of adjacent property
* Adverse impacts to other resource
* Expertise of reviewer(s)
* Excessive time delays
* Other (please explain)

1. Have you experienced a delay in obtaining the Army Corps 404 permit within the timeframe allotted for review and issuance?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. If yes, please share reasons given for why a delay occurred:

* Unclear application guidance & instructions
* Lack of pre-application meetings & guidance
* Inconsistent review process and comments
* Complexity of permit requirements
* Expertise of reviewer(s)
* Excessive time delays
* Other (please describe)

1. Have you re-designed a project in order to receive authorization?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. If yes, please describe what design changes were made:
2. Has it been your experience that the stream restoration permitting process has improved over the past 5 years?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   * Please provide a specific example if possible:

**PART C: For Permit Reviewers:**

1. What jurisdiction(s) do you review stream restoration permits for?
   * Delaware
   * District of Columbia
   * Maryland
   * New York
   * Pennsylvania
   * Virginia
   * West Virginia
   * US Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District
   * US Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk District
   * US Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District
   * I am a Federal reviewer
2. Please select from the list below the typical concerns/issues encountered in your review of stream restoration permit applications. Please enter “N/A (not applicable” if the review process does not identify issues.

* Lack of time or resources to review applications
* Incomplete applications
* Lack of clarity of applications
* Expertise of applicant
* Expertise/training of reviewer
* Flooding of adjacent property
* Adverse impacts to other resource
* Please provide examples of above responses, and or other issues.

1. Have you requested applicants to provide additional or corrected information to complete the application?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. If yes, please describe the additional information which has been requested.
2. Have you experienced delays in issuing/approving state 401 permits within the timeframe allotted for review and issuance?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. If yes, please share reasons given for why a delay occurred:

* Lack of time or resources to review applications
* Incomplete applications
* Lack of clarity of applications
* Expertise of applicant
* Expertise/training of reviewer
* Other (describe).

1. Have you experienced delays in issuing/approving the Army Corps 404 Permit within the timeframe allotted for review and issuance?
   * 1. Yes
     2. No
     3. If yes, please share reasons given for why a delay occurred:

* Lack of time or resources to review applications
* Incomplete applications
* Lack of clarity of applications
* Expertise of applicant
* Expertise/training of reviewer
* Flooding of adjacent property
* Adverse impacts to other resource
* Other (explain)

1. In general, have you had any concerns/issues about the proposed project which may prevent authorization?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. If yes, please describe the concerns:
2. Have you required that a project be re-designed in order for it to meet requirements for permit issuance?
3. Yes
4. No
5. If yes, please describe how the project was re-designed:
6. Has it been your experience that the stream restoration process has improved over the past 5 years?
   * + 1. Yes
       2. No
       3. Please provide a specific example if possible: