

## **Clean Water Goal Team**

### **Draft Planning Calendar**

**Version: June 22, 2026**

#### **Management Strategies**

2026

- June 2026, Draft outcome and goal-level challenges and develop initial draft outcome and goal-level Management Approaches (starting w/ outcome discussions at CWGT in-person meeting based on workgroup responses to worksheets)
- July 2026, Draft outcome-level baseline and current conditions; confirm monitoring progress and indicator details for each outcome
- August 2026, Draft Final Outcome-level management approaches
- August 2026, Draft goal- and outcome-level baseline and current conditions; confirm monitoring progress and indicator details for each outcome
- August 2026, Compile signatory statutory authorities and snapshot of signatory resources
- August 2026, Initiate development of Clean Water outcome workplans
- September 2026, Document participating partners for each Clean Water outcome
- September 2026, Approve Management Strategy for submission to PSC (and subsequent public feedback)
- October 2026, Management Strategy due to PSC
- November 2026, Draft Workgroup workplans due to CWGT
- February 2027, Approve revised management strategy for submission to PSC

2027

- March 2027, Management Strategy due for PSC input.
- March 2027, Draft RENPs workplan due
- March 2027, Draft Toxics workplan due
- March 2027, Draft WQSAM workplan due

- May 2027, Approve final Management Strategy
- July 2027, Outcome workplans due to GT for approval.
- July 2027, Workgroup workplans due for GT approval

## **Phase 7 Model**

### **2026**

- August 2026, Draft Phase 7 Model review and approval process and schedule; clarify roles and expectations for CAST input and output reviews
- August 2026, Explore preferences for model update frequency
- October 2026, Approval of draft Dynamic Watershed Model (Modeling Workgroup)
- November 2026, Input/output reviews (source data reviews starting earlier at AMT), watershed model inputs (cast outputs)
- December 2026, Approve Phase 7 Model review and approval process and schedule, including roles, expectations for reviewers (i.e. CWGT workgroups), process for cataloging and resolving issues (contingent on approval of review process by Modeling Workgroup and input from source sector workgroups)

### **2027**

- January 2027, Complete model review tools for fatal flaw review (with refining during active review period Feb-Sept 2027)
- January 2027, Approval of Phase 7 Suite of Models beta 1 for review (Modeling Workgroup)
- January 2027, Final Draft Model Documentation
- January 2027, Complete development of questions and guidance for STAC review
- January-March 2027, Training on use of model review tools; iterative revisions to tools; Webinars on model critical components (Inside look on structure, what's different, application, decisions, etc.)
- February 2027, Partnership model review begins
- March 2027, STAC Review of Phase 7 Model begins
- April 2027, Comments due for first review "sprint" (Review will be iterative between Feb-September with comment "windows" followed by review windows, high-impact comments addressed asap.
- June 2027, Resolution of comments from round 1.
- August 2027, STAC review of Phase 7 model suite complete

- September 2027, Final partnership comments on Phase 7 model due
- October 2027, Final model refinements and calibration; approval of modeling suite by Modeling Workgroup
- November 2027, CWGT approval of the Phase 7 Modeling Suite
- December 2027, PSC approval of the Phase 7 Modelling suite

## **Planning Targets and Tiered Implementation**

### **2026**

- August 2026, Proposed E3 and No Action Scenario definitions and justifications for all sectors; Scenario base year for planning targets considerations
- September 2026, Approval of Hydrologic Averaging Period
- September 2026, Approval of Critical Period for Phase 7 model and determining assimilative capacity.
- September 2026, Approval of E3 and No-Action Scenario definitions (as well as 1985, 2009, All Forest)—“ranging scenarios.
- September 2026, Approval of Scenario Base Year for planning targets (scenario year for WIPs—the scenario to be used for WIP development-- to be separate decision in 2027)
- September 2026, Approval of land use change forecast (2040, 2050, 2075); approval of solar and development forecasts (contingent on Reviews and approvals by source sector workgroups—LUWG (8/26), USWG (9/15))

### **2027**

- Decision regarding atmospheric deposition load reductions
- Explore comparative scenarios w/ model runs
- Continuing discussion on decision rules and sequencing for additional habitat areas (i.e., DUs) and tiered implementation.

### **2028**

- Q1 2028, Approve Chesapeake Bay assimilative capacity (and resolving/confirming how to account for Conowingo and changing environmental conditions, restoration exceptions)
- Q1 2028, Approve planning target methodology, aka Hockey Stick (including planning target principles, WWTP line, spread of all else line) for complete attainment of water quality standards. Recommendation to the PSC whether to confirm methods and if recommended policy changes.

- Q1 2028, Approve methods/principles for tiered implementation and local planning targets (if necessary)
- Q2 2028, Approve process for review of planning targets, including tiered implementation
- Q2 2028, Approve Preliminary draft planning targets and methods or targets for tiered implementation and local planning. (CWGT, PSC)
- Q2 2028, Decisions on additional load reductions to address Conowingo infill and Changing Environmental Conditions (CWGT, PSC)
- Q3 2028, Partnership review of draft preliminary planning targets
- Q4 2028, CWGT approval of final planning targets (CWGT, PSC)

## **Criteria Assessment**

2026

- July 2026, Charge CAP workgroup with developing a schedule to complete criteria assessment decisions.  
[https://www.chesapeakebay.net/files/documents/Day-2.9\\_CAP-Workgroup-Workplan-Overview\\_Robertson\\_CWGT\\_06.23.2026.pdf](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/files/documents/Day-2.9_CAP-Workgroup-Workplan-Overview_Robertson_CWGT_06.23.2026.pdf)
- July 2026, First iteration of 4-d Interpolator tool completed (<https://www.chesapeakebay.net/files/documents/Draft-4D-and-Phase-7-Timeline-5.18.26.pdf>)
- November 2026, Documentation sent to STAC for review

2027

- March 2027, STAC finalizes review of 4D Interpolator
- April-August 2027, Revisions to 4D Interpolator based on STAC and BORG team review (if necessary)

## **Living Resources Habitat Suitability Index (LR HSI)**

2027

- March 2027, Draft Habitat Suitability Model/LR Assessment completed
- March 2027, STAC review of LR HSI begins
- August 2027, STAC Review of LR HSI model completed

- October 2027, LR HSI report and scoring index finalized

## **BMPs**

### 2026

- August 2026, BMP Review Protocol—discuss and charge WTWG/source sector workgroups with assessment and update of protocol; explore preferences for update in context of model update frequency.
- October 2026, Draft proposal for revised BMP review protocol (WTWG)
- December 2026, WTWG provides CWGT w/ recommendations for revising the BMP review protocol

### 2027

- March 2027, Approve BMP Review Protocol updates

## **WIPs**

### 2026-2027

- Review of successes and lessons learned from Phase III WIPs; discuss priorities for the future

### 2028

- Q1 2028, Decision regarding whether to develop new or revise Phase III WIPs
- Q1 2028, EPA Draft Expectations for WIPs
- Q2 2028, Comments on EPA draft WIP expectations due
- Q3-Q4, EPA final WIP expectations

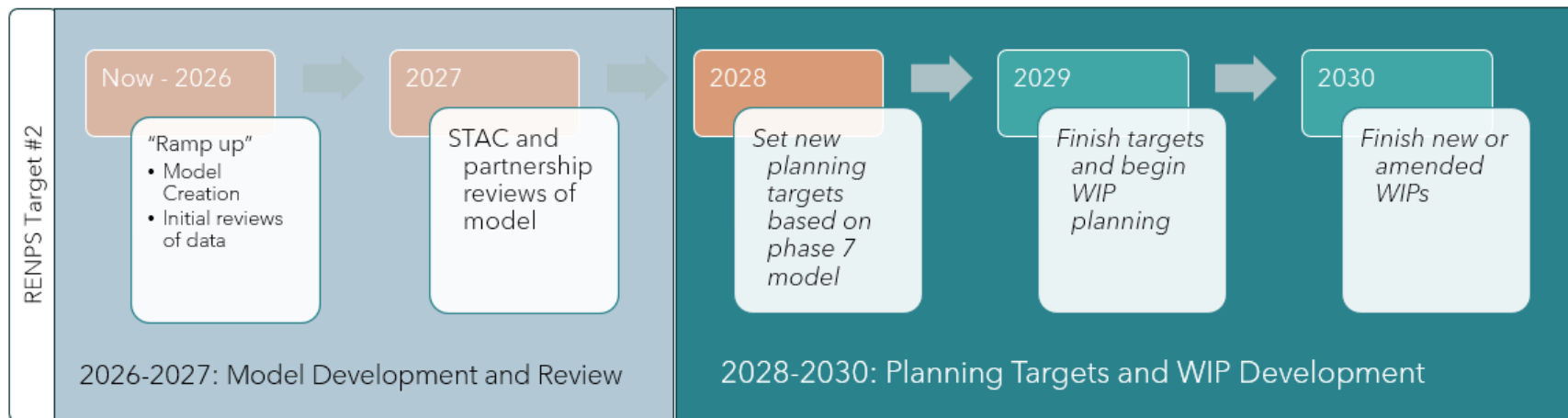
### 2029

- Q1-Q2 2029, Development of WIPs
- Q3 2029, Draft Phase IV or revised Phase III WIPs due to EPA
- Q4 2029, EPA feedback on draft Phase IV or revised Phase III WIPs

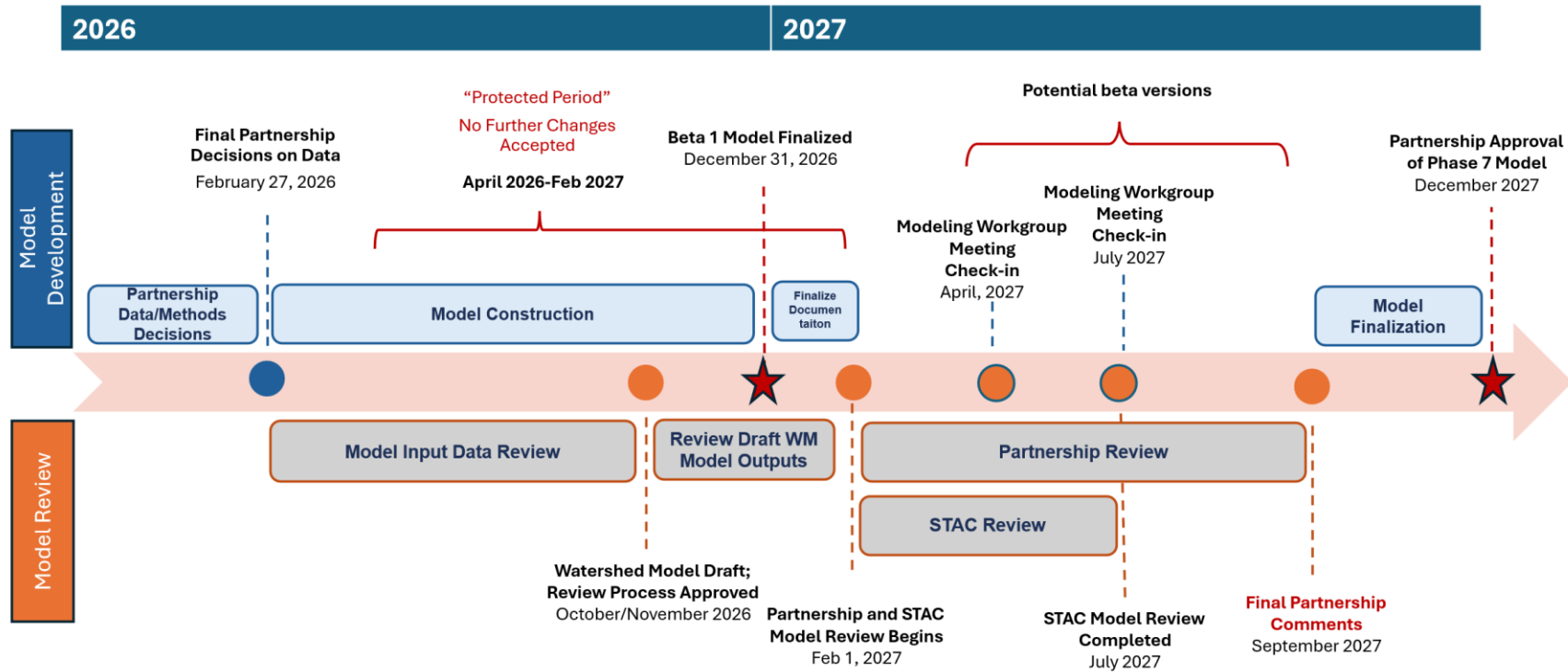
### 2030

- Q2 2030, Final Phase IV or revised Phase III WIPs due to EPA
- Q3 2030, EPA evaluations of final Phase IV or revised Phase III WIPs

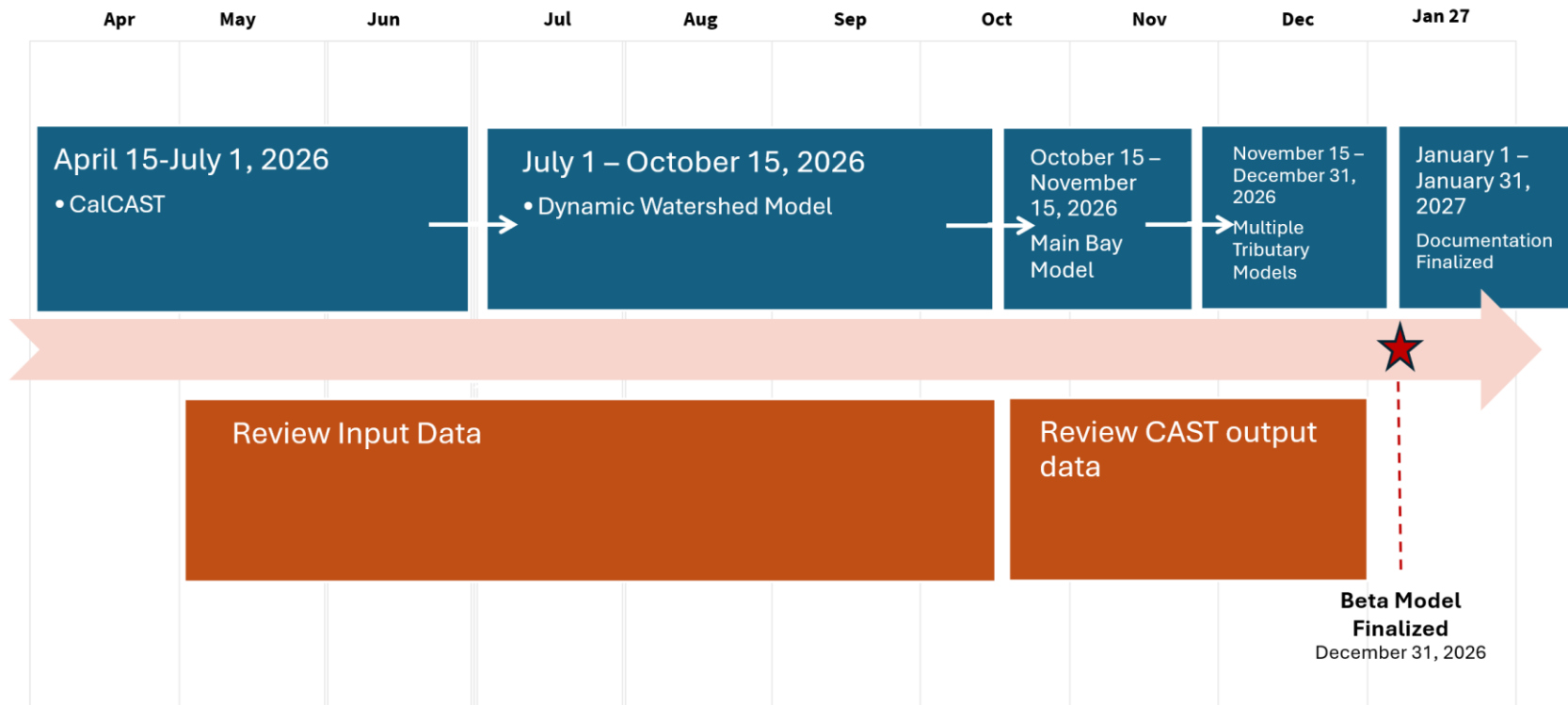
Through 2030 continue to accelerate completion of all interim water quality planning targets (Target #1)



# PHASE 7 DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW SCHEDULE



# 2026 MODEL CONSTRUCTION





# 2027 MODEL YEAR OF REVIEW

← Ramp-up

Target Development →

