



Setting the Phase III WIPs on 2025 Forecasted Conditions

Peter Claggett, U.S. Geological Survey
Matt Johnston, University of Maryland

Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Meeting
December 14-15, 2015

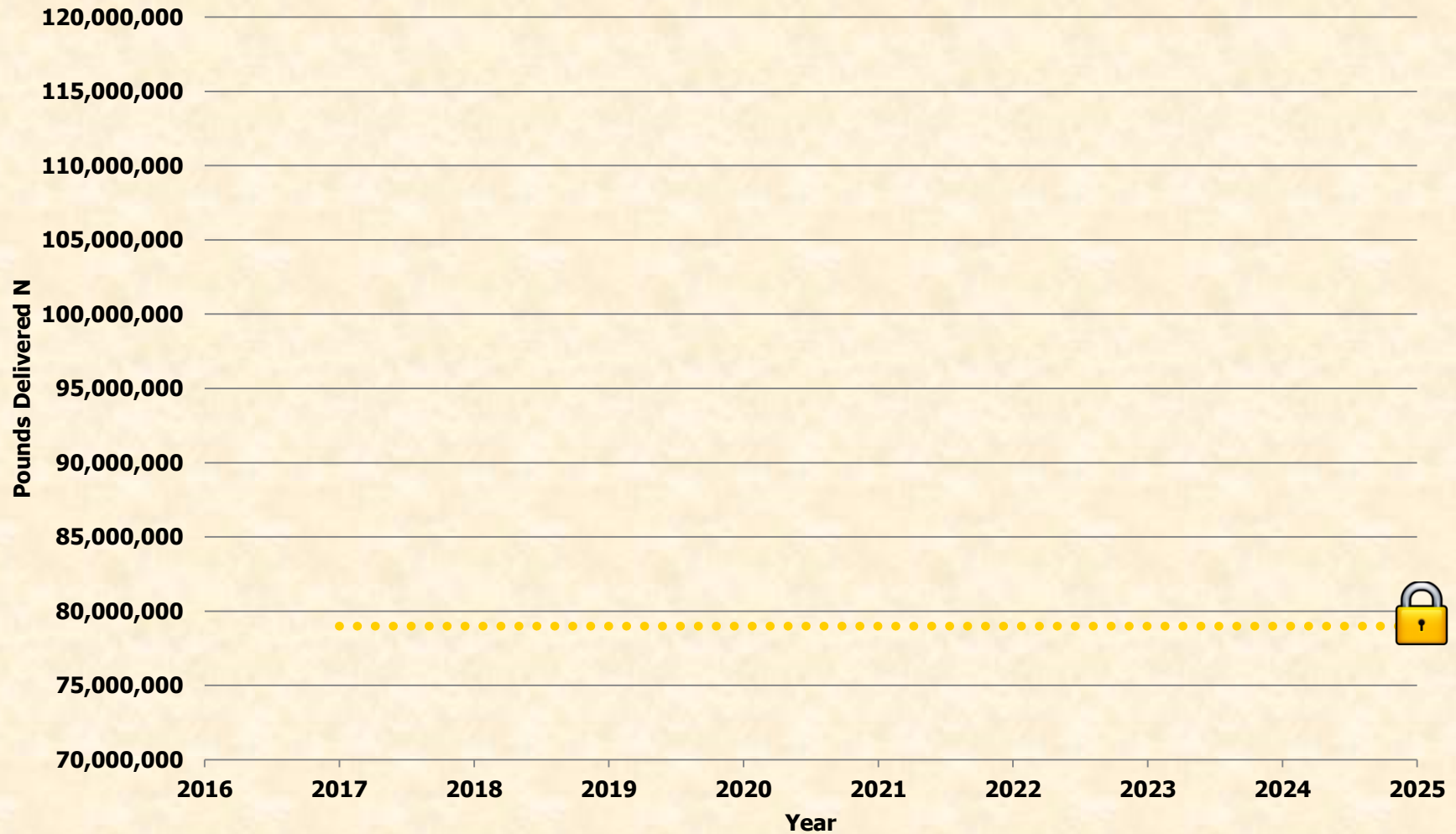


Setting the Phase III WIPs on 2025 Forecasted Conditions

- Phase I and Phase II WIPs were developed on “current” conditions (2010), not accounting any anticipated growth in pollutant loads
- Proposing to Partners to develop Phase III WIPs on future conditions (2025) so that the WIP commitments will include practices to reach TMDL goals and offset anticipated growth
- Proposing to continue developing post-2017 Milestones using short-term forecasts of conditions based on the best available data.

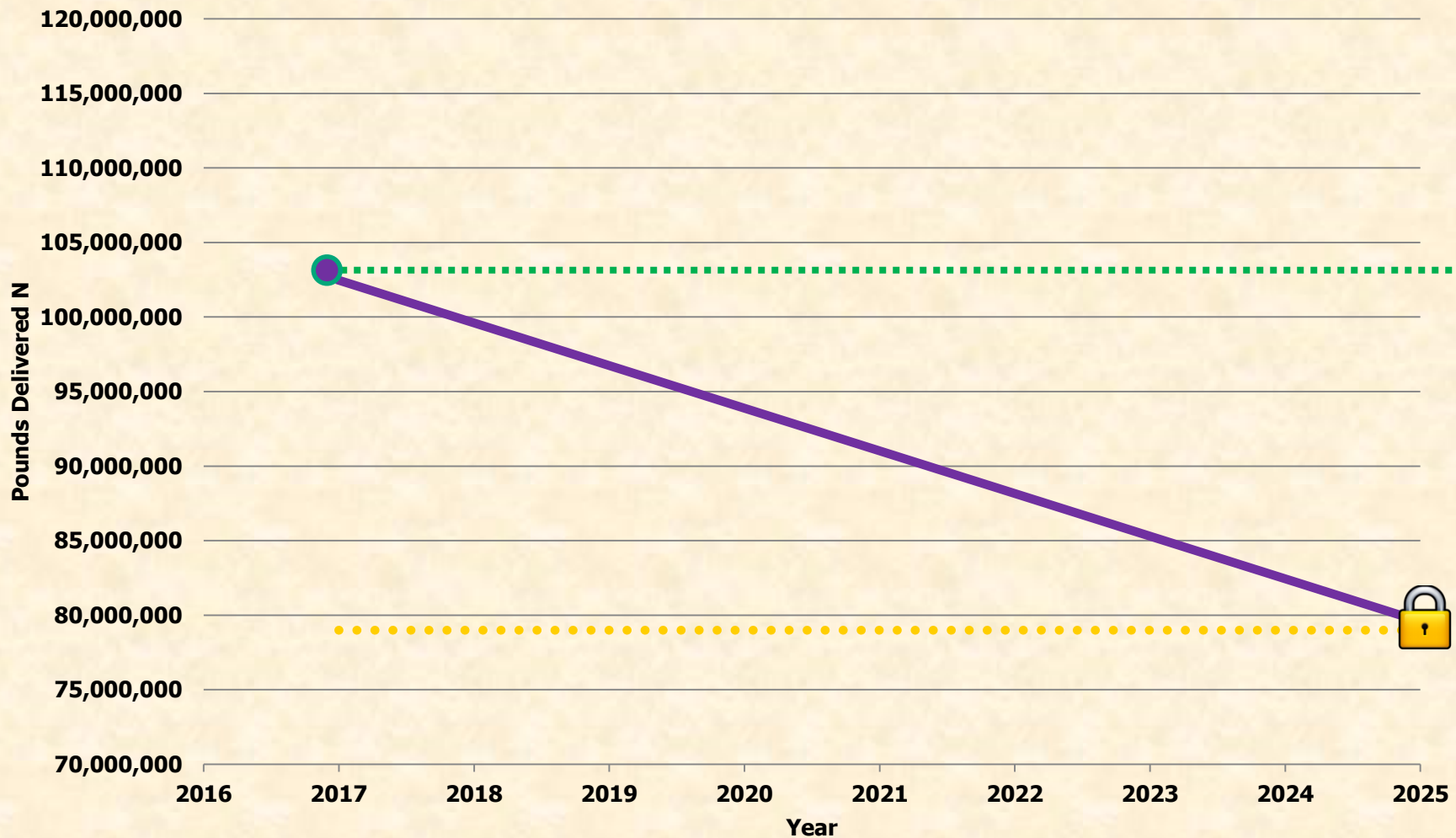
Step 1:

- Establish planning targets.



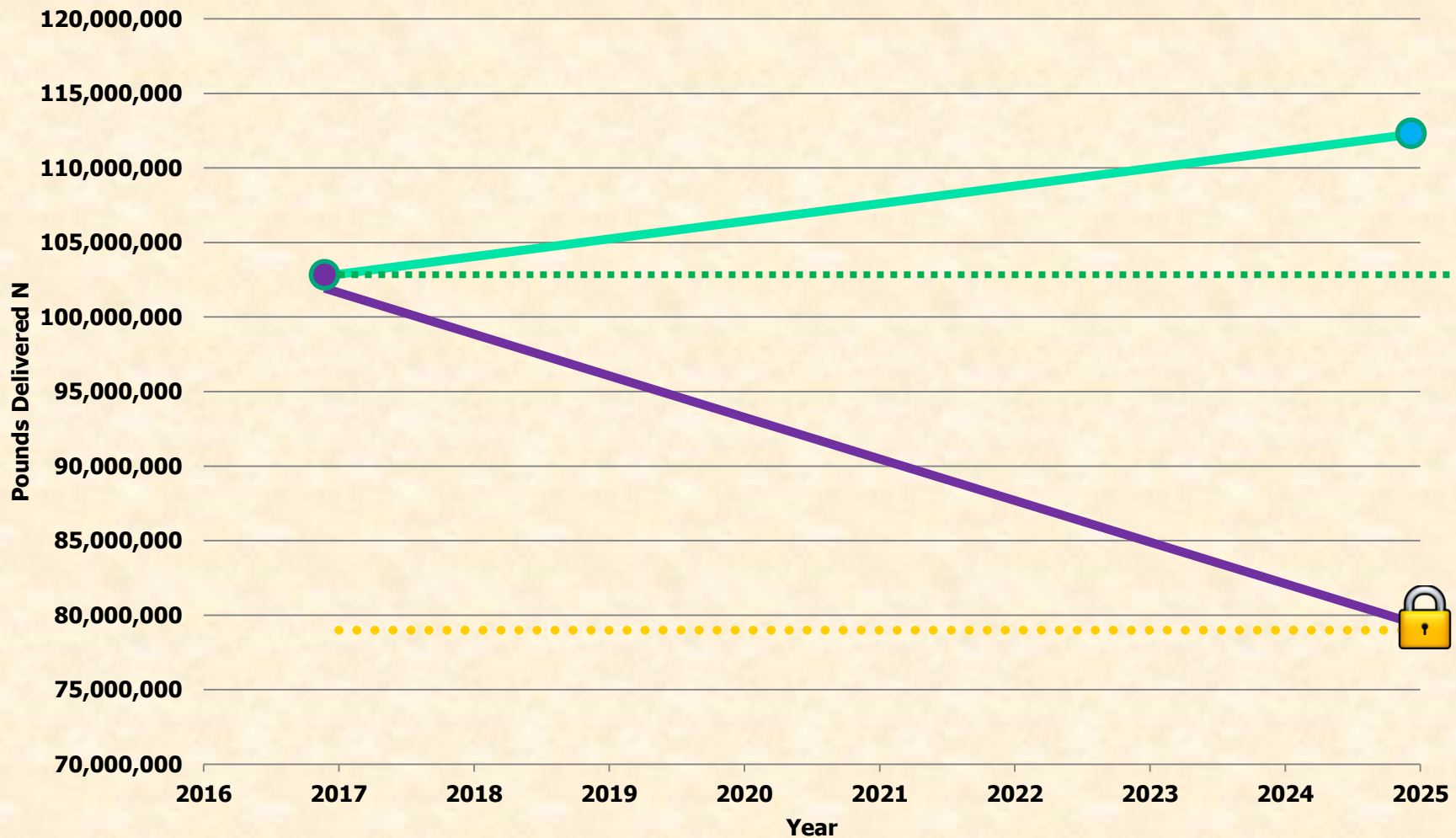
Step 2:

- Run 2017 Progress (with 2017 background conditions). This is the starting point.
- Slope between 2017 Progress and 2025 Planning Target is the Planning Trajectory.



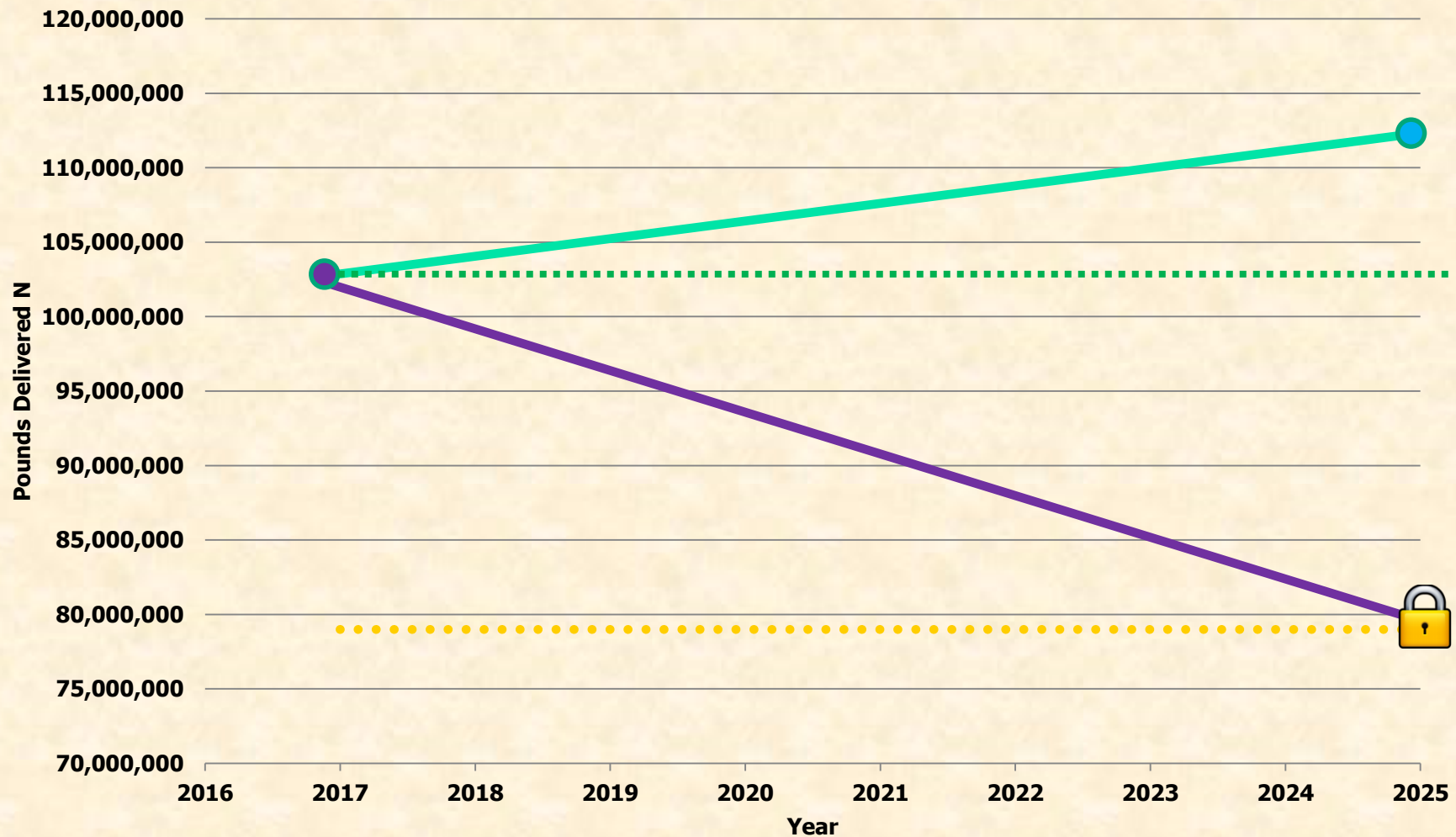
Step 3:

- Run 2017 Progress on 2025 background conditions. This is the growth scenario.
- Slope between 2017 Progress and 2025 growth scenario becomes the Growth Trajectory.



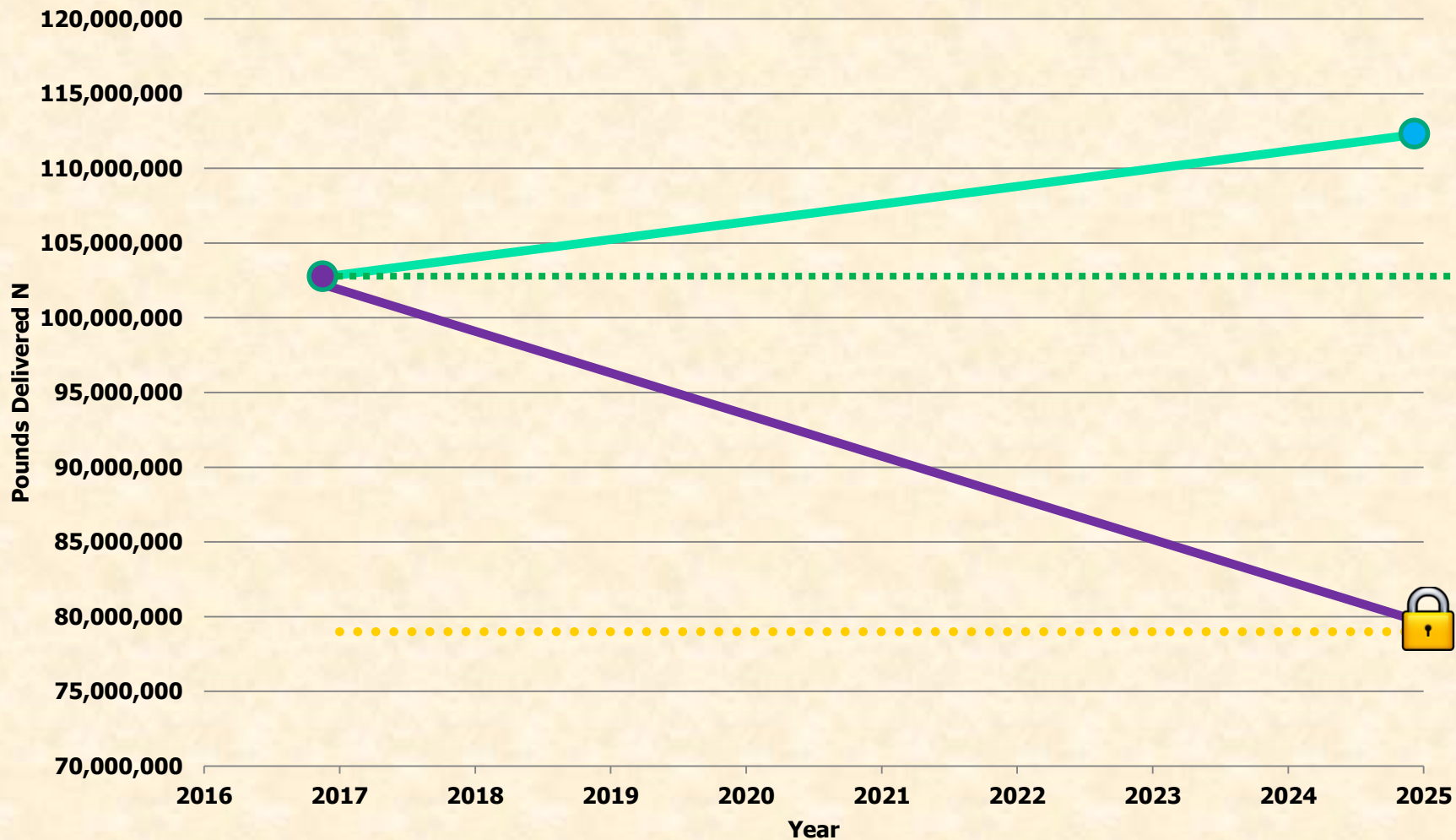
Step 4:

- Define needed reductions from 2017 Progress to Planning Target. This represents reductions needed to treat current conditions.



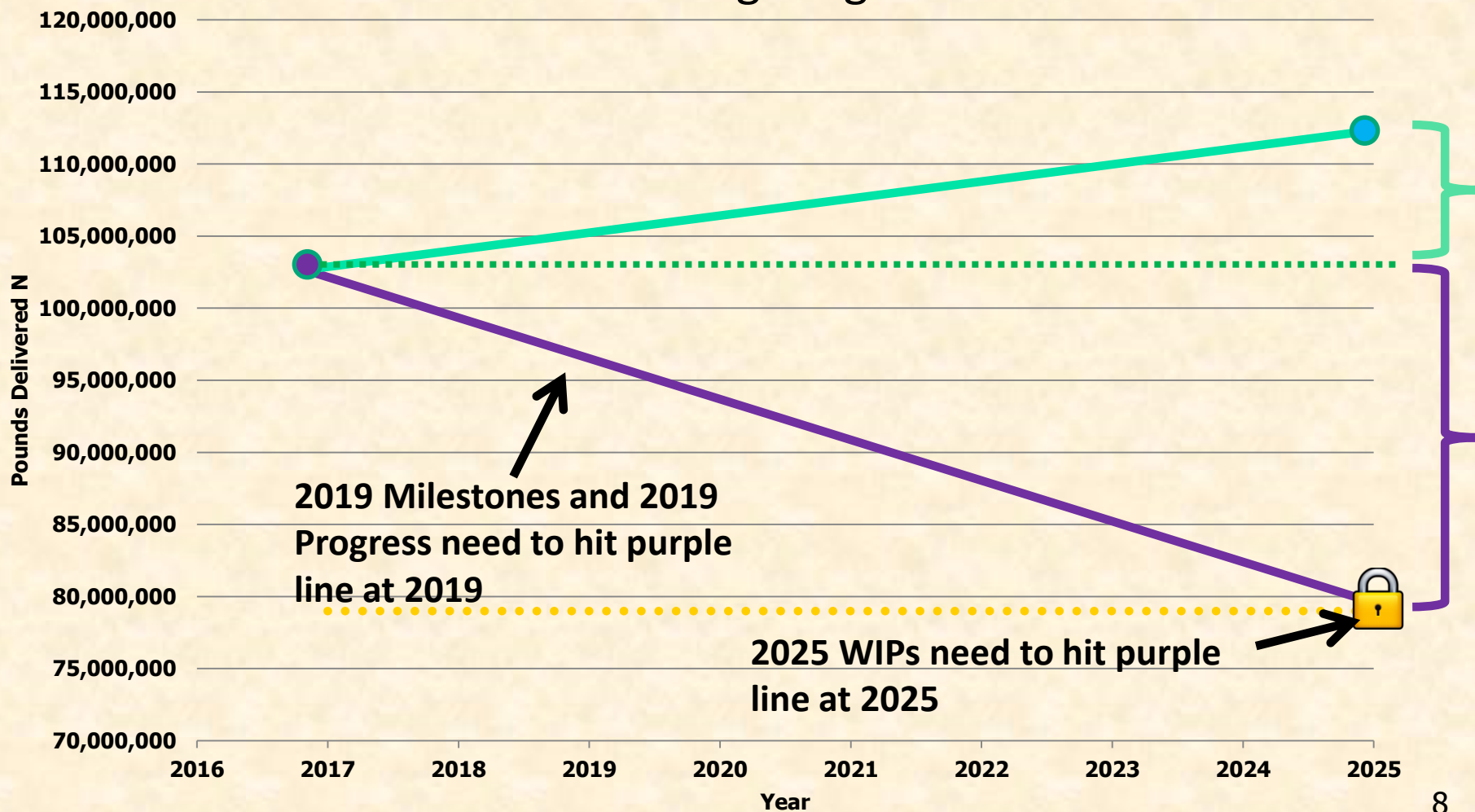
Step 5:

- Define needed reductions from Growth Scenario compared to 2017 Progress scenario. This represents offsets needed to hold the line.



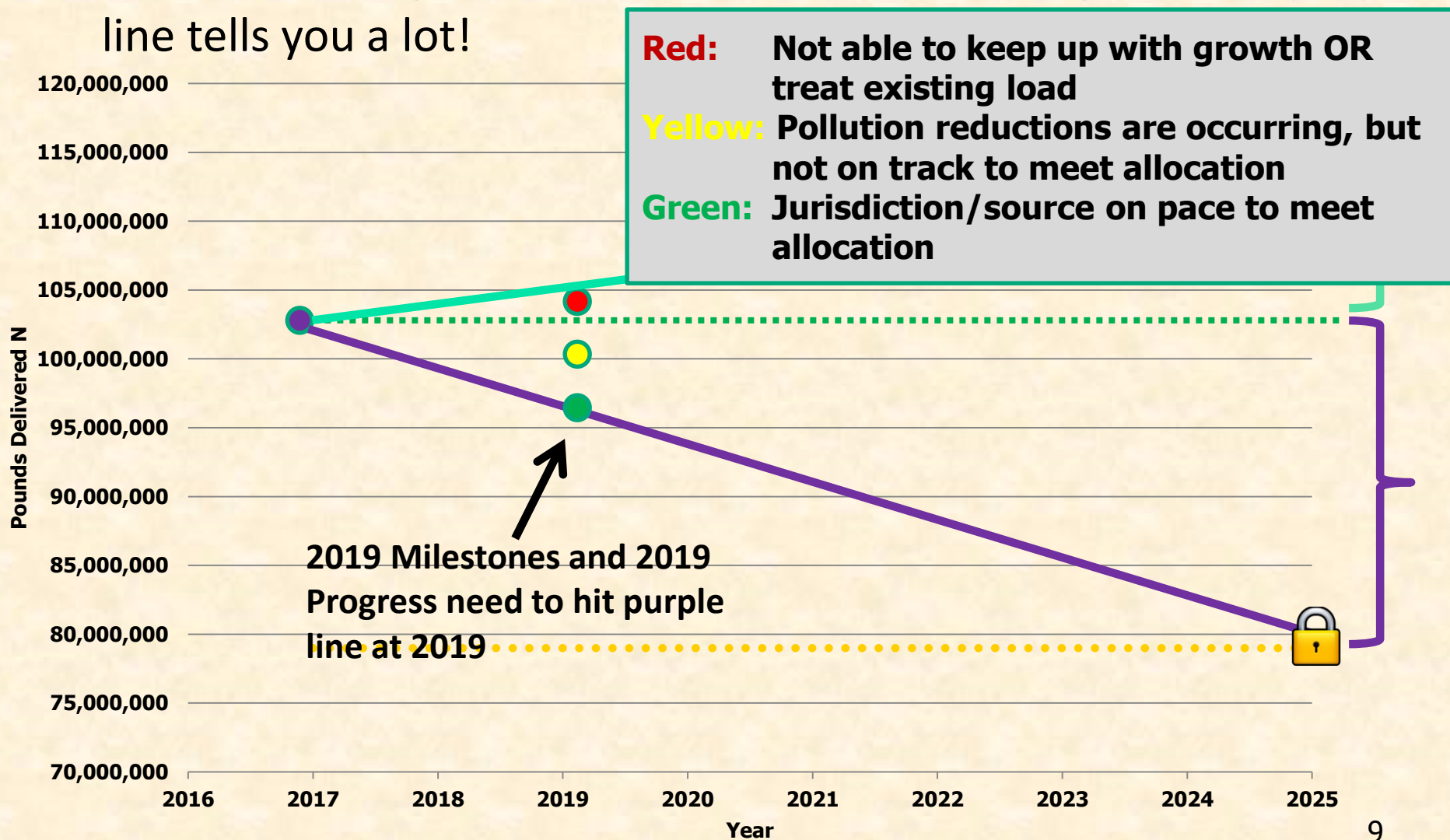
Step 6:

- Develop Phase III WIPs on 2025 conditions to hit Planning Target.
- Develop Milestones on 2-year future condition to hit Planning Trajectory.
- Accommodates an accounting for growth.



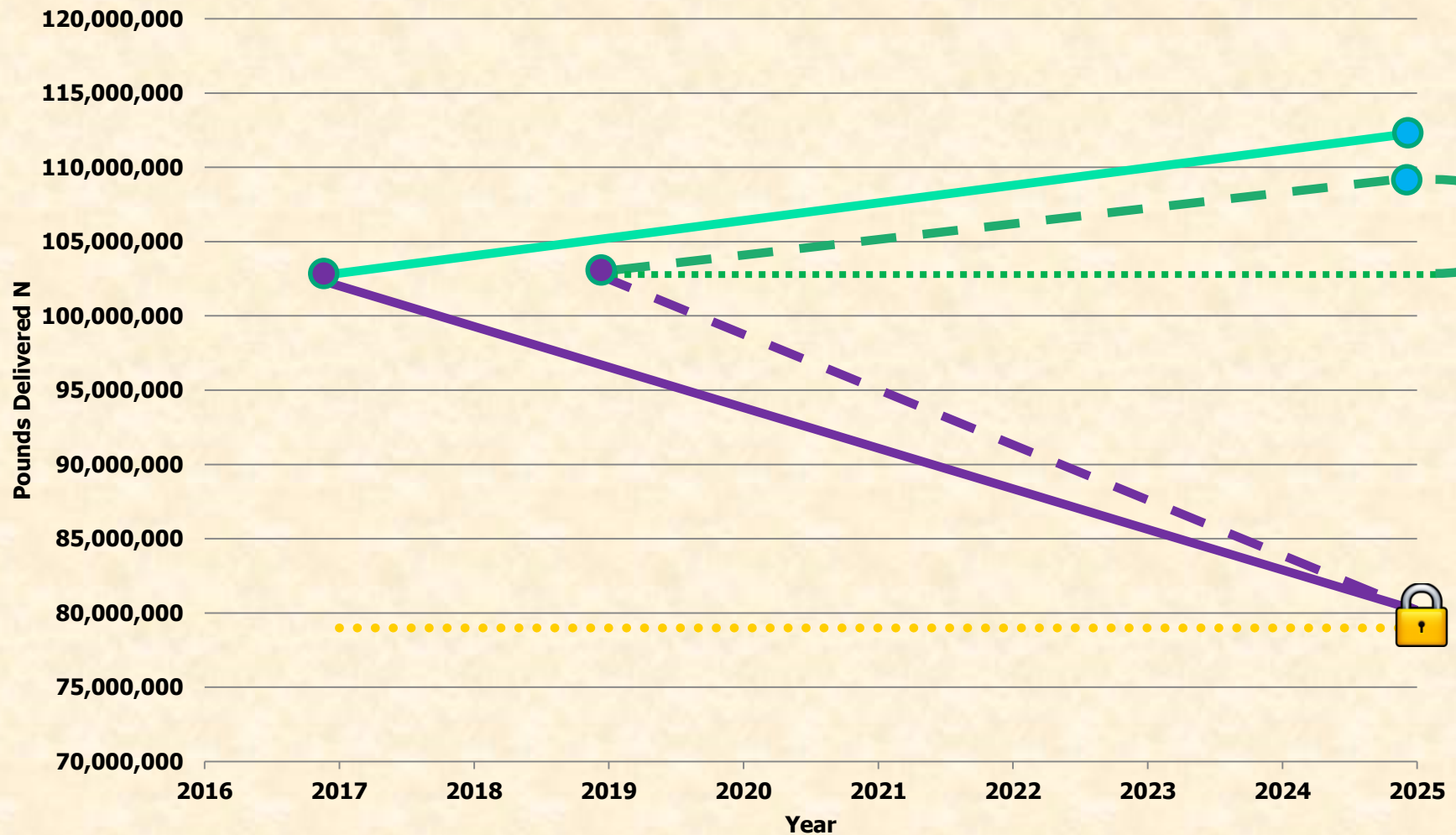
Step 7:

- Assess Progress during Milestone period to determine if jurisdiction/source remain on Planning Trajectory
- Location of Progress results relative to the blue, green and purple line tells you a lot!



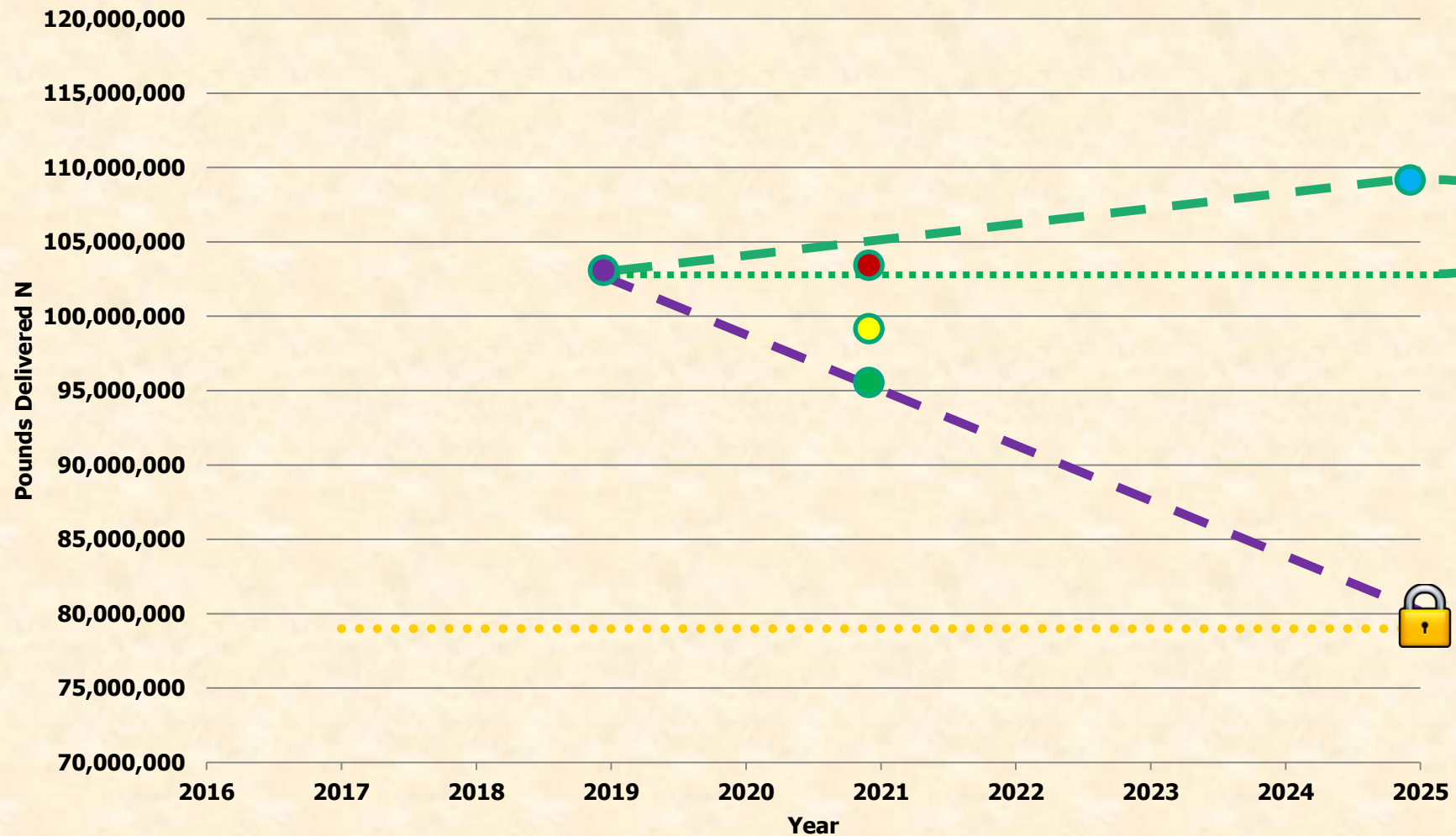
Step 8:

- Repeat the process with 2019 Progress and development of 2021 Milestones



Step 9:

- Assess Progress during Milestone period





Setting the Phase III WIPs on 2025 Forecasted Conditions

- Pros:

- Accounts for growth (and decreases/declines) explicitly in the partnership's WIPs*
- Enables reductions in offsets through land conservation
- Similar to the method we're using now (and proposing to continue) for 2-year Milestones
- Builds consistency between offset strategies and WIPs.

- Cons:

- Phase III WIPs on 2025 background conditions is different than what's being proposed for developing Phase III Planning Targets (current background conditions) \Rightarrow confusion

* WIPs are developed by and belong to the jurisdictions. EPA can set expectations and take necessary actions if these expectations are not met, but it cannot require Phase III WIPs to be developed on 2025 forecasted conditions.



Setting the Phase III WIPs on 2025 Forecasted Conditions

January – March 2016

- The Land Use Workgroup will review and approve of the forecasting methodology.

March 2016

- USGS will run a trend scenario, subject to approval, for all mid-Atlantic states (full state coverage).

May 2016

- WQGIT will decide on whether to plan Phase III WIPs on 2025 forecasted conditions.

Summer 2016

- Future scenarios will be designed and approved.

Fall 2016

- Future scenarios will be simulated throughout all mid-Atlantic states.