

Beyond 2025 Update

LGAC March Meeting

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March 22, 2024



Preparing the Executive Council Final Product

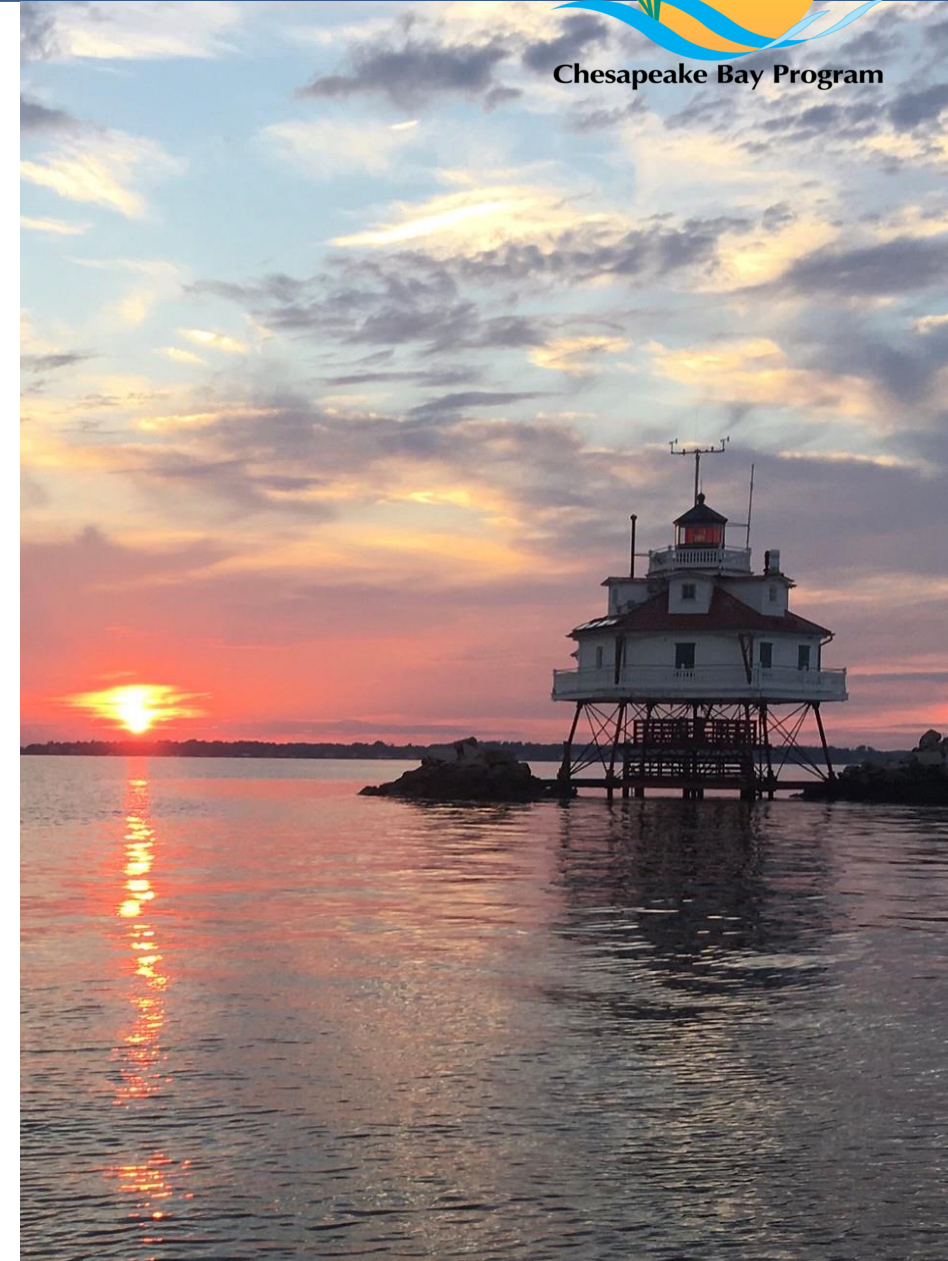
- Two-step approach:

Step 1

- Form a Steering Committee
- Determine the scope and breadth
- Develop a plan

Step 2

- Acceptance at the Executive Council
- Implement the plan



Steering Committee Planned Product



Chesapeake Bay Program

Where we are

Summary of where we are with the 2014 Watershed Agreement

- Charting a Course to 2025, Chesapeake Progress: Outcome Attainability
- CESR, Rising Temperatures, Forest Buffers & Wetlands Conference Reports, meeting reports, Advisory Committee recommendations, and more

Where do we want
to be

Vision

- Current Partnership Vision – Reaffirm? Refine?

What we do

Impact assessment

- What is the ability of our Partnership to positively impact each goal and outcome?
- Do we have the right outcomes for our goals and the right goals for our vision?

How we work

Assessment of our overall partnership

- Partnership Structure
- Governance and Adaptive Management

Path Forward

Recommendation on what to do with the Watershed Agreement post-2025

Recommendations on the Partnership

- Climate Change
- Healthy Watersheds
- Clean Water
- People
- Shallow Water Habitats

Developing Recommendations



Vision

What do we want to hand to the next generation?

What does success look like?

Value

What are we doing that works?

What could be improved?

What changes would help us attain our vision?

Vanguard

What idea is transformational for the future of the Bay and its watershed?

What would it take to implement that idea?

Beyond 2025 Small Workgroups



CLIMATE CHANGE

Recommendations

- Framework for a climate adaptive Bay and watershed of the future
- Prioritize efforts for communities facing increasing climate risks
- Promote carbon stewardship as a holistic approach to climate mitigation
- Strategies for healthy and productive ecosystems under changing climate
- Promote regenerative agricultural production and food systems

Key Themes / Focus Areas

- Estimate climate impacts for Chesapeake ecosystems
- Resilience, adaptation, and mitigation
- Food security and agriculture
- Resistance-resilience-transition
- Strengthen cross-program coordination



Beyond 2025 Small Workgroups



HEALTHY WATERSHEDS

Recommendations

- Characterize and track watershed health using partnership data and tools
- Strategic green infrastructure planning for watershed health
- Increase the reach & effectiveness of local community and partner engagement through capacity building
- Integrate land conservation & local stewardship into goals
- Revise the accountability framework to promote protecting, restoring, and maintaining watershed health

Key Themes / Focus Areas

- Spectrum of watershed health
- Build community understanding of local watersheds
- Land conservation
- Habitat conservation
- Stewardship and resilience of watershed lands



Beyond 2025 Small Workgroups



CLEAN WATER

Recommendations

- Review and revise the accountability framework to improve effectiveness and increase emphasis on measured outcomes and water quality data
- Tiered implementation approach for the Bay TMDL
- Establish and promote cross-program coordination for water quality monitoring
- Increase nonpoint source implementation, incentivize effective and innovative nonpoint source management across all sectors
- Expand existing local liaison programs

Key Themes / Focus Areas

- Chesapeake Bay TMDL
- Water Quality Assessment
- Nonpoint Source Management
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Water Quality Standards



Beyond 2025 Small Workgroups



PEOPLE

Recommendations

- Independent expert on equitable, collaborative partnerships on governance, structure, accountability framework, and decision-making
- Develop measures of success to reflect community priorities
- Activate the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice implementation plan
- Create partnerships using networks focused on Watershed Agreement goals to learn and accelerate collaborative progress
- Budget & staffing plan to support strategic application of social science

Key Themes / Focus Areas

- Directed Public Engagement
- DEIJ
- Social Science
- Stewardship
- Public Health



SHALLOW WATER HABITATS

Recommendations

- System-scale habitat restoration with social, economic, and ecological benefits, resilience and connectivity under changing conditions.
- Integrated modeling and monitoring to understand connectivity and function
- Adaptation strategy to inform habitat management and project planning
- Strengthen connection between people and habitats through communication and engagement
- Effective governance, collaboration, and funding across all outcomes

Key Themes / Focus Areas

- Social science
- Modeling and decision tools
- Shoreline protection and integrity
- Living resource impacts and prioritization
- Data needs and monitoring
- Land Use Planning



STEP 1 PROCESS



RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

Steering Committee (SC)

- Jurisdiction/Feds/ACs/GITs/+
- Monthly Meeting Frequency

ERG (Independent Evaluator via Contract)

- Evaluation plan (EP) scoped by SC
- EP implemented: Sept '23 to July '24

Small Groups

- People, Climate, Clean Water, Shallow Habitats, Healthy Watersheds
- SC + Invitees
- Active from Nov '23 to Mar '24

SOURCE MATERIAL

Supplemental to SC Product

Evaluation Report
(April - Interim / July - Final)

- Content Analysis + Discussions
- Themes → Statement of Findings
- Considerations for SC

Recommendations (5 x 5 Group)
(March)

- Vanguard, Value, Vision
- Crosscutting topics
- Rationale and Phase 2 Next Steps
- Impact Assessment: Agreement / Partnership

FINAL PRODUCT

Report to the EC
(December)

- (1) DRAFTING
- (2) SC REVIEW
- (3) PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
- (4) REVISIONS
- (5) REVIEW



Getting from "A" to "B25"?



1

Standardize
Information

*Decide Today,
Gather by March*

2

Combine
Recs

Begin Today, Continue through March

3

Categorize/
Synthesize
Recs

4

Measure
Consensus

*Begin March,
Through May*

5

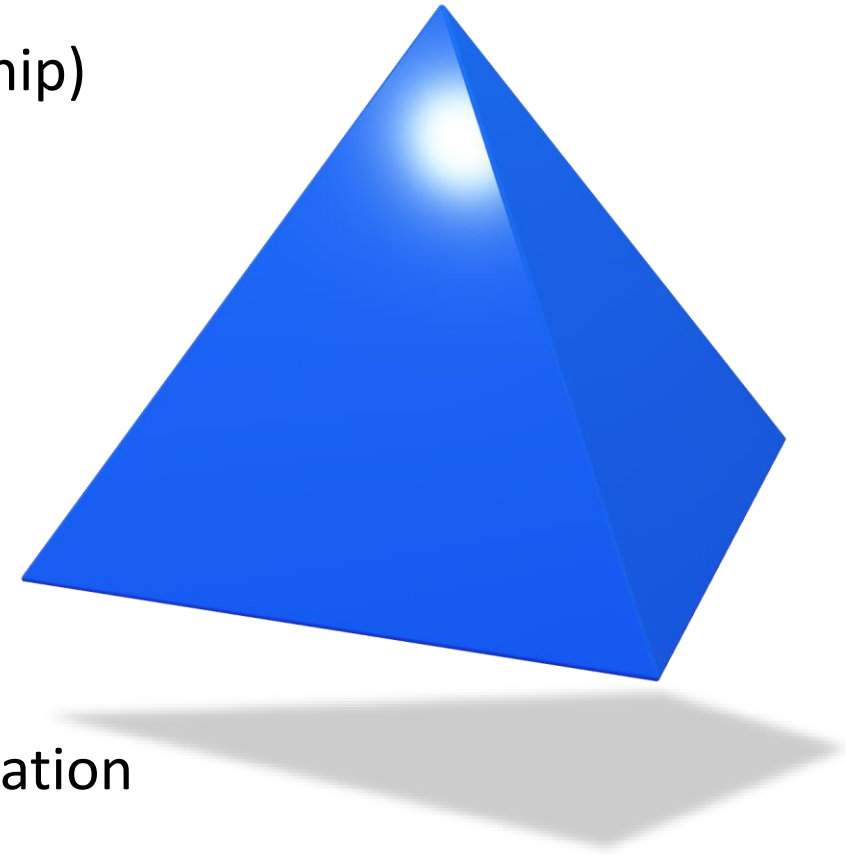
Our Work
Ahead
(BLUF)

April?

Proposed Draft Outline for Final Product



- Pages 1-2: Critical path forward
 - Our charge
 - Our Bottom Line Up Front statement (agreement/partnership)
 - Our vision for the partnership
- Page 3+: Synthesized recommendations
 - Our process and what informed our work
 - Synthesized findings from small groups and ERG report
 - Summary of public engagement and outreach
- Source materials
 - Small group recommendations – one page per recommendation
 - Final ERG report



March 28th Meeting



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