

Chesapeake Bay Program Update: Beyond 2025

Toxic Contaminants Workgroup Meeting
June 11, 2025

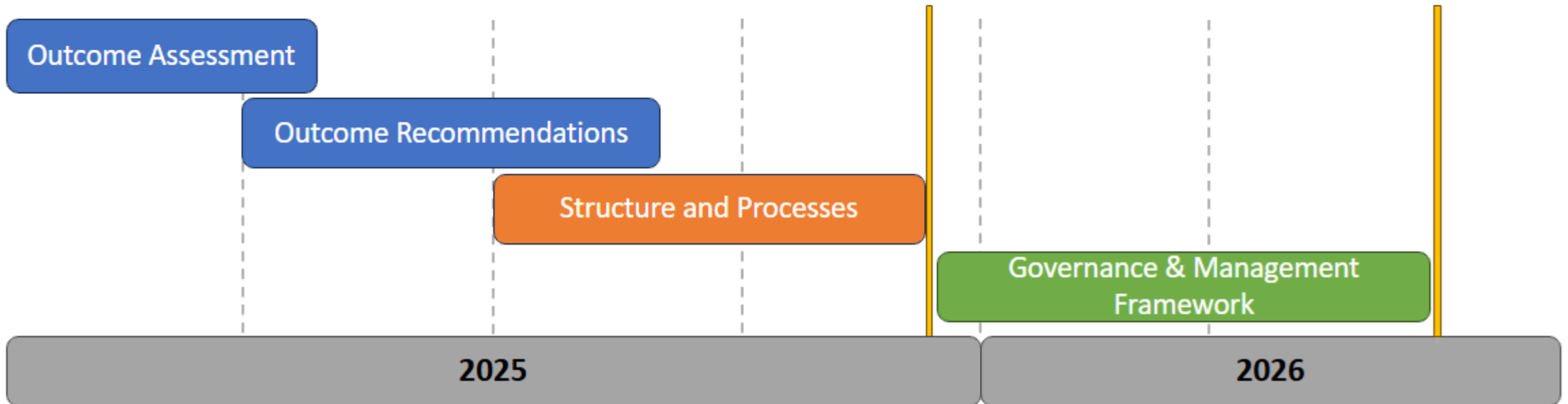


Chesapeake Bay Program

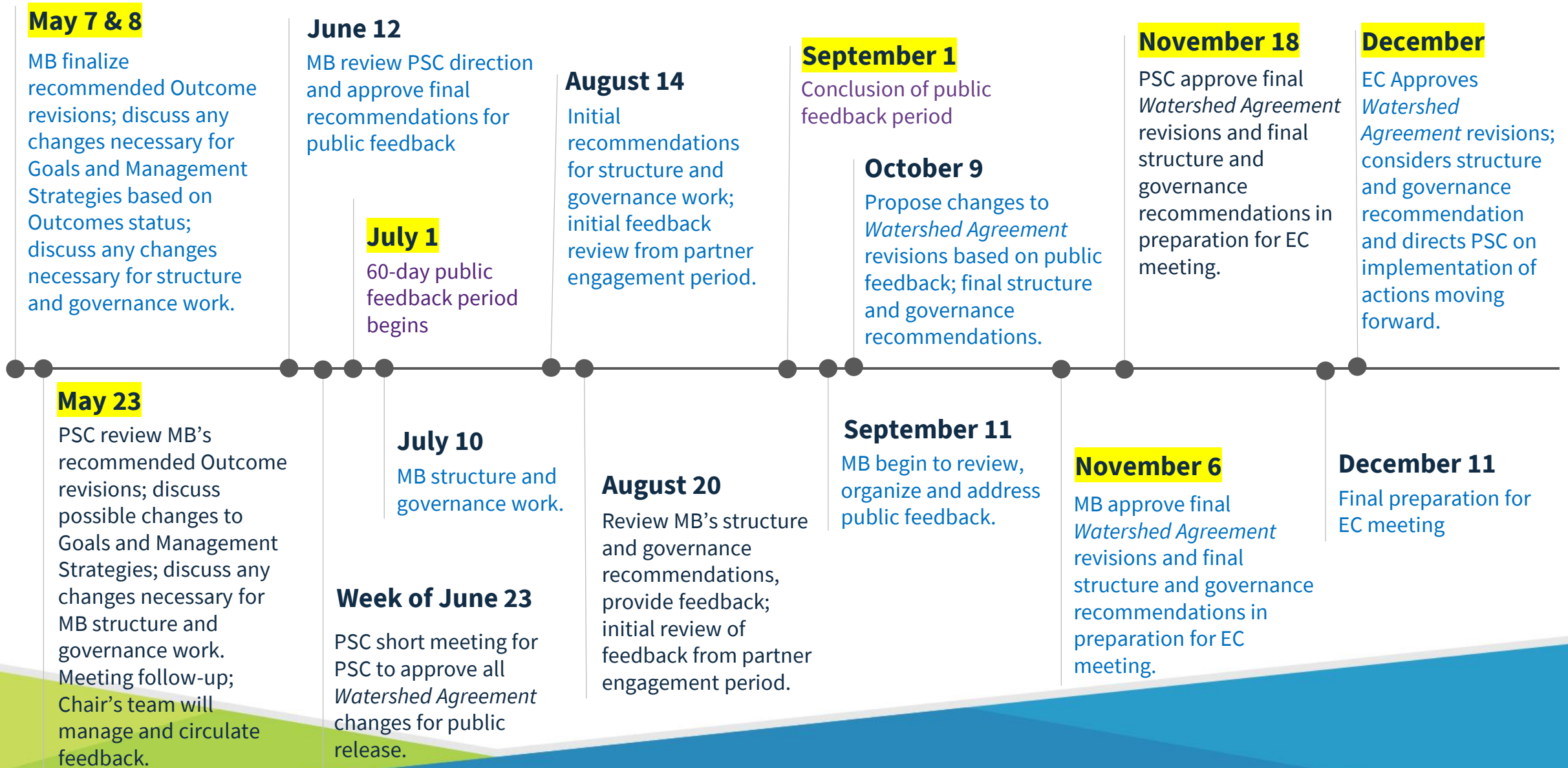
The 2024 Executive Council Charge:

“...direct the Principals’ Staff Committee to complete the following by December 1, 2025:

1. Revisions to the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement with modifications to the existing vision, principles, preamble, goals, and **outcomes...**”
2. ...Recommending this simplified and streamlined **partnership structure and processes** to the Executive Council in as much detail as possible...”
3. Subsequent changes which incorporate this revised structure and processes into the **Governance and Management Framework** for the Chesapeake Bay Program do not need to occur until June 2026.



Timeline for the rest of 2025



May 23 PSC Decisions

- Approved revisions to Watershed Agreement for public feedback:
 - Proposed revisions to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement's Vision, Preamble, and Principles.
 - Recommended language for the Agreement's outcomes, which were language proposed at the May 7-8 Management Board Retreat.
 - Revised goal structure under the Agreement, as well as proposed changes to the Management Strategies section of the Agreement.
- Approved GIT 6's continued work on structure and governance as part of fulfilling the 2024 Executive Council charge.
- Agreement on the intent of the draft PSC response to the January 2025 resolution from the Indigenous Conservation Council (ICC). More work needed to finalize. Will be on the June meeting agenda.

TCW Outcome Language Advanced by PSC

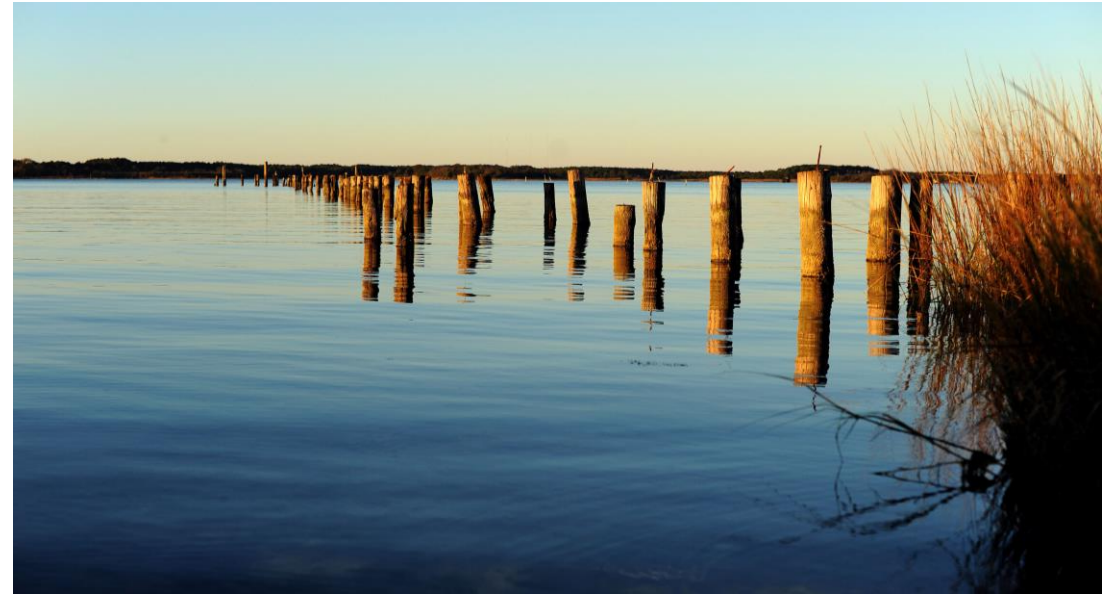
- **Outcome Disposition:** Update
- **Outcome Name:** Toxic Contaminants Mitigation Outcome
- **Outcome Language:** Reduce the amount and effect of toxic contaminants, such as PCBs, plastics, mercury, and PFAS, on the waters, lands, living resources and communities of the Chesapeake Bay watershed by facilitating an increased understanding of their impacts and mitigation options.
 - **Target Language:** Promote continuous information sharing between researchers, program managers and policymakers on the lessons learned, best practices and most up-to-date science, policy, and communications around the toxic contaminants impacting the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Next Steps for the Watershed Agreement

Date of Action	Deliverable / Decision
July – August 2025	60-day public review and engagement period for updated Watershed Agreement
Sept – Oct 2025	PSC reviews public feedback and revises Watershed Agreement as needed
November 2025	PSC approves final updated Watershed Agreement for Executive Council consideration
December 2025	Chesapeake Executive Council holds annual meeting; reviews and approves updated Watershed Agreement

Public Feedback Process

- Public feedback open July 1– August 30.
- Anyone can submit comments by email to comments@chesapeakebay.net.
- Comments will be collected, reviewed and integrated as appropriate into the updated Agreement.
- All comments received, as well as a redlined version of the updated Agreement will be posted online at chesapeakebay.net/beyond2025.
- The final updated Agreement will be reviewed by the Management Board and will inform the Principals' Staff Committee recommendations to the Chesapeake Executive Council.



Where can I find information on the Beyond 2025 process?

The most up-to-date information on the Beyond 2025 process can be found on the Chesapeake Bay Program's [Beyond 2025 webpage](#). The webpage includes the timeline, important documents, outcome review summaries and public feedback.





Thank you!

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