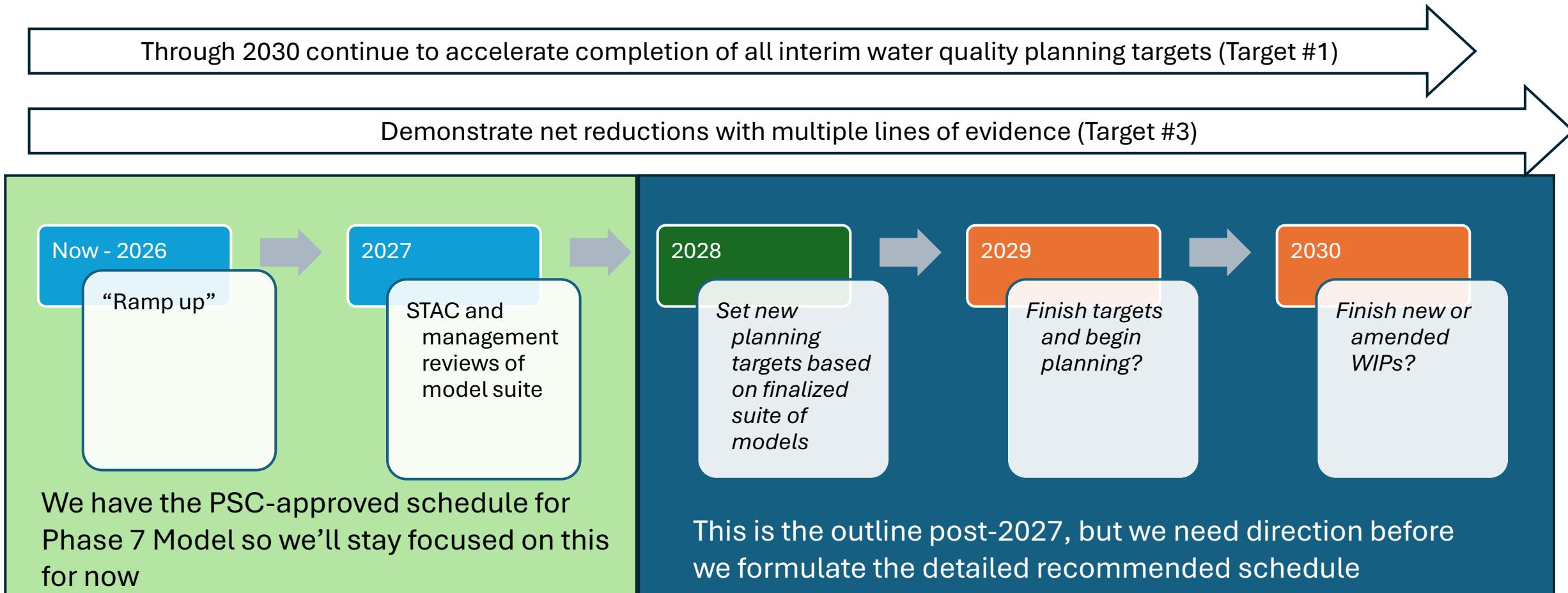


A wide-angle photograph of a two-lane asphalt road stretching into the distance. The road is marked with a dashed yellow line in the center and solid white lines on the edges. To the left, a yellow "NO PASSING" road sign is visible. The road leads towards a massive, layered mountain range with red and tan rock faces. The sky above is a vibrant blue, filled with scattered white and grey clouds.

The road ahead

January 2026 edition

RENPS timeline



Near term: nutrients & sediment

RENPS Target #2

Model Development

Setting Targets

UPCOMING
EXITS

- Phase 7 decision tracker; finalizing inputs and methods
- Building our foundations and shared understanding
→ We'll continue resolving Phase 7 needs and building our foundations for what comes next



UPCOMING EXITS

Beyond nutrients & sediment

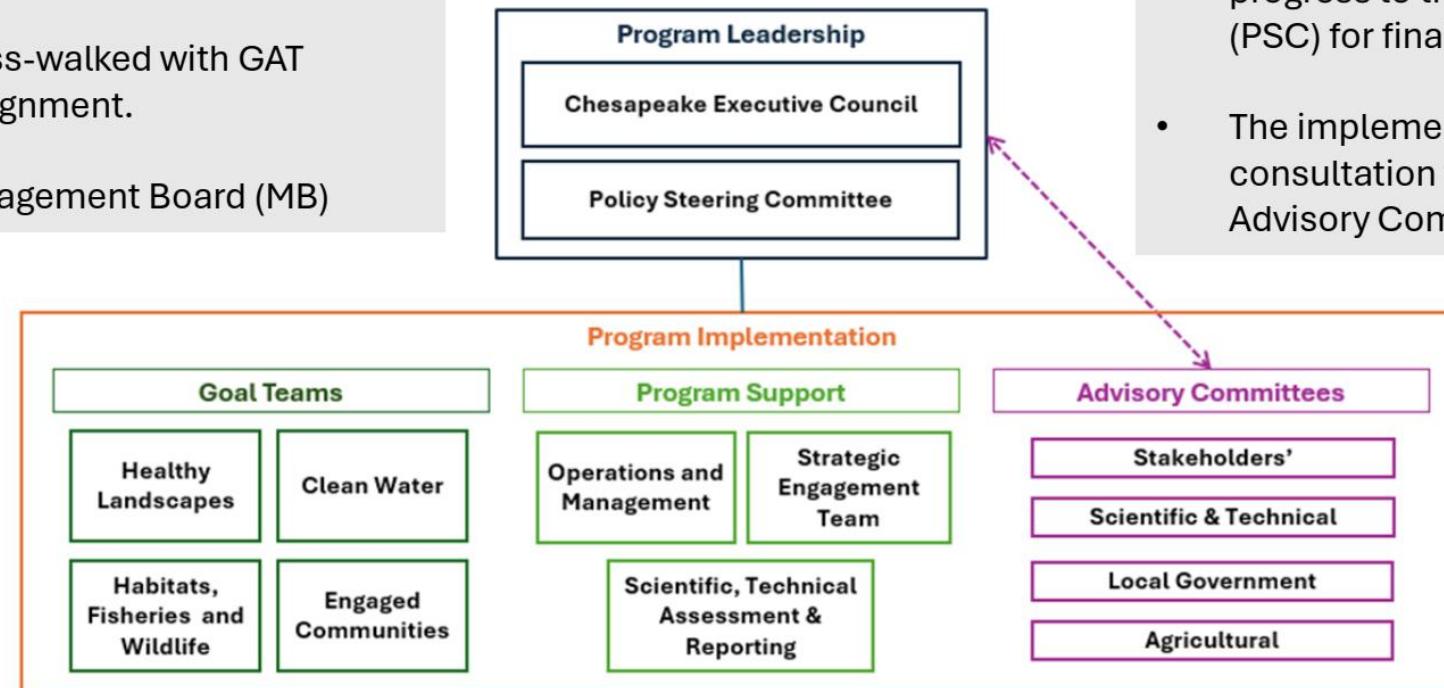
- New Goal Team Co-Chairs
- Management Board and PSC
 - Governance and Structure (Governance and Management Framework)
 - Management Strategies

(Most) of the following slides are borrowed/adapted from Jan 15 MB & Jan 22 PSC presentations – kudos to Doug Bell & Sarah Brzezinski (EPA) and others who contributed to the original presentations

Key Concepts and Actions from Structure Recommendation to Executive Council

- Identified two primary structural elements:
 - **Leadership:** Set strategic direction & priorities
 - **Implementation:** Inform, coordinate, & drive
- Structure one-pager cross-walked with GAT recommendations for alignment.
- Framework sunsets Management Board (MB)

- A team of Signatory representatives (MB members or designees) will implement the structure and governance revisions and report progress to the Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) for final approval by July 1, 2026.
- The implementation process requires consultation with the existing PSC, Goal Team, Advisory Committees, and Program Support.



- Transition to a new four-Goal Team structure to ensure timely delivery of Management Strategies.
- Goal Team and Program Support elements are subject to revision – not predetermined.

Governance & Management Framework

Outline

- 1 - Introduction
- 2 - Ethics
- 3 - Leadership
 - Partnership (i)
 - Federal (ii)
- 4 - Implementation
 - MB Transfer (i)
 - Goal Teams (ii)
 - Support Teams (iii)
 - Advisory (iv)
- 5 - Public Meeting Procedures
 - Decision Making (i)
 - Participation (ii)
- 6 - Operations & Accountability
 - Priority Setting (i)
 - Mgmt Strategies (ii)

There is a full Writing Plan, timeline and other files posted on the January 2026 MB & PSC calendar entries
[\[MB Jan 15 Link\]](#)
[\[PSC Jan 22 Link\]](#)

Management Strategies

- “[CBP] will update or develop Management Strategies for the Outcomes and their Targets that support the Goals of this Watershed Agreement. These strategies shall outline the means for accomplishing each Outcome and its Targets as well as monitoring, assessing and reporting progress and coordinating actions among partners and stakeholders as necessary.”
 - Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (CBWA) (CBP, 2025)

DECISION – Number of Management Strategies

The MB agreed to develop a strategic plan consisting of a collaborative introduction and executive summary, followed by four goal management strategies that will serve as chapters. The MB will hold future discussions regarding a public-facing version of the plan and how work plans will be incorporated.

DECISION – Management Strategy Template Development Timeline

The MB agreed that a draft management strategy template will be developed by March, with final approval no later than June. Approval will occur at the MB level.

DECISION – When to Start MS Drafting

The MB agreed that the current GIT Chairs will begin preliminary work to compile background materials and research for the incoming GIT Chairs. Once the new Chairs are selected and the template is finalized, the new GIT Chairs will assume responsibility for drafting the management strategies.

DECISION – MS Authorship Officials

The MB agreed the Executive Summary, Introduction and Accountability sections will be developed by EPA in consultation with GIT Chairs, MB Chair and PSC Chair's representative. GIT Chairs will develop specific goal management strategy chapters.

Governance and Structure

Boxes = Pre-Meeting
Dissemination Dates

Principals' Staff Committee

Management Board

Decisions Items

Discuss Schedule & Process
MB: 12.11

Discuss Coordination
MB: 01.15

Discuss Writing Plan
PSC: 01.22

Brief Update
MB: 02.12

Discuss Progress
MB: 03.12

Coordinate

Co-Chairs = Weekly Check-ins; Signatory Team = Bi-Weekly Check-ins

Federal Office Directors = Bi-Weekly Check-ins

Drafting

Writing Plan & Schedule

Execute Writing Plan; Consultations with Implementation Groups

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

Drafting

Template Development

Discuss Schedule & Outline
MB: 12.15

WQGIT
1.26

WQGIT
2.23

WQGIT
3.23

Coordinate

Discuss MS Purpose / Audience
MB: 01.15

Discuss Template
MB: 02.12

Discuss Drafting Process
MB: 03.12

Decisions Items

Click Here
MB: 01.15

Approve Template
MB: 03.12

Management Strategies

I've added our WQGIT meeting schedule to help illustrate what we can expect to have seen, or know, by each meeting. The bubbles fit better on the bottom half of the graphic, but I'm not suggesting our meetings are part of the MS workflow.

Governance and Structure

Approve Goal Team Framework
PSC: 04.07

Decisions Items

Review Progress
PSC: 04.07

Reschedule?
MB: 04.09

Discuss Planned Revisions
MB: 05.14

Accept Package
MB: 06.11

Approve Package
PSC: 06.30

Coordinate

Co-Chairs = Weekly Check-ins; Signatory Team = Bi-Weekly Check-ins

Federal Office Directors = Bi-Weekly Check-Ins

Drafting

04.30

REVISIONS

05.28

06.16

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

Drafting

Management Strategy Development – Led by Goal Teams in collaboration with Implementation Groups

Coordinate

Review Goal Team Framework
MB: 04.09

WQGIT
4.27

WQGIT
5.18

See my note on previous slide

WQGIT
6.22

Brief Update
PSC: 06.30

Approve MS Framework
PSC: 04.07

Decisions Items

Management Strategies

Boxes = Pre-Meeting Dissemination Dates

Principals' Staff Committee

Management Board

Putting it together, next 6 months for WQGIT/CWGT

- We will continue to update the Goal Team on developments and on any instructions or guidance received
- We are still looking at April for a hybrid meeting in Annapolis
 - Volunteer(s) can expect to hear more from us once we have co-chairs in place
- By our April meeting we will...
 - See a *draft* of the Management Strategy template (March)
 - Draft revisions to the Governance and Management Framework (April 7 PSC)
- By our June meeting we will have a clear sense of what's changing for July transition