

Climate Small Group

Forestry Workgroup

January 10, 2024



Chesapeake Bay Program

40 years of science, restoration and partnership

SMALL GROUPS: *PURPOSE*

- Guide the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee in thinking about, discussing, and ultimately forming recommendations around cross-cutting, high-level topics that have arisen in the EC Charge and partnership reports.
- Draft recommendations, based on full Steering Committee feedback, for integration into the Steering Committee's final product.



HIGH LEVEL TOPICS

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



OBJECTIVES

- Answer 3V questions (Vision, Values, Vanguard)
- Answer EC Charge questions
- Answer other questions we deem fit within our topic
- Consider Cross-Cutting Questions
- 3-month timeframe
- Deliverable = Draft recommendations for Steering Committees final product to the Executive Council

SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- Providing recommendations to transform Chesapeake Bay Program partnership policies, programs, and projects to address the significant ongoing and future impacts climate change will impose on the Bay and its watershed and people across generations. These recommendations should include strategies to better incorporate climate mitigation, adaptation and resiliency across the watershed and tidal Bay.

KEY QUESTIONS

- What does a resilient Bay and watershed look like?
 - What is the timeframe for this vision (and for a climate goal?)?
 - How should we define success?
- What existing, emerging, and new information, science, and priorities should be considered and how do these affect the vision and timeframe, goals and outcomes, and adaptive management approach/strategies?
 - Considering centering people, resiliency relevant to all types of communities
 - Considering maximizing living resources benefits
 - Considering conservation vs. restoration

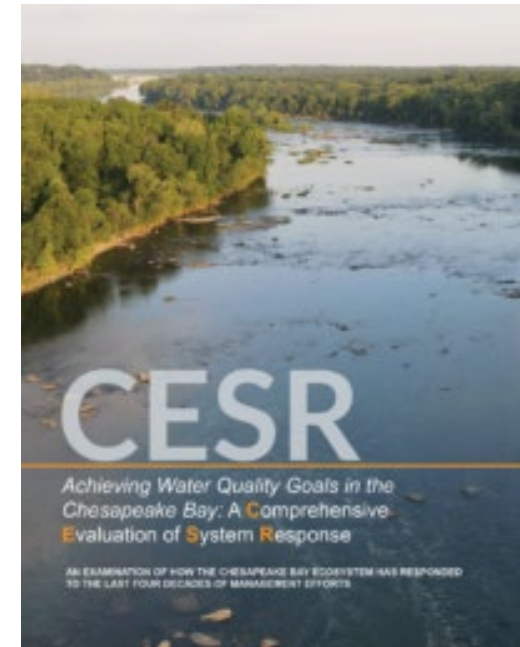
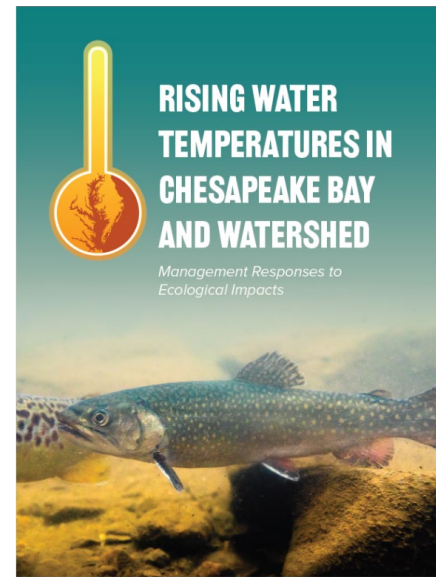
KEY QUESTIONS CONT...

- How can the partnership be strengthened or adapted to be more effective in meeting these goals?
 - How can cross program coordination on climate resilience/adaptation be strengthened?
 - What are opportunities to leverage action across multiple goals and outcomes?
- What idea would be transformational for the future of the Bay and its watershed, and what would it take to implement that idea?



RESEARCH AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reaching 2025
- Lessons Learned 3rd SRS Cycle Report
- Biennial Report
- EC Climate Directive & Workplan
- CESR
- Rising Water Temps



TOPIC AREAS...THUS FAR

- Defining resilience, adaptation, and mitigation/carbon stewardship
- Climate as multi-generational and foundational challenge
- Climate vulnerabilities (e.g., temperature, SLR, precipitation)
- Food security and agriculture
- Decision science
- Adaptation Frameworks—RAD (Resist, Adapt, Direct) and Climate Change Response (Resistant, Resilience, Transition)
- Equity, climate justice
- Integrating climate factors across CBP outcomes
- Climate workforce

CLIMATE MITIGATION: CBP VALUE

- Inventorying water quality BMPs for carbon emission, sequestration, and storage co-benefits
- Setting goals to improve the resiliency of ecosystems that provide critical water quality and carbon storage/sequestration and identifying target areas for projects
 - Good forest management can help improve forest resiliency, but this is not an area where CBP has traditionally focused.
- Improving coordination and collaboration with partners working on climate mitigation through natural climate solutions (i.e. forests)
- Developing programs or the structure that allows communities to participate in climate mitigation
- Translating science to assist with reaching regional and state goals

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What role could CBP play in supporting climate mitigation work in the watershed?
- What new programmatic strategies are needed to better account for climate change as we work towards our tree canopy and forest buffer goals?
- What role could CBP play in supporting work to improve the resilience of forests to climate change? Are new programmatic strategies needed?

