

Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership

Executive Council Charge to the Principals' Staff Committee: Tribes as a Formal and Enduring Partner in Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership

Indigenous knowledge and guardianship are vital to the health of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.

Acknowledging the sovereignty of the federally recognized tribal nations within the Chesapeake Bay watershed, this Executive Council charges its Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) to develop recommendations by July 1, 2026 on how best to involve federally recognized tribes across the watershed as partners through formal channels of the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partnership.

In doing so, the PSC may prepare a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the federally recognized tribes within the watershed outlining CBP partner expectations and commitments.

Finally, the PSC shall consider opportunities for advancing indigenous guardianship and indigenous knowledge within watershed restoration planning and implementation.