



Chesapeake Bay Program  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

August 14, 2025

# **GIT: 6 Beyond 2025 Phase II Structure and Governance**

## **Management Board Update**

Lucinda Power, EPA | Katie Ayers, EPA | Jeff Lerner, EPA | Doug Bell, EPA

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# Meeting Best Practices Overview

As part of the structure and governance component of the Beyond 2025 charge, GIT 6 was tasked with developing best practices to enhance coordination among CBP groups and improve meeting efficiency throughout the partnership.

## June 12 – July 4, 2025

- Feedback requested from GIT 6 members, Coordinators, and Staffers on meeting best practices appendix and standard agenda / minutes templates.

## July 23 – August 12, 2025

- Comments incorporated in appendix and agenda / minutes templates.
  - Updated drafts shared with Management Board members for feedback.
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# MB Feedback: Major Discussion Points

- **Section A.1-7:** Request to remove this section entirely from the appendix, as it is more suited for the CBP Governance Document. Roles/responsibilities should be developed by the Management Board.
- Comments for further discussion:
  - Should there be non-voting members? Should all groups have at large members? Clear definitions.
  - Should Chairs/Vice-Chairs serve as voting members?
  - Each group should have conflict of interest requirements before confirming voting members.

# MB Feedback: Major Discussion Points

- **Section E.3:** “Meeting discussions should be reserved for members only, unless...invited at the direction of the Chair(s).”
  - Does this conflict with EC charge on inclusivity? Should this apply only to EC, PSC, and MB meetings?
- **Section B.1:** Proposal to move to single standard agenda and minutes templates.
- **Section C.1:** Concern for staffer capacity to produce minutes within 1 week of meeting; request for 2-3 weeks.
  - Actions/decisions/summary notes (required) vs. transcript minutes
  - Should extended transcript minutes be eliminated?

# MB Feedback: Additional Comments

- **Section F.3:** Silence should not be interpreted as consensus. Chair(s) should solicit decisions from voting members during the meeting or beforehand if a member cannot be present.
- **Section G.5:** Include AI use guidelines in main body of CBP Governance Document.
- **Section B.4:** Coordinate meeting schedules to allow for flow of information and adequate prep time.
  - Workgroups meet "x" weeks before GIT, GITs meet "x" weeks before MB, etc.
  - Quarterly meetings for decision making; bi-monthly or monthly for shorter updates.



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# **Update: Geographic Program Reviews**



### **Great Lakes WQ Agreement**

U.S. and Canada – 1972, revised 2012

9 Key Objectives

International Joint Commission

E.O. 2004 GL Interagency Task Force

GLRI 2010

### **Regional Working Group**

16 Federal Agencies

Monthly Meetings

Budget decisions

Does have workgroups

State Forums 2X/year

### **Strategic Action Plan V4**

5 focus areas

- Toxic Substances and AOCs
- Invasive Species
- Nonpoint Source Pollution
- Habitat and Species
- Foundations for Future Restoration

Updated every 5 years

LAMPs for each Lake

### **Budget and Strategy**

Funding targets based on focus areas

Most GLRI funding through federal partners

8,000+ projects; \$4.1 billion

### **Accountability**

Simple Metrics

- AOCs/BUIs delisted/removed
- Invasive control acres
- Pounds of pollution prevented
- Habitat acres protected, restored, enhanced
- People engaged

Reports to Congress

### **Advisory Committee**

2022 report

6 themes, 65 recommendations

Future focused

More strategic/targeted action

Community engagement

From restoration to protection

### **Community Engagement**

Many local partners

AOCs have structure

Lake Partnerships

### **Tribal Framework**

Adopted 2021

BIA collaboration

Grants to tribes

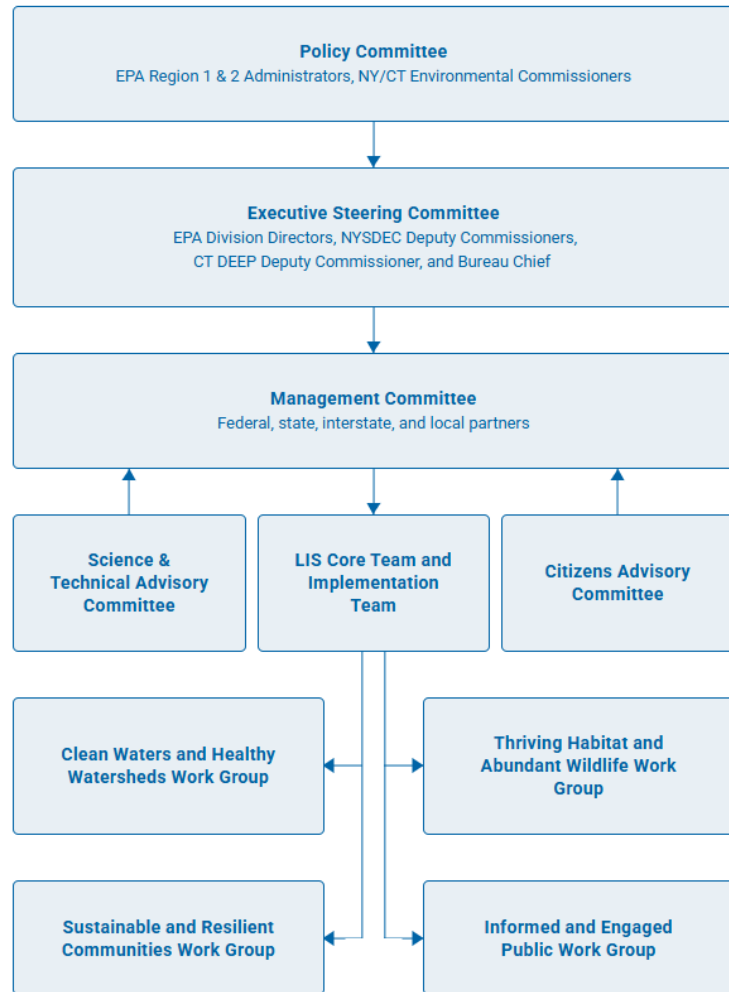
**GLRI: <https://www.glri.us/>**

# Long Island Sound Partnership

- Authorized by Congress in 1985; \$40M through S119.
- Completed 2025-2035 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan
  - 4 Goals; 15 SMART Objectives; 47 Actions
- Significant self-assessment in 2020-2024; lots of actions, not progressing them all.
- Theme of revision was “Streamlining”.
- Structure largely being kept the same; no changes with governance.
- Impressed by strategy aligned and implementation action tracking.



Long Island Sound Comprehensive  
Conservation and Management Plan 2025  
Returning the Urban Sea to Abundance





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## Next steps:

1. Incorporate MB feedback in Meeting Best Practices appendix and agenda / minutes templates. **Seek final approval at September 11<sup>th</sup> MB meeting to implement these.**
2. GIT 6 will wrap up geographic program reviews by end of August.
  - Synthesize findings from reviews and share insights with Governance and Accountability team (GAT).
  - Present substantial insights from all programs at August 20<sup>th</sup> PSC meeting and September 11<sup>th</sup> MB meeting.