Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

JULY 10, 2025

Governance & Accountability Team

Management Board Check-In

Questions for the Management Board

- What is the MB’s preference for Governance and Accountability Team (GAT) deliverables?
- Are there any constraints on the scope of work?
- Does the MB agree with the GAT’s proposal to sunset in June 2026?

June 12 Management Board Decisions:

- Convene a small team – non-decisional – to brainstorm recommendations on accountability and governance for Management Board (MB) and Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) review, consideration, and approval.

- Full MB to address and develop organizational structure recommendations for PSC review and approval.

June 27 Principals' Staff Committee

- **Decision:** The PSC approved the MB's proposed approach for developing structure and governance recommendations as part of the Executive Council's Beyond 2025 Charge.
- **Action:** The MB and the small team are to proactively collaborate, as needed, with partners who have the skillsets and expertise identified by GIT 6 in developing recommendations on structure and governance.
  - PSC requested that the Advisory Committees share a list of Committee members with those suggested skillsets and expertise with the Management Board and the small team.

Governance & Accountability Team

GAT membership, as shared with the PSC

- Natahnee Miller, PADEP
- Julia Wakeling, DDOE
- Kevin McLean, VA DEQ
- Adrienne Kotula, CBC
- Natalie Snider, MD DNR
- Ken Hyer, USGS
- Kevin Schabow, NOAA
- AAC – No representative identified
- LGAC – Marty Qually, Adams County, PA
- SAC – Sara Ramotnik, Choose Clean Water Coal.
- STAC – Erin Letavic, Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (rotating participation is anticipated)
- NGO – Keisha Sedlacek, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

- CBPO Coordinators: Doug Bell (EPA), Sarah Brzezinski (EPA), Eric Hughes (EPA)

The Chesapeake Executive Council charges the Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) with recommending this simplified and streamlined partnership structure and processes to the Chesapeake Executive Council in as much detail as possible by December 1, 2025.

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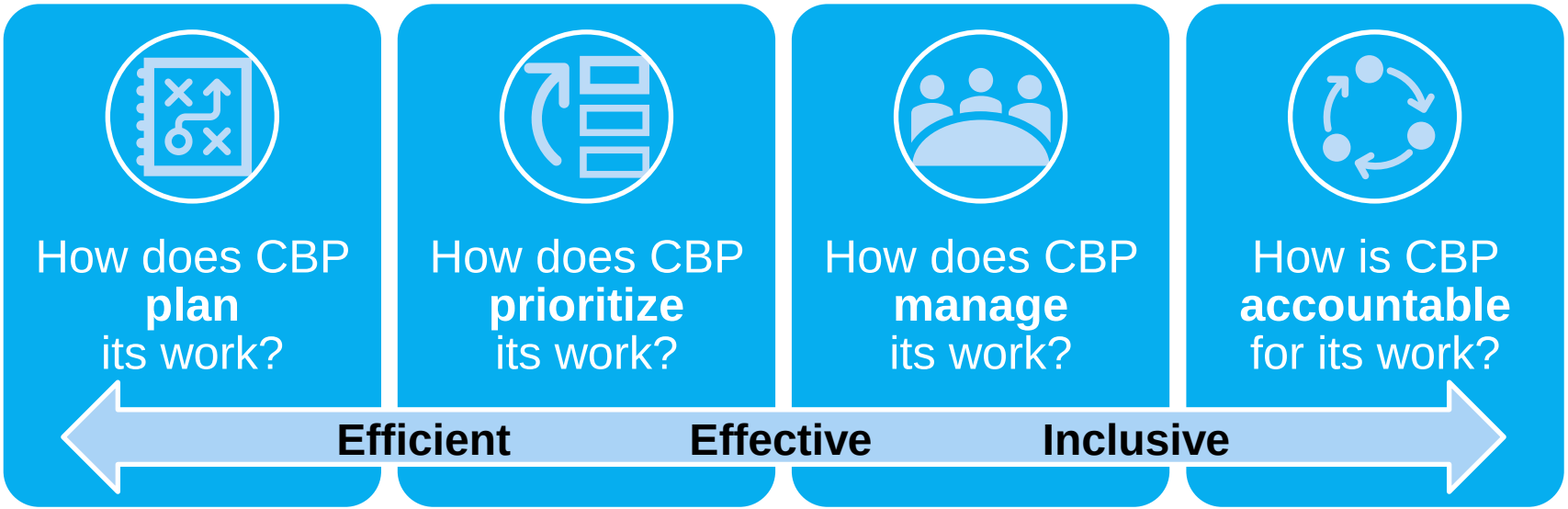
Subsequent changes that incorporate this revised structure and processes into the Governance and Management Framework for the Chesapeake Bay Program do not need to occur until June 2026.

Initial Framing

- Build off governance, structure and process scoping of GIT 6 by distilling the five identified priorities into guiding questions:



Starting Point – Review Existing Materials

- **Governance and Management Framework for CBP**
- Additional review materials include, but not limited to:
  - Beyond 2025 Evaluation Report (ERG)
  - Beyond 2025 SC “Critical Path” Report, Part II
  - GIT 6 Key Priorities document
  - GIT 6 Key Issue Log with Priorities
  - Phase I public feedback that pertains to Phase II

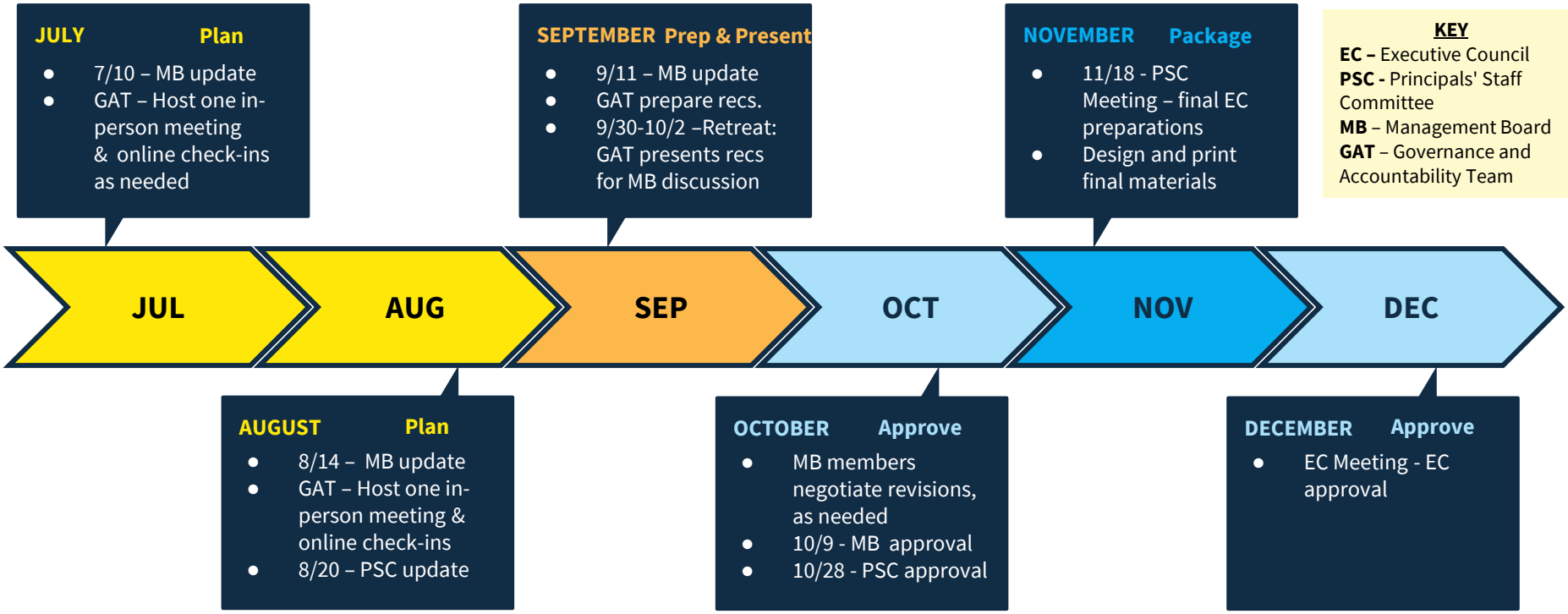
Potential Scope & Deliverable:
December 2025 Deadline

- Identify significant categories or sections in the Governance and Management Framework for CBP and build-out high-level recommendations.
- Examples of significant categories could include:
  - Roles, responsibilities & membership
  - Revisions to the adaptive management process
  - Process for prioritizing partnership work

Potential Scope & Deliverable:
December 2025 Deadline

- Prioritize development of recommendations that require EC approval.
- **Deliverable(s):** a proposal for recommendations in each “significant category.”
  - **Format:** one pager or a series or one-pagers recommending high-level changes in the “significant categories.”

Timeline


JULY Plan
7/10 – MB update
GAT – Host one in-person meeting & online check-ins as needed
SEPTEMBER Prep & Present
9/11 – MB update
GAT prepare recs.
9/30-10/2 –Retreat: GAT presents recs for MB discussion
NOVEMBER Package
11/18 - PSC Meeting – final EC preparations
Design and print final materials
KEY
EC – Executive Council
PSC - Principals' Staff Committee
MB – Management Board
GAT – Governance and Accountability Team
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
AUGUST Plan
8/14 – MB update
GAT – Host one in-person meeting & online check-ins
8/20 – PSC update
OCTOBER Approve
MB members negotiate revisions, as needed
10/9 - MB approval
10/28 - PSC approval
DECEMBER Approve
EC Meeting - EC approval

Potential Scope & Deliverable:

June 2026 Deadline

- Scope out and draft specific revisions to the Governance and Management Framework for CBP as recommendations for MB and PSC consideration.
- **Deliverable(s):** An updated, track-changes version of the “Governance and Management Framework for CBP” that codifies approved recommendations from “significant categories” and refreshes the document.

Timeline

If work is extended

JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH — **Deliberate**

- Monthly MB update
- Host monthly in-person GAT meeting
- Ad hoc GAT meetings as needed

MAY & JUNE — **Approve**

- MB, with support of GAT, negotiates changes
- MB approval & PSC approval
- Implement revisions to Governance doc.

APRIL — **Prep & Present**

- Deliverables presented to MB for review & revision
- MB discussion

KEY

EC – Executive Council
PSC - Principals' Staff Committee
MB – Management Board
GAT – Governance and Accountability Team

Alignment with Management Board

- Team members are to ensure they are representing their MB member.
- Check-ins with the full MB during monthly meetings.
- The full MB and PSC have the authority to review, revise and approve GAT recommendations.

Questions for the Management Board

- What is the MB’s preference for GAT deliverables?
- Are there any constraints on the scope of work?
- Does the MB agree with the GAT’s proposal to sunset in June 2026?

Thank you!

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