



The road ahead

October 2025 update
WQGIT 10/27/25



Bringing the
picture into
focus

Reducing Excess Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Sediment Outcome & targets

Implement and maintain practices and controls to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment. These reductions are necessary to achieve the applicable water quality standards, as described in the Bay TMDL. Those water quality standards support living resources and protect human health, as required by the Clean Water Act.

1. Through 2030, signatories will continue to accelerate completion of all interim water quality planning targets through implementation of Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plans, two-year milestone commitments and other innovative strategies to achieve and maintain reduced levels of nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment.
2. By December 31, 2030, revise the planning targets approved by the Principals' Staff Committee for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment incorporating the latest watershed modeling, monitoring data and research findings; and develop new or amended Watershed Implementation Plans to meet the updated targets by 2040.
3. Demonstrate net reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment through multiple lines of evidence, including modeling and monitoring data.

Bringing into focus, bigger picture*

Now

continue to accelerate completion of all interim water quality planning targets

2030

RENPS Target #1

RENPS Target #2

2040

Revised Agreement Time Horizon

Implementation Planning

Setting Targets

Model Development, Review and Finalization

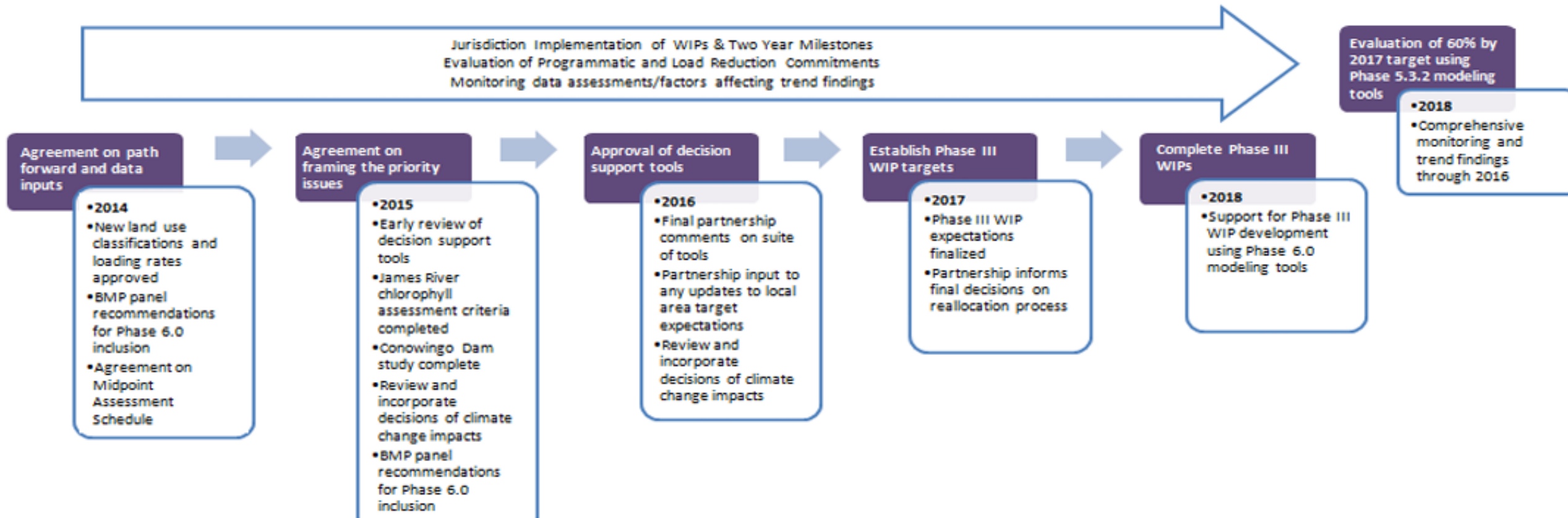
By end of 2030:

- revised planning targets
- new or amended WIPs to meet the updated targets by 2040

*Specific to Reducing Excess Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Sediment (RENPS) Outcome; target #3 not pictured here

Throwback to our Midpoint Assessment Timeline

Midpoint Assessment Timeline



Draft timeline & focus

Through 2030 continue to accelerate completion of all interim water quality planning targets (Target #1)

Demonstrate net reductions with multiple lines of evidence (Target #3)

Target #2

Now - 2026

“Ramp up”

2027

STAC and
management
reviews of
model suite

2028

Set new
planning
targets based
on final suite
of models

2029

Finish targets
and begin
planning?

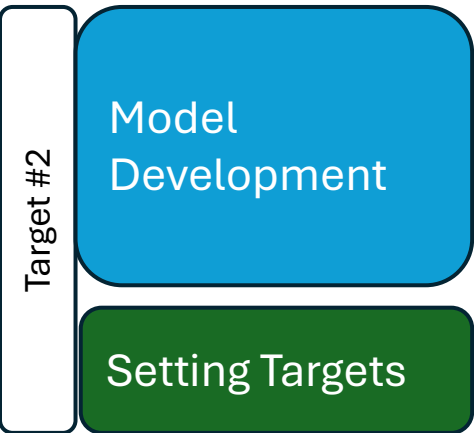
2030

Finish new or
amended
WIPs?

We have the PSC-approved schedule for Phase 7 suite of models so we'll stay focused on this for now

This is the outline post-2027, but we need direction before we formulate a detailed recommended schedule

Focusing on near term (~4 months)



- **Caveat: ongoing lapse in appropriations**
- Focus on remaining decisions for inputs and processing methods
- Phase 7 decision tracker for October – February
- Gathering background and foundation for future in-depth conversations
- RENPS Targets 1 & 3: Thinking ahead to 2025 Progress release

**UPCOMING
EXITS**

Reorganization;
Management
Strategy

MILE

1

Phase 7 model development: Ramp-up and Year of Review

- Still on schedule
- Will continue to refine more detailed schedule through 2027 and bring it back to WQGIT

Setting new targets and new/amended WIPs

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

What are tiered targets and how will they work?

New WIPs? Amended WIPs?

