



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

Healthy Watersheds GIT Meeting  
April 8, 2024

# **Healthy Watersheds SRS Prep**

# Agenda

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**1 Background**

**4 Discussion Questions**

**2 Goal & Outcome**

**5 Draft Management Asks**

**3 Success Stories &  
Challenges Faced**



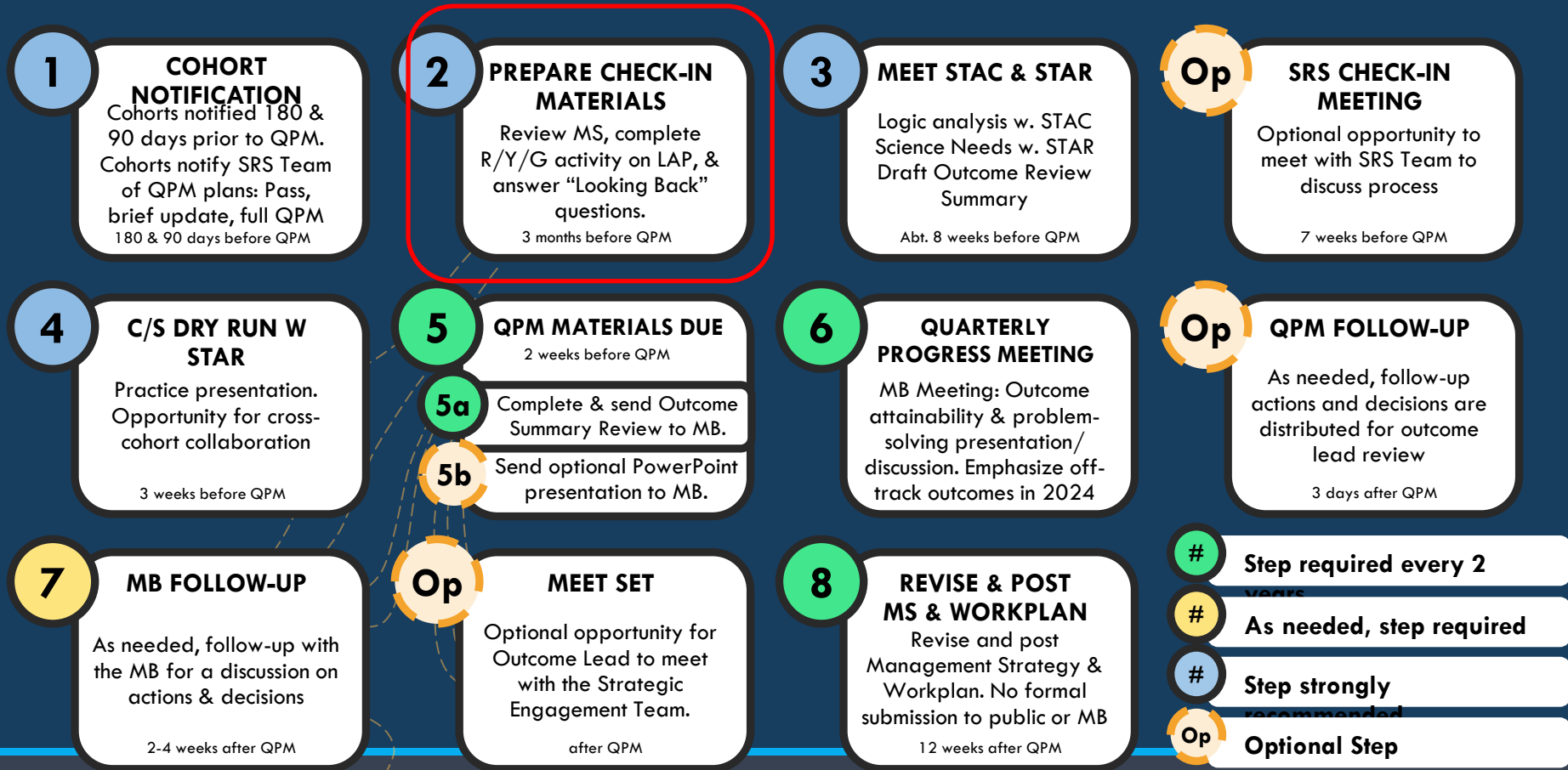
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# Background



# PROPOSED 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE SRS PROCESS

Revised 9/18/23



# Healthy Watersheds Goal & Outcome

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# Healthy Watersheds Goal & Outcome

**Goal:** Sustain state-identified healthy waters and watersheds recognized for their high quality and/or high ecological value

**Outcome:** 100% of state-identified healthy waters and watersheds remain healthy.

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# Success Stories & Challenges Faced

# Success Stories

## **Maryland Healthy Watershed Assessment**

Completed in 2022, intended to inform watershed management decision-making to sustain the health of MD-identified healthy watersheds. A piolet for the CHWA 2.0

## **Chesapeake Healthy Watershed Assessment 2.0**

CHWA 2.0 uses a random forest model with 60 unique metrics and the Chessie BIBI to predict health conditions for all 83,629 catchments (NHD+ v2.1) in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

## **Healthy Watersheds Indicator**

Explores watershed health through the lens of impervious surfaces and protected natural lands.



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# Challenges Faced

- **Lack of Expertise in translation** and **challenges with communication** of science for targeted audiences
- Jurisdiction participation
- Capacity
- Lack of **integration of living resources**
- **Lack of integration** of stream health, and protected lands within Healthy Watershed GIT

# Discussion Questions

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# Questions- What should we bring to the Management Board?

- What key successes would you like to highlight to the Management Board?
- What challenges do you think we should bring the Management Board?

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# Questions- What have Jurisdictions done?

- What targeted activities have been done to help maintain the health of state-identified healthy watersheds?
- What have you done as a Jurisdiction to build awareness and communicate the value of healthy watersheds?

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# Questions- Barriers

- What are the factors/barriers that prevent us from achieving our Outcome?
- What or how could the Partnership (or GIT/WG) address these factors?
- What factors/barriers no longer exist for us? What did we learn from those successes?



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# Draft Management Asks

