

Evaluation Question 1

To what extent does the current organizational structure of the Program and processes used by the Program support: (1) effective decision-making, (2) outcome attainment, (3) collaboration, (4) use and dissemination of science, (5) adaptive management, and (6) functioning as a partnership? If so, why? If not, why not? What aspects of the structure and processes need to be kept or changed to support those aspects?

Definitions

- ▶ **Program:** The set of groups defined in and/or covered by the Governance document and the activities that those groups are directly responsible for.
- ▶ **Structure:** All levels including and below the Management Board (e.g., Teams, Committees, Workgroups, STAR, STAC), including how the Management Board interacts with levels above and below it.
- ▶ **Processes:** The processes specified in the Governance document (SRS, etc.), as well as other informal processes to be identified as work progresses.
- ▶ **Decision-making** defined as any decisions made by Program entities in administering the Program (excluding decisions where the Program has no/little control, e.g., state laws).

Evaluation Question 2

To what extent does the Program know the external decision-makers and stakeholders it needs to reach? To what extent does the Program understand the needs of the decision-makers and stakeholders outside the Program? To what extent is the Program providing decision-makers and stakeholders outside the Program with the information needed to assist the Program in attaining its outcomes? [Note: Each question above should address diverse and disadvantaged populations.]

Definitions

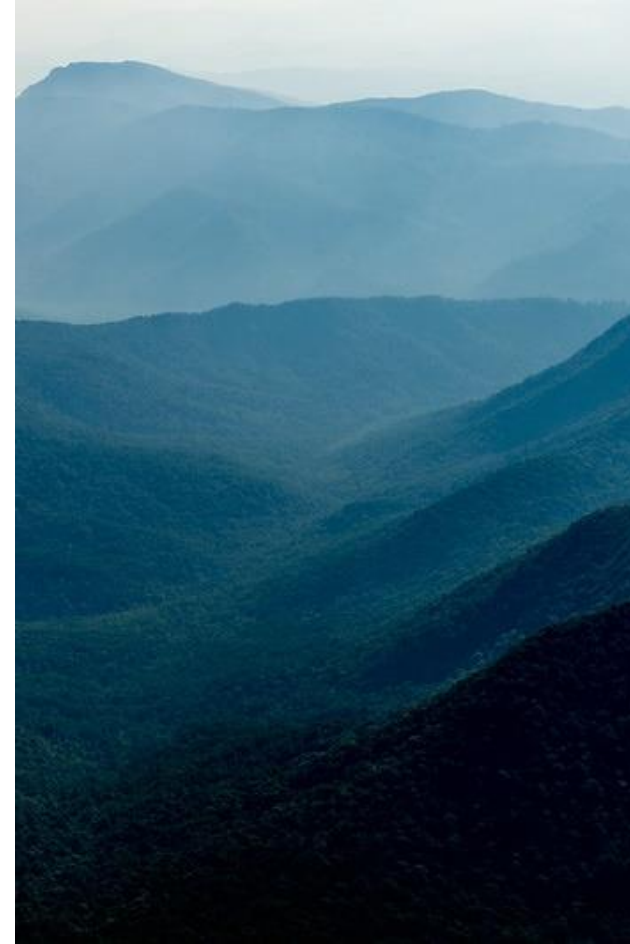
- ▶ **Stakeholders:** Individuals or entities who are external to the Program (as defined under EQ1) that have an interest in the Program's goal attainment, primarily focusing on those individuals or entities who reside within the watershed.
- ▶ **Decision-makers:** Individuals or entities who are external to the Program who make decisions that can impact the Program's goal attainment. This includes (but not limited to) local government officials, businesses, landowners, farms and other businesses, and residents living in the watershed.
- ▶ **External to the Program:** Entities or individuals that are not regular participants in Program meetings and/or processes.
- ▶ **Information:** Materials and communications that are distributed or could be distributed by the Program including science-based information and/or outreach materials.
- ▶ **Decisions:** Actions that could be taken (or not taken) that would impact the Program's goal attainment. (With some limits on what could be reasonably be affected by the Program.)

Evaluation Question 3

EQ3. What is the unique contribution of the Partnership in terms of outcome/goal attainment (i.e., the value-added)? Is the program investing in the appropriate outcomes and goals? Are there missing goals and/or outcomes?

Definitions

- ▶ **Program logic model:** The *flow* from program activities to outputs to outcomes to goals. Logic models are used to define how a program is intended to meet its goals and outcomes.
- ▶ **Theory of change:** A theory of change for a program are the collective set of assumptions that describe how the program's activities will lead to the desired outcomes and ultimately the goals. We note that logic models and theories of change go hand-in-hand; while a logic model depicts the flow from activities to goals, a theory of change explains why those flows should be expected to occur.



Beyond 2025 Update and Decisions

Principals' Staff Committee

Martha Shimkin & Anna Killius

December 8, 2023



Chesapeake Bay Program

40 years of science, restoration and partnership

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHARGE

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Thus, this Executive Council charges the Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) in recommending a critical path forward that prioritizes and outlines the next steps for meeting the goals and outcomes of the Watershed Agreement leading up to and beyond 2025. The PSC is to report back to the Executive Council at our 2023 annual meeting with recommendations on how to best address and integrate new science and restoration strategies leading up to 2025. **At our 2024 annual meeting, the PSC is to prepare recommendations that continue to address new advances in science and restoration, along with a focus on our partnership for going beyond 2025.**

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DECISIONS

1. Agreement on High Profile, Cross-Cutting Topics
2. Agreement on schedule for meeting Executive Council Charge

STEERING COMMITTEE PROPOSED PRODUCT BY EC2024

Where we are

Summary of where we are with the 2014 Watershed Agreement

- Reaching 2025 Report
- CESR, Rising Temperatures, Forest Buffers & Wetlands Conference Reports, SRS meeting report, report, Advisory Committee Recommendations, and more. Crosswalk of common themes.

Where do we want to be

Vision

- Current Partnership Vision – Reaffirm? Refine?

What we do

Impact assessment

- What is the ability of our Partnership to positively impact each goal and outcome?
- Do we have the right outcomes for our goals and the right goals for our vision?

How we work

Assessment of our overall partnership

- Partnership Structure
- Governance and Adaptive Management

Path Forward

Recommendation on what to do with the Watershed Agreement post-2025

Recommendations on the Partnership

HIGH PROFILE, CROSS-CUTTING TOPICS

- Climate Change
- Healthy Watersheds
- Clean Water
- People
- Shallow Water Habitats



OVERARCHING QUESTIONS

Vision

- What do we want to hand to the next generation?
- What does success look like?

Value

- What are we doing that works?
- What could be improved?
- What changes would help us attain our vision?

Vanguard

- What idea is transformational for the future of the Bay and its watershed?
- What would it take to implement that idea?

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

- **November – January 2024:** Topical groups convene, discuss, and develop recommendations to be considered by the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee.
- **February 2024:** 2-day symposium to discuss and potentially refine topical group recommendations.
- **March 2024:** Adoption of topical group recommendations by the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee and review of the first draft of recommendations from the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee.
- **April 2024:** Adoption of the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee recommendations.
- **May – June 2024:** Solicit public feedback on the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee recommendations.
- **July 2024:** Revise and affirm the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee recommendations based on public input.
- **August – September 2024:** Seek approval of Beyond 2025 Steering Committee recommendations from the Management Board and Principals' Staff Committee.
- **October 2024:** Present and request approval of Beyond 2025 Steering Committee recommendations from the Executive Council.

THANK YOU

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2023