Possible GIT Commitments in Support of Harris Creek Oyster Restoration

Goal Team	Possible Commitment	For Further Consideration?
Habitats - GIT 2	Provide assistance to help with "significant opportunities for wetland restoration (prior converted and ditching through forested wetland)	
	Work with agricultural landowners and NRCS to increase incentives for restoration through Farm Bill programs like WRP and CREP (Similar to what NRCS did with TNC in Nassawango and Dividing Creeks on MD's lower Eastern Shore)	
	Work to identify/expand in Harris Creek watershed "Targeted Ecological Areas" (the most ecologically important areas). TEAs are areas that are preferred for land conservation through Stateside Program Open Space (and possible funding). TEAs represent our platform from which to build a NETWORK of connected land and water habitats)	
Water Quality- GIT 3	Suggests oyster restoration partners, including federal and state agencies (eg, NOAA, ACOE, ORP), work with State of Maryland directly to prioritize location and types of nutrient and sediment controls called for in the WIP and milestones in ways that also support oyster restoration activities in Harris Creek.	
Healthy Watersheds- GIT 4	Assess and Track Health, Threats, and Protection Status of State-identified Tier II Watersheds in the Choptank basin	
	Encourage Anti-Degradation Policy Implementation in State-identified Tier II Watersheds in the Choptank basin	
Citizen Stewardship- GIT 5	Work with MD agencies to seek higher priority protection of lands near Harris Creek (due to their high ecological value if this will further oyster restoration efforts).	
	Work with MD/local agencies to propose additional public access sites (currently only 6 on Harris Creek) − (no new sites identified in Public Access Plan)	
	Work with Talbot County to incorporate Oyster-related Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences into school curriculum	
STAR-	Develop ecoservices assessment of restored oyster reef habitat (e.g., biofiltration, oyster larvae production,	

	denitrification enhancement)	
	Scale up to a Bay-wide oyster restoration assessment (e.g., would more oysters = more fish or more SAV?)	
	Consider climate change implications on large scale oyster restoration (e.g., sea level rise, temperature, ocean acidity)	
	Work with Chesapeake Stat team to develop complex data layers as a tool for selecting and assessing geographic focus areas	