



Oyster Management Strategy Draft Elements

Fisheries GIT Staff
Executive Committee Meeting
September 29, 2014

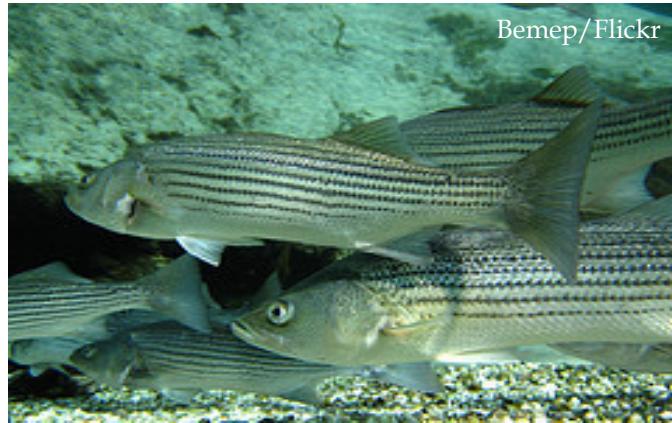
What is a Management Strategy?

A document that will articulate the actions and considerations necessary to achieve the New Agreement outcomes.

- The Fisheries GIT is responsible for developing **four** management strategy documents:
 - Blue Crab Abundance/Management
 - Oyster Restoration
 - Forage Fish
 - Fish Habitat (joint effort with Habitat GIT)

Why are these strategies important?

- Coordinate efforts across jurisdictions
- Document the work already being done
- Guide the priorities of the Chesapeake Bay Program and Fisheries GIT through 2025



Who will participate?

Fisheries GIT members, GIT workgroups, and other interested stakeholders can participate at the desired level:

- Level 1: Lead Drafters - primary content developers (states,)
- Level 2: Reviewers - participate in discussions and provide input on content
- Level 3: Trackers - follow discussions and comments on interim/final drafts

When will strategies be developed?

Sept-Dec
2014:
Develop
strategy
content

Dec 2014:
In-person
discussions
at full GIT
meeting

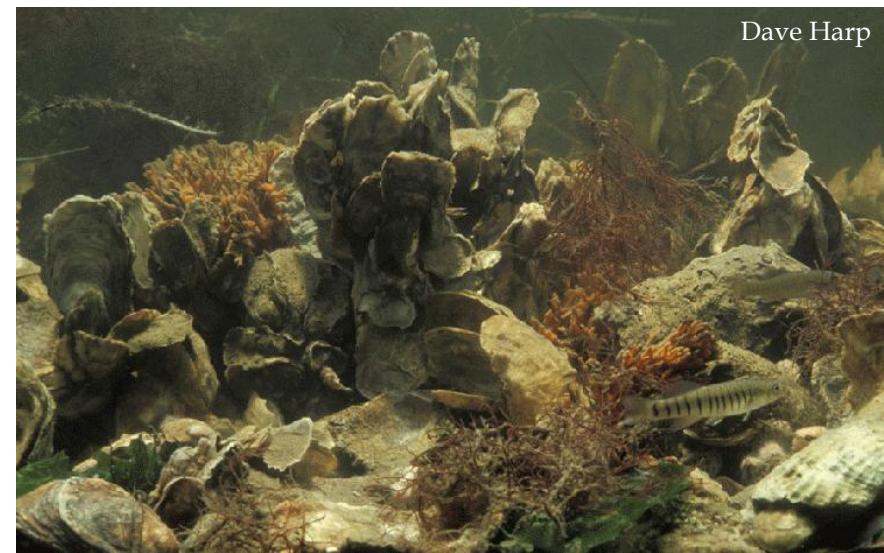
Jan-Mar
2015:
Complete
drafts

Mar-Apr
2015:
Public input
period and
review

**June
2015:
Final
strategies**

Oyster Outcome

Oyster Outcome: Continually increase finfish and shellfish habitat and water quality benefits from restored oyster populations. Restore native oyster habitat and populations in 10 tributaries by 2025 and ensure their protection.



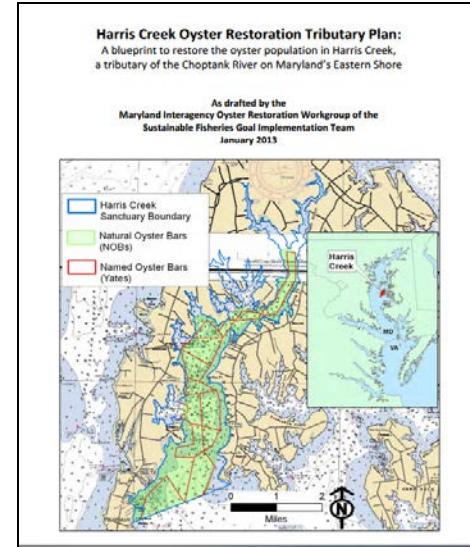
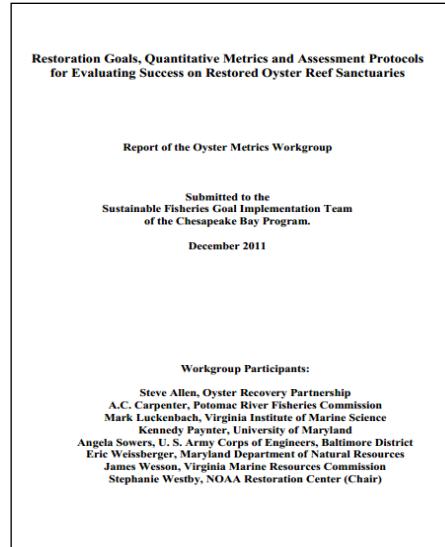
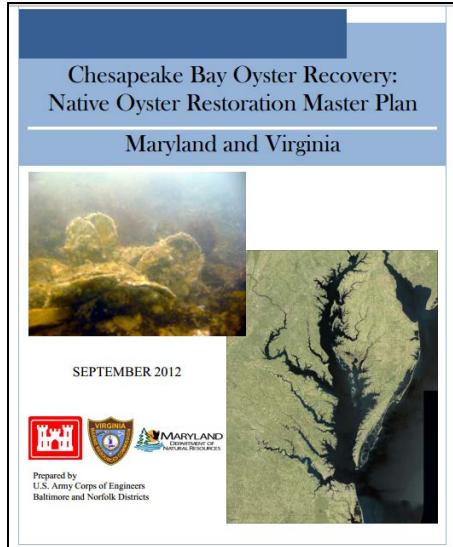
Key Elements of Mgmt Strategies

1. Executive Summary
2. Outcomes and Baselines
3. Participating jurisdictions and stakeholders
4. Factors influencing the ability to meet goal
5. Current efforts and gaps
6. Management Approach
7. Monitoring Progress
8. Assessing Progress
9. Adaptively Manage
10. Biennial Workplan

Note: While some new content will be needed, much of this information already exists in current reports, plans, etc. and just needs to be compiled into this outline.

Existing Information

- Oyster Metrics
- Interagency Team Tributary Plans
- Executive Order
- Jurisdictions Plans/Regulations
- USACE Master Plan



Oyster Strategy Draft Outline

1. Executive Summary

- CBP Communications team will draft after other sections are complete

2. Outcomes and Baselines

- Discuss drivers behind the outcome including the Executive Order, past restoration experience and lessons learned, resource needs, etc. (why 10 trib?)
- Discuss oyster reef ecosystem services and anticipated benefits

Oyster Strategy Draft Outline

3. Participating jurisdictions and stakeholders

- List and describe role of:
 - Jurisdictions and federal agencies
 - Local restoration partners for each state/trib
 - Interagency Teams

4. Factors influencing the ability to meet goal

- Biological Factors
- Physical/Environmental Factors
- Resource Need Factors
- Social, Human Factors

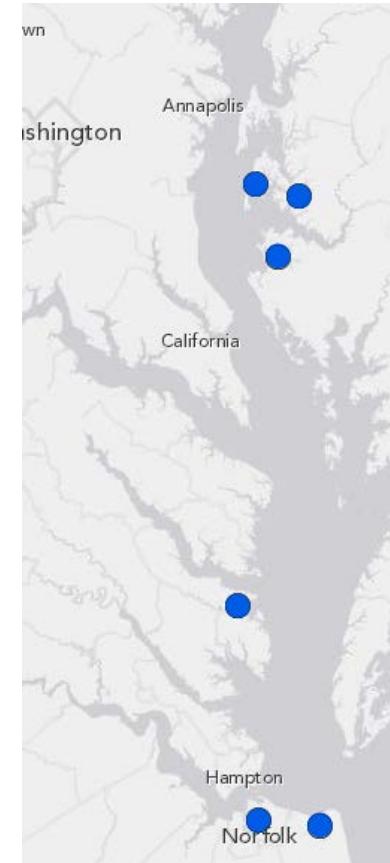
Oyster Strategy Draft Outline

5. Current efforts and gaps

- List current and past efforts by tributary
- Refer to specific tributary plans and information

6. Management Approach for Future

- Discuss general approach: select tributary → collect data → develop plans & set targets → implement
- Refer to specific tributary plans



Oyster Strategy Draft Outline

7. Monitoring Progress

- Discuss timeline and plan for post-restoration monitoring as discussed in the oyster metrics

8. Assessing Progress

- Discuss the criteria for a “restored” reef as noted in the oyster metrics. Assess progress based on meeting these criteria.

9. Adaptively Manage

- Progress and lessons learned from implementation can be applied to future efforts and tributaries

Oyster Strategy Draft Outline

10. Biennial Workplan

- Commitments, actions, and resources listed by tributary that notes which partners are responsible for each
- Near-term actions
- Workplan can be updated as necessary



What's Next?

- Assemble strategy team
 - Jurisdictions, interagency teams, restoration partners
- Identify leads and ensure input
- Begin compiling existing information into the strategy
- Discuss content outline and remaining tasks at December 2014 full GIT meeting

Oyster



Lead Goal Team: Sustainable Fisheries
Goal Implementation Team (GIT 1):

Participating Partners: State of Maryland, Commonwealth of Virginia, Chesapeake Bay Commission, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

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