

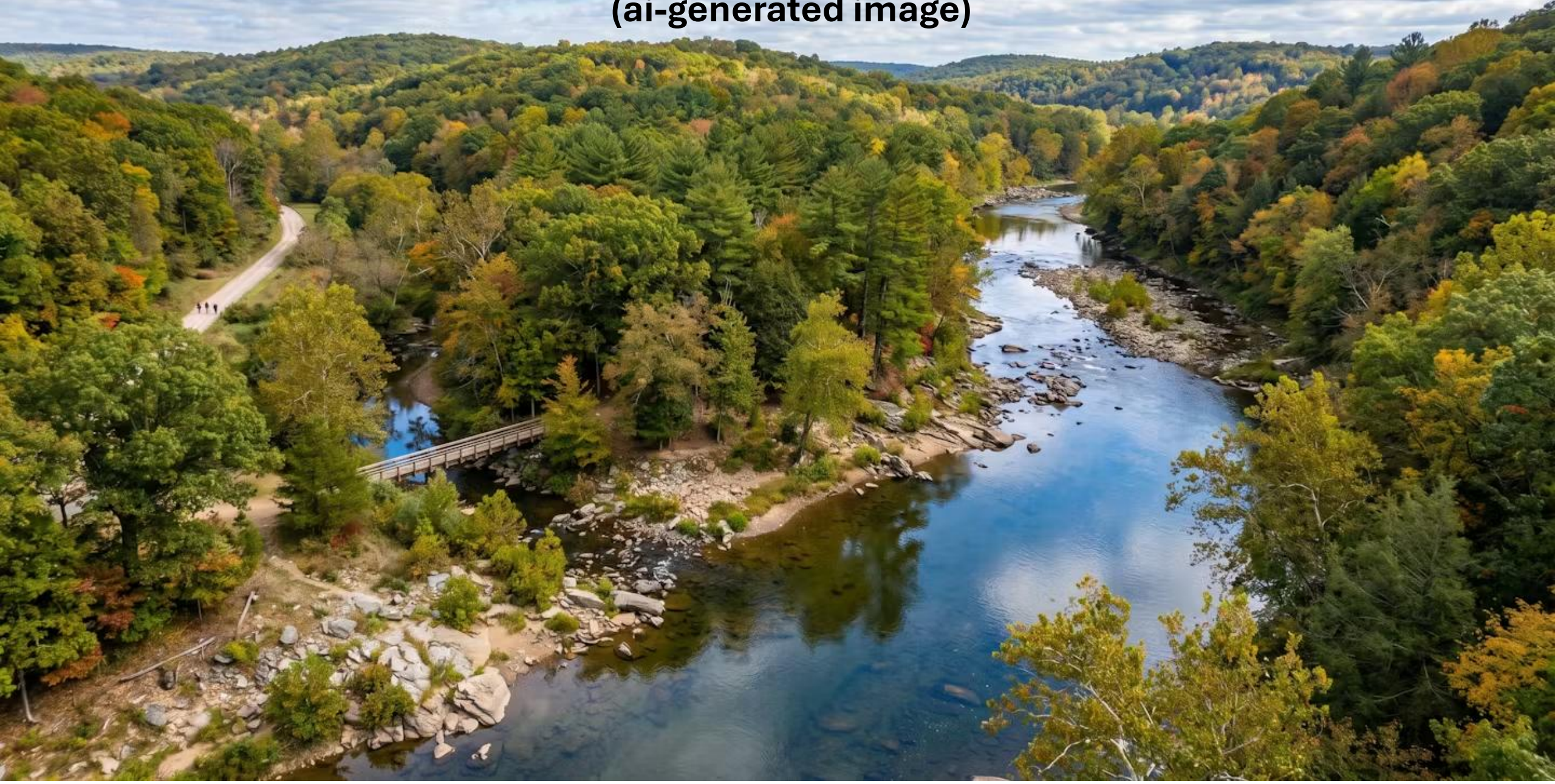
# Healthy Landscapes Goal

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# Healthy Landscapes Goal

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## Healthy Landscapes Goal:

Conserve, protect, restore and enhance landscapes of ecological, economic, recreational and cultural value to improve water quality, provide habitat for wildlife and increase resilience.



## Why Healthy Landscapes?

Because land development and degradation, severe and frequent flooding, and excessive and prolonged heat, threaten infrastructure, human life, working lands, wildlife habitat, and progress-to-date in reducing and controlling pollution to the Chesapeake Bay.





Healthy Forests & Trees

**Restore and maintain forests and trees:** in communities, riparian areas, and other areas.

**Protect valued areas:** forests, wetlands, farmland, tribal lands, urban greenspace, and lands supporting healthy streams.

Protected Lands

Healthy Landscapes Goal

Land Use Planning & Decision Support

**Inform land use planning decisions:** produce and share data and case studies relevant to both local needs and the health of local waterways.

**Reduce future risks to people and habitats:** from changes in temperature, precipitation, and land use.

Adapting to Changing Environmental Conditions

# Healthy Landscape Solutions

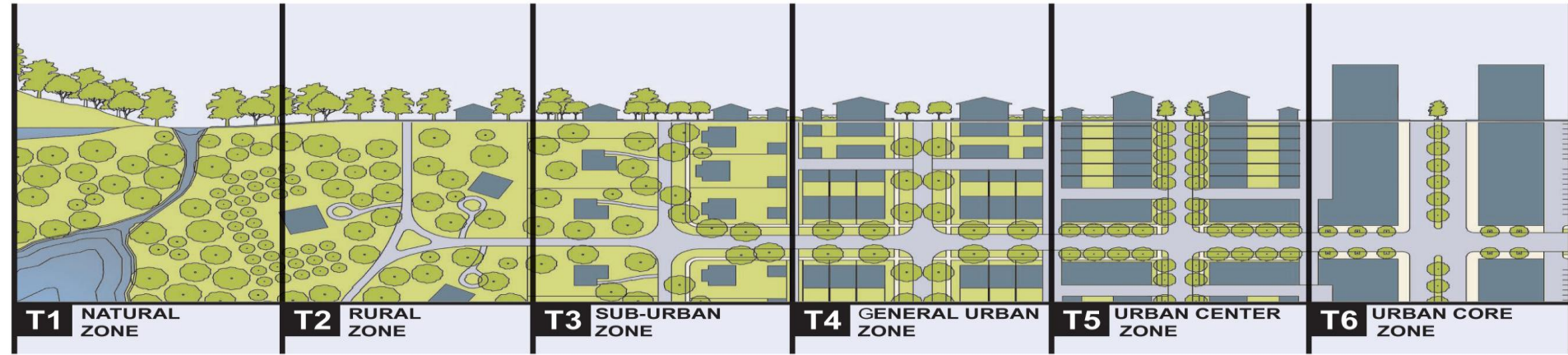
## Enhance organizational capacity to:

- Protect land for recreation, wildlife habitat, and preserving rural character and lifeways;
- Accommodate growth while minimizing land conversion;
- Implement nature-based solutions for enhancing resiliency to environmental change;
- Plant trees- particularly in riparian areas and communities;
- Manage forests for habitat, water quality, and timber resources.

# Ways that the CBP can enhance organizational capacity?

- Identify and cultivate funding sources
- Fund projects (i.e., for implementation, capacity, technical assistance, or policy guidance)
- Inform state and federal policies, programs, and legislation
- Leverage technologies to characterize and monitor landscape conditions
- Develop and improve data, models, and tools relevant to organizational decisions
- Conduct science and investigations to inform decisions affecting landscapes
- Synthesize science and data to inform landscape decisions
- Share examples/case studies of organizations using innovative approaches and information to make decisions
- Build connections across organizations for shared assistance (networking)

# Complementary Nature of Our Outcomes



## Planning

Very-low density zoning  
 Conservation zoning  
 Park planning  
 Recreation trails

Infill/redevelopment  
 Cluster housing

Walkability  
 Transit-oriented development  
 Redevelopment  
 Mixed use

## Resiliency

Living shorelines  
 Floodplain connectivity  
 Wind turbines, solar farms  
 Silviculture

Low-impact development  
 Soil amendments  
 Natural/native landscaping  
 Connected greenways  
 Community and distributed solar

Green roofs  
 Pervious pavement  
 Detention vaults  
 Solar roofs  
 Street trees

## Conservation

Working farms and forests  
 Source-water protection  
 Wildlife habitat protection and connectivity

Floodplain and wetland protection  
 Community parks and recreation areas  
 Trail networks

Greenspace conservation  
 Trail networks

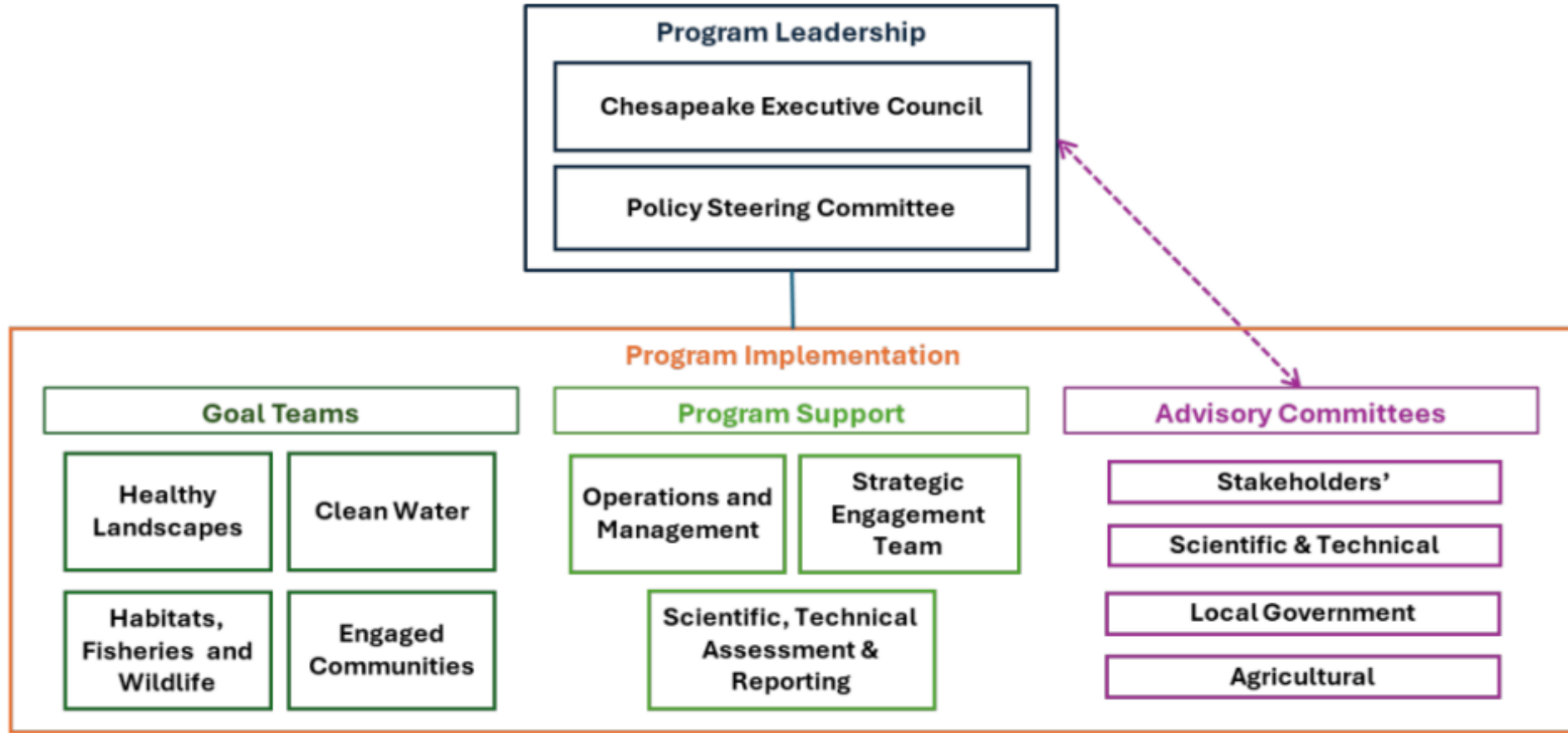
## Forests

Conservation of forest habitats  
 Conservation of working lands  
 Sustainable forest management  
 Riparian forest buffers

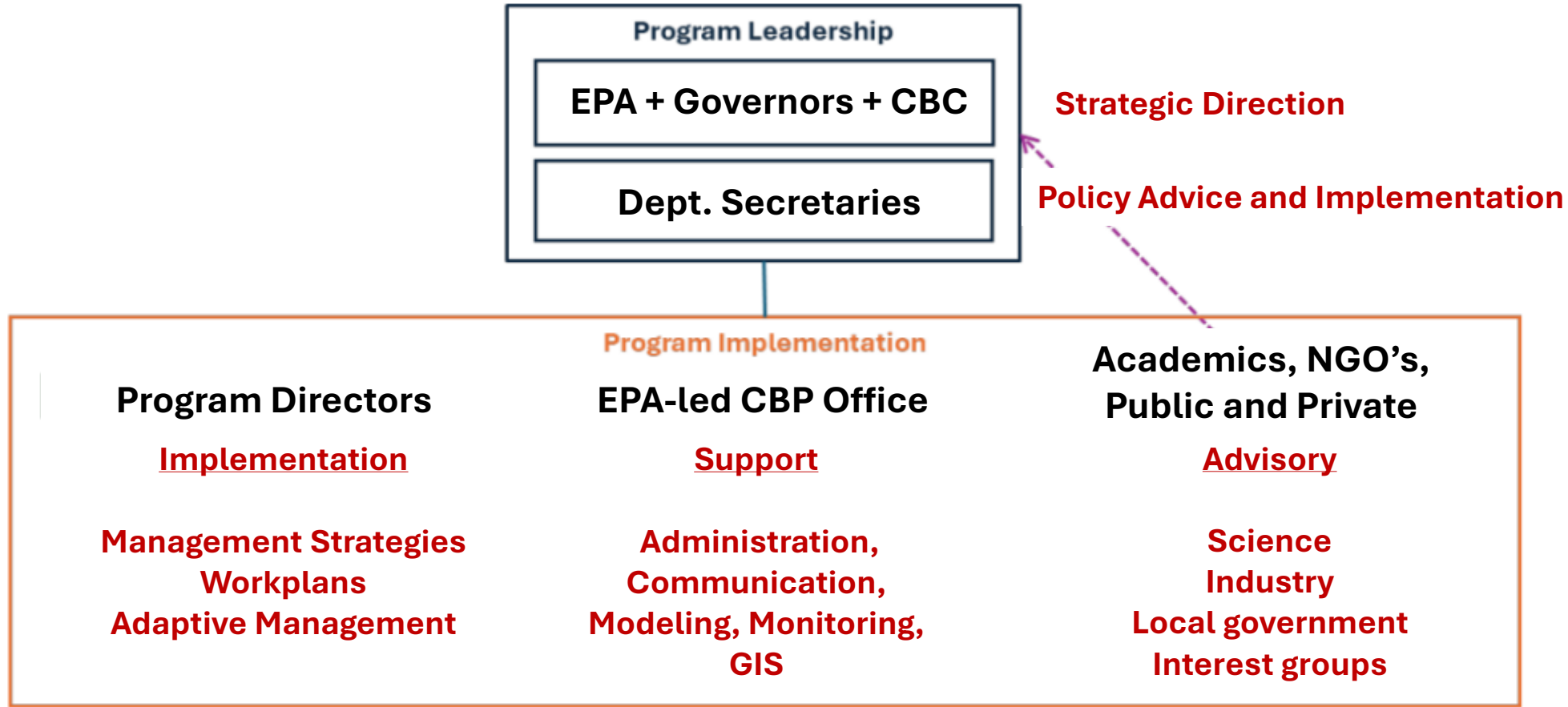
Street trees  
 Riparian forest buffers  
 Reforestation of plantable areas  
 Controlling pests, disease, and invasives

Street trees  
 Controlling pests, disease, and invasives

# Revised CBP Structure



# Revised CBP Structure - Who does what



# Goal Teams are conduits of information between the PSC and Workgroups

**Policy Steering Committee**

Policy decisions

Programmatic Needs & Priorities

**Goal Teams**

Policy guidance

Cross-outcome and Cross-goal coordination

Outcome challenges and progress

**Workgroups**

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## • Who is the PSC?

- PSC chair represents the EC chair
- Each jurisdictional EC member designates a PSC delegation, although only one vote per signatory is permitted
- CBC Executive Director
- EPA's Regional Administrator for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office

# Goal Teams are conduits of information between the PSC and Workgroups

**Policy Steering Committee**

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Policy guidance

Cross-outcome and Cross-goal coordination

Outcome challenges and progress

**Workgroups**

## • Who are the Goal Teams?

- Voting members
  - One PSC-appointed representative from each signatory
  - Up to 6 at-large members
- Non-voting members may include:
  - Workgroup chairs
  - One advisor from each CBP Advisory Committee
  - Additional representatives from state and federal agencies
  - Non-voting members must be approved by the GT

# Goal Teams are conduits of information between the PSC and Workgroups

**Policy Steering Committee**

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**Goal Teams**

Policy guidance

Cross-outcome and Cross-goal coordination

Outcome challenges and progress

**Workgroups**

## • Who are the Workgroups?

- Draft and implement Management Strategies and workplans
- Led by a chair or co-chairs (approved by GT)
- Maintain a membership that represents the signatories, have subject matter expertise, and who can serve as a liaison to their signatory/organization
- Should designate up to 15 voting members (approved by GT) who cast votes in instances where consent cannot be reached

# Healthy Landscapes Goal Team Steering Committee

## Healthy Landscapes

Claire Jantz, PA-DCNR

Ken Hyer, USGS

Peter Claggett, USGS

## Forestry

Anne Hairston-Strang,

MD-DNR

Nanci Sonti, USFS

Katie Brownson, USFS

## Adaptation

Natalie Snider, MD-DNR

Ben McFarlane, HRPDC

Julie Reichert-Nguyen, NOAA

## Land Use

Debbie Herr Cornwell, MDP

Rosa Hance, Choose Clean Water

Jackie Pickford, USGS

## Protected Lands

Jeff Lerner, EPA

Sophie Waterman, USGS

# Goal Teams are conduits of information between the PSC and Workgroups



- A bit more on the relationship between the PSC and the GTs:

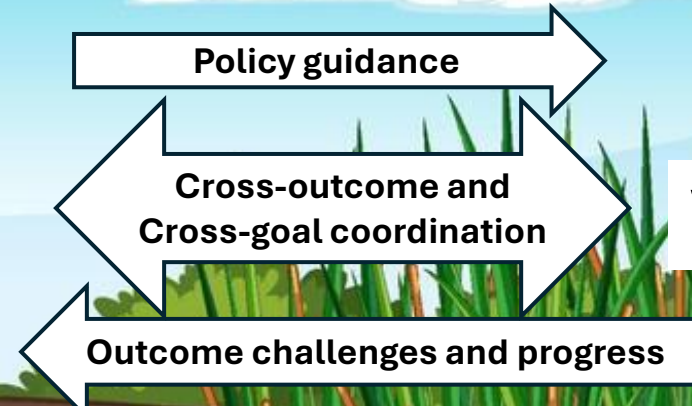
- Priority setting is intended to be *bidirectional*, although "the PSC will ensure work...aligns with the priorities set by the PSC..."
- "The PSC works closely with the GTs' co-chairs while also empowering them to have the greatest discretion possible over short-term adjustments to execution of strategic plans..."
- It is within the authority of the PSC to:
  - "Create, commission, and dissolve GTs, Workgroups, steering committees, and Action Teams..."
  - "Approve Management Strategies"
  - "Review and evaluate assessment of progress...and make adjustments... as necessary"

# Goal Teams are conduits of information between the PSC and Workgroups

**Policy Steering Committee**



**Goal Teams**



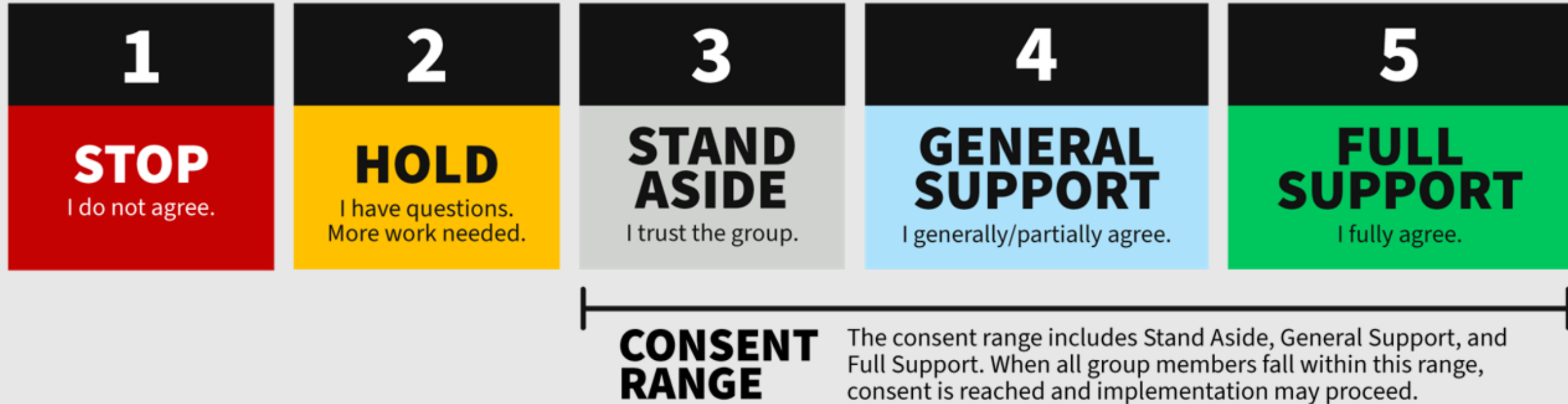
**Workgroups**

- A bit more on the relationship between the GT and the Workgroups
  - GTs "coordinate, review, and approve Management Strategies and Workplans..."
  - Identify areas of alignment; resource needs
  - While GTs "receive direction from and report directly to the PSC," as middle management, we view our primary role as supporting the work of the workgroups

# Chesapeake Bay Program's Decision-Making Continuum

*Based on the University of Maryland's Center for Leadership and Organizational Change Consensus Continuum*

## CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM DECISION MAKING MODEL



*"While consensus (unanimous full support) is the partnership's goal, a consent model enables the groups to gauge member positions...If some members register a stop or hold, consent is not reached unanimously, and the [group] may use a vote to proceed." A 2/3 vote is required to approved a decision.*

# Chesapeake Bay Strategic Plan & Management Strategies

## Basic Thoughts

**I. Not terribly different than the Management Strategies from 2025, but updated**

**II. Vocabulary:**

- **Strategic Plan:** The entire document that covers all 4 Goal Teams Includes a bunch of front-end material
- **Management Strategies:** There will be one prepared for each Goal (4 total)
- **Workplans:** Each outcome will have a workplan. Captures the partnership projects for 3 years (7/26-6/30)

**III. Benefits:**

- **Strategic Plan:** One comprehensive plan – addresses earlier GAO reports
- **Management Strategy:** Allows us to address more cross cutting issues and challenges (at the goal level, NEW!)
  - We still have a comprehensive stand-alone sub-chapter for each Outcome (SAME)
  - Designed to be durable for a 6-year period
  - More program focused at the Management Strategy level
  - Public feedback step included
- **Workplans:** Shorter duration (1-3 years), more project focused. No public feedback

**IV Cons:**

- Some redundancy between "goal-level" and "outcome level" sections in situational analysis
- Concerns regarding capacity and funding for years 2 and 3 in the workplans.
- Still figuring out a section on signatory Statutory authorities (though we will ask the jurisdictions to help)

# Chesapeake Bay Strategic Plan & Management Strategies

## Implementation Team

### I. Executive Summary

### II. Introduction

- Vision
- Overview

### III. Accountability

- Principles and Governance
- Monitoring, Assessment, Reporting
- Adaptive Management

## Goal Team – we will build one MS for the HLGT

### IV Management Strategy (MS) for Healthy Landscapes GT

- Goal language and Importance
- Situation Analysis: Challenges
  - Goal management Strategies
- One sub-chapter for each Outcomes
  - Land Use Planning and Decision Support
  - Healthy Forests and Trees
  - Adapting to Changing Environmental Conditions
  - Protected Lands

## Workgroups

### Subchapter for each Outcome (oct 19, 2026):

- Outcome and Targets
- Baseline and Current Condition
- Measuring Progress and Indicators
- Challenges to Progress
- Signatory Programs (most relevant)
- Management Approaches
- Participating Partners

### PROGRAM LEVEL

### Workplans: (due Spring 2027) - PROJECT LEVEL

- Narrative summary
- Impact on attainment
- Major actions
- Lead and partners
- Resources (FTE's, \$\$\$)
- Timeline
- Performance targets and deliverables

# Chesapeake Bay Strategic Plan & Management Strategies

## Management Strategy Outline:

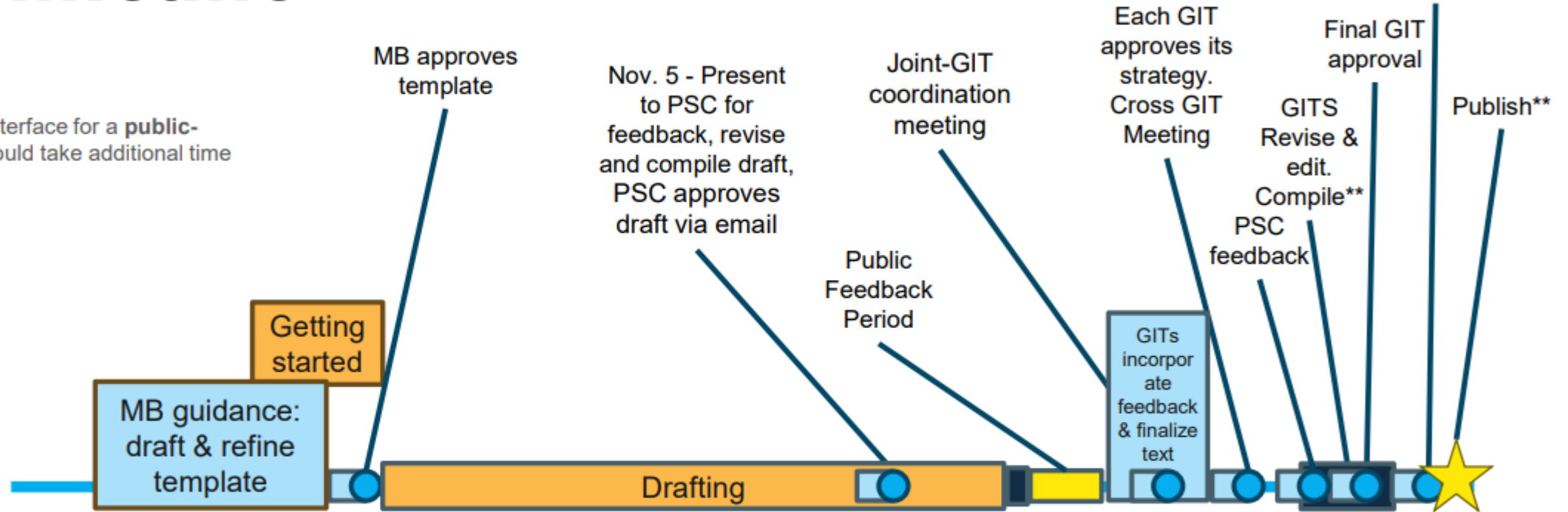
### Management Strategy for Healthy Landscapes Goal

- a. Goal Language and Importance
- b. Goal 1 Situation Analysis
  - I. Shared challenges for partnership to address, including those related to Changing Environmental Conditions
- c. Management approaches to address the shared challenges for the goal
- d. Sub-Chapter for each of our 4 Outcome
  - I. Outcome language (including targets)
  - II. Baseline and Current Condition
  - III. Measuring Progress and Indicators
  - IV. Outcome Situation Analysis
  - V. Snapshot of Signatory Programs
  - VI. Management Approaches
  - VII. Participating Partners

# MS Timeline

Public Feedback Period for Management Strategies:  
Tuesday, January 5, 2027 through Sunday, January 31, 2027

\*\*Dynamic web interface for a public-facing content would take additional time



18-month countdown	Dec 00	Jan 01	Feb 02	Mar 03	Apr 04	May 05	Jun 06	Jul 07	Aug 08	Sep 09	Oct 10	Nov 11	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 14	Mar 15	Apr 16	May 17	Jun 18
Month	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Year	25	2026												2027					

# Chesapeake Bay Strategic Plan & Management Strategies

## Writing Strategy:

### **Goal Team Level:**

Led by the steering committee

Likely more concise than the outcome subchapters

Volunteers WELCOME!!!

### **Outcome level:**

Small team from the Workgroup drafts the majority of the document

Standing topic at WG meetings

Stay connected with the Goal Team (your content directly influences ours)

Do feel free to reuse content from older Management Strategies

**Alternate models are also welcome!**

# Chesapeake Bay Strategic Plan & Management Strategies

## Other thoughts:

Questions as you prepare the MS:

- Let us know – perhaps we discussed it?
- Sarah Brzezinski still leads the management Strategies
- Make the best decision that works for your Outcome! We do want consistency, but we also acknowledge that these are largely internal documents for each Workgroup and each Outcome.

## The partnership has a template for each:

Management Strategy Template – let's review

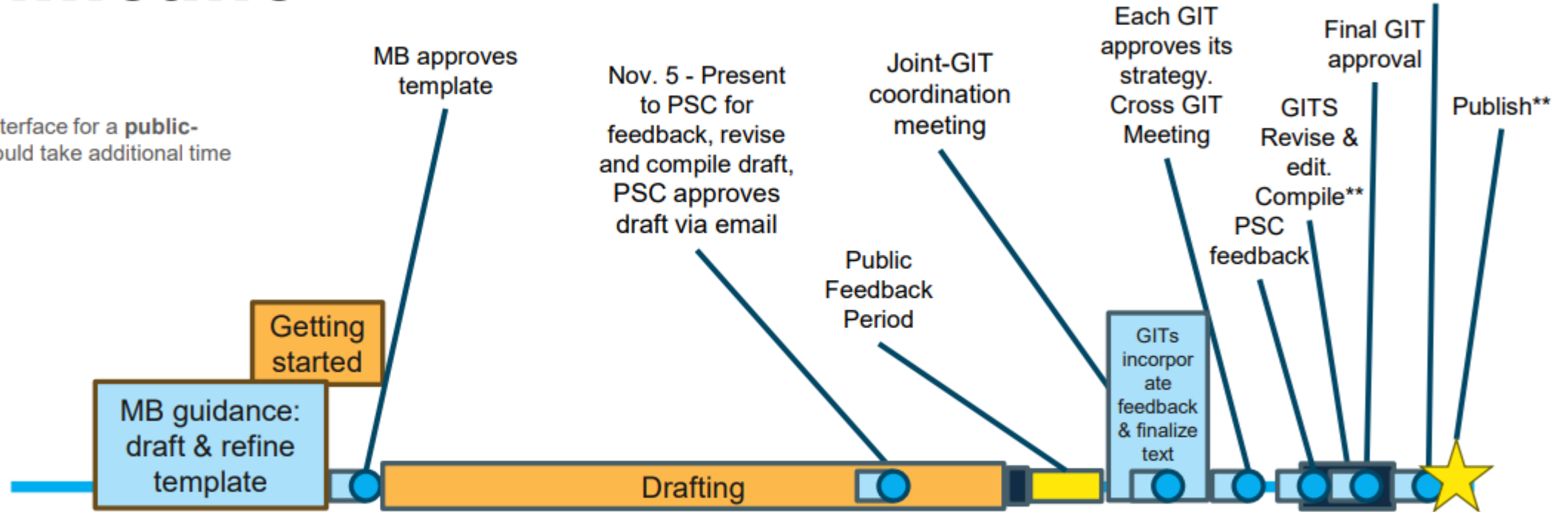
Workplan Template – let's review

Timelines – let's discuss in detail

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# Proposed Healthy Landscapes Management Strategy Drafting Timeline

