

Workshops for Increasing the Rate of Implementation  
Wetlands and Forest Buffer Outcomes  
Draft Concept – September 2021

ISSUE:

The 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement set targets and timelines for several of its 31 Outcomes. An analysis of progress toward achieving those targets within the established timeframe identified two outcomes, **wetlands and forest buffers**, as significantly off trajectory.

Much work has been done by the Workgroups and through the Strategy Review System process to identify barriers and to develop a path forward for both outcomes. However, the ability to significantly improve the rate of progress requires not only the members of the workgroups but, program managers and in some cases, policy-makers. With limited time or bandwidth available to spend on creating a path forward on these outcomes.

PROPOSAL:

A one day facilitated workshop for each outcome hosted by the appropriate workgroup to include members of the workgroup, appropriate program managers identified by workgroup, GIT, and Management Board members. Desired outcomes for that meeting include:

- Options and recommendations to significantly accelerate implementation toward outcome attainment through existing or proposed new programs to be considered by the Management Board and, as necessary, the PSC.
- Recommendations for determining whether the target and timeline set in 2014 is still reasonable and achievable.

Recommended Steps:

Pework:

1. Review materials developed for achieving these outcomes.
  - a. Management Strategies
  - b. Logic and Action Plans
  - c. Narrative Analyses
  - d. Other
2. Develop a description of key barriers to increasing the rate of implementation.
  - a. Narrative Analyses
  - b. Biennial SRS meeting materials
  - c. Other
3. Review ideas for increasing the rate of implementation collected at the Biennial SRS meeting
4. Review how the Outcome target was developed and whether it continues to be reasonable and achievable within the timeframe.
  - a. Factsheets developed in 2014.
5. Develop an agenda to achieve the desired outcomes.

#### Workshop:

- Three one-day facilitated workshops, (forest buffers, tidal wetlands, and nontidal wetlands) to include facilitated approaches such as SWOT analyses (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats).
- Critical to the success of this workshop is ensuring the right people from the workgroup and the federal, state, local, and NGO program managers are in attendance.
- Develop draft options and recommendations both on significantly accelerating progress and on an analysis of achievability of the current Outcome targets.
- Establish or clarify the roles and responsibilities associated with outcome completion, including the primary POC.
- Evaluate and suggest improvements to current methods and metrics used to prioritize, implement, and account for actions designed to attain an outcome.

#### Post Workshop

- Provide draft options and recommendations to the Management Board at a regularly scheduled meeting for action.
- As needed, provide options and recommendations for policy consideration to the PSC at a quarterly meeting.