

CHESAPEAKE BAY POLICIES: 2025 & BEYOND

2023 Virginia Water Monitoring Council
Conference



Anna Killius
Chesapeake Bay Commission

2023



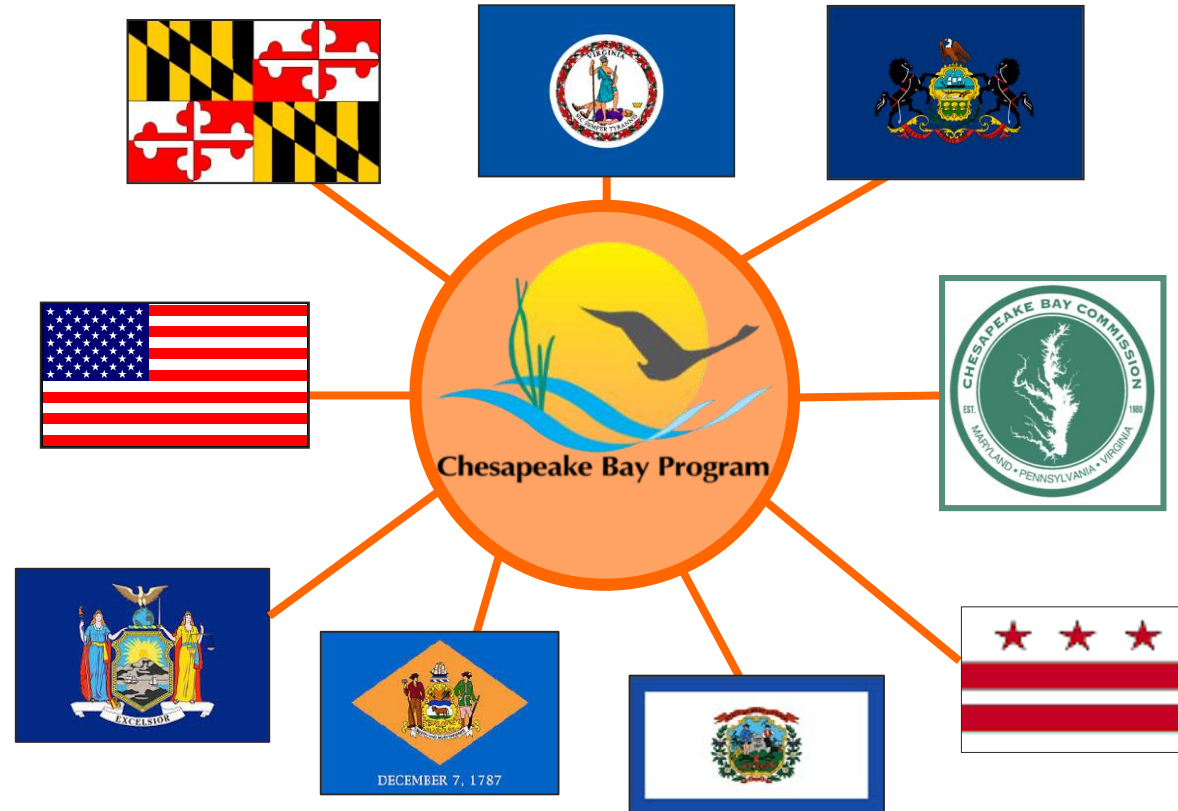
CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

Tri-State Legislative Commission established in 1980s to:

- Help legislatures evaluate and respond to Bay and watershed concerns;
- Promote intergovernmental cooperation and coordination for resource planning;
- Coordinate regional policy interests with US Congress;
- Signatory to Chesapeake Bay Agreement and full partner of the Chesapeake Bay Program



CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM



2014 CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED AGREEMENT

1 Vision

10 Interrelated Goals

31 Measurable, Time-Bound Outcomes



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHARGE

“

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.**

”



REACHING 2025

REACHING 2025

- Recommendations on how to address and integrate new science and restoration strategies through 2025.
- Snapshot of outcome attainability.
- Draft released for 30-day public comment period July 21.
- Summary recommendations to be shared with Executive Council.

Charting a Course to 2025

A Report and Recommendations for the Chesapeake Executive Council on How to Best Address and Integrate New Science and Restoration Strategies Leading up to 2025

Posted on July 21, 2023



Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

OUTCOME ATTAINMENT

 OUTLOOK ON COURSE	 OUTLOOK OFF COURSE
Blue Crab Abundance Outcome	Wetlands Outcome
<i>Blue Crab Management Outcome (Completed)</i>	Black Duck Outcome
Oysters Outcome	Brook Trout Outcome
Forage Fish Outcome	Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Outcome
Fish Habitat Outcome	Forest Buffers Outcome
Stream Health Outcome	Tree Canopy Outcome
<i>2017 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) Outcome (Complete)</i>	2025 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) Outcome
Fish Passage Outcome	Diversity Outcome
Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring Outcome	Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention Outcome
Local Leadership Outcome	Toxic Contaminants Research Outcome
Protected Lands Outcome	Students Outcome
Land Use Methods and Metrics Development Outcome	Climate Adaptation Outcome
Land Use Options and Evaluations Outcome	 OUTLOOK UNCERTAIN
Public Access Outcome	Healthy Watershed Outcome
Sustainable Schools Outcome	Stewardship Outcome
Environmental Literacy Planning Outcome	
Climate Monitoring and Assessment Outcome	

PATH FORWARD THROUGH 2025

We have made progress, and we continue to make progress.

Moving forward

- Accelerate Investments
- Integrate Emerging Science and Monitoring
- Fast-Track Action Plan Implementation





BEYOND 2025

TWO-PHASED APPROACH

- Step 1 – By EC 2024, Determine the scope and breadth of what will be undertaken to meet the EC Charge and develop a plan to complete that work
 - Use a Steering Committee to develop plan/scope of work for all activities to be undertaken to strengthen Partnership in years ahead
 - Contract support
- Step 2 – Execute the plan after EC 2024.

BEYOND 2025 STEERING COMMITTEE

- 7 Jurisdictions
- 1 Chesapeake Bay Commission
- 8 Core Federal Agencies
- 1 Scientific and Technical Assessment and Reporting
- 3 Advisory Committees
- 6 Goal Implementation Teams
- 2 At-Large Stakeholder Representatives

GOAL

We will assess where we are and where we want to be in

reaching our shared vision for the Chesapeake Bay and its

watershed; and identify a path forward for the Chesapeake Bay

Program focused on what we do and how we work.

Where we are

What have we, as a partnership, accomplished through our current theory of change, based on the Reaching 2025 report, CESR, and other reports and program evaluations?

Where we want to be

How do we define a healthy, sustainable, productive Chesapeake Bay and watershed, responding to climate change and community needs?

A path forward

What is our plan & who will be part of executing the plan? What does this plan mean for the foundational guides of our program?

What we do

What is our approach to the goals and outcomes we have achieved and those we have yet to meet; and to the monitoring and modeling we do to set strategies and measure progress?

How we work

How do we improve our Partnership, Governance, Adaptive Management, Time and Resource Allocation, Public Engagement, Communication to do more, better, faster?

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

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Add 2 At-Large, non-voting seats on Steering Committee
- Circulate meeting dates and materials
- Ensure opportunities throughout agenda for public comment, with time for response
- Collect and disseminate public feedback received between meetings
- Coordinate with network organization to share periodic updates and to organize opportunities for additional public and stakeholder engagement

TIMELINE



THANK YOU

Anna Killius

Executive Director

Chesapeake Bay Commission

akillius@chesbay.us

2023



All photos by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program