



Refreshing the Watershed Agreement

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Chesapeake Bay Commission
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Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement

- Vision
- Preamble
- Principles
- Goals & Outcomes
- Management Strategies
- Affirmation by the Signatories



Management Strategies

Resources

Activities

Agreement

Outcomes
& Targets

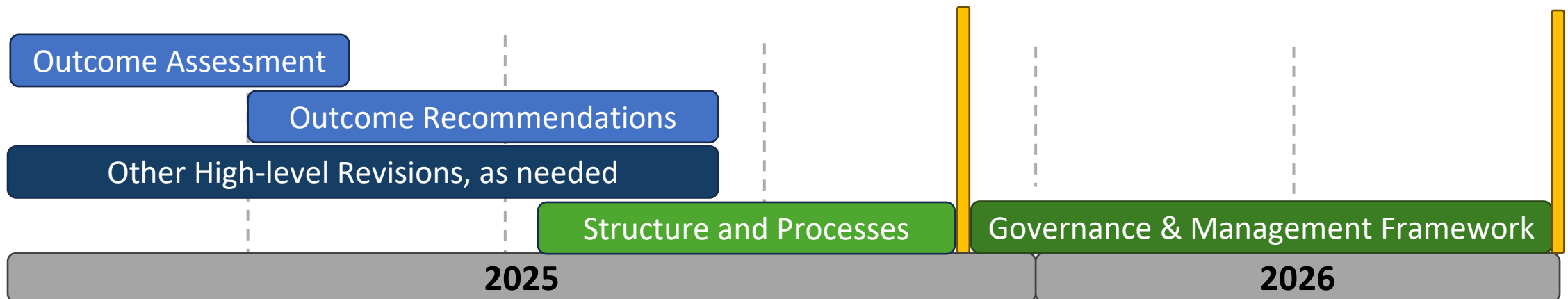
Goals

Vision

Governance & Management Framework

2024 Chesapeake Executive Council Charge

- Prepare revisions to the *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*
 - Edits to the vision, principles and preamble as necessary
 - Focus on updating the goals and outcomes
 - Public feedback (July & August)
 - Recommendations presented to Executive Council by end of 2025
- Recommend simplified and streamlined partnership structure by end of 2025
 - Incorporate into the governance ~June 2026



Agreement

Outcomes
& Targets

Goals

Vision

Goals -- *currently*

10 Goals	5 Themes
Water Quality	Clean Water
Toxic Contaminants	
Healthy Watersheds	
Land Conservation	Conserved Lands
Sustainable Fisheries	Abundant Life
Vital Habitats	
Stewardship	
Public Access	Engaged Communities
Environmental Literacy	
Climate Resilience	Climate Change

Goals – *what if?*



Discussion

Considering the Charge and what you heard from CBF's survey results

- Does reframing our 10 goals into 4 goals offer any advantages? Does it present any risks?
- Would we still consider this a holistic agreement?
- If we want our goals to be both accurate and accessible to the public, what words might you use for the goals?

Agreement

Outcomes
& Targets

Goals

Vision

Outcomes

- **For Each Existing Outcome:** Update, Replace, Consolidate, Reclassify, Remove?
- Consideration of **New Outcomes**
- **Outcomes vs. Targets**
 - **Outcomes** – The bigger picture change of state we aspire to achieve for this topic.
 - **Targets** – What will we undertake in a given amount of time to help reach that outcome?
 - Where possible, these should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timebound

Refreshed Outcomes Under Development

Clean Water



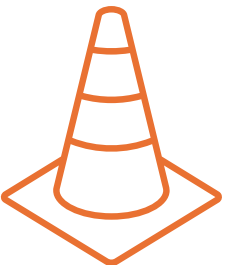
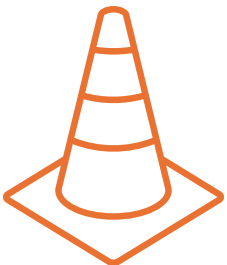
Water Quality Standards Attainment & Monitoring



Watershed Implementation Plans



Toxic Contaminants



Refreshed Outcomes Under Development

Conserved Lands & Watershed Health



Land Use Decision Support



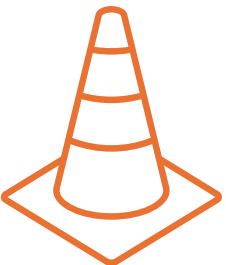
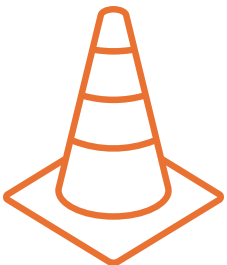
Protected Lands



Trees & Forests



Adaptation



Refreshed Outcomes Under Development

Habitat & Wildlife



Blue Crab Management



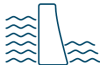
Oysters



Brook Trout



Fish Habitat



Fish Passage



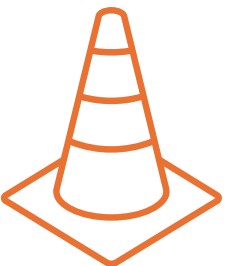
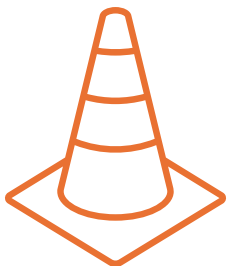
Stream Health



Wetlands



Submerged Aquatic Vegetation



Refreshed Outcomes Under Development

Engaged Communities



Public Access



Environmental Literacy Planning



Students



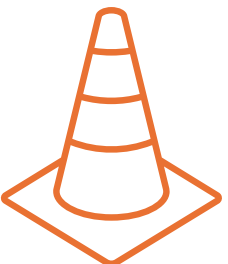
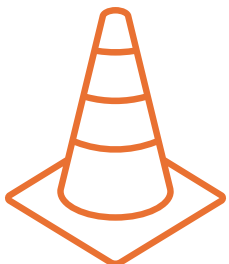
Stewardship



Workforce



Local Leadership



How might outcomes look?

Trees & Forests – *for demonstration purposes only*

Now	Proposed
Continually increase the capacity of trees and forests to provide air quality, water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed. Restore 900 miles per year of riparian forest buffer and conserve existing buffers until at least 70 percent of riparian areas throughout the watershed are forested. Expand urban tree canopy by 2,400 acres.	Continually increase the capacity of trees and forests to provide air quality, water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restore 900 miles per year of riparian forest buffer.• Conserve and restore buffers until at least 70 percent of riparian areas throughout the watershed are forested.• Expand community tree canopy by 2,400 acres.

Discussion

Seeing the proposed list of refreshed outcomes and considering what you heard from CBF's survey results:

- Do you think the public would find the Agreement speaks to what they are most concerned about?
- Do you think these outcomes would engage the public and make the Agreement relevant to their well-being?
- Is this an Agreement for the whole watershed? Would headwater *and* coastal states see themselves in the work?
- Is this an Agreement that achieves a healthy and holistic Bay and watershed?

Questions?

