

A scenic view of a river flowing through a forested area. The river is surrounded by dense green trees and foliage. The banks are rocky and covered with gravel. A large sandy bar is visible on the right side of the river. The water is clear and flows over rocks, creating small rapids.

# Fish Passage Workgroup Updates

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# Agenda



## Fish Passage Workgroup Fall Meeting Agenda

**Monday, September 20, 2021**  
**10:00-11:45 ET**

**Microsoft Teams:** [Click here to join the meeting on your computer or mobile app.](#)  
**Or call in (audio only):** +1 202-991-0477, ID: 367 451 554#

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- 10:00**      **Welcome and Introductions:** Mary Andrews, NOAA
- Introduce Katlyn Fuentes – Bay Program Fellow for Fish Passage and David Dippold – new PA Fish Passage Coordinator
  - Bay Program SRS review and action plan
  - Proposed updates to Chesapeake Fish Passage Tool
  - Follow Up on Action Items from Last Meeting
- 10:20**      **Updates on Maryland Culvert Guidance Document and Maryland Dam Removal Mitigation Calculator:** Mary Andrews, NOAA
- 10:30**      **Possible New Dam Removal Related Legislation – Serena McClain**
- Twenty-first Century Dams Act
  - FY22 Budget Opportunities – Infrastructure Bill/Community Investments
- 11:00**      **State Fish Passage Coordinator Updates:**
- **David Dippold** – PA Dam Removals and Culvert Projects
  - **Alan Weaver** – VA Dam Removals and Culvert Projects
  - **Jim Thompson** – MD Dam Removals and Culvert Projects
- All:** please provide updates to the state fish passage coordinators on any proposed projects prior to the meeting.
- State Fish Passage Coordinators:** please plan to answer the following question:  
*What you would do with additional new funding and resources?*
- 11:45**      **Wrap up/Action Items**

## SRS Review (Strategy Review System)

- The Strategy Review System (SRS) runs on two-year cycles. Pre-defined “cohorts” report their progress to the Management Board, explain their challenges and request action or assistance. The Management Board reviews progress toward each of the outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and supports necessary adaptations to the partnership’s work.
- Long process – fish passage always the highlight
- **All materials presented can be found here:**  
[https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/management\\_board\\_quarterly\\_progress\\_meeting\\_august\\_2021](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/management_board_quarterly_progress_meeting_august_2021)

# Fish Passage Action Plan (2022-2023) aka Work Plan

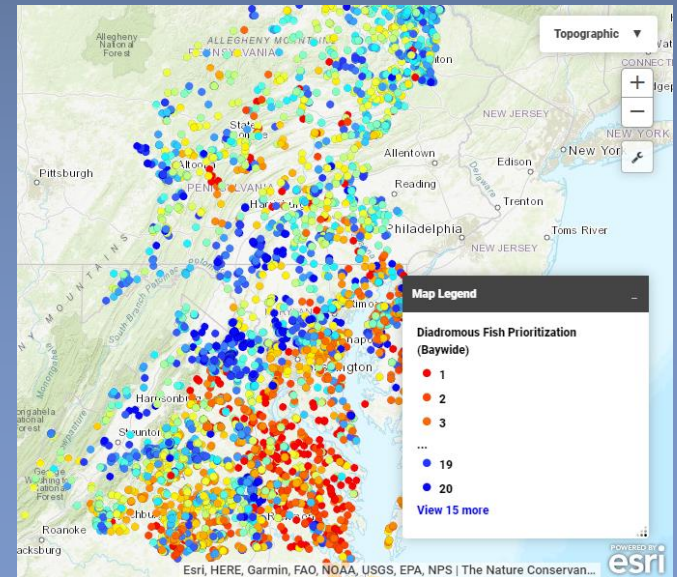
- 19 May 2021 email to workgroup asking for edits to Fish Passage Action Plan and 27 May 2021 work group meeting review
- Several emails with suggested edits from work group (thank you!)
- Continued focus on project implementation to include both dam removals and culvert related projects
- **Will email final action plan today after meeting – red flag edits only at this time**
- Next steps: 09/30 public review; review at STAC and STAR and management board; final plan

## WORK PLAN ACTIONS

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
<b>Management Approach 1: During the period 2011-2025, restore historical fish migratory routes by opening 1,000 additional stream miles, with restoration success indicated by the presence of Alewife, Blueback Herring, American Shad, Hickory Shad, American Eel and/or Brook Trout.</b>					
1.1	Continue dam removal activities in the Chesapeake Bay	Complete removal of the <u>Bloede</u> Dam (monitoring phase). Complete a feasibility/design study for Daniels Dam.	Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR), National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), American Rivers	<u>Ilchester</u> , MD	Ongoing
1.1	Continue dam removal activities in the Chesapeake Bay	Complete removal of the Cypress Branch Dam.	MD DNR, NOAA, USFWS, American Rivers	Millington, MD	May-22
1.1	Continue dam removal activities in the Chesapeake Bay	Complete design for the Fort Meade Dam.	USFWS, American Rivers, NOAA	Ft. Meade, MD	2021
1.1	Continue dam removal activities in the Chesapeake Bay	Complete design for the Frank <u>Bentz</u> Memorial Lake Dam.	American Rivers, MD DNR	Thurmont, MD	2022

# Proposed Updates to Fish Passage Tool

- Every year Bay Program funds workgroup projects in the \$50-70k range; Project selection process is different every year on what gets funded
- Fish Passage submitted the request to update the **Chesapeake Fish Passage Prioritization Tool**
- Lots of requests for data from the tool and no easy way to provide it; Not everyone making updates in tool similar to information submitted via yearly spreadsheet
- New IT platform



# Meeting Topics from Last Meeting

## WORKSHOPS

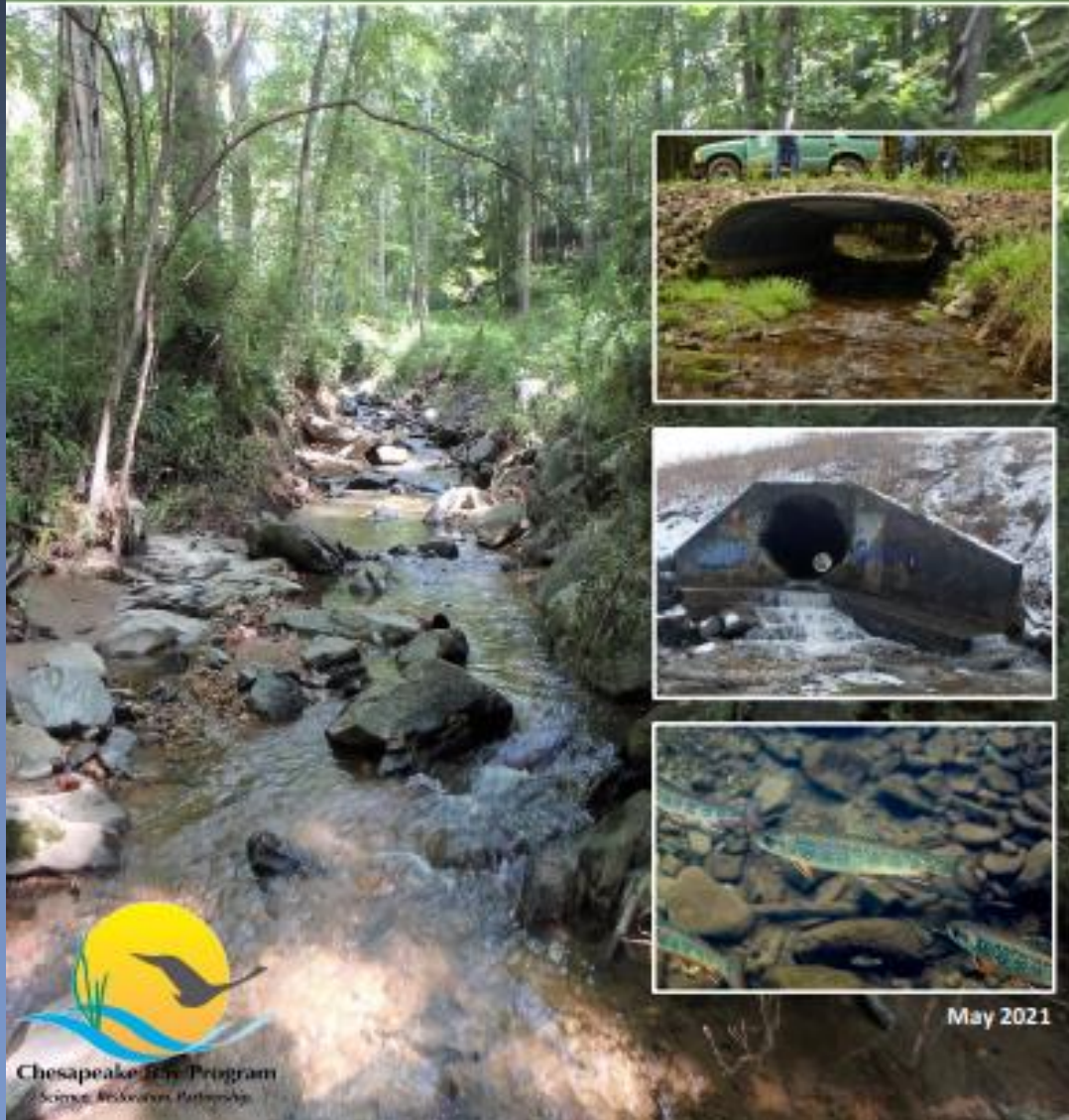
- Sedimentation Workshop (AR/NOAA) – no progress
- Culvert Workshop (USFWS) – need USFWS lead
- Facilitating NAACC Trainings (USFWS?) – still interest?

## DISCUSSIONS

- Monitoring at fish passage sites including eDNA (SERC/UMCES) – Update from Matt Ogburn?
- Invasive Species Discussion (USFWS) – small group discussion last spring. More needed?
- Dam Removal Mitigation Bank – no final calculator at this time



# Recommendations for Aquatic Organism Passage at Maryland Road-Stream Crossings



May 2021