Logic and Action Plan: Pre- Quarterly Progress Meeting

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**Riparian Forest Buffers – 2021-2022**

**Long-term Target:** (the metric for success of Outcome) Seventy percent of riparian areas throughout the watershed forested

**Two-year Target:** (increment of metric for success) 900 miles of riparian forest buffers planted and preserved per year

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| **Instructions:** Before your quarterly progress meeting, provide the status of individual actions in the table below using this color key. |
| Action has been completed or is moving forward as planned. |
| Action has encountered minor obstacles. |
| Action has not been taken or has encountered a serious barrier. |

Additional instructions for completing or updating your logic and action plan can be found on [ChesapeakeDecisions](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/decisions/srs-guide).

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| Factor | Current Efforts | Gap | Actions | Metrics | Expected Response and Application | Learn/Adapt |
| *What is impacting our ability to achieve our outcome?* | *What current efforts are addressing this factor?* | *What further efforts or information are needed to fully address this factor?* | *What actions are essential (to help fill this gap) to achieve our outcome?* | *What will we measure or observe to determine progress in filling identified gap?* | *How and when do we expect these actions to address the identified gap? How might that affect our work going forward?* | *What did we learn from taking this action? How will this lesson impact our work?* |
| Need for high-level coordination and direction at state level | 1. some states already have non-forestry leadership 2. PSC engagement | More networking, more strategy | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.3, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1 | Action Strategy developed, pilot innovative programs at state level, | Ongoing |  |
| Improved Technical Assistance | 11 positions with USDA funding, additional trainings | Need for consistent funding for positions, expand training | 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1 | More trained TA providers, more landowner contacts, additional funding, state TA plans | Focus for 2021 |  |
| Implementation partners need consistency, security | CREP and some localized programs tiered to RFB and innovation | Broaden-out existing programs, find like-programs that could incorporate RFB | 1.2, 2.1, 2.3, 5.1 | Public funds are leveraged in new ways, additional funding, | Ongoing |  |
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|  | ACTIONS – 2018-2019 | | | | |
| Action # | Description | Performance Target(s) | Responsible Party (or Parties) | Geographic Location | Expected Timeline |
| Management Approach 1: Renew leadership to achieve an “all hands” approach | | | | | |
| 1.1 | Work at WQGIT and MB level to form a RFB coordinating body in each state | 1. designated, non-forester, state contact 2. advisory body formed 3. strategy developed (see 1.2) | State leadership | Baywide | February 2021 |
| 1.2 | Develop a state high-level Action Strategy to help focus and coordinate RFB efforts | 1. diagnostic tools used 2. localized goals are set 3. agricultural landowners with the greatest number of bufferable acres are identified | States | Baywide | May 2021 |
| 1.3 | Develop Natural Filters restoration-type programs with innovative financing | 1. public funding sources are identified that can be directed to the Program (i.e. SRF, 319 $) 2. programs are developed 3. private funding is leveraged | USFS, state contacts and advisory boards, consv finance consultant, Throwe Consulting | Baywide | Ongoing |
| 1.4 | Work on policies to maintain and increase RFB on landscape | 1. Amendments to state CREP agreements include benefits of 2018 Farm Bill 2. conservation policies that reduce RFB loss are developed 3. Look at stream restoration policies to lessen impact on existing buffers | CBC, Choose Clean Water Coalition, state advisory boards, CSN | Baywide | Ongoing |
| Management Approach 2: Improve existing Ag programs and continue to develop new ones | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Develop Natural Filters restoration-type programs with innovative financing (see 1.3) | 1. Increase, stabilize funding (no breaks in CREP) 2. New programs in place | State contacts, USFS, consv finance consultant, NFWF | Baywide | Ongoing |
| 2.2 | Improve RFB Verification by working with states on reporting | 1. Work with LUWG to determine efficient strategies to verify buffers using high-resolution imagery. 2. Work with FSA/NRCS to get data on buffer width and verification data (sanitized ok) 3. Extend credit duration for ag RFB to 15-years (to match urban RFB) | LUWG, USGS, USFS, FSA, NRCS, Verification Ad-Hoc Team | Baywide | September 2021 |
| 2.3 | Stabilize funding and demand for comprehensive RFB services; planning, planting and maintenance using complementary programs | 1. Utilize CREP to its fullest 2. Efficient landowner service 3. Strategically link existing landowner programs with RFB 4. Pilots of Natural Filters Resto-like program 5. NFWF intersection | State contacts, state Advisory Boards, USFS, NRCS, NFWF, consv finance consultant | Baywide | Ongoing |
| Management Approach 3: Improve Technical Assistance | | | | | |
| 3.1 | Develop a state plan with goals for improved technical assistance (could be part of 1.2) | 1. TA personnel retained thru increased funding and support 2. Use tools and local goals to focus TA where needed 3. Efficient landowner service | FSA, USFS, NRCS, CBC,  States, SWCDs, Ag consultants | Baywide | Ongoing |
| 3.2 | Training and improved support networks for TA providers | 1. Train Consv Dists, NGO’s and county TA providers on RFBs 2. # of trainees and networks established | State Advisory Boards, FWG, SWCD, Cross GITs, NRCS, | Baywide | Ongoing |
| Management Approach 4: Improved RFB Outreach and Communications | | | | | |
| 4.1 | Continue to develop communication and outreach plans for RFB, tree canopy and other natural filters | 1. Review of prior efforts for ‘lessons learned’ 2. circulate proven ideas of what works now | CBP Comm  Staff, FWG, State advisory boards, Cross GIT | Baywide | Ongoing |
| Management Approach 5: Focus on Non-Ag lands for RFB | | | |  |  |
| 5.1 | Develop Natural Filters Restoration-like program that focuses on ag and non-ag land alike (see 1.3 and 2.3) | 1. Programs in developed areas 2. Use MS4 as driver | USFS, state contacts and advisory boards, consv finance consultant, Throwe Consulting | Baywide | Ongoing |