

SRS Management Board Asks

Forage:

- Establish a comprehensive strategy to assess tidal shoreline throughout the bay and evaluate development of shoreline condition thresholds or metrics. Thresholds or metrics could be a tool for planning officials to help guide shoreline development decisions and implement protection or restoration where necessary. The NOAA funded [Predicting Impacts of Stressors at the Land-Water Interface in the Mid-Atlantic Region](#) project found that shoreline hardening significantly impacts fish, crabs and SAV. These near shore habitats are important to many forage species.
 - Management Board members from MD, VA, DE, DC agree tidal shorelines are critical to many outcomes in the 2014 agreement and deserve greater focus.
 - Management Board members from MD, VA, DE, DC commission development of a comprehensive strategy for tidal shorelines that includes an assessment of baseline condition and evaluates development of a shoreline condition target.

Blue crab:

- Develop funding strategies for the benchmark stock assessment.
 - The benchmark stock assessment is on hold due to lack of funding. This assessment usually occurs every 5 years. The last benchmark stock assessment was completed in 2011. The stock assessment is important to evaluating the current reference points and refining annual analyses run by the Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee for the Blue Crab Advisory Report.
 - Maryland and Virginia Management Board representatives facilitate meeting of Natural Resource Secretaries and Fisheries GIT Executive Committee Members (Sean Corson, Rob O'reilly, Dave Blazer, and Marty Gary) to review the need for a stock assessment and identify near and long term funding strategies.
- Jurisdictions worked with industry to evaluate an allocation based management framework. Industry was not supportive. We recommend the Management Board agree that this outcome has been achieved.

Oysters:

- Work through Natural Resource Secretaries in Maryland and Virginia to:
 - 1) Finalize selection of four additional Bay tributaries (2 in Maryland and 2 in Virginia)
 - a) Maryland: requires working through Fish GIT Executive Committee member Dave Blazer and the Oyster Advisory Commission
 - b) Virginia: Requires working through Fish GIT Executive Committee members Rob O'reilly and Susan Conner to review the tributaries preliminarily selected by the Virginia Interagency Oyster Team and establish a decision making process
 - 2) Identify options to finalize tributary plans in Virginia and complete Lynnhaven and Lafayette River restoration

- a) NOAA and USACE technical staff recommend refined analyses to establish tributary level restoration acreage goals and review with working groups and apply to tributary restoration plans
 - b) Execute funding needed to complete Lafayette
 - 3) Develop options to address shell substrate limitations in Maryland
 - a) Identify which alternative substrates can feasibly be used to meet restoration targets and acceptable to stakeholders
 - 4) Reaffirm commitment by state and federal partners to continue funding to achieve the outcome
 - a) MD and VA Natural Resource Secretary level meeting with USACE and NOAA
 - b) Funding comes from a combination of federal, state, and non-governmental organizations and should be included (ORP, Lynnhaven River NOW, CBF, etc.).
- We also commend the work of the Oyster Best Management Practice Expert Panel to draft recommendations for the nitrogen and phosphorus assimilation in oyster shell and enhanced denitrification crediting protocols related to oyster aquaculture and/or restoration practices. We encourage the Management Board to facilitate streamlined review and decision.