



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Management Board

February 27, 2025

Outcome Review - Clarifying Questions

Stewardship Outcome:

1. What kinds of volunteerism does the Outcome seek to track? Will this be clarified in the update? (Stakeholders Advisory Committee)
2. What are the plans to build social science capacity into this outcome? Can metrics and milestones be completed by the end of 2025? (EPA)
3. Is the suggestion to update using the indicator tool on Chesapeake Progress that was established after the outcome was established? (VA)

Stream Health Outcome:

1. How would the addition of more indicators or metrics affect the actual outcome language? It doesn't seem like that is necessarily the case and that the details about adding more indicators would take place at a later stage in the process. (CBC)
2. How do the states use this information. For example, what action is being taken on a bad BIBI score? Can we consider consolidating stream health and brook trout outcomes and reclassify brook trout as output or indicator? (EPA)
3. How do we narrow the scope of this outcome versus broadening? (VA)

Brook Trout Outcome:

1. How does removing brook trout as a CBP outcome greatly jeopardize populations in the watershed? (EPA)
2. How do we narrow the scope of this outcome versus broadening? (VA)

Land Use Methods and Metrics Development Outcome:

1. Will the consolidated outcome include a better definition of conservation? (Stakeholders Advisory Committee)

Land Use Options Evaluation Outcome:

1. What watershed planning scale is envisioned? (Stakeholders Advisory Committee)
2. Recognizing that local land use decisions are largely within the hands of local governments, is it more appropriate for the Bay Program's outcome language to remain focused on encouraging local decisionmakers to employ watershed planning tools and strategies as opposed to affirmatively stating the Program's principal partners will reduce the rate of conversion? (CBC)
3. Who is going to use the information that is gathered? What are partners committing to in order to achieve this outcome? (EPA)
4. How do you make the suggested new language SMART? Was consolidation with Local Leadership or another related outcome considered? (VA)

Healthy Watersheds Outcome:

1. Still unclear on whether this should be more properly considered a goal under which multiple outcomes sit, or should be combined with the stream health goal and focused on the stressors in the surrounding watershed impacting local stream health. We're not clear on how this continues as a standalone outcome distinct from its many other associated outcomes. (CBC)
2. What is the value in tracking state-identified healthy waters/watersheds? How do the state partners use this in management activities? What actions will result from the Partnership monitoring and reporting these activities? Is there opportunity to spread the outputs/strategies for this outcome across others, such as an expanded stewardship outcome? (EPA)
3. How do you make the suggested new language SMART? Was consolidation with Stream Health considered? (VA)

Forest Buffers Outcome:

1. What are the assurances that all buffer plantings from the many groups across the watershed are counted? (Stakeholders Advisory Committee)
2. Why do we not track net gain/loss in for this outcome as we do for canopy? (EPA)

Tree Canopy Outcome:

1. If community is inserted into this Outcome, will the CBP explicitly prioritize places absent of tree canopy? (Stakeholders Advisory Committee)
2. What steps are being taken to address CBP's inability to reach a net gain in tree canopy acres? What is the accountability mechanism? Can Bay Program affect all factors leading to high rates of canopy loss, like pests, disease, extreme weather, land use change, etc.? Would there be value in adding an 'acres planted' target to this, as exists in the buffer outcome? (EPA)

Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring Outcome

1. How does this Outcome relate to other reporting timeframes like the milestones, 303(d) reporting and progress reports? What is the connection to citizen water quality monitoring? (Stakeholders Advisory Committee)
2. Can we make sure this aligns with assessment of DO criteria with all 92 segments of the bay? (EPA)

Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP) Outcome:

1. Will the revised Agreement include a statement about maintaining current WQ targets until a new one is set? (Stakeholders Advisory Committee)
2. What is the deadline? Do we want an interim deadline? What is the suggested renaming of this outcome and why? Should we integrate phase VII into this outcome somehow? (EPA)