

## **PROPOSED DRAFT OUTCOME LANGUAGE:**

Achieve a sustainable bay wide blue crab fishery through cross jurisdictional coordination that supports healthy blue crab populations and thriving fishing communities.

## **EXISTING 2014 AGREEMENT OUTCOME LANGUAGE:**

Maintain a sustainable blue crab population based on the current 2012 target of 215 million adult females. Refine population targets through 2025 based on best available science.

# Blue Crab Sustainability

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES GIT  
CBSAC  
Presenter: Bruce Vogt

PROPOSED TARGET	New Target / Update of Existing Target	Date estimate for target being developed
Continually maintain abundance and harvest rate targets as determined by the 2026 benchmark stock assessment. [under construction]	New target	2025
Annually evaluate and communicate stock status through the annual blue crab advisory report and refine targets, as needed, through the next stock assessment. [under construction]	New target	2025

# Blue Crab Sustainability

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES GIT

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- Blue crabs are economically and ecologically important. The blue crab population is assessed Bay wide but the fishery is managed by three separate jurisdictions.
- Blue crab abundance varies year to year and geographically. Blue crabs move across the three jurisdictional boundaries. Therefore, coordination between jurisdictions is key to achieving bay wide population levels and sustainable harvest.
- Science derives population targets that inform management decisions and supports annual population assessments.