



# Forage Fish

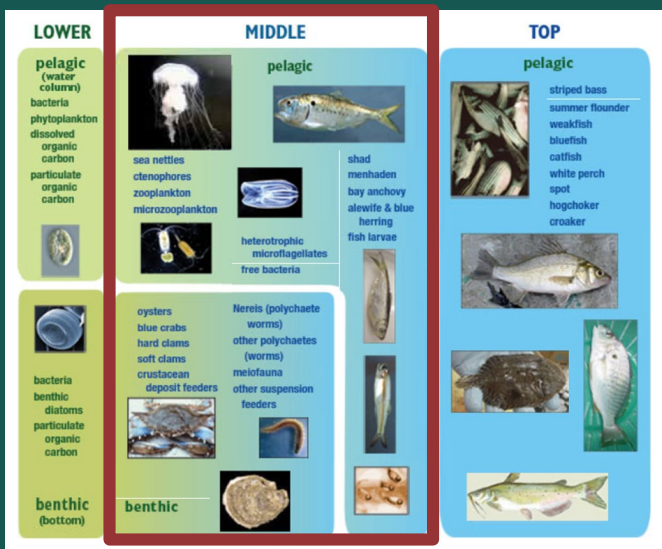
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*ERT/NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office*  
*Forage Action Team Coordinator*



*Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to...*

# Goal: Sustainable Fisheries

*Outcome: Continually improve the Partnership's capacity to understand the role of forage fish populations in the Chesapeake Bay. By 2016, develop a strategy for assessing the forage fish base available as food for predatory species in the Chesapeake Bay.*

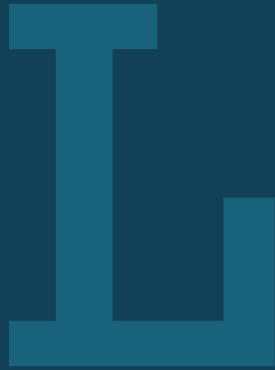




## How You Can Help



- Successful funding and execution of relevant research projects
- Indicator development taking longer than anticipated
- Require further engagement of managers and other partners



# Learn

*What have we learned in the last two years?*

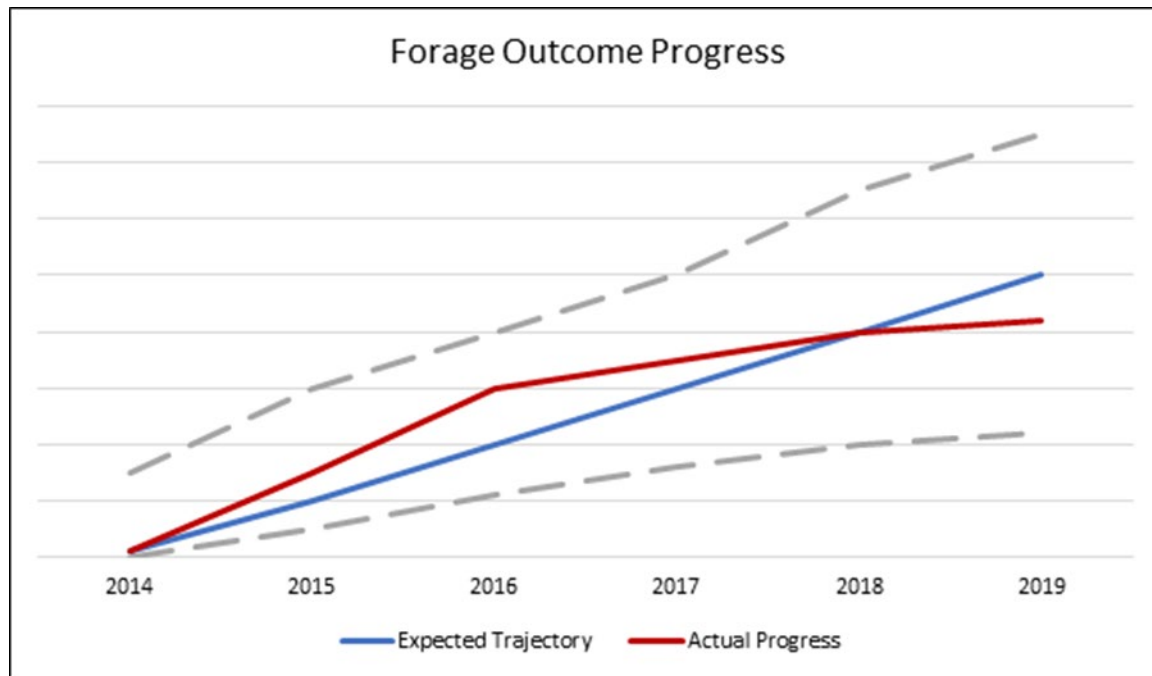


## Successes and Challenges

- GIT/NOAA funded 3 studies relevant to Chesapeake Bay forage
  - Want to use results to inform indicators
- Ongoing citizen science project to examine habitat use by forage fishes
- Challenge developing meaningful indicators



## What is our Expected and Actual Progress?





## On the Horizon

- Application of shoreline hardening and other study results to indicator development
- Improved understanding of forage fish habitat use and productivity
  - Citizen science project expansion

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# Adapt

*How does all of this impact our work?*





**Based on what we  
learned, we plan to ...**



Develop a simple suite of forage indicators  
informed by research results and feedback  
from other CBP workgroups/outcomes



# Help

*How can the Management Board  
lead the Program to adapt?*



## Help Needed

- Linking forage indicators to other relevant CBP workgroups/outcomes
- Prioritize and support monitoring of nearshore habitats to estimate forage fish productivity
- Provide training opportunities focused on ecosystem modeling, R analysis, and other analytical tools

QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING  
*Chesapeake Bay Program*



# Discussion