

Draft Watershed Agreement Public Feedback

September 16th, 2025

FEEDBACK OVERVIEW

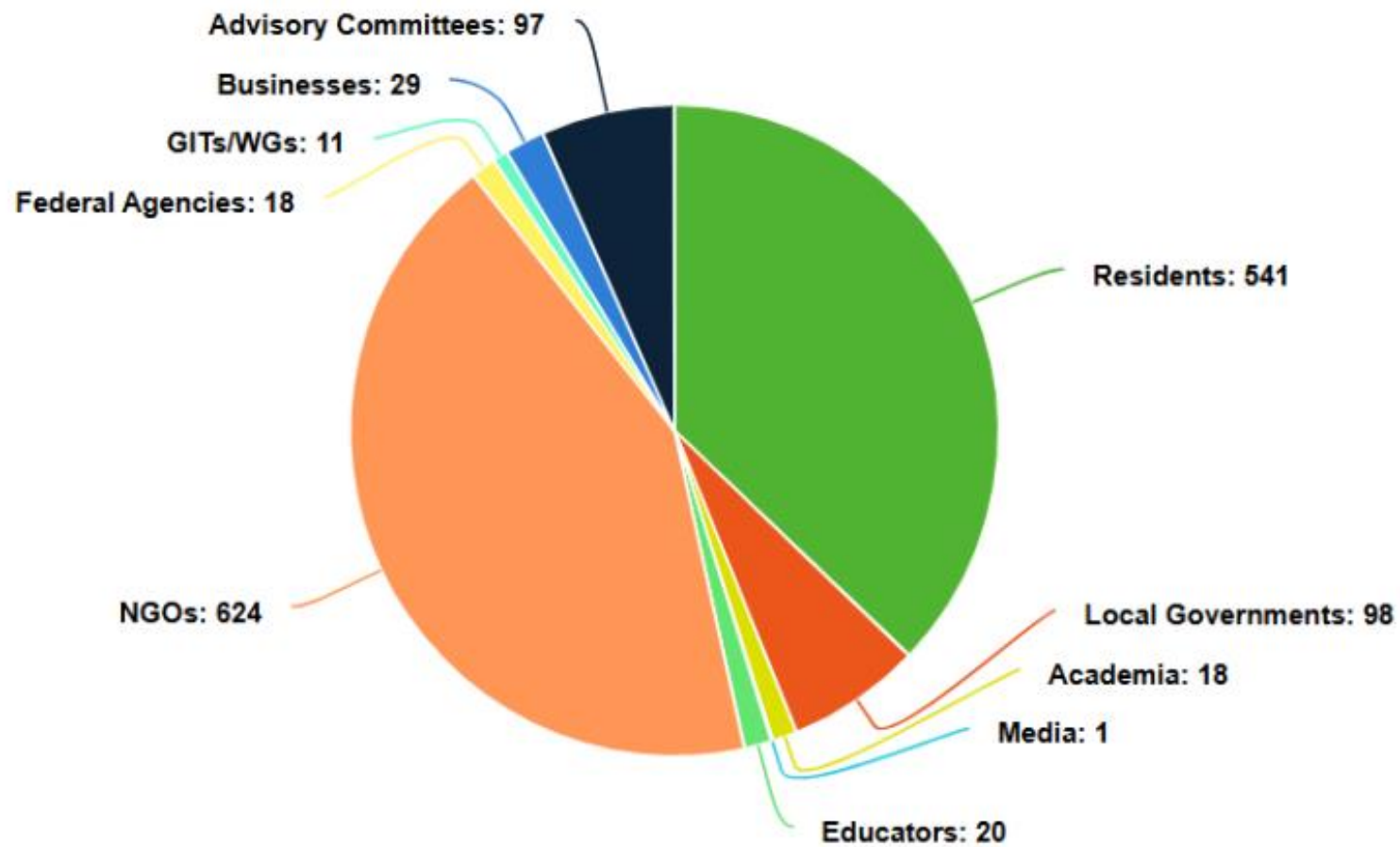
Public feedback period ran from July 1—September 1.

1,465 unique pieces of feedback

381 individual feedback emails.

Action alerts:

- 1,114 emails from Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- 1,047 emails from Environmental America



THRIVING HABITATS AND WILDLIFE GOAL

Oysters – 56 comments

Fish Habitat – 53 comments

Wetlands – 53 comments

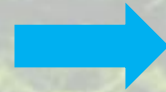
Stream Health – 32 comments

SAV – 23 comments

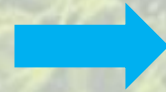
Blue Crab Sustainability – 15 comments

Fish Passage – 9 comments

Brook Trout – 7 comments



- Concern that targets are lower than in the previous Agreement for several outcomes.



- Requests for more details that will ultimately be included in the Management Strategies.
- Multiple calls to consider adding outcome/target/other reference to invasive species, primarily blue catfish.
- Strong support for the Brook Trout and Fish Passage outcomes.

Who Provided Public Feedback on Wetlands?

Academia	1
Advisory Committees	1
Federal Agencies	1
Local Governments	3
NGOs	20
Residents	4



Outcome leads and Review Team members continue to meet to refine recommendations.



During the week of September 15, small review teams will meet to begin making suggested red-lined revisions to the revised Watershed Agreement.



Final recommendations for Agreement revisions due to Rachel Felver from outcome leads and Review Team members by Friday, September 19.



Additional mark-ups added to the Agreement and send out to the Review Team for fatal flaw review.



Red-lined version uploaded to chesapeakebay.net on September 23.



Recommendations in red-lined version to be discussed and approved to move forward at September retreat.



Final consensus on revised Watershed Agreement to occur at October Management Board meeting.

WHAT NEXT?