

BIENNIAL STRATEGY REVIEW SYSTEM

Chesapeake Bay Program



Logic and Action Plan: Pre- Quarterly Progress Meeting

Wetlands – 2020-2021

[NOTE: make sure to edit **pre-** or **post-** in the text above, to tell the reader whether this logic and action plan is in preparation for your quarterly progress meeting or has been updated based on discussion at the quarterly progress meeting.]

Long-term Target: 85,000 acres

Two-year Target: 29,548 acres (based on 2017 progress)

Instructions: Before your quarterly progress meeting, provide the status of individual actions in the table below using this color key.
Action has been completed or is moving forward as planned.
Action has encountered minor obstacles.
Action has not been taken or has encountered a serious barrier.

Additional instructions for completing or updating your logic and action plan can be found on [ChesapeakeDecisions](#).

Factor	Current Efforts	Gap	Actions	Metrics	Expected Response and Application	Learn/Adapt
What is impacting our ability to achieve our outcome?	What current efforts are addressing this factor?	What further efforts or information are needed to fully address this factor?	What actions are essential (to help fill this gap) to achieve our outcome?	What will we measure or observe to determine progress in filling identified gap?	How and when do we expect these actions to address the identified gap? How might that affect our work going forward?	What did we learn from taking this action? How will this lesson impact our work?

Funding and incentives	Accumulation of State plans, programs, and initiatives in Virginia that could act as an example	Co-benefits of wetlands may not be emphasized in conservation and restoration	5.4 Work with the Communication Workgroup to develop state-specific factsheets that identify State plans, programs, and initiatives that encourage wetland restoration and implementation of living shorelines.			
			5.5 Present the state-specific factsheets to the Principal's Staff Committee for awareness along with a recommendation for cross-program prioritization of these actions by the Bay States as a wise use of limited resources.			
Communication with landowners			2.4 Implement recommendations from social marketing plan for wetland restoration on agricultural land.			

		Landowner interest and willingness for conservation / restoration	2.5 Support Bay Program efforts to develop targeted messaging towards coastal landowners about shoreline protection options, particularly living shorelines.			
	TNC's NFWF funded project "Accelerating Wetland Restoration Across the Chesapeake Bay Watershed by Strengthening Partnerships and Increasing Landowner Engagement" will directly address this work starting January 2020		5.3 Identify/ create "Wetland Outreach Coordinators" in each state/ priority area that will identify key outreach opportunities, find funding for the right programs, and provide a way to address competing messages.			
		Incomplete information for public engagement	2.1 Expand inventory of wetland programs that fund wetland restoration in each state to include tidal and non-agricultural wetlands, as well as any other non-traditional funding sources.			
	Identifying/interviewing landowners for new success stories, collaboration with CBP web and communications team to better market the WetlandsWork.org site and increase traffic		2.3 Improve WetlandsWork.org by adding new success stories, implementing the marketing strategies that were developed to increase traffic of the site, and improving security and certifications to			

			ensure site access to all.			
Communication with decision-makers	Creation of a standing agenda item at Wetland Workgroup meetings to discuss legislation and policy related to wetland restoration		2.2 Identify legal or regulatory barriers to wetland creation and enhancement and develop strategies to overcome these obstacles on an annual basis.			
			5.2 Work with CBP Communications Office to update existing co-benefit fact sheet to increase engagement and address leadership and practitioners.			
	Accumulation of State plans, programs, and initiatives in Virginia that could act as an example	Co-benefits may not be emphasized in conservation and restoration decision-making	5.4 Work with the Communication Workgroup and State partners to develop state-specific factsheets that identify State plans, programs, and initiatives that encourage wetland restoration and implementation of living shorelines.			

			5.5 Present the state-specific factsheets to the Principal's Staff Committee for awareness along with a recommendation for cross-program prioritization of these actions by the Bay States as a wise use of limited resources.			
	<p>The City of Norfolk, VA treats unpermitted wetland mowing as a violation of State wetland regulations and conducts enforcement to stop it. The courts have affirmed this approach.</p>	<p>Lack of awareness on the breadth and impact of wetland mowing Bay-wide. Conflicting perspectives from federal, state, and local regulatory entities on whether wetland mowing is a regulated activity or whether wetland mowing constitutes a violation of law. Lack of an official Chesapeake Bay Program position on whether efforts to cease wetland mowing would count towards wetland enhancement goals and outcomes.</p>	5.6 Identify the occurrence of wetland mowing throughout the Bay and prepare a Wetland Workgroup position on the regulation and cessation of wetland mowing and whether documented areas of restoration would count towards CBP wetland enhancement goals.			

Communication with practitioners			1.1 Encourage ongoing commitment to improving tidal and nontidal wetland mapping by working with CBP GIS and modeling teams to support best available science.			
	Compiled a list of presentations to schedule for upcoming workgroup meetings	Information sharing between practitioners, across workgroups within Goal Teams, and across Goal Teams as appropriate.	3.3 Work with other Bay Program goal teams, work groups, and partners to continuously inform work group members of latest information, science, technology, tools, policy, and funding opportunities related to tidal and non-tidal wetland restoration.			
			5.1 Hold a panel discussion at Marsh Resilience Summit to present this action plan & identify partners and paths forward			
			4.2 Coordinate with Black Duck and Fish Habitat Action Teams to identify wetland areas that are suitable black duck and fish habitat and would be ideal for restoration.			

Data and reporting	CBPO is exploring options to re-institute a Living Resource Data Analyst position that would support multiple Goal Teams and outcomes.	Reoccurring errors and delays in reporting acreage numbers from states	1.2 Make recommendations to improve the form and process of inputting NEIEN data collection for each State, as well as confirm the accuracy of information reported.			
	Land use workgroup is seeking input on updated land use/land cover classification scheme.	Potential inaccuracies in model efficiencies result in inaccurate crediting	1.1 Encourage ongoing commitment to improving tidal and nontidal wetland mapping by working with CBP GIS and modeling teams to support best available science.			
		Current BMP crediting in the Bay Program often causes "perverse incentives" that prioritize other BMPs (such as buffer restoration) over wetlands restoration	3.1 Develop a proposal for a STAC workshop that will address developing a systems approach toward BMP crediting.			
	Ongoing research by USGS as part of their 2025 workplan.	Ongoing research is needed to better understand the factors affecting the prioritization and restoration of wetlands	3.2 Assess risks to coastal habitats by forecasting vulnerability and resiliency of coastal systems to future change.			
	Work with Modeling and GIS Teams to mine the Phase 3 WIPs for priority wetlands for water quality and habitat co-benefits.		4.1 Identify areas where wetland restoration would greatly benefit water quality and habitat.			

Leadership and commitment			5.2 Work with CBP Communications Office to update existing co-benefit fact sheet to increase engagement and address leadership and practitioners.			
	Creation of a standing agenda item at Wetland Workgroup meetings to address legislation and policy related to wetland restoration		2.2 Identify legal or regulatory barriers to wetland creation, restoration, and enhancement and develop strategies to overcome these obstacles on an annual basis.			
	The City of Norfolk, VA treats unpermitted wetland mowing as a violation of State wetland regulations and conducts enforcement to stop it. The courts have affirmed this approach.	See above under "Communication with Decision-makers"	5.6 Identify the occurrence of wetland mowing throughout the Bay and prepare a Wetland Workgroup position on the regulation and cessation of wetland mowing and whether documented areas of restoration would count towards CBP wetland enhancement goals.			

ACTIONS – 2020-2021

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
Management Approach 1: Improve wetland mapping, and the wetland restoration reporting and tracking process					

1.1	Encourage ongoing commitment to improving tidal and nontidal wetland mapping by working with CBP GIS and modeling teams to support best available science.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide input on new LULC classifications pertaining to wetlands 2. Invite presentation from GIS Team at WWG meeting. 	Wetland Workgroup CBP GIS Team CBP Modeling Team	Bay-wide	November 2019 Winter 2020
1.2	Make recommendations to improve the form and process of inputting NEIEN data collection for each State, as well as confirm the accuracy of information reported.	Set up task group jointly with Forestry Workgroup and CBP Data Center.	Wetland Workgroup Forestry Workgroup CBP Data Center NEIEN Contacts for each State	Bay-wide	Winter 2020
Management Approach 2: Develop solutions to address barriers to wetland restoration.					
2.1	Expand inventory of wetland programs that fund wetland restoration in each state to include tidal and non-agricultural wetlands, as well as any other non-traditional funding sources.	Completed list of wetland programs in each state.	Wetland Workgroup	Bay-wide	Summer 2020
2.2	Identify legal or regulatory barriers to wetland creation and enhancement and develop strategies to overcome these obstacles on an annual basis.	Hold a standing agenda item at workgroup meetings to discuss relevant legislation and policy.	Wetland Workgroup CB Commission	Bay-wide	Ongoing
2.3	Improve WetlandsWork.org by adding new success stories, implementing the marketing strategies that were developed to increase traffic of the site, and improving security and certifications to ensure site access to all.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2-3 new success stories, including a legacy sediment removal and aquatic ecosystem restoration project such as Big Spring Run 2. Direct users to site to increase traffic 3. DoD access to site 	Wetland Workgroup CBP Comm Office	Bay-wide	December 2020
2.4	Implement recommendations from social marketing plan for wetland restoration on agricultural land.	More refined marketing and outreach recommendations to engage landowners, contact CBP Communications Workgroup to seek input and support.	Wetland Workgroup CBP Comm Office	Bay-wide	December 2021

2.5	Support Bay Program efforts to develop targeted messaging towards coastal landowners about shoreline protection options, particularly living shorelines.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate with CBP Communications Office on their implementation of 2018 GIT-funded project "Social Marketing to Improve Shoreline Management". 2. Support the Fish Habitat Action Team's 2019 RFP to build upon social marketing study by using recommendations to create targeted messaging toward coastal landowners. 	Wetland Workgroup CBP Comm Office Fish Habitat Action Team		December 2020
Management Approach 3: Increase our technical understanding of the factors influencing restoration and enhancement success.					
3.1	Develop a proposal for a STAC workshop that will address developing a systems approach toward BMP crediting.	Engage scientists and jurisdictions (such as PADEP) technical staff in the development of this STAC Workshop Proposal.	Wetland Workgroup STAC	Bay-wide	February 2021
3.2	Assess risks to coastal habitats by forecasting vulnerability and resiliency of coastal systems to future change.	1. Explain how the non-tidal to tidal fresh habitats will change over time.	USGS (Noe)		Ongoing
		2. Provide managers and stakeholders with marsh vulnerability indices and the potential for change.	USGS (Ganju)		Ongoing
		3. Identify sites for detailed modeling effort to ascertain how climate change drivers impact waterbird habitat.	USGS (Presser and Carr)		Ongoing
		4. Update our understanding of subsidence across the Bay.	USGS (McCoy)		Ongoing
		5. Ascertain controls of marsh habitat resilience and current state in order to project future marsh extent.	USGS (Guntenspergen and Carr)		Ongoing
		6. Engage stakeholders to address science needs and inform decisions.	USGS (Carr)		Ongoing
3.3	Work with other Bay Program goal teams, work groups, and partners to continuously inform work group members of latest information, science, technology, tools, policy, and	Regular presentations at workgroup meetings from both members and partners.	Wetland Workgroup CBP partners	Bay-wide	Ongoing

	funding opportunities related to tidal and non-tidal wetland restoration.				
Management Approach 4: Prioritize areas for wetland restoration.					
4.1	Identify areas where wetland restoration would greatly benefit water quality and habitat.	Explore expansion of WetCat for states besides Virginia or development of similar tool to develop prioritization criteria and identify priority areas for each state.	Wetland Workgroup VA DEQ	Bay-wide	December 2021
4.2	Coordinate with Black Duck and Fish Habitat Action Teams to identify wetland areas that are suitable black duck and fish habitat and would be ideal for restoration.	Incorporate priority areas for black ducks from Black Duck Action Team. Work more closely with Fish Habitat Action Team to identify priority areas.	Wetland Workgroup BDAT	Tidal MD and VA	December 2020
Management Approach 5: Expand the involvement of local stakeholders.					
5.1	Hold a panel discussion at Marsh Resilience Summit to present this action plan & identify partners and paths forward.	Improved communication plan to achieve implementation of more living shorelines.	Wetland Workgroup Fundors Natural resource management agencies & organizations		2020 Marsh Resilience Summit (date not yet announced)
5.2	Work with CBP Communications Office to update existing co-benefit fact sheet to increase engagement and address leadership and practitioners.	Co-benefit fact sheet with updated language targeted to leadership and practitioners.	Wetland Workgroup CBP Comm Office	Bay-wide	December 2020
5.3	Identify/ create “Wetland Outreach Coordinators” in each state/ priority area that will identify key outreach opportunities, find funding for the right programs, and provide a way to address competing messages.	Advocate for each state to fund at least one outreach coordinator position. Work with TNC to support NFWF funded project “Accelerating Wetland Restoration Across the Chesapeake Bay Watershed by Strengthening Partnerships and Increasing Landowner Engagement”, which is directly addressing this work.	Wetland Workgroup TNC Local stakeholders	Bay-wide Delmarva, PA, VA	December 2021

5.4	Work with the Communication Workgroup and State partners to develop state-specific factsheets that identify State plans, programs, and initiatives that encourage wetland restoration and implementation of living shorelines.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A factsheet for each state in the Watershed that identifies that wetland restoration and living shoreline implementation provide co-benefits that meet multiple state goals. 2) Expand factsheet into website or social media site with designated webmasters to design and refresh the site periodically. 	Wetland Workgroup CBP Comm Workgroup	Bay-wide	Summer 2020
5.5	Present the state-specific factsheets to the Principal's Staff Committee for awareness along with a recommendation for cross-program prioritization of these actions by the Bay States as a wise use of limited resources.	Increased knowledge of wetland restoration and creation co-benefits. Greater number of projects with more partnerships.	Wetland Workgroup	Bay-wide	Summer/Fall 2020
5.6	Identify the occurrence of wetland mowing throughout the Bay and prepare a Wetland Workgroup position on the regulation and cessation of wetland mowing and whether documented areas of restoration would count towards CBP wetland enhancement goals.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Prepare factsheet on wetland mowing to build awareness on the issue and state the Wetlands Workgroup/Habitat GIT's position on wetland mowing cessation as a strategy to support wetland enhancement goals. 2) Present and provide the factsheet to the PSC for action by the jurisdictional partners. 	Wetland Workgroup Comm Workgroup Other CBP Partners	Bay-wide	December 2021