**QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING – August 2021**
***Chesapeake Bay Program***

# Healthy Watersheds

*Renee Thompson,*
*USGS, Maintain Healthy Watersheds GIT Coordinator*

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

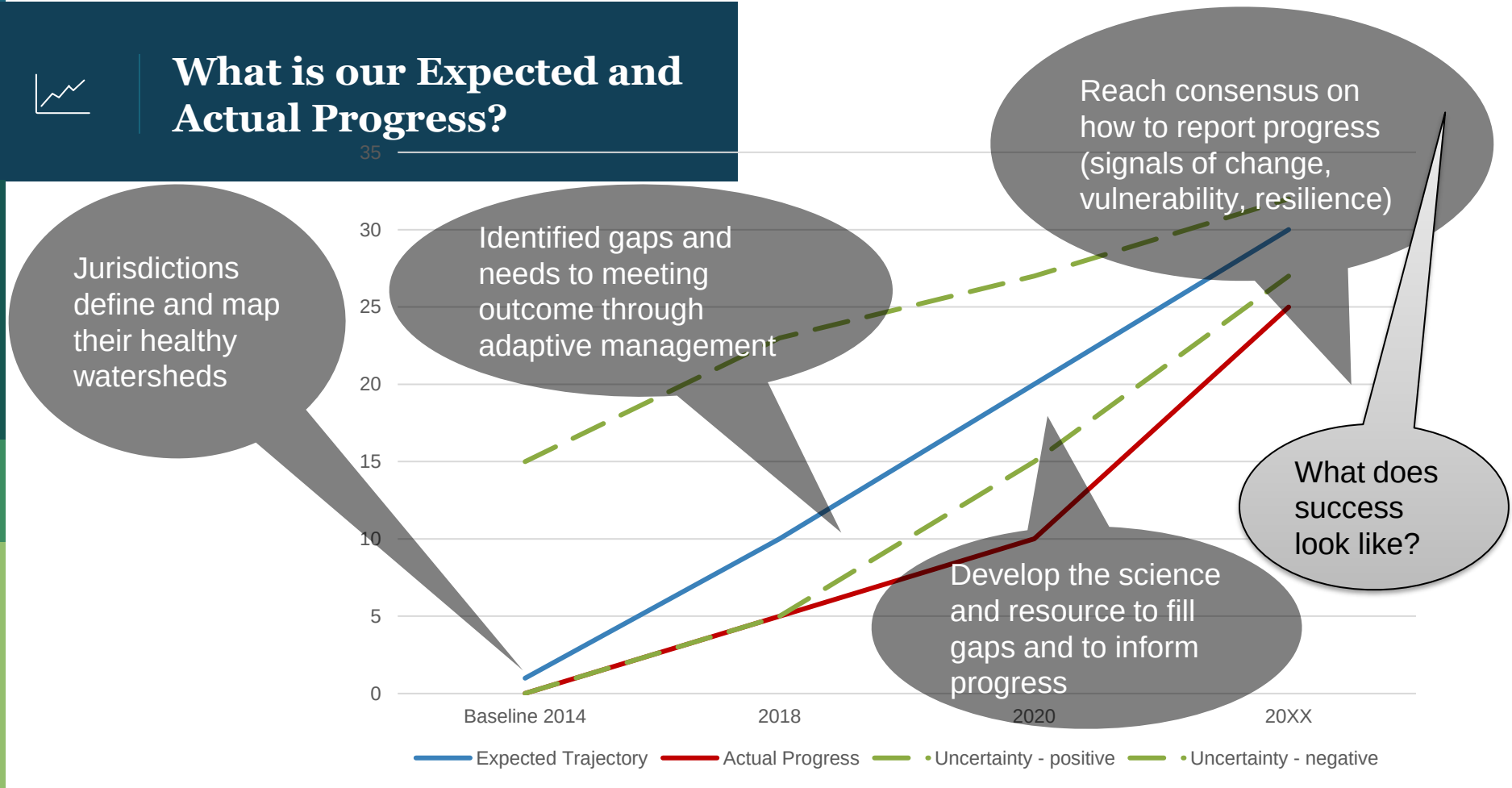
# *Healthy Watersheds Goal:*

*Potapsco Valley State Park*
*Photo by Will Parson*

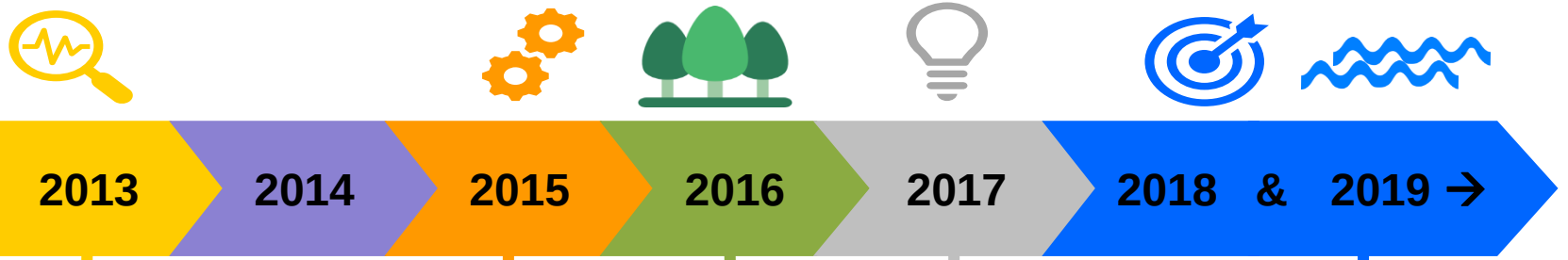
Goal: *Sustain state-identified healthy waters and watersheds recognized for their high quality and/or high ecological value*

Outcome: *100 percent of state-identified healthy waters and watersheds remain healthy.*

# What is our Expected and Actual Progress?



# 2019 SRS Cycle Progress Milestones




**2013**
- PUBLISH MAP OF STATE IDENTIFIED HEALTHY WATERSHEDS AND WATERS
- TRACKING HEALTHY WATERSHEDS FRAMEWORK

**2015**
- UPDATE HEALTHY WATERSHED MAP

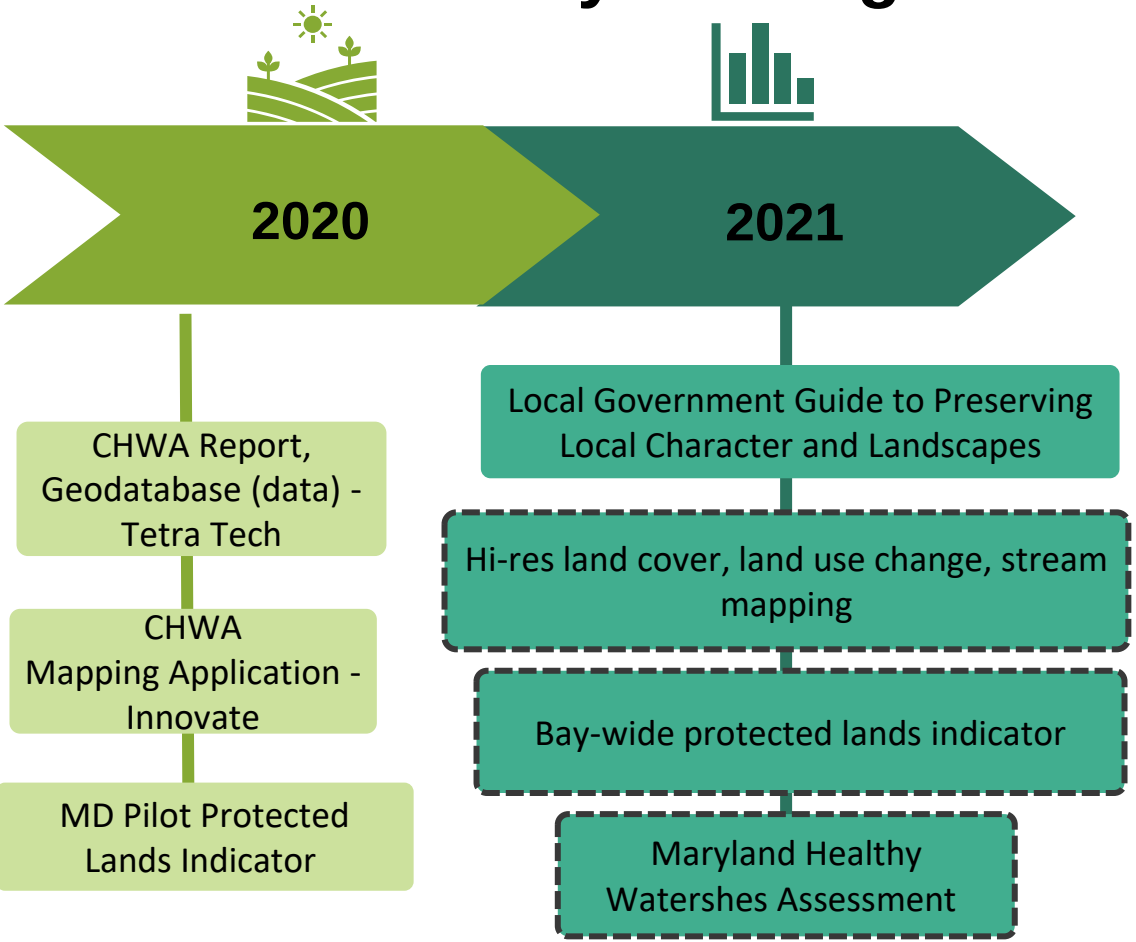
**2016**
- PHASE I FOREST RETENTION STUDY

**2017**
- CONSERVATION LAND-USE POLICY TOOLKIT
- PHASE II FOREST RETENTION STUDY
- UPDATE HEALTHY WATERSHEDS MAP
- HEALTHY WATERSHEDS CO-BENEFIT FACT SHEET

**2018 & 2019 →**
- CHESAPEAKE HEALTHY WATERSHEDS ASSESSMENT
- HIGH RESOLUTION STREAM MAPPING
- PHASE III FOREST RETENTION STUDY

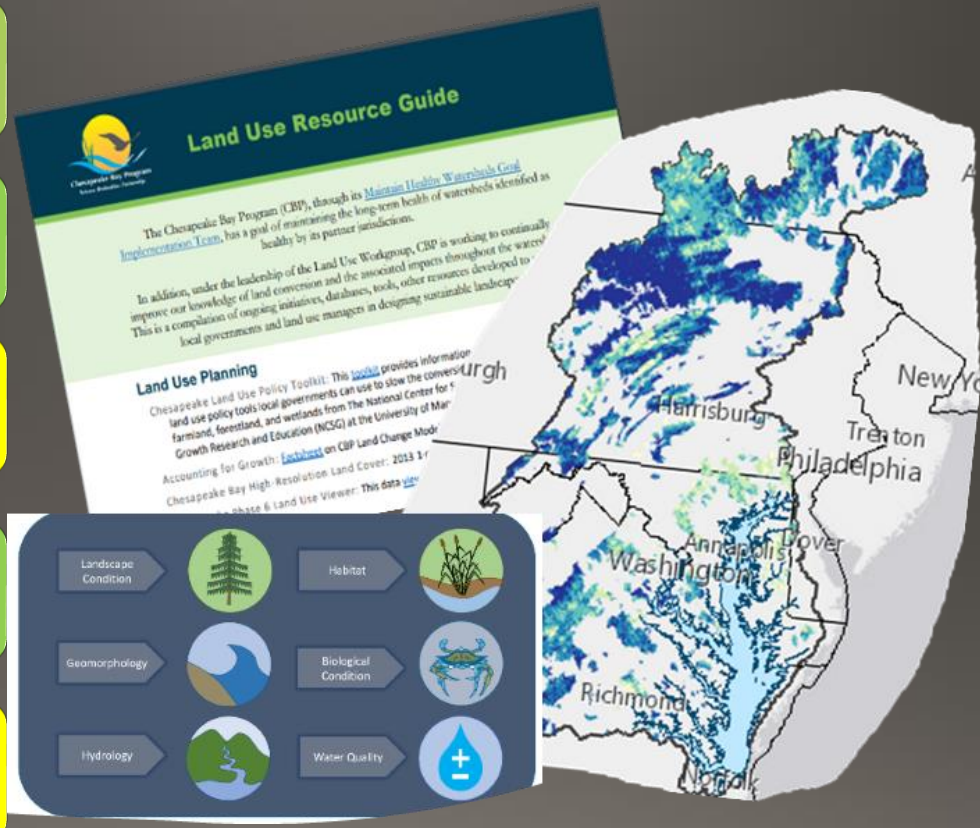
Template- Presentationgo.com

# 2021 SRS Cycle Progress Milestones



# Management Approaches:

- Tracking Healthy Watersheds
- Local leadership strengthen capacity and commitment to protect healthy watersheds
- Federal and State Leadership
- Support State Based Efforts
- Cooperation, Coordination and Integration



# Accomplishments

## Data and Tools

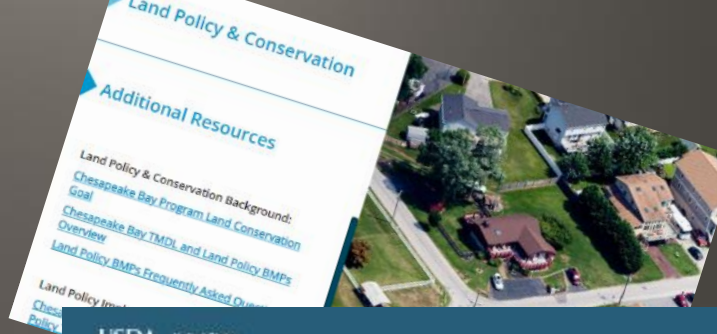
- Hi-res land cover
- Phase 6 Land Use Viewer
- Data Dashboard
- Chesapeake Healthy Watersheds Assessment / Maryland Pilot
- Environmental Justice and Equity Dashboard

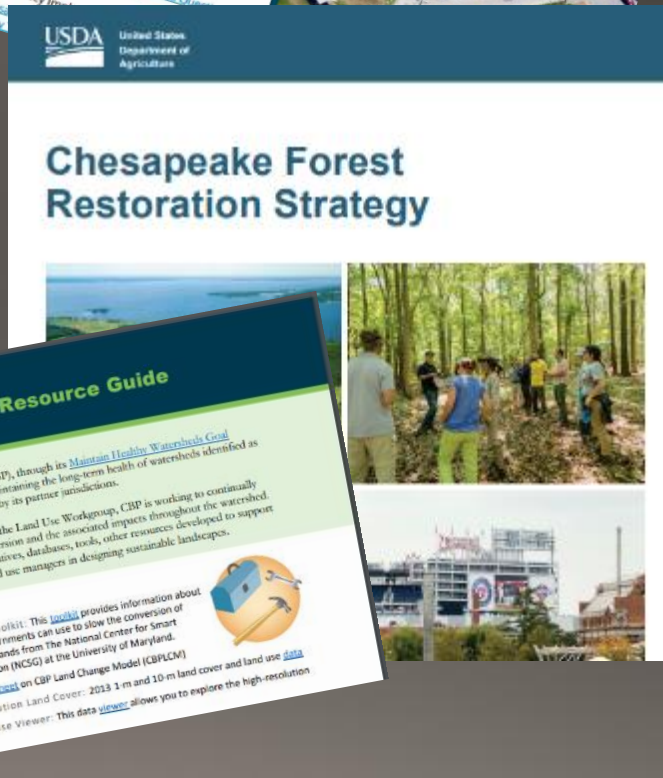
## Projects

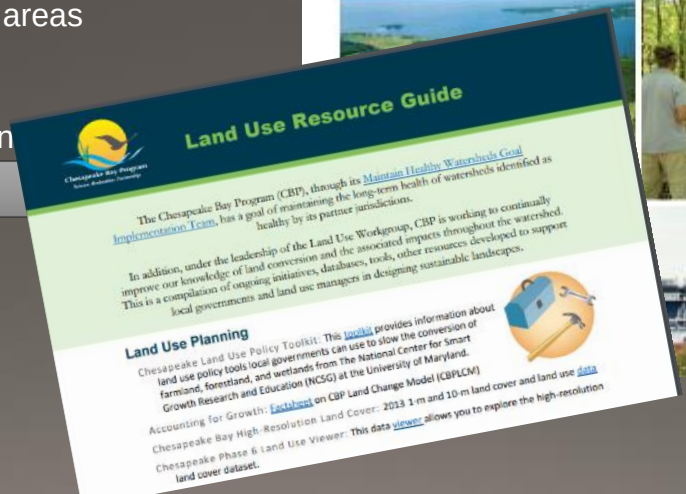
- Cross-Outcome Watershed Educational Materials
- Conservation of Working Lands-Finance Forum consultants
- Improving Technical Service Delivery for Private Landowners
- Targeted local outreach for green infrastructure in vulnerable areas
- Chesapeake Watershed Finance Intensive Workshop
- MD Protected Lands Pilot project - completed
- Chesapeake Protected Lands data collection automation - un

## Communications

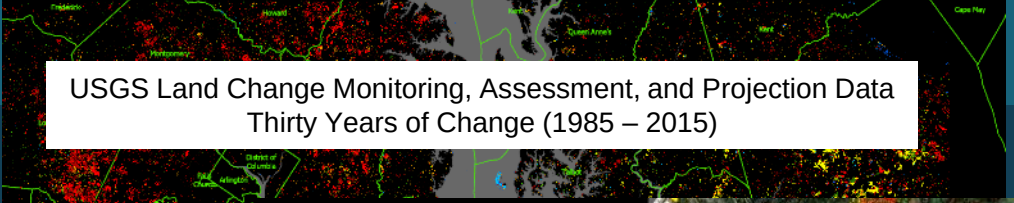
- Land Use Resources Guide
- Forest Restoration Strategy
- Land Policy Data Dashboard resources
- Land conservation module for local governments
- Presenter, panelist, speaker

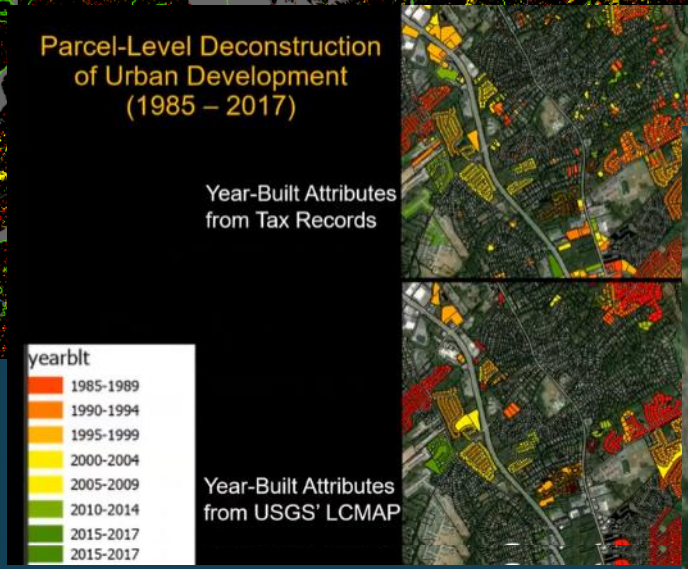


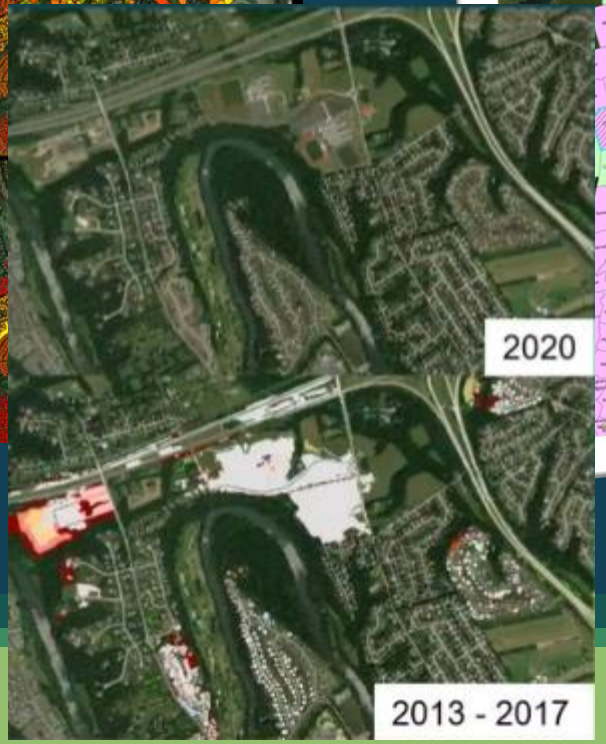



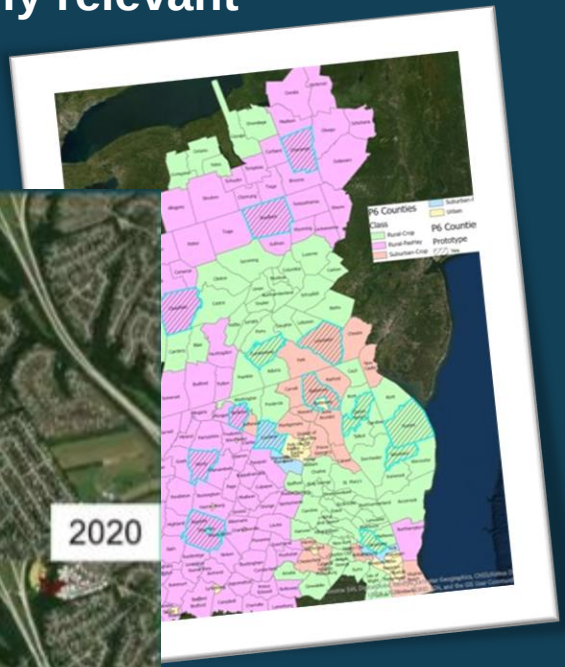



# Increasing knowledge at a scale that is locally relevant




Rates of conversion:

- Farmland
- Forest
- Wetland
- Impervious Cover

Slides courtesy of Peter Claggett, USGS CBP

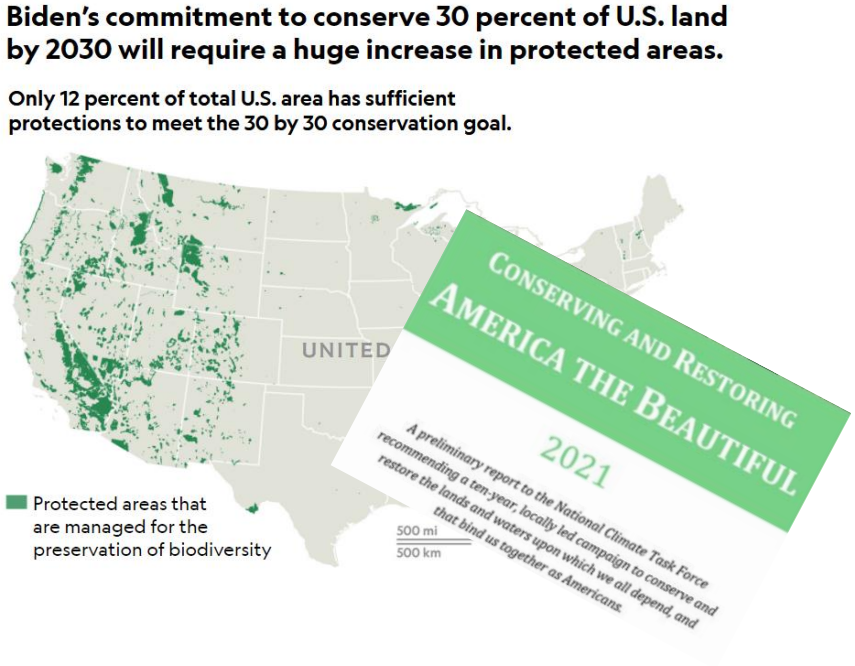
# Learn

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

# Challenges

- Expertise in **translation and communication** of science for targeted audiences
- Literature Review progress
- Healthy Watersheds Storymap progress
- Underfunded GIT funding project (MD healthy watersheds assessment).
- **Delayed projects,** 2021 Protected Lands dataset, MD pilot time and budget issues
- Jurisdiction participation
- Leadership

# On the Horizon



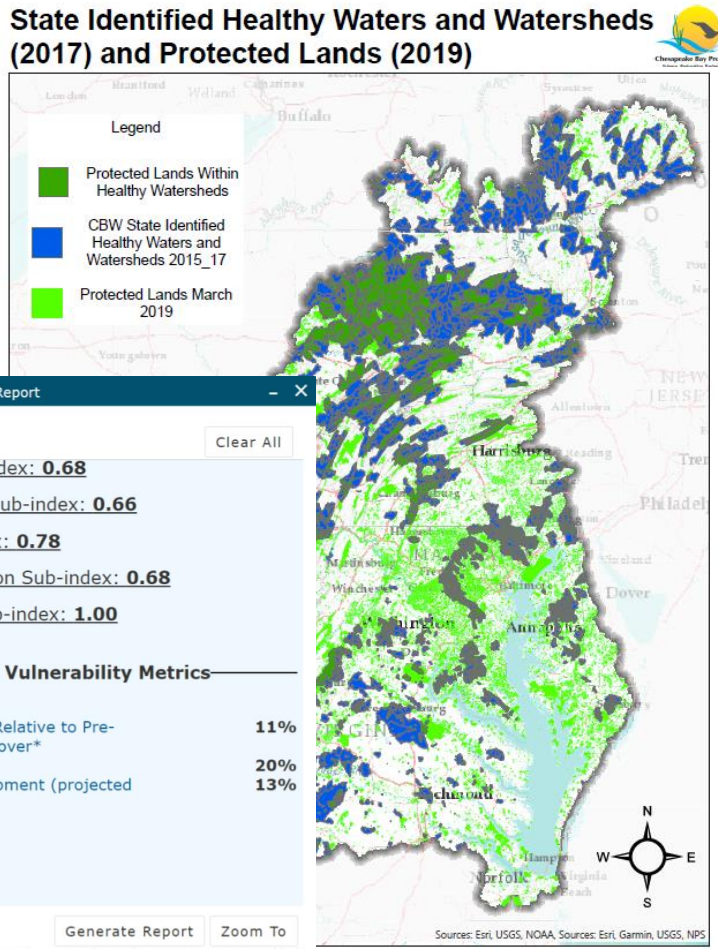

**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice**
…considerations to distribute benefits equitably and reduce disproportionate adverse environmental impacts in communities of color, low-income communities and other underrepresented groups

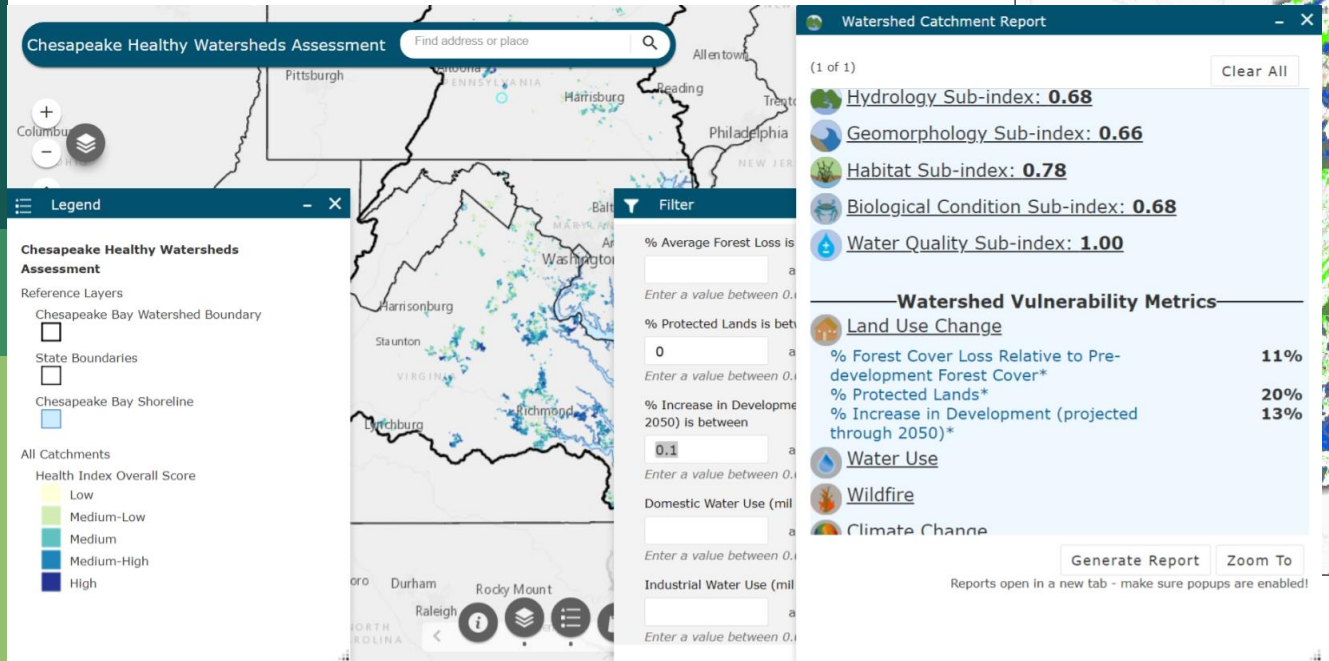
**User experience**
Reviewing existing research and incorporating direct feedback, focus on function and meeting end user needs.

**Climate**
How best to utilize climate and resiliency data within the healthy watershed framework.

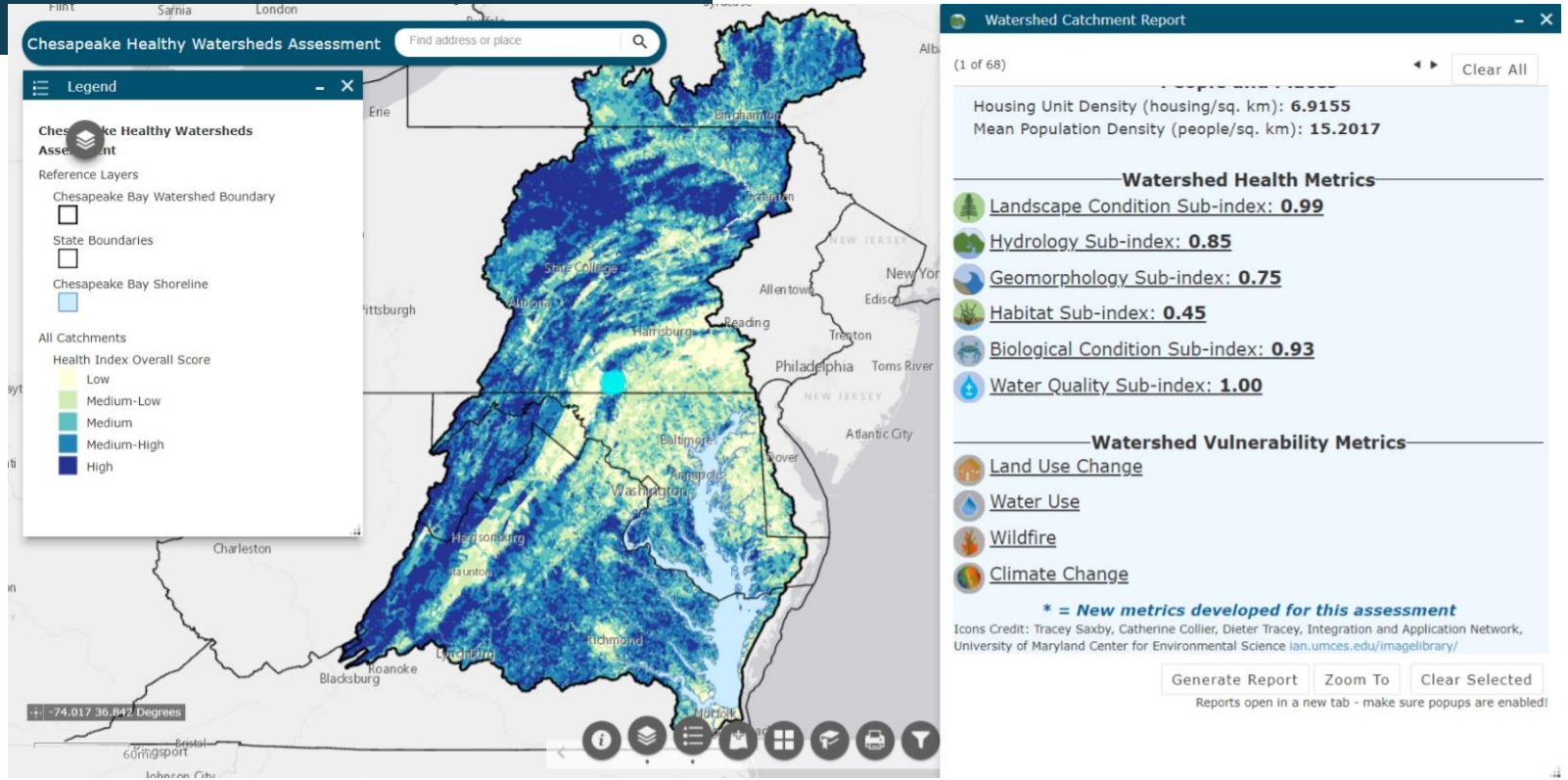
# Interim Indicators

- Prioritize protection (Action 1.3)



# Indicator Development



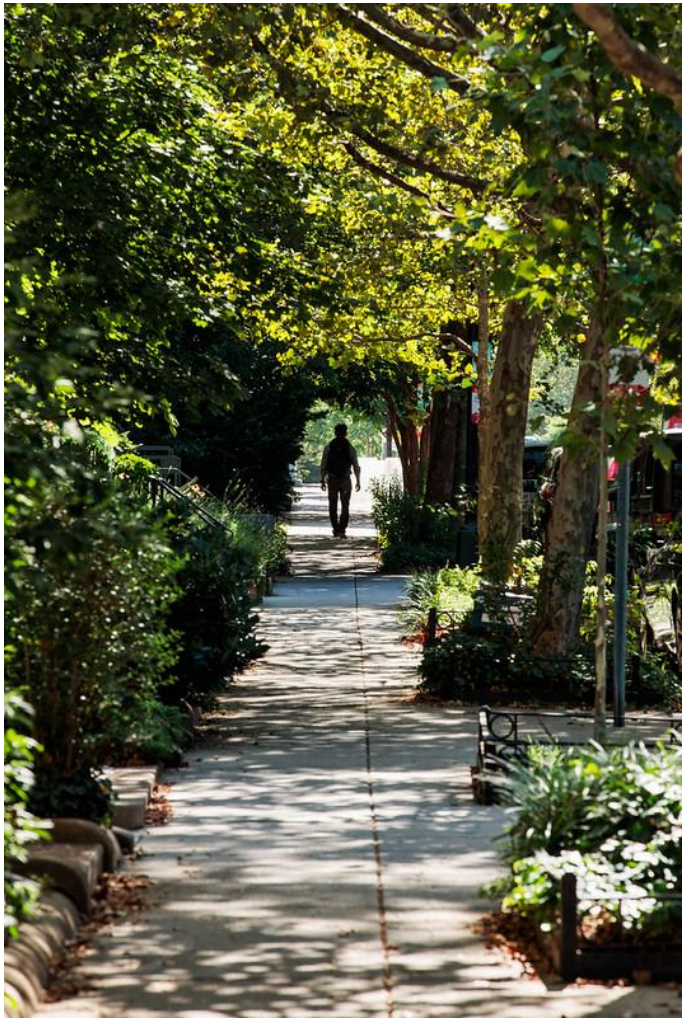
# Adapt

***How does all of this impact our work?***

## Based on what we learned, we plan to …

Renewed GIT input and advising

- Monitoring needs
- DEIJ needs
- Climate considerations
- Indicator development
- Refine tools and communication based on



# Help

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

# How You Can Help

- Renewed engagement from signatory partners including locating a new GIT chair.
- How to address 2020 MDHWA GIT funding project shortfall?

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# Discussion

Presentation template by SlidesCarnival

## Help Needed

- Summarize your answer to Narrative Analysis question #5 and the impact of not meeting the identified need.

# QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING
## *Chesapeake Bay Program*