SUBMERGED AQUATIC VEGETATION

Habitat GIT

SAV Workgroup

Presenter: Brooke Landry

PROPOSED DRAFT OUTCOME LANGUAGE:

Sustain and increase the habitat and ecosystem benefits of SAV in the Chesapeake Bay. Achieve and sustain the ultimate outcome of 196,000 acres of SAV Bay-wide necessary for a restored Bay.

EXISTING 2014 AGREEMENT OUTCOME LANGUAGE:

Sustain and increase the habitat benefits of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the Chesapeake Bay. Achieve and sustain the ultimate outcome of 185,000 acres of SAV Bay-wide necessary for a restored Bay. Progress toward this ultimate outcome will be measured against a target of 90,000 acres by 2017 and 130,000 acres by 2025.

SUBMERGED AQUATIC VEGETATION

PROPOSED TARGET	New Target / Update of Existing Target	Date estimate for target being developed
Progress toward this ultimate outcome will be measured against a target of 90,000 acres by 2030 and 95,000 acres by 2035.	Update of existing	May 2025
Progress will also be measured against the following targets for each salinity zone: **•Tidal Fresh: 21,330 acres** **•Oligohaline: 13,094 acres** **•Mesohaline: 126,032 acres** **•Polyhaline: 35,790 acres**	New	May 2025

SUBMERGED AQUATIC VEGETATION

- Increasing the ultimate SAV goal to 196,000 acres will align the outcome with water clarity standards and will result in a more accurate reflection of potential SAV extent in each Bay segment.

- Interim targets were determined using linear regression on the Bay-wide totals and assume steady growth.

- The forecasted acreage targets for 2030 and 2035 are based on an **average** 1.1% growth exhibited per year.

- Including specific SAV acreage targets for each salinity zone accommodates the variability in SAV community trends in different parts of the Bay.