

PROPOSED DRAFT OUTCOME LANGUAGE:

Increase, enhance, and protect wetlands to support living resources, including waterbirds and fish, and provide water quality, flood and erosion protection, recreation and other valuable benefits to people.

EXISTING 2014 AGREEMENT OUTCOME LANGUAGE:

Continually increase the capacity of wetlands to provide water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed. Create or reestablish 85,000 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and enhance function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands by 2025. These activities may occur in any land use (including urban), but primarily occur in agricultural or natural landscapes.

WETLANDS

Habitat GIT

Wetlands Workgroup

Presenter: Pam Mason, VIMS

PROPOSED TARGET

	New Target / Update of Existing Target	Date estimate for target being developed
Tidal Wetlands Target - Restore or create 5,500 acres and enhance 15,000 acres by 2035. The Bay Program will continue to calculate and report on wetland losses occurring throughout the performance period to ensure a net positive impact is achieved.	Update of existing	December 2025
Non-tidal Wetlands Target – Restore or create 9,500 acres and enhance 15,000 acres by 2035. The Bay Program will continue to calculate and report on wetland losses occurring throughout the performance period to ensure a net positive impact is achieved.	Update of existing	December 2025
Protection Target - Same as the Protected Lands Outcome and will be tracked under that goal.	New	December 2025
Every two years each jurisdiction implements one large-scale (to be defined by jurisdictions) or equivalent area of several smaller conservation, enhancement, or restoration projects/year.	New	July 2026
Waterbird Target: Under Construction	New	July 2026

- More specificity with separate tidal and nontidal wetlands targets
- Highlighting the benefits of wetlands in the outcome language will create more buy-in
- Protection was not a target before, but is equally important as creation, restoration, and enhancement
- Integration of waterbirds to utilize existing datasets that will aid in indicating wetland health
- We propose a 1% restoration/creation goal (15,000 acres) and a 2% enhancement goal (30,000 acres)