

Chesapeake Bay Program Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team **DRAFT** September 2015 Update



Our Vision

Provide a forum to discuss fishery management issues that cross state and other jurisdictional boundaries. Connect science to management decisions and create a framework for implementing ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.

Accomplishments



Blue Crabs

- CBSAC finalized the [2015 Chesapeake Bay Blue Crab Advisory Report](#) which details the results of the Winter Dredge Survey, the status of the stock and CBSAC's management and research recommendations.

- Management jurisdictions and stock assessment scientists are finalizing the scope of the stock assessment and identifying potential funding sources.



Oyster Restoration

- Oyster restoration construction in Harris Creek has been completed with over 350 acres of construction and/or seeding.

- Planning for future restoration projects continues for the Piankatank and Lafayette Rivers. Lynnhaven River partners continue to monitor and discuss the long-term restoration status of that tributary.



Invasive Catfish

- Summaries were developed for each major tributary to provide information on invasion status, current science, fishery information and consumption advisories. The summaries make information more available and easier to interpret for the public. They will be published on the NCBO and/or Bay Program website.



Forage Fish

- The final STAC forage workshop report, ["Assessing the Chesapeake Bay Forage Base: Existing Data and Research Priorities"](#), was published in August. Thanks to Tom Ihde (ERT/NOAA), Ed Houde (UMCES-CBL) and the entire workshop team for their work!

- The Forage Action Team is drafting the workplan and discussing next steps for forage indicators.



Fish Habitat

- The Fish Habitat Action Team is drafting their workplan, which includes efforts to utilize existing habitat tools and collaborate with the Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership.

CBP Updates



Watershed Agreement: Management Strategies

- Management strategies for blue crab abundance and management, fish habitat, forage fish, and oyster restoration are available online [here](#). Strategy Teams are now developing the associated workplans.

Chesapeake Bay Program GIT Funding

- For the second year, the Chesapeake Bay Program is providing funding to support the GITs and their management strategies. Fisheries GIT project proposals were brought forward based on GIT member input. One Fish GIT project was funded...

Executive Committee

Executive Committee Monthly Meetings

At monthly Fisheries GIT Executive Committee meetings Bay scientists and policy administrators discuss various topics:

- [Blue crab project](#) by SERC to estimate male and female blue crab exploitation rates by fishery sector.
- [Oyster Summit](#) description...

Project Updates



Cownose Rays

- A workshop has been proposed to discuss what is known about the cownose ray population in the Chesapeake Bay and what information is needed to determine their stock status.

Staff Update

Welcome Kara Skipper, the new Chesapeake Research Consortium Fisheries GIT Staffer!

Kara is a biology grad from St. Mary's College of Maryland. Prior to her joining the CRC, she performed stormwater research, studied PAHs on oysters, and raised thousands of oyster spat.

December 2015 - Full GIT Meeting

December Date TBD

Maryland Location TBD

SAVE THE DATES!

Meetings, Presentations, and other Fisheries GIT information can be found at:

http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/sustainable_fisheries