

CLIMATE RESILIENCY WORKGROUP MEETING

April 17, 2025

Beyond 2025 - Resiliency Outcomes

Today's Meeting

- Presentation on Monitoring and Assessment Outcome direction and Management Board decisions so far (Ken Hyer, USGS, STAR Chair)
- Presentation on Adaptation Outcome decision and proposed goal structure (Julie Reichert-Nguyen, NOAA, CRWG Coordinator)
- Review Updated Adaptation Outcome Language and Targets (Menti Exercise)


Monitoring and Assessment “Framework” Outcome

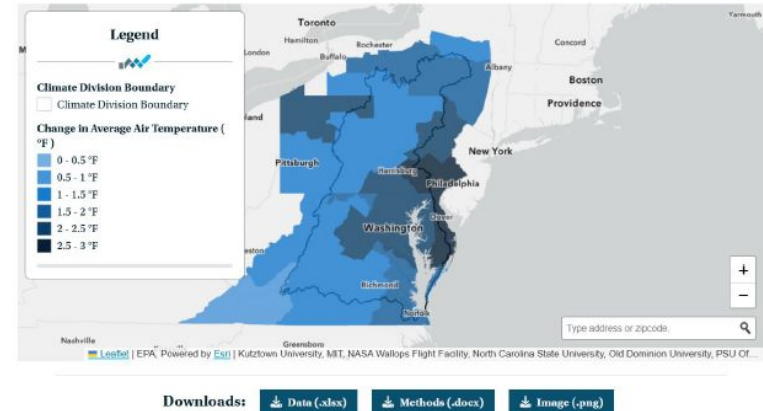
Current Outcome: Continually monitor and assess the trends and likely impacts of changing climatic and sea level conditions on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem, including the effectiveness of restoration and protection policies, programs and projects.

Disposition Agreed to: **REPLACE**

Proposed Replacement:

- Redirect focus from reporting trends that other organizations are already tracking
- Focus on integrating science on changing environmental conditions into all of the Outcomes via a “Framework” (name TBD)
- Use “Changing Environmental Conditions”

Average Air Temperature Increases in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (1901-2021) 



Monitoring and Assessment “Framework” CAVEAT

“The MB recognizes that a framework for changing environmental conditions is an important aspect of managing our outcomes; this should be reflected in our work. A framework for changing environmental conditions should be developed and implemented across the partnership, but may not be an outcome. The MB will discuss how this framework can be lifted up into practice across the partnership.”

Changing Environmental Conditions (CEC): PROGRESS by STAR/CRWG

- We envision a CEC team to help incorporate these concepts into each outcome
- We have successful examples: Modeling WG; Atlas 14 (Stormwater); BMP Efficiency
- Develop a secret sauce for this:
 - 1) Start with a team of SMEs: flow, temperature, modeling, etc
 - 2) Facilitated process with the SME team and the respective outcome
 - 3) Consider need for outside experts, consultants
 - 4) Access the relevant science
 - 5) Fill in the gaps (STAC workshops, RFPs, etc)
 - 6) Develop an implementation plan for the outcome
 - 7) Support the implementation plan with resources
- Not every outcome every year.
- Feedback from MB on this framework?

Management Board Meeting Decision Recap

- **Monitoring and Assessment Outcome**

- CBP Management Board decision so far is that this outcome will instead be an overarching strategy in the Watershed Agreement instead of an outcome focusing on integrating science on changing environmental conditions;
- Discussion ongoing among CBP leadership—will be revisited during May 7/8th Management Board retreat;
- No need to draft outcome language or targets

Proposed Goals and Outcome Structure from April 10th CBP Management Board Meeting

Goals & Outcomes?

For Consideration & Discussion

Clean Water	Lands and Watersheds	Habitats and Wildlife	Engaged Communities
Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring	Forest Buffers	Blue Crab Abundance	Public Access Site Development
2025 WIP	Tree Canopy	Oysters (Habitat & Abundance)	Environmental Literacy Planning
Toxic Contaminants	Land Use Decision Support	SAV	Students
	Protected Lands	Brook Trout	Stewardship
	Adaptation	Fish Habitat (Tidal & Nontidal)	Workforce
		Wetlands (Tidal & Nontidal)	Local Leadership
		Stream Health	
		Fish Passage	

From April 10th CBP Management Board Meeting

For Consideration & Discussion

But what about Resilience?

Current: Increase the resiliency of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, including its **living resources, habitats, public infrastructure and communities**, to withstand adverse impacts from changing environmental and climate conditions.

Consider weaving...

Conserved Lands and Watershed Health: Conserve treasured landscapes to maintain water quality and habitat; protect waters and watersheds of high quality and/or high ecological value; sustain working forests, farms and maritime communities; **mitigate the impacts of flooding and other natural disasters**; and conserve lands of cultural, indigenous and community value.

Habitat and Wildlife: Protect, restore and enhance finfish, shellfish, and other living resources, as well as the network of land and water habitats that support these resources, to sustain all our fisheries, to provide for a balanced ecosystem, and to afford other public benefits such **as resilience**, recreational uses and scenic values.

Engaged Communities: Expand public access to the Bay and its watershed, and engage and grow a community of students, stewards and local leaders that actively support and carry out the conservation and restoration activities that protect their local watershed and achieve a healthy **and resilient** Chesapeake Bay.

Management Board Meeting Decision Recap

- **Adaptation Outcome**

- Will move forward following the workgroup's assessment to update
- Outputs will instead be referred to as targets
- Outcome language and targets due to Management Board on 4/25
- Management Board and Advisory Committees emphasized that outcome language needs to be plain language; SMART language can be added to targets under the language
- Workgroup will discuss draft outcome language and targets today and begin discussing potential indicators.

Definitions

Outcome = The change in state we aim to influence or the future state we aspire to reach as a result of our actions.

Target= Actions we plan to take as partners to achieve the outcome

Indicator = Metrics used to track desired change in the system and/or to track progress toward the outcome.

Updated Language and Targets Method

- Reviewed what was stated in the Adaptation Outcome Assessment
- Reviewed CRWG's initial thoughts from CRWG March 2025 meeting
- Reviewed past successful place-based projects (Targeting Green Infrastructure, Marsh Adaptation)
- Discussed with other place-based groups (NOAA Habitat Focus Areas, oyster restoration outcome)
- Initial review of write-up by STAR/CRWG Leadership Team
- Considered Management Board and Advisory Committees requests (plain language for outcome; SMART language for targets)

Review: Updated Adaptation Outcome

Draft language for review: Increase the use of nature-based strategies in adaptation planning, project design, and implementation to maximize long-term resiliency of Bay watershed communities, economies, and ecosystems.

Targets for review:

1. Nature based strategies that address changes in temperature, precipitation, and land are incorporated in the plans and design of restoration and protection projects within *seven* regional focus areas by 20xx
2. The capacity to pursue and implement identified nature based strategies is increased in regional focus areas through technical assistance in developing proposals and metrics to track implementation progress
3. Guidance is developed and shared that consolidates implementation and resilience effectiveness metrics and lessons learned across regional focus areas

Review: Updated Adaptation Outcome

Draft language for review: Increase the use of nature-based strategies in adaptation planning, project design, and implementation to maximize long-term resiliency of Bay watershed communities, economies, and ecosystems.

Indicator Ideas:

- Number of plans and project designs within regional focus areas that have integrated identified nature-based adaptation strategies to support long-term resiliency of ecosystems, economies, and communities.
- Number of proposals submitted incorporating identified nature-based adaptation strategies within regional focus areas.
- Number of projects with nature-based adaptation strategies funded for implementation within regional focus areas.
- Number of regional focus areas with implementation and resilience effectiveness metrics for nature-based adaptation strategies.

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Summary Slide

Draft Language: update

Targets: update

Indicators: based off of responses