Blue Crab Management Outcome

OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO MANAGEMENT BOARD:

REMOVE

OUTCOME: Manage for a stable and productive crab fishery including working with the industry, recreational crabbers and other stakeholders to improve commercial and recreational harvest accountability. By 2018, evaluate the establishment of a Bay-wide, allocation-based management framework with annual levels set by the jurisdictions for the purpose of accounting for and adjusting harvest by each jurisdiction.

- GOAL: Sustainable Fisheries
- LEAD: Sustainable Fisheries Goal
 Implementation Team (GIT 1) Chesapeake
 Bay Stock Assessment Committee
- Current management framework is sufficient- no need to further explore alternate management approaches

 Management Board approved the completion of this outcome



UPDATE

OUTCOME: Maintain a sustainable blue crab population based on the current 2012 target of 215 million adult females. Refine population targets through 2025 based on best available science.

- GOAL: Sustainable Fisheries
- LEAD: Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (GIT 1) -Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee
- Update outcome language adaptive to changes

- Outcome has been used to drive cross-jurisdictional management for a sustainable blue crab population
- Environmental changes can influence abundance in the long term



REMOVE

OUTCOME: Continually improve the Partnership's capacity to understand the role of forage fish populations in the Chesapeake Bay. By 2016, develop a strategy for assessing the forage fish base available as food for predatory species in the Chesapeake Bay.

- GOAL: Sustainable Fisheries
- LEAD: Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (GIT 1) - Forage Action Team
- Consolidate under Fish Habitat Outcome

- Strong support for continued work on Forage
- Support shallow water recommendations and be used to assess how living resources are responding to climate change.





OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO MANAGEMENT BOARD:

UPDATE & CONSOLIDATE

OUTCOME: Continually improve effectiveness of fish habitat conservation and restoration efforts by identifying and characterizing critical spawning, nursery and forage areas within the Bay and tributaries for important fish and shellfish, and use existing and new tools to integrate information and conduct assessments to inform restoration and conservation efforts.

- GOAL: Sustainable Fisheries
- LEAD: Sustainable Fisheries Goal
 Implementation Team (GIT 1) Fish Habitat
 Action Team
- Update & Consolidate with the Forage outcome
- Revised outcome language with focus on shallow water habitat

- Habitat suitability model scoring 92 tidal bay segments for habitat quality (water quality and other parameters)
- Multi-species





UPDATE

OUTCOME: Continually increase finfish and shellfish habitat and water quality benefits from restored oyster populations. Restore native oyster habitat and populations in 10 tributaries by 2025 and ensure their protection.

- GOAL: Sustainable Fisheries
- LEAD: Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (GIT 1) - MD & VA Oyster Restoration Interagency Team

Update current outcome with focus on restoration

- Continued momentum partner consensus on need to restore more reef habitat
- Continue conserving the 10 restored tribs
- Increase education & community outreach
- Better define "ensuring protection"



