NUTRIENTS AND SEDIMENT REDUCTION OUTCOME

WATER QUALITY GOAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (WQGIT)

CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED AGREEMENT OUTCOME LANGUAGE

PROPOSED DRAFT OUTCOME LANGUAGE:

Option 1: Bay Program partners will have practices and controls installed throughout the watershed to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution and achieve the Bay's dissolved oxygen, water clarity/submerged aquatic vegetation, and chlorophyll-*a* water quality standards.

Option 2: Install practices and controls that will reduce excess nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment to support living resources and protect human health by achieving water quality standards.

EXISTING 2014 OUTCOME LANGUAGE:

By 2025, have all practices and controls installed to achieve the Bay's dissolved oxygen, water clarity/submerged aquatic vegetation and chlorophyll-*a* standards as articulated in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL document.

PROPOSED TARGET	**New Target / Update of Existing Target**	**Date estimate for target being developed**
1. Through 2030, continue installing practices and controls that implement the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans and the two-year milestone commitments.	Update	Through 2030 or a new strategy is developed
2. By 2028, complete updates to the CBP partnership Phase 7 modeling tools and approve updated planning targets.	New	2028
3. By 2030, develop updated WIPs/strategies to meet the planning targets developed with the Phase 7 modeling tools, and address any potential growth in loads and changing environmental conditions.	New	2030
4. By 2030, update this outcome with a longer-term restoration timeline. • The updated outcome will be informed by science-based information that includes using updated CBP partnership tools such as the Phase 7 model, planning targets, and available strategies developed by the jurisdictions and the Conowingo Watershed Implementation Plan Steering Committee to achieve the water quality targets for nutrients and sediment and aim to address any potential growth in loads and changing environmental conditions.	New	**Dec 15, 2030**
5. Demonstrate net reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment toward meeting the current WIP targets, through multiple lines of evidence, including annual progress reporting and monitoring data. [in coordination w/ WQSAM]	Update/shared target	Annually

*Detailed activities will be included in an updated work plan

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Rationale and context for proposed draft outcome language:

There was general consensus at the Management Board (MB) to remove the 2014 Bay Watershed Agreement's "2017 WIP Outcome" and update the "2025 WIP Outcome". A few Management Board members had a different disposition and comments on the proposed recommendations for these two outcomes. After individual discussions with partners, there was tentative agreement to remove the "2017 WIP Outcome" and to revise the recommendation for the "2025 WIP Outcome" to include explicit commitments for incremental progress and deadlines. This language is an attempt to address the concerns raised by partners.

Timelines are included in the outputs/targets for now. The CBP partnership has an approved schedule to update the water quality modeling tools. Once completed those tools can be used to develop a longer term accountability timeline.

The end of 2030 is suggested as a date to revise/update this outcome and outputs based upon completion of the following: the completion of the Phase 7 model (2026, review in 2027, in use 2028), the partnership to approve new planning targets (~2028), and for partners to update WIPs or other CBP partnership approved strategy documents (~2029-2030) to meet water quality goals.

Topics/challenges for Management Board guidance (Optional):

- The determination of a quantitative timeline for achieving the outcome and targets if different than proposed.
- Do you support examples of shared outputs/targets (example 5th target in chart)?
- What is the MB level of interest in future outputs/targets that are sector and living resource based?
- Do you support renaming of the "WIP" Outcome to more accurately reflect the intended result?
    - Option 1: Keep WIP for familiarity/consistency
    - Option 2: Nutrients and Sediment Reduction Outcome (NSR)
    - Option 3: Reducing Excess Nutrients and Sediment Outcome (RENS)

Methodology for data collection and tracking of each Target (Optional):

1. Phase III WIP planning targets including changing environmental conditions and two-year milestones tracking.
2. PSC approved Phase 7 schedule
3. TBD on CBP partnership decisions related to updated WIPs or other strategies to be developed. Follow schedules if/when approved.
4. TBD. Follow partnership approved schedules if/when approved.
5. Annual progress, biennial water quality trends, biennial updates to TMDL Indicator, METRIC tool

Links to documentation that provide Target justification/context and/or rationale (Optional):

https://www.chesapeakeprogress.com/clean-water/watershed-implementation-plans

https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/programs/modeling/phase-7-model-development