



*Continually increase available habitat to support sustainable migratory fish populations in freshwater rivers and streams. By 2025, restore historical fish migratory routes by opening 1,000 additional stream miles, with restoration success indicated by the consistent presence of alewife, blueback herring, American shad, hickory shad, American eel and brook trout, to be monitored in accordance with available agency resources and collaboratively developed methods.*

### Why is this outcome important?

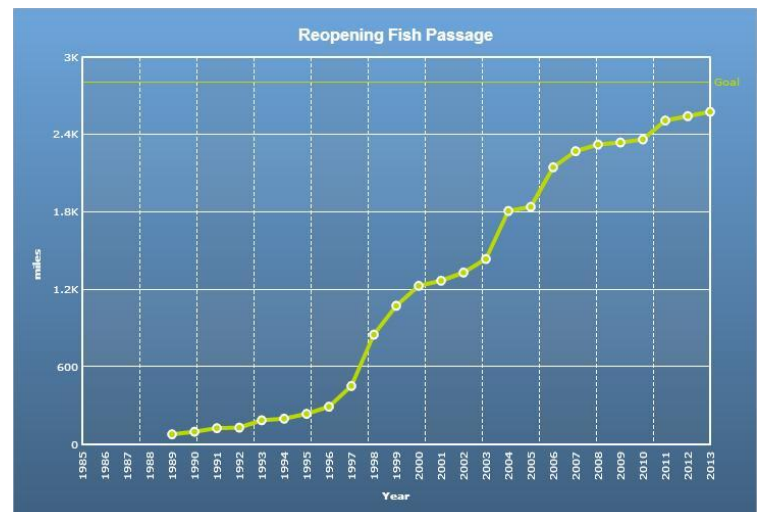
Physical structures that block or impede fish migrations to historic upstream spawning habitats are one of the most important factors in the decline of migratory and resident fish populations. Projects that remove dams or install fish lifts, ladders and other passageways allow migratory fish like American shad, hickory shad, American eel and brook trout to return to their upstream spawning and nursery grounds and allow resident fish to move freely throughout streams.

### Current Conditions:

Between 1989 and 2013, approximately 2,576 miles of fish passage were restored in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Future restoration projects are currently being ranked and prioritized through a collaborative federal and state process.

### How was the outcome derived? Who came up with it?

The outcome was developed by the Chesapeake Bay Program's [Fish Passage Workgroup](#) during conference calls on December 17, 2009, and January 28, 2010.



See how fish passage is doing at [chesapeakebay.net](http://chesapeakebay.net)

### What was the basis or baseline?

The Chesapeake Bay Program's Fish Passage Workgroup believes this outcome is measureable and attainable under current working conditions because there are significantly more than 1,000 miles of fish passage to be re-opened in the watershed. The Fish Passage Workgroup limited the target to 1,000 miles opened by 2025 in light of a decrease in available funding and the complicated nature of the remaining projects.

### For More:

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/issue/rivers\\_and\\_streams](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/issue/rivers_and_streams)

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/indicators/indicator/reopening\\_fish\\_passage](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/indicators/indicator/reopening_fish_passage)