

Outcome Assessment Round Three Preparation

Thursday, March 6th, 2025 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Join by Webinar (Microsoft Teams)

Or join by phone

Meeting Link

Conference Line: +1 469-208-1525

Meeting Number: 295 862 001 462

Access code: 953 866 482#

Password: jk6Re7PP

Meeting Materials: Link

This meeting will be recorded for internal use only to assure the accuracy of the meeting notes.

Closed Captioning will be available for this meeting. To turn on the closed captioning, click on the 3 ellipses (More actions), then click on "Turn on live captions" (preview).

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:05 PM Welcome, Introductions & Announcements

Meeting Background:

The Executive Council's (EC) Charge for Phase 2 activities directs the Principal Staff Committee (PSC) to complete "[r]evisions to the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (Agreement) with modifications to the existing vision, principles, preamble, goals, and outcomes...", and to do so by December 1, 2025. To address this charge, the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) modified its Strategy Review System (SRS) process for Workgroups (WGs) and Goal Implementation Teams (GITs) to answer an overarching question ("Big Question") as means to provide advice to the Management Board (MB) on the next step to take with each Agreement Outcome. There are three MB meetings to discuss the Big Question, and the schedule for each outcome is available here. During the MB meeting, each out outcome will have three minutes to provide an elevator pitch in response to the Big Question. This will follow seven minutes for a Round Robin from the signatories and 10 minutes for Advisory Committee and MB members comments and facilitated discussion.

Meeting Objectives:

- Opportunity for Outcome leads to educate participants on their outcome assessment
- Opportunity for participants to familiarize themselves with major points prior to Outcome Assessment Meeting
- Discuss connections between outcomes
- This meeting is not mandatory and no decisions will be made during it

9:05 AM – 11:30 AM Outcome Assessment:

Meeting Background:

Each outcome will provide their three-minute elevator pitch presentation, and there will be twelve minutes between outcomes to provide feedback. If discussion is completed before the twelve minutes is over, we will move on to the next outcome.

<u>Toxic Contaminants Research Outcome</u>: Continually increase our understanding of the impacts and mitigation options for toxic contaminants. Develop a research agenda and further characterize the occurrence, concentrations, sources and effects of mercury, PCBs and other contaminants of emerging and widespread concern. In addition, identify which best management practices might provide multiple benefits of reducing nutrient and sediment pollution as well as toxic contaminants in waterways.

Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention Outcome: Continually improve practices and controls that reduce and prevent the effects of toxic contaminants below levels that harm aquatic systems and humans. Build on existing programs to reduce the amount and effects of PCBs in the Bay and watershed. Use research findings to evaluate the implementation of additional policies, programs and practices for other contaminants that need to be further reduced or eliminated.

Workforce Outcome

<u>Climate Adaptation Outcome:</u> Continually pursue, design, and construct restoration and protection projects to enhance the resiliency of Bay and aquatic ecosystems from the impacts of coastal erosion, coastal flooding, more intense and more frequent storms and sea-level rise.

<u>Climate Monitoring and Assessment Outcome:</u> 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.

<u>Wetlands Outcome</u>: Continually increase the capacity of wetlands to provide water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed. Create or reestablish 85,000 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and enhance function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands by 2025. These activities may occur in any land use (including urban), but primarily occur in agricultural or natural landscapes.

<u>Black Duck:</u> By 2025, restore, enhance and preserve wetland habitats that support a wintering population of 100,000 black ducks, a species representative of the health of tidal marshes across the watershed. Refine population targets through 2025 based on best available science.

<u>Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Outcome:</u> Sustain and increase the habitat benefits of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the Bay. Achieve and sustain the ultimate outcome of 185,000 acres of SAV Bay-wide necessary for a restored Bay. Progress toward this ultimate outcome will be measured against a target of 90,000 acres by 2017 and 130,000 acres by 2025.

Open Discussion:

If all outcomes have gone prior to 11:30 PM, we can use the remaining time for open discussion on cross outcome connections, follow up questions, etc., or we can end the meeting early.

11:30 AM Adjourn