

# Welcome to the Spring 2025 Fish GIT Meeting

March 25 & 26, 2025



**Chesapeake Bay Program**

*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

# Sustainable Fisheries Goal Team Past and Future

Bruce Vogt  
March 25, 2025

Photo credit: Scott Lerberg



Chesapeake Bay Program  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*



# Meeting Purpose

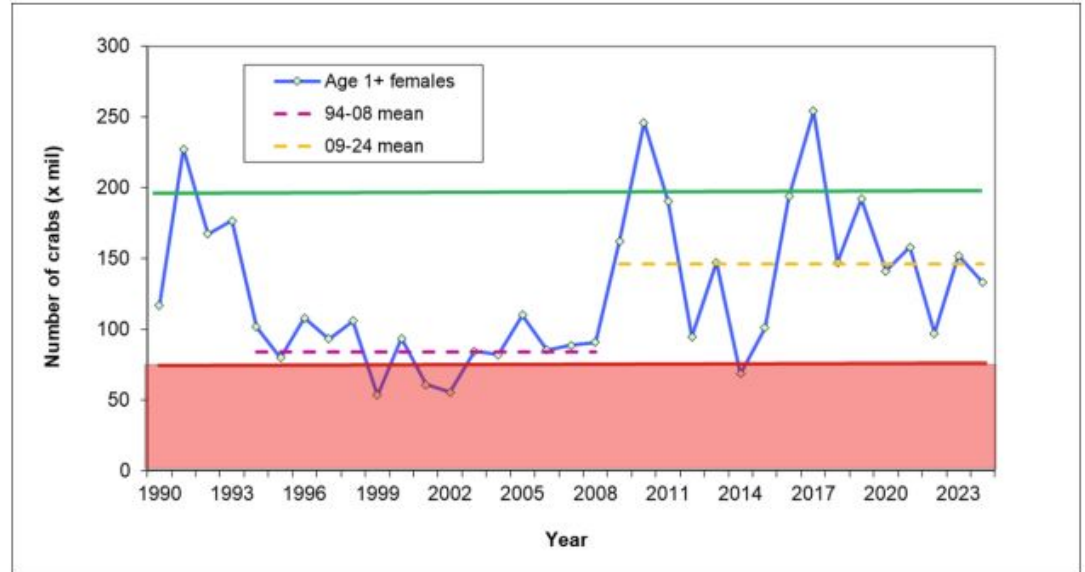


# People



# Blue Crab

- Annual Advisory Reports
- Science Workshop
- New research
- Benchmark Stock Assessment





# Oyster Restoration

- Success metrics
- From Harris to 10 tribes
- Economic impact
- BMPs



## Oyster Restoration Has Economic Benefits for Virginia's Middle Peninsula

CHANGES IN BLUE CRAB COMMERCIAL HARVESTS RESULT IN REGIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

### OYSTER REEFS LOST



13% decrease in harvest  
-\$300,000 per year

### OYSTER REEFS CONTINUE TO GROW



25% increase in harvest  
+\$700,000 per year

### OYSTER REEFS CONTINUE TO GROW AND EELGRASS IS RESTORED



122% increase in harvest  
+\$3.1 million per year



Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team Executive Committee

**ADOPTION STATEMENT**

Restoration Goals, Quantitative Metrics and Assessment Periods for Evaluating Success on Restored Oyster Reef Terraces

Approved by the Chesapeake Bay Program

We, the undersigned, adopt the metrics and assessment periods provided by the Oyster Metrics Workgroup for the restoration of oysters within the Chesapeake Bay, according to Executive Order 11000, Restoring the Potomac and Annapolis Bay to Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

We agree to work together to implement the recommendations from the Oyster Metrics Workgroup and assess the progress in 2018, 2020, 2022, and 2024. We will report the results of our progress to the Chesapeake Bay Program.

We agree to accept this report, which provides larger operational goals and assessment benchmarks, and will use it to guide our management decisions and actions. We understand that we will need to apply adaptive management practices to make restoration techniques and activities that best fit the environmental regime and quality of waters to be restored and measured as more data on oyster restoration become available.

December 18, 2013

Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team Executive Committee

FOR NOAA: *[Signature]*

FOR USFWS: *[Signature]*

FOR CHS: *[Signature]*

FOR PAZ: *[Signature]*

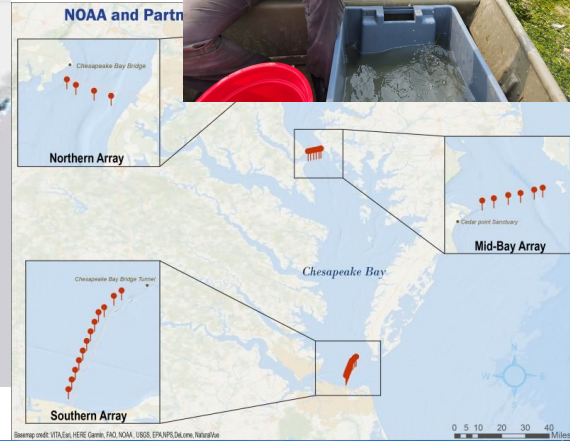
FOR CDE: *[Signature]*

FOR NCE: *[Signature]*

FOR CDE: *[Signature]*

# Fish Habitat

- Data Inventory
- Habitat Assessments
- Habitat thresholds
- Living shorelines
- Monitoring
- Workshops



## Inventory & Evaluation of Environmental and Biological Response Data for Fish Habitat Assessment

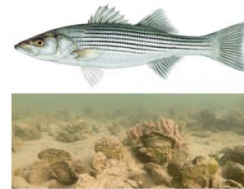
Contract No. 16804  
June 2020

### PRESENTED TO

Sustainable Fisheries Goal  
Implementation Team,  
Chesapeake Bay Program  
410 Severn Avenue  
Suite 112  
Annapolis, MD 21403

### PRESENTED BY

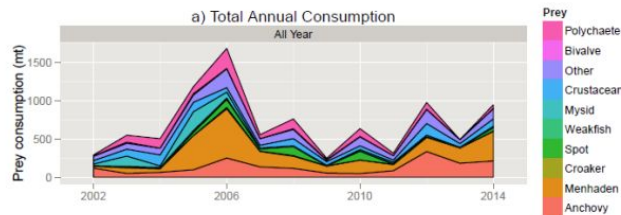
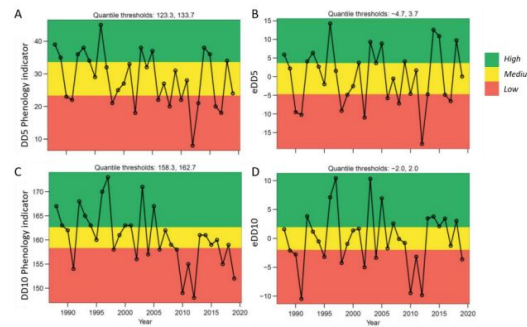
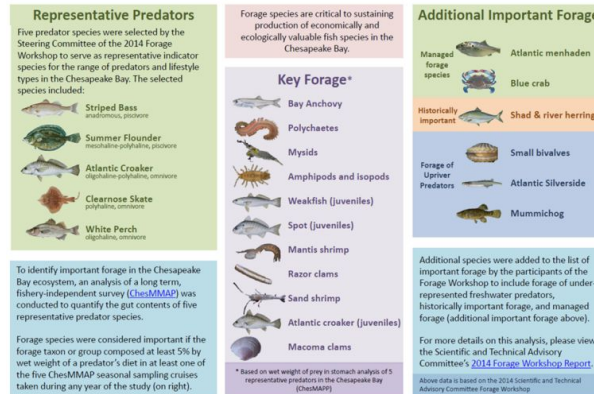
Tetra Tech, Inc.  
10711 Red Run Blvd.  
Suite 105  
Owings Mills, MD 21117



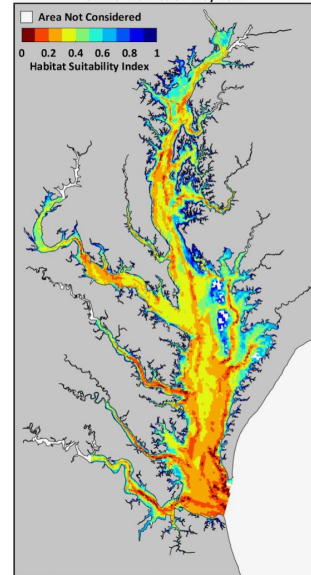
# Forage

- Status and Trends
- Habitat suitability
- Potential Indicators
- Links to predators

## Important Forage Species for the Chesapeake Bay



Spot  
01-Mar-2011 to 31-May-2011







Credit: Susan Hale