MAINTAIN HEALTHY WATERSHEDS GOAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (GIT 4)

APRIL 2025 MEETING

AGENDA

1. Update on the Beyond 2025 Process and Status of the HWGIT & LUWG Outcomes

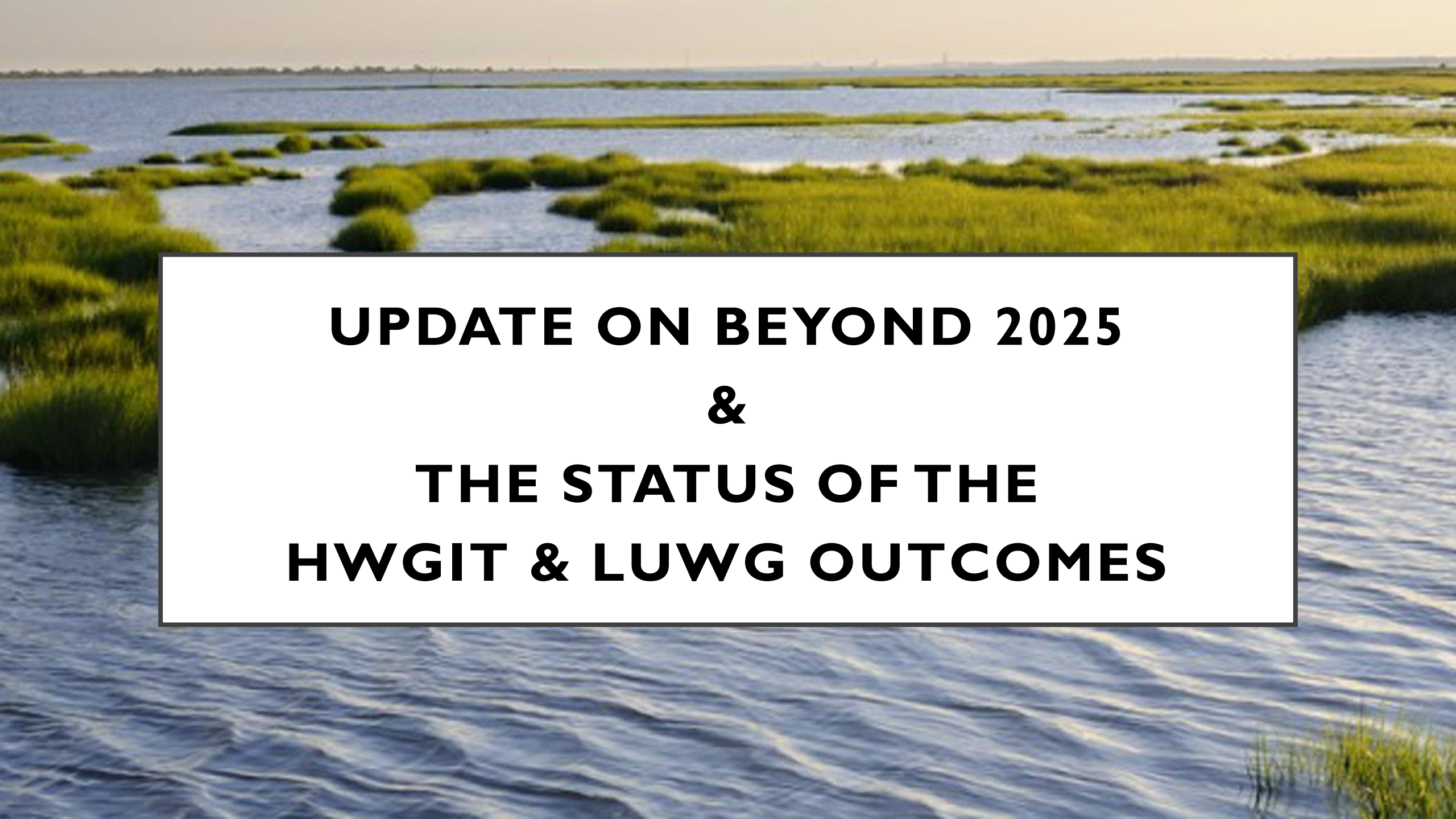
2. Metrics and Targets for the Land Use Decision Support Outcome

3. Reconstituting the LUWG Membership

4. Setting the Watershed Health Output Metric and Target Language under the Protected Lands Outcome

5. Discussion on Potential Watershed Health Output Language for the Stream Health Workgroup to Consider under their Stream Health Outcome

6. Discussing the Overlap and Working Relationships Between Other Groups and Outcomes



UPDATE ON BEYOND 2025
&
THE STATUS OF THE HWGIT & LUWG OUTCOMES

2025 TIMELINE FOR THE REVISION OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED AGREEMENT
(TENTATIVE)

January - March:

- Outcome Assessment - Management Board decides whether to recommend consolidating, reducing, updating, removing, replacing or adding new outcome. PSC reviews agreement for additional revisions

April - June:

- Outcome Revision - Management Board recommends any new/revised outcome language. PSC completes any additional revisions on Agreement

July - Sept:

- Public feedback and revisions revisions

End of 2025:

- Executive Council to review recommended revisions to the Agreement and its outcomes

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

April - June: Outcome Revision

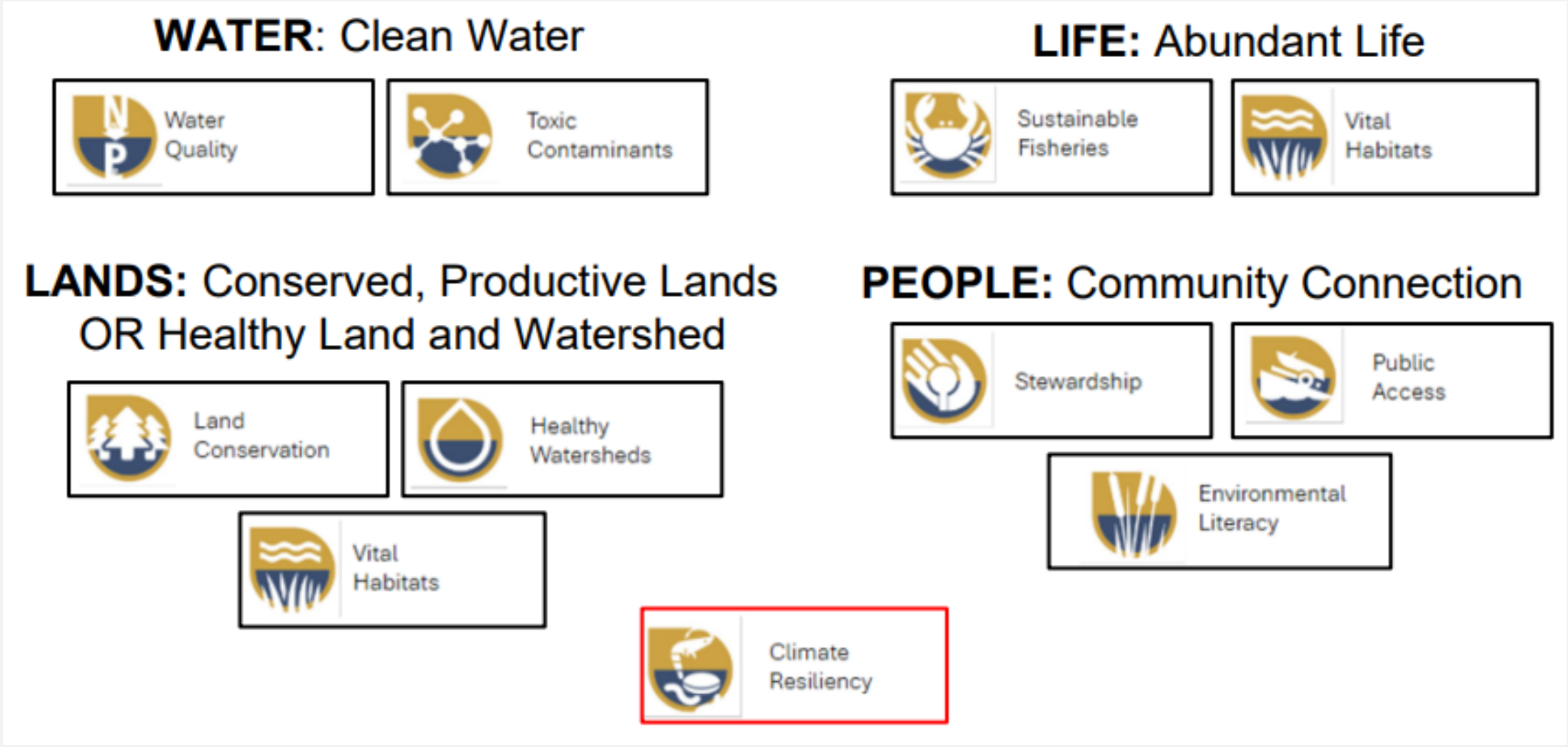
- Management Board (MB)
  - All outcomes have been reviewed
  - Reached consensus on the “final disposition” of all outcomes, although there are still some questions to be resolved that may result in changes to the final disposition (i.e. novel outcomes, possible consolidation of outcomes, etc.)
  - At the April 10th meeting, clarity on outcomes & outputs in the Agreement was decided:
    - High level outcome language and all associated SMART targets will be bulleted (targets not thoroughly flushed out can be listed as “under construction”
  - Moving into the outcome revision process

- Principals Staff Committee (PSC):
  - Close to finalizing updates to the vision, principles, and preamble of the Agreement
  - Starting to explore Goal revisions and reorganization

CURRENT ORGANIZATION

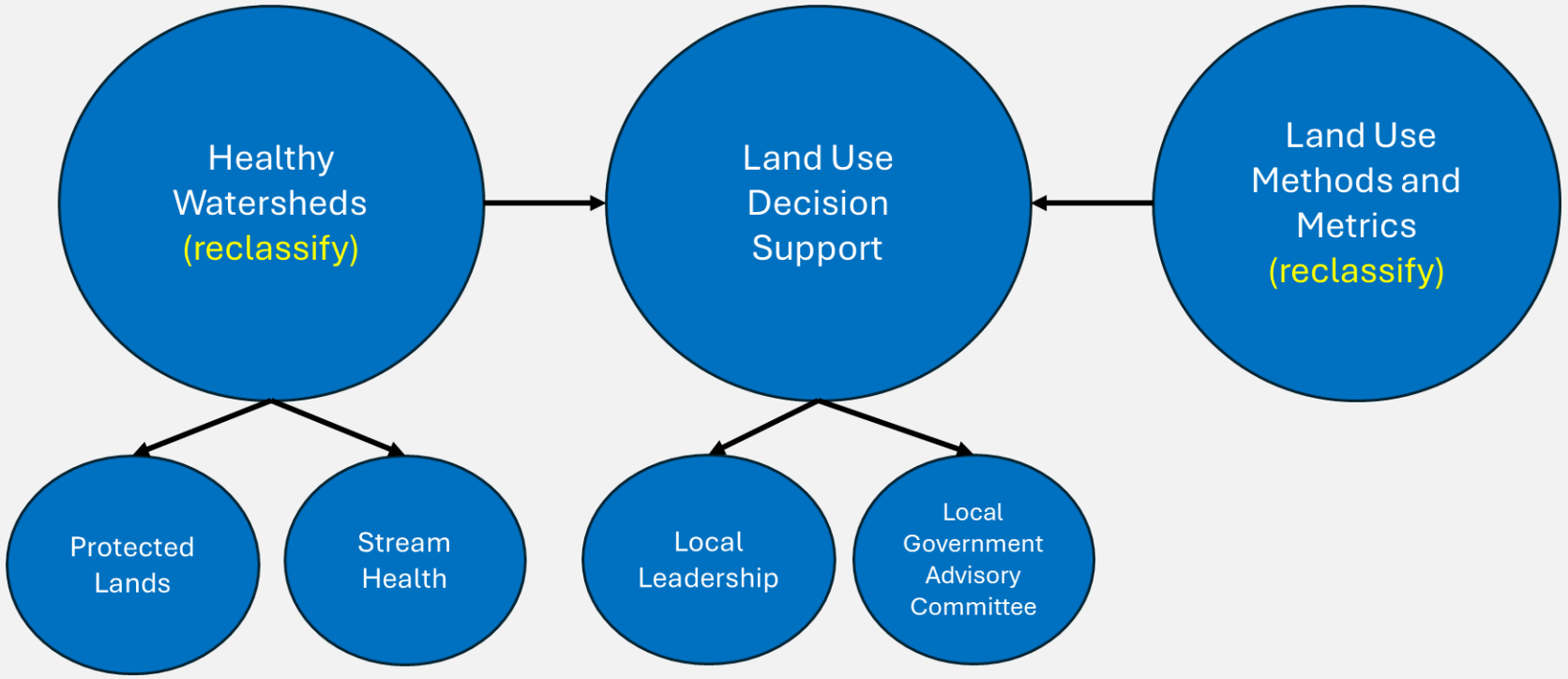
- 31 Outcomes
- 10 Goals
- 6 GITS
- 5 Themes
  - Abundant Life
  - Clean Water
  - Conserved Lands
  - Engaged Communities
  - Climate Change

POSSIBLE REORGANIZATION –
HOW MIGHT THE HWGIT CHANGE?



REVISED HWGIT OUTCOME RECOMMENDATIONS – *APPROVED BY THE MB (3/27) AND REVIEWED BY THE PSC (3/28)*

- **Reclassify** Land Use Methods and Metrics (LUMM) under Land Use Options Evaluation (LUOE)
- **Replace** Land Use Options Evaluation (LUOE) with the proposed Land Use Decision Support Outcome
- **Reclassify** Healthy Watersheds as outputs supporting the Protected Lands, Stream Health, and the proposed Land Use Decision Support outcomes



DRAFT WATERSHED HEALTH GOAL LANGUAGE

Original Healthy Watersheds Goal Language:

Sustain state-identified healthy waters and watersheds, recognized for their high quality and/or high ecological value.

Draft Watershed Health Goal Language (To Update of the Healthy Watersheds Goal):

Protect and sustain waters and watersheds to achieve and maintain high ecological value.

LAND USE DECISION SUPPORT OUTCOME LANGUAGE
(PROPOSED)

Draft Land Use Decisions Support Language (To Replace the Land Use Options Evaluation Outcome):

Develop and disseminate locally-relevant and actionable information to organizations involved in the land use planning process on past, present, and future landscape conditions and the potential environmental consequences of landscape change

LAND USE DECISION SUPPORT OUTCOME
(PROPOSED)

- Reconstitute the Land Use Workgroup as a *community of practice* for land use planning.

- Implement the new *CBP Land Use Strategy* to produce and communicate science, data, and information use cases relevant to local land use planning and conservation decisions.

- Disseminate actionable land use and ecosystem service information and solicit feedback on related issues important to local officials.

- Formally integrate land use mapping, monitoring, and derived metrics into the management strategies of relevant outcomes.

METRICS AND TARGETS – LAND USE DECISION SUPPORT OUTCOME

EXAMPLE METRIC AND TARGET LANGUAGE

Example Metric: Cumulative number, variety, and geographic scope of land use information use cases (reported annually).

Example target: Continually increase the number, variety, and/or geographic scope of use cases for land use information.

RECONSTITUTING THE LUWG MEMBERSHIP

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Key Discussion Questions:

- What groups and voices should we work to incorporate and elevate in a reconstituted LUWG?
- How will our target audiences and work change under the proposed Land Use Decisions Support Outcome?
- Any suggestions on people or organizations we should consider?

METRICS AND TARGETS – WATERSHED HEALTH OUTPUT LANGUAGE UNDER THE PROTECTED LANDS OUTCOME

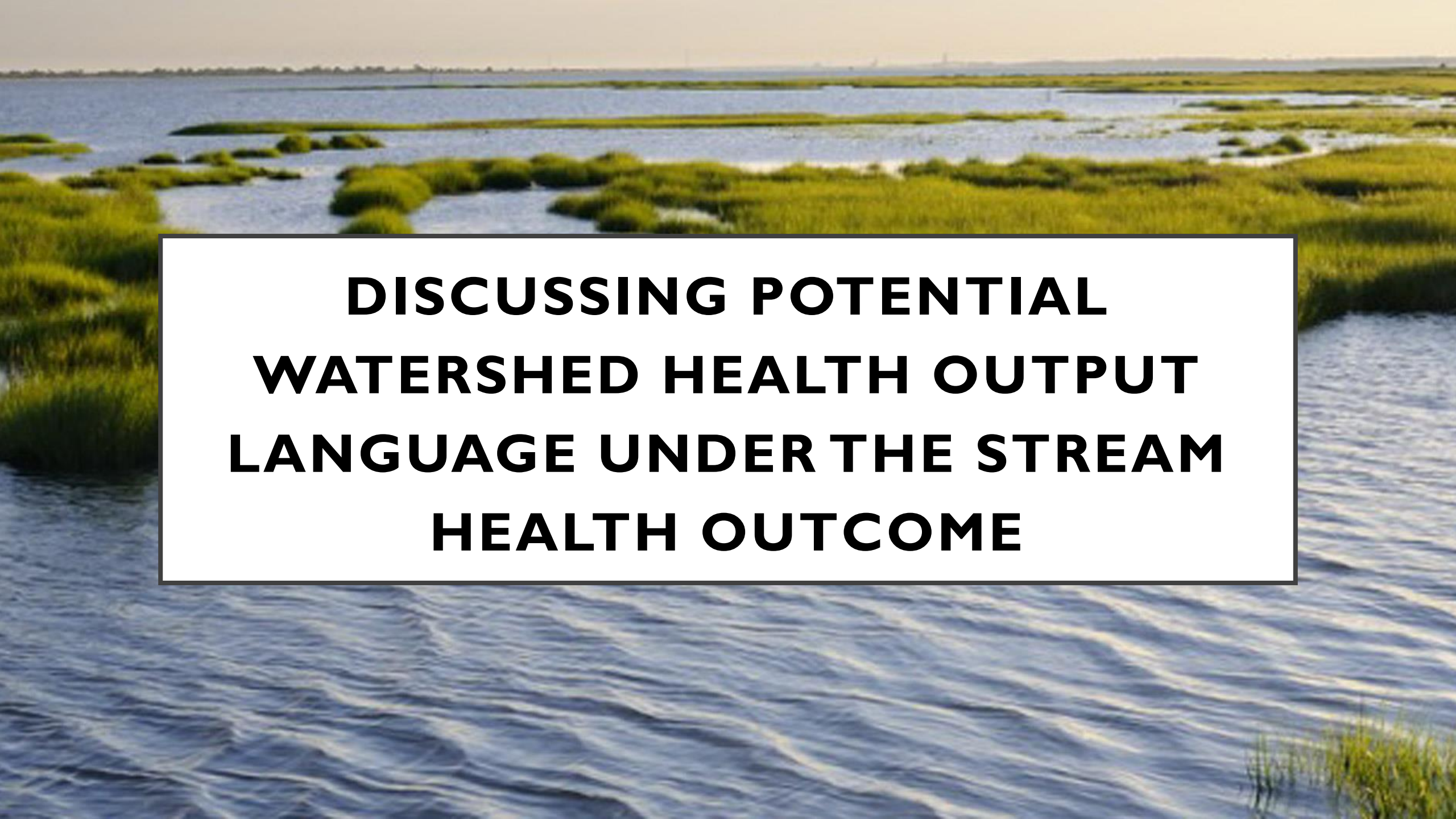
OPTIONS FOR WATERSHED HEALTH OUTPUT LANGUAGE UNDER PROTECTED LANDS GOAL

- By 2040, maintain or improve the health of an additional __ % of the basin's highest functioning sub-watersheds to ensure long-term ecosystem resilience.

- By 2040, target __% of the protected lands outcome acreage goal in the highest functioning sub-watersheds to ensure long-term ecosystem resilience.

Key Discussion Questions:

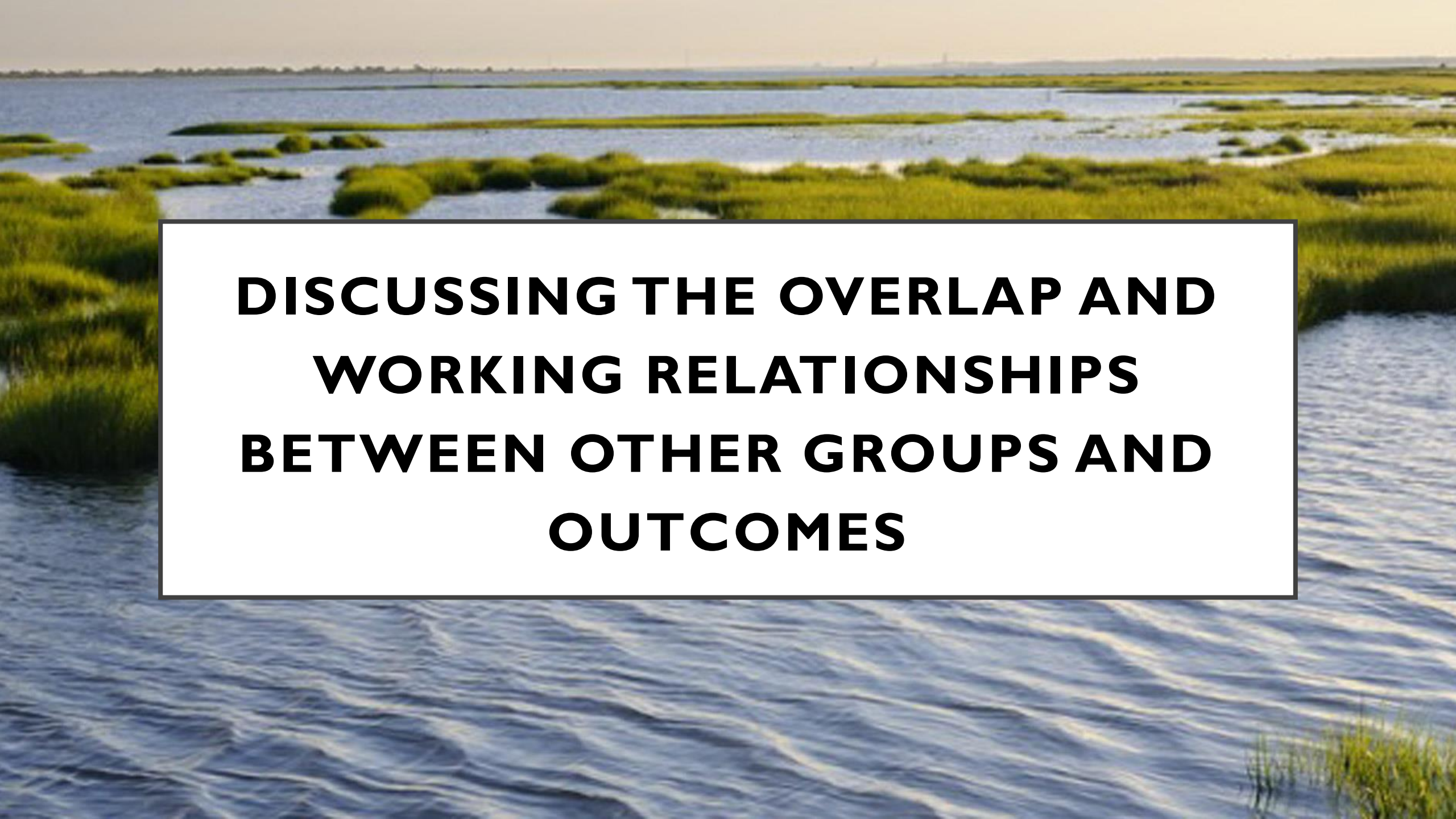
- How are we going to identify the highest functioning small watersheds?
- What level of protection is sufficient to say we maintained these areas?
- Note that 54% of forest in the Bay watershed is within watersheds with relative high levels of health and 39% of those forests are protected.



DISCUSSING POTENTIAL WATERSHED HEALTH OUTPUT LANGUAGE UNDER THE STREAM HEALTH OUTCOME

OPTIONS FOR WATERSHED HEALTH OUTPUT LANGUAGE UNDER STREAM HEALTH

- Develop a holistic, multi-metric integrated assessment of stream and watershed health.
- Identify restoration and conservation opportunities in small watersheds.



DISCUSSING THE OVERLAP AND WORKING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OTHER GROUPS AND OUTCOMES

HOW DO WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER'S OUTCOMES?

Creates and communicates actionable information relevant to land use to organizations involved in the planning process.

Increase knowledge and awareness of local elected officials.

Characterizes stream and watershed health; identifies opportunities for restoration and conservation

Shares information among local officials and between local officials and CBP Partners

Reforests riparian areas, promotes increased tree canopy, and preservation and management of forested lands.

Promotes and incentivizes land conservation efforts