



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

HWGIT Meeting -  
February 3rd, 2025

# **Overview of Management Board's “Big Questions” Outcome Review Assignment and Timeline**

# Agenda

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**1**

**Review of the Management Board Outcome Assessment Assignment & Criteria**

**2**

**Overview of the Voting Process & Management Board Timeline**

**3**

**Presentation, Discussion, & Vote: Updated Draft Outcome Assessments - *LUMM, LUOE, HW***





**1**

**Review of the  
Outcome Assessment  
Assignment & Criteria**



## EXERPT FROM THE DRAFT EC CHARGE:

Therefore, let it be resolved that we, the Chesapeake Executive Council, in recognition of the consensus-based work of the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee, guided by the findings of their “A Critical Path Forward for the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership Beyond 2025” report and our continued commitment to meet the goals of the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, hereby direct the Principals’ Staff Committee to complete the following by **December 31, 2025**:

1. Revisions to the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, not a new Agreement. **Revisions to outcomes** should be executed pursuant to the Governance and Management Framework for the Chesapeake Bay Program. While not all outcomes will need revision, some **reviews will likely result in consolidating, reducing, updating, removing, replacing, or adding new outcomes.**

Proposed revisions should be considered as they are being reviewed, with every effort to complete most reviews and revisions by the end of calendar year 2025. Furthermore, it is the intent of the Chesapeake Executive Council, **that these changes reflect:**

- A renewed and greater emphasis on **engaging all communities** of the watershed as active stewards of a healthy and resilient Chesapeake Bay and its watershed;
- Our mandate to address water quality **and living resources** throughout the Bay and watershed;
- **Elevating conservation** as a key pillar of the Chesapeake Bay Program, alongside science, restoration, and partnership;
- A grounding in the most recent scientific understandings and issues that have emerged since the current Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement was signed in 2014;
- Goals and outcomes that are **measurable and time bound**. Time frames should be sufficient to accomplish the outcomes as quickly as possible. In particular, our regulated nutrient and sediment load reductions, especially those within non-point sources;
- Acknowledgement that our scientific understanding is continuously evolving and that our efforts need to constantly adapt accordingly; and
- The fact that while each partner shares a common goal, we are all approaching this goal from different perspectives, challenges, and opportunities.

## Why an Outcome Assessment?

# The “Big Question” Assignment:

What advice do you have for the Management Board on how to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes within your GIT?

**Guidelines: You do not have to answer all these questions, but the first two are necessary.**

1. In reviewing your outcome, provide advice to the Management Board on whether "to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes".
  - a. Don't need to provide updated Outcome language at this point in the process.
  - b. If consolidation is recommended, which outcome(s) do you advise combining with?
  - c. Should the outcome be moved or restructured?
2. Consider if the Outcome is SMART, and specifically, whether the current outcome meets the definition of an outcome, as described in the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (“Agreement”), or if that outcome is an output or indicator.
  - a. Review ERG’s Beyond 2025 Report for existing assessment of **S**pecific, **M**easurement, and **T**imebound.
  - b. Consider the Secret Sauce
3. Consider the challenges to and opportunities for achieving the outcome. You are encouraged to leverage past documentation and learnings from the Strategy Review System process, as well as Charting a Course to 2025 report and Beyond 2025 Small Group recommendations as they pertain to the outcome.
4. Consider how the outcome relates or could relate to the Bay Agreement mission, vision, and themes/pillars

# Guidelines Continued

5. Consider the timescale for completing the outcome (5, 10, 15 years). Determine if achieving the outcome is an incremental step or is it a final outcome.
6. Consider resource needs and availability (high, medium, low).
7. Consider the risk or unintended consequences of removing the Outcome.
8. What value is added by having the Chesapeake Bay Program work on the outcome?
9. Consider how the Outcome, as written, benefits the public. Does the outcome reflect public input already received and have the potential to galvanize public support/engagement?
10. See [Resource Binder for supplemental information](#), including:
  - a. 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (Item 2)
  - b. Charting a Course to 2025 report (Item 4)
  - c. Beyond 2025 Recommendations (Item 5)

# **Overview of the Voting Process & Management Board Timeline**

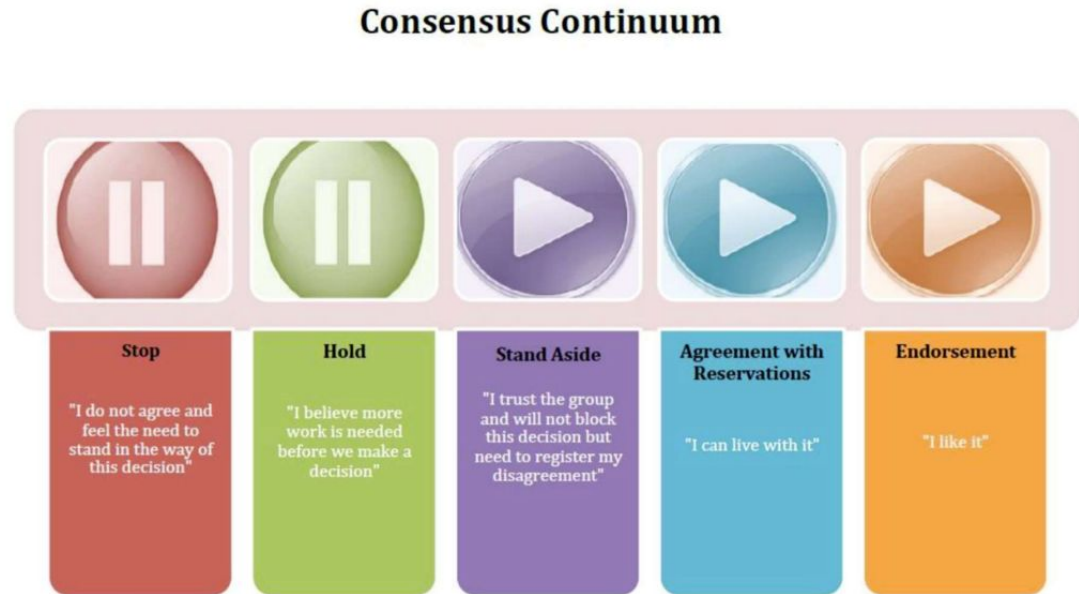
# Jurisdiction Leads Voting Process

After the discussion of each draft outcome, we will call on the Healthy Watersheds GIT jurisdictional leads to vote on each proposed outcome to gauge support.

Figure 1 represents a framework used by the CBP to work towards consensus building. We will refer to the concepts in this diagram throughout the discussion.

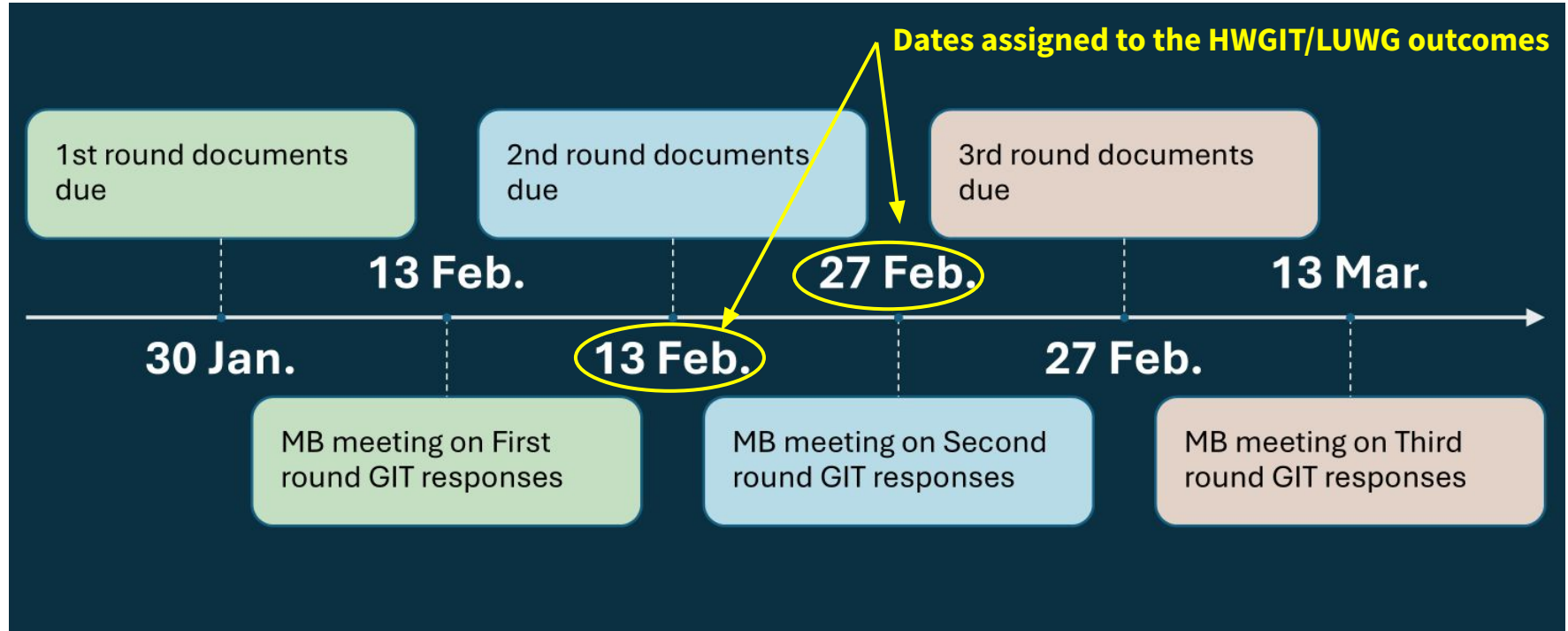
*\*If significant edits are made during the meeting and jurisdictional leads need more feedback before voting, the vote will be extended to email by **COB February 6th**.*

Figure 1: University of Maryland Consensus Decision-Making Continuum





# Short-Term Outcome Assessment Timeline



# Continued Management Board Process and Timeline

<b>April 10, 2025</b>	Continued discussion to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes.  Outcomes identified as being kept or combined are assigned to workgroups for rewriting
<b>May 7-8, 2025</b>	Finalize outcome assessment/evaluation
<b>May 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PSC Check in on Draft List of Outcomes. Share approach for structure development and governance review</li><li>• Advisory Committee Presentation – all together</li></ul>
<b>June 12, 2025</b>	Work through any PSC feedback on outcomes. Prepare final outcome list for public sharing
<b>July 1, 2025</b>	Discussion of overall Partnership Structure. Includes all partnership Goal Teams/workgroups/action teams
<b>August 14, 2025</b>	Continue Grouping /Structure Development/ Governance
<b>August 2025</b>	PSC Check-in Grouping /Structure Development/ Governance
<b>September 11, 2025</b>	Continue work on Structure/ Governance and draft list of outcomes
<b>October 9, 2025</b>	Finalize outcomes and Complete Draft of New Structure
<b>October 2025</b>	Presentation of Final Draft to PSC
<b>November 2025</b>	Preparation of Final Package Based on PSC feedback



**3**

**Presentation, Discussion, &  
Vote:**

**Updated Draft Outcome  
Assessments - *LUMM, LUOE, HW***

# Land Use Methods and Metrics Development (LUMM)

## Outcome

### Draft Recommendations for the LUMM Outcome:

- Consolidate the production of land use mapping and monitoring activities initiated by this outcome into an updated Land Use Options Evaluation Outcome.
- Support the new CBP Land Use Strategy through the updated Healthy Watersheds outcome and revised Land Use Options Evaluation outcome.
- Formally integrate land use mapping, monitoring, and derived metrics into the management strategies of relevant outcomes.

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# Land Use Options Evaluation ( LUOE ) Outcome

## Draft Recommendations for the LUOE Outcome:

- Update the outcome language as: “Develop and provide actionable science and data relevant to land use decisions and local environmental concerns to organizations engaged in those issues and decisions. When additional measures are needed to protect sensitive resources, develop and implement state-level policies and programs relevant to land use decisions.”
- Rename the outcome (we invite your feedback on a new name).
  - Example ideas: Watershed Planning, Land Use and Watershed Integrity, Land Use Decision Support
- Consolidate land use mapping and monitoring activities under this outcome.

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## What makes the LUOE outcome unique and needed?

- Only outcome focused on building capacity and capability for land use and watershed planning.
- People-centric: preserving open space and working lands and enhancing public access to nature, and improving landscape connectivity via trails and greenways.
- Responsive to local needs and concerns by design.
- Incorporates land use mapping and monitoring activities initiated under LUMM.

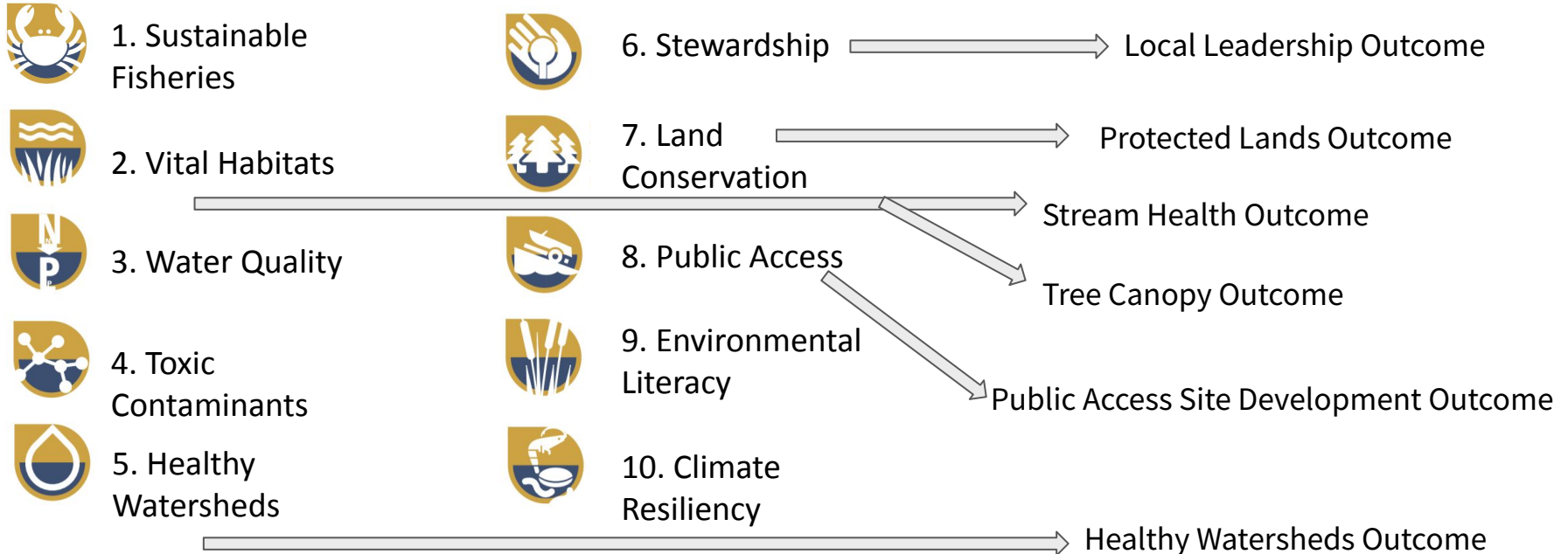
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# Relationship with other Goals/Outcomes

## Our 10 Goals from the 2014 *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*

## Examples of Interconnected Outcomes



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# Healthy Watersheds ( HW) Outcome

## Draft Recommendations for the Healthy Watersheds Outcome:

- To better align watershed health with stream health update outcome as: “Maintain landscape integrity, watershed processes and conditions contributing to healthy aquatic ecosystems.”
- Update the goal as: “Protect and sustain healthy waters and watersheds recognized for their high quality defined by ecological, socioeconomic, and/or cultural values” and to update the topic as “Watershed Health” in place of “Healthy Watersheds”.
- Establish both short-term (5-year) and long-term (20-year) targets for building local capacity and for protecting, maintaining and improving watershed health

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