



Narrative Analysis

BLACK DUCK OUTCOME – NOVEMBER 11, 2022

The narrative analysis summarizes the findings of the logic and action plan and serves as the bridge between the logic and action plan and the quarterly progress meeting presentation. Based on what you learned over the past two years from your successes and challenges, you will describe whether the partnership should make adaptations or change course.

Use your completed pre-quarterly logic and action plan to answer the questions below. After the quarterly progress meeting, your responses to these questions will guide your updates to your logic and action plan. Additional guidance can be found on [ChesapeakeDecisions](#).

1. Examine your red/yellow/green analysis of your management actions. What lessons have you learned over the past two years of implementation? *Summarize what you have learned about what worked and what didn't. For example, have you identified additional factors to consider or filled an information gap?*

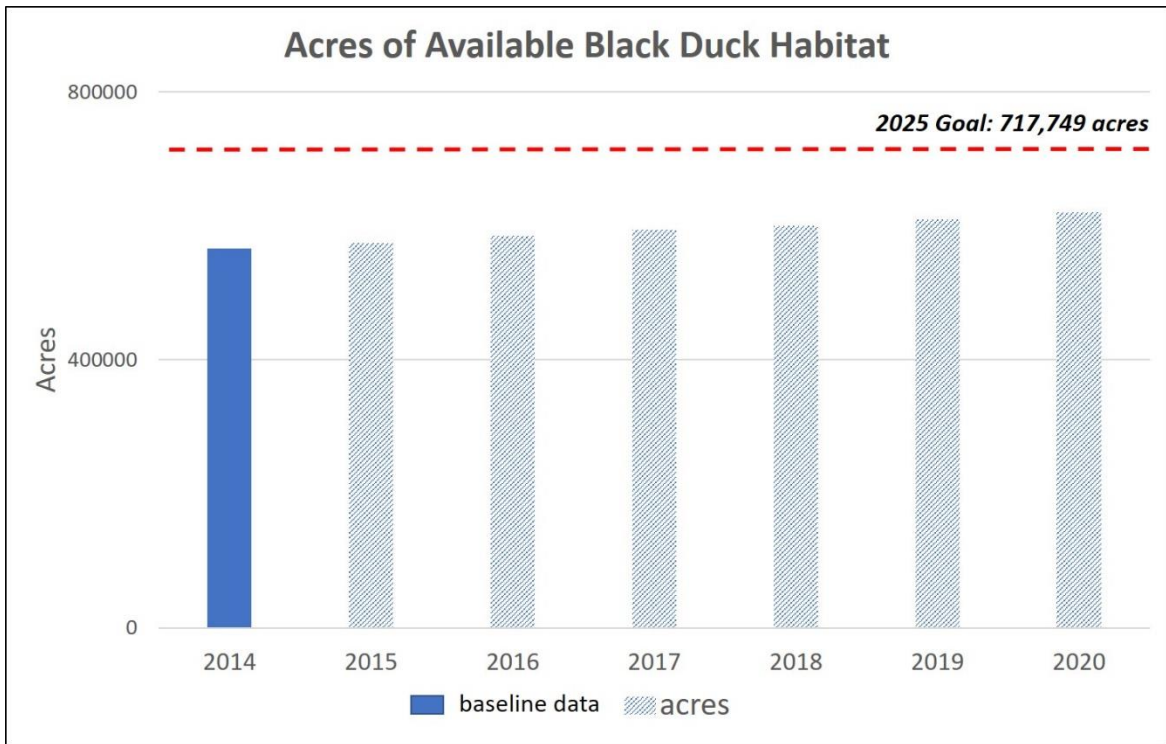
Most of the actions listed in the workplan have been completed. The current factors affecting progress are still accurate, and each of the actions has addressed or is addressing the factors. The update of the Black Duck Decision Support Tool (DST) was a successful project that indicates areas where there is sufficient and insufficient wetland quantity and quality to support the desired number of Black Ducks in each HUC12 watershed. It also indicates how much of the habitat is in conservation status, to show areas sufficiently protected and areas needing additional land protection, as well as the areas where wetland habitat needs to be restored or enhanced. In addition, the bioenergetics modeling for the refuges in the face of sea-level rise and land-use change was completed. This has showcased the importance of SAV as a food resource for wintering black ducks. The action team continues to determine whether the SAV outcome can be incorporated as an indicator for this outcome based on this research.

The biggest obstacle that the action team has involves the tracking of restoration acres toward the black duck outcome. Of the 16,000 acres reported under the wetland outcome how much of these are quality habitat for black ducks. Present restoration efforts are not prioritized for black duck and, therefore, hinder our progress toward the outcome.

2. Regardless of how successful your short-term progress has been over the past two years, indicate whether we are making progress at a rate that is necessary to achieve the outcome you are working toward. The example graph below illustrates this concept.

As mentioned above, it has been a challenge for the action team to collect the necessary data for the indicator. Without restoration numbers of key black duck habitat for each year, it is impossible to track

progress toward the outcome. The graph below is what we expect to fill in with data once it is received, but for now just has placeholder data.



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3. What scientific, fiscal and policy-related developments will influence your work over the next two years? *This may include information learned at the previous biennial SRS meeting or more specific information about your outcome such as an increase or decrease in funding, new programs that address gaps, and new scientific data or research. Describe how these developments are likely to impact your recommended measure(s) of progress, the factors you believe impact your ability to succeed, and newly created or filled gaps. These changes should be reflected in the first three columns of your revised logic and action plan after your quarterly progress meeting.*

Scientific: The update of the DST now provides us with a prioritization tool to focus our habitat restoration/preservation efforts for wintering black ducks. If this could be used as a prioritization tool for the wetlands outcome then both the workgroup and the action team could simultaneously make progress towards their outcomes. Something to also consider with this idea is how the DST changes with climate change and land-use change which the bioenergetics model showed at a refuge scale.

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4. Based on your response to the questions above, how will your work change over the next two years? *Describe the adaptations that will be necessary to more efficiently achieve your outcome and explain how these changes will lead you to adjust your management strategy or the actions described in column four of your logic and action plan. Changes that the workgroup, GIT or Management Board consider significant should be reflected in your management strategy.*

We will likely not add many new actions to the workplan and instead focus on those that are ongoing. We will also explore the possibility of merging the black duck action team with the wetlands workgroup to create efficiencies in workforce and outcome achievement as mentioned above.

5. What, if any, actions can the Management Board take to help ensure success in achieving your outcome? Please be as specific as possible. Do you need direct action by the Management Board? Or can the Management Board direct or facilitate action through other groups? Can you describe efforts the workgroup has already taken to address this issue? If this need is not met, how will progress toward your outcome be affected? This assistance may include support from within a Management Board member's jurisdiction or agency.

We need support from the Management Board in increasing staffing support and increasing support for the wetlands outcome through the wetlands workshop and resultant action plan as will be discussed at management board meeting scheduled on 12/8/22.