

Near-Term Milestones

Principals' Staff Committee

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Chair

Near Term Milestones

- ▶ Propose partnership continue to use milestones during Phase 2 Beyond 2025 discussions
- ▶ The partnership is committed to maintain continuity and accountability under the Phase 3 WIPs
- ▶ “Near term” milestones are those milestones that span 2026 through when there are new targets established by the partnership using the Phase 7 modeling tools.

Recommendation for Near Term Milestone Duration and Process

- ▶ Maintain two-year milestone schedule (January 2026-December 2027)
- ▶ Partners will develop 1-3-page high level programmatic actions to continue to support implementing the Phase III WIP during the milestone period. No numeric milestones will be required (i.e., no projected reductions are needed up front).
 - ▶ Option remains to provide more detailed programmatic milestones
 - ▶ Option remains to provide numeric milestones or BMP projections
 - ▶ Innovative actions are recognized but not evaluated based on their outcome
- ▶ At the end of the two-year milestone period, partners will develop a 2-page fact sheet outlining successes, barriers, and actions to overcome barriers in meeting programmatic initiatives and implementation.
- ▶ NOTE: Annual numeric progress reporting and updates to ChesapeakeProgress will continue.

Feedback on the Near Term Milestones Recommendation

- ▶ The WQGIT & MB had consensus for the recommended approach for milestone process and duration.
 - ▶ 3 WQGIT partners agreed with reservations preferring annual programmatic updates and feedback loop process, emphasis on the need for numeric milestones to track progress toward the water quality goals.
 - ▶ MB partners CBC and SAC agreed with reservations on the need for numeric milestones
 - ▶ From the WQGIT: 1 partner expressed a preference for three-year milestones and 2 partners were open to either two- or three-year milestones.
 - ▶ No MB concerns related to duration.
- ▶ There were 4 options related to process and 3 options related to duration that were considered based on multiple feedback sessions in WQGIT meetings.

Follow up

- ▶ Milestones beyond Phase 7 model targets will likely be part of Phase 2 Beyond 2025 discussions and those discussions will likely be assigned to the Milestones Workgroup
 - ▶ Concerns were elevated at the MB meeting by CBC and SAC to ensure milestones remain “SMARTIE” goals and include numeric and programmatic elements.
- ▶ QUESTIONS?
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