

PLANNING FOR 2025 AND BEYOND

*Chesapeake Bay Program*



# Management Board Outcome Disposition Meeting

## Novel Outcomes

March 27, 2025



## Novel Outcomes – What's Next?

By **noon on April 4, 2025**, all Management Board members will record their entity's Pulse Check preference to:

- **Recommend** - Recommend the novel outcome to the PSC, as provided by the GIT.
- **Modify & recommend** - Recommend the novel outcome to the PSC with modifications to be specified in the Pulse Check “rationale” column.
- **Refer back to GIT** - Refer the recommendation back to the lead GIT for further revision and possible resubmission.
- **Reject** - Reject the novel outcome recommendation.



## Novel Outcomes – What's Next?

- At the **April 10, 2025 meeting**, the Management Board will vote on whether to recommend each proposed novel outcome to the PSC.
- Voting will utilize the framework described in the following slides and applied during today's meeting.

# Nontidal Fish Habitat

OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO  
MANAGEMENT BOARD:

GOAL: Vital Habitats LEAD: Habitat Goal Team

ADD

**OUTCOME:** Draft ideas not yet discussed or reviewed-

- Improve fish habitat condition through the understanding of land use and habitat function under changing conditions.
- Maintain fish habitat through focused water quality, conservation and restoration improvements informed by a synthesis of living resource data and habitat assessments.

- Draft Outputs:
  - Fish habitat condition measured as a % improvement from xxxx baseline.
  - Acid Mine Drainage (share output with Brook Trout)
  - Mussel abundance or occupancy.
- Beyond 25 report: “leverage action across multiple goals and outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement.” That is inherent to a nontidal fish habitat outcome because it is impacted or related to the work of many outcomes.
- This outcome provides a nontidal focus and relates landscape conditions to fish species or community occurrence and habitat condition in streams and rivers. Fish habitat represents integrated stressors and can provide insight into impacts on inland waters and downstream conditions.
- Measure includes assessment to connect living resources to land use and identify areas for improvements, conservation priorities, and habitat restoration strategies based on identified stressor.

Presented by: Gina Hunt

# Oyster Abundance Outcome

OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO  
MANAGEMENT BOARD:

**ADD**

**OUTCOME: Enhance the capacity of oysters to improve water quality through increased oyster abundance in the sustainably managed fishery and aquaculture.**

- PROPOSED GOAL: Sustainable Fisheries
  - LEAD: GIT 1
  
  - Engage oyster industry (wild harvest and aquaculture)
  - Utilize oyster BMP
  - Outcome should be additive (seek to increase oyster abundance)
- Critical activities:
    - Population assessment
    - Metrics for monitoring success

# SOIL HEALTH OUTCOME

OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO  
MANAGEMENT BOARD:

ADD

**OUTCOME:** Maintain and improve soil health, the foundation for healthy ecosystems and productive working lands. By 2035, develop and implement an approach to assess and incentivize actions to improve soil health, including modeling the soil health impacts of current water quality BMPs and identifying additional BMPs and other priority actions that support both soil health and water quality.

- **PROPOSED GOAL:** Watershed Health
- **LEAD:** \*STAC
  - \*Placement within structure TBD based on
  - partnership input

**Consideration:** EC Charge, Bay agreement, jurisdictional alignment

- Changing Conditions: B25 Small group
- Emphasis on conservation and restoration
- Holistic approach targets nonpoint sources
- Aligns with jurisdictional initiatives
- Improves environmental and economic outcomes

**Consideration: Value added**

- Facilitates collaboration, directs and expands resources and capacity by focusing attention on the outcome
- Expanded education and outreach

**Consideration: SMART**

- Evaluate BMPs by soil health metrics/impacts, support, track implementation- annual progress
- Inherent incentives, prioritizing co-benefits, expanded opportunities Pay4 Outcomes, Ecosystem Service markets

Kathy Boomer, STAC Representative

# Braiding Knowledge Streams

OUTCOME DISPOSITION ADVICE TO  
MANAGEMENT BOARD:

ADD

**OUTCOME: Continually improve our ability to braid together scientific, Indigenous, and local knowledge towards restoring ecological integrity, promoting community well-being, and fostering sustainable land and water management practices.**

- PROPOSED GOAL: Foundational (would apply to all goals and outcomes where appropriate)
- LEAD: Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)
- Addresses multiple EC Primary Consideration
- Enhanced decision-making
- Restoration of cultural landscapes
- Respectful partnerships across all knowledge providers
- Promotes sustainable livelihoods
- Strengthens cultural/local identity and knowledge transmission