

Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to...



Goal: *Stream Health*

Outcome:

Continually improve stream health and function through the watershed. Improve health and function of ten percent of stream miles above the 2008 baseline for the watershed

What we've done

Data Review and Development of Multi-Metric Stream Health Indicators

This project (Phase 3A) will begin to address the question: Following the implementation of management efforts, how is stream health changing, and how can we better characterize the response through non-biological metrics?

- 2021 GIT funded project
- Tetra Tech completed the report in September 2023
- Report is available on the SHWG website
- Recommendations from project include the development of a Desktop Hydromorphology Assessment Tool
- Highlighted specific metrics for initial indicators

What we've done

STAC Workshop

State of the science & practice of stream restoration in the Chesapeake: Lessons Learned to inform better implementation, assessment, and outcomes

- Workshop was held in March 2023
- Steering Committee is finalizing report from STAC meeting

What we've done

Stream Restoration Permitting Survey

- Survey has been completed
- Greater need to understand the full breadth of benefits and impacts
 - more detailed monitoring of pre- and post-restoration
 - assessment of the trade-offs between the existing and proposed conditions
- Low capacity in regulatory agencies have slowed review
- Most noted that the permitting process for stream restoration projects has improved over the past 5 years

The SHWG will continue to facilitate discussions between regulatory staff and practitioners.

What we're doing now

Literature Review: Building Climate Resilience in Stream Restoration Practices

This literature review seeks to answer the questions:

How do common stream restoration techniques perform when faced with climate change?

What is the long-term resiliency of stream restoration practices?

- 2022 GIT Funded Project
- Stroud Water Research Center will be completing this project
- QAPP is currently being developed

What we're doing now

DEIJ Initiatives

- Engage with under-served, under-represented communities to increase participation in stream health concerns
- SHWG Co-Chairs met with CBP's Diversity Workgroup Chairs and Coordinator ID'd short-term and long-term actions to incorporate DEIJ efforts into SHWG

What we will be doing

Strategy Review System Cycle

- Begin in Spring 2024
- Due June 2024 for Management Board meeting