Day Two: Addressing the EC Charge

February Steering Committee Symposium

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February 29, 2024

Chesapeake Bay Program

40 years of science, restoration and partnership

DAY 2 AGENDA

OUTCOMES

✓ Receipt and Discussion of SG Recommendations

Recommendation Refinement

Final Product Execution

- 8:30a   Recap and Overview

- 8:40a   Visioning Exercise

- 9:40a   SC Recommendation Refinement *(presentation)*

- 10:00a   Recommendation Breakout

- 11:00a   Report Out & Discussion

- 12:00p   Lunch

- 12:30p   Delivering Charge Discussion

- 1:55p   Preparing for March

- 2:30p   Closing Remarks

- 2:45p   Adjourn

2024

Chesapeake Bay Program

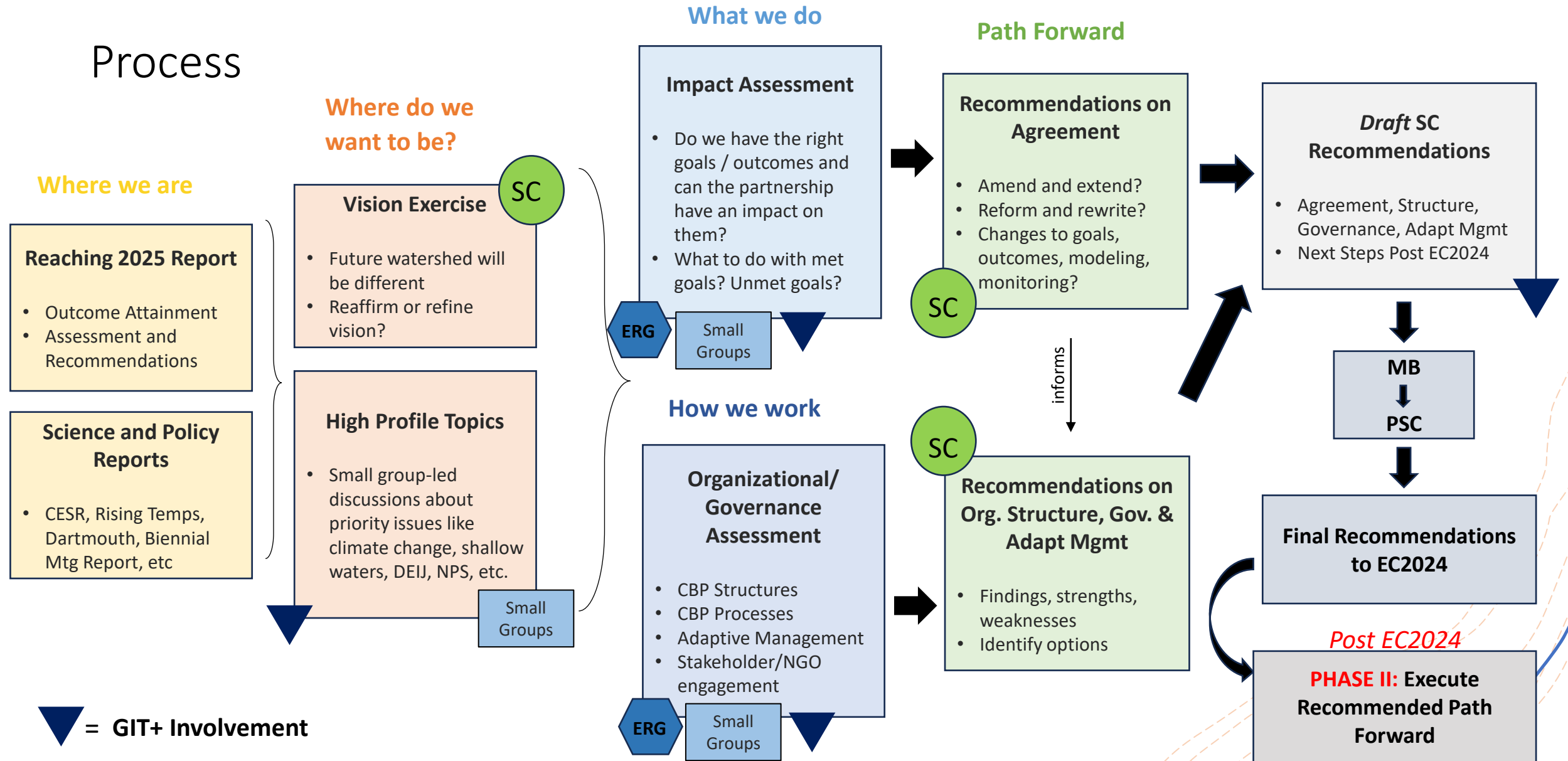# Recommendation Refinement

9:40 am Session

Two-Phased Approach

- Phase 1 – By EC 2024, through efforts of a Steering Committee appointed by the Management Board, determine the scope and breadth of what will be undertaken to meet the EC Charge and develop a plan to complete that work.

- Phase 2 – Execute the plan after EC 2024 acceptance and subsequent directives.

Process

Where we are

Reaching 2025 Report
- Outcome Attainment
- Assessment and Recommendations

Science and Policy Reports
- CESR, Rising Temps, Dartmouth, Biennial Mtg Report, etc

Where do we want to be?

Vision Exercise — SC
- Future watershed will be different
- Reaffirm or refine vision?

High Profile Topics
- Small group-led discussions about priority issues like climate change, shallow waters, DEIJ, NPS, etc.

Small Groups

What we do

Impact Assessment
- Do we have the right goals / outcomes and can the partnership have an impact on them?
- What to do with met goals? Unmet goals?

ERG Small Groups

How we work

Organizational/ Governance Assessment
- CBP Structures
- CBP Processes
- Adaptive Management
- Stakeholder/NGO engagement

ERG Small Groups

Path Forward

Recommendations on Agreement — SC
- Amend and extend?
- Reform and rewrite?
- Changes to goals, outcomes, modeling, monitoring?

informs

SC — Recommendations on Org. Structure, Gov. & Adapt Mgmt
- Findings, strengths, weaknesses
- Identify options

Draft SC Recommendations
- Agreement, Structure, Governance, Adapt Mgmt
- Next Steps Post EC2024

MB
↓
PSC

Final Recommendations to EC2024

Post EC2024

PHASE II: Execute Recommended Path Forward
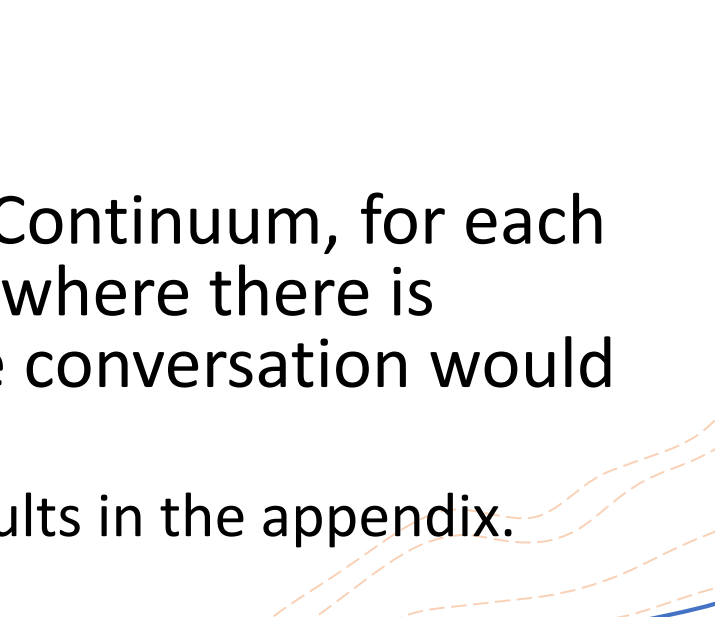
▼ = GIT+ Involvement
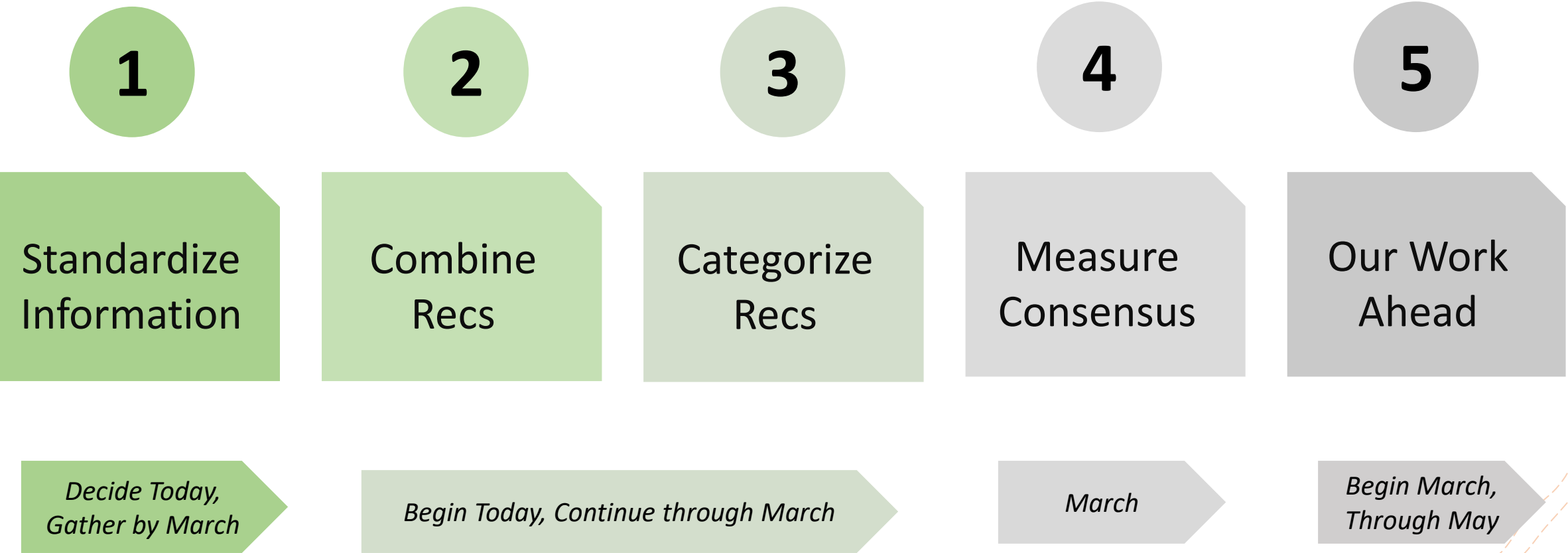
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Getting from "A" to "B25"?

How will we get from individual recommendations to a path forward for the Program?

1. Define a set of standard information to gather for each recommendation – one page per recommendation.

2. Combine recommendations as appropriate.

3. Categorize recommendations based on whether they impact our Agreement, our Partnership, both, or neither.

4. Measure and record level of consensus or comfort within steering committee around pursuing each recommendation in Phase II.

5. Determine the scope of the work ahead with these recommendations in mind

Recording and Measuring

- All small group recommendations, after combining and standardizing, will be collected and shared in the appendix of the SC's product.
  - Significant time, thought, and discussion went into each of these recommendations.
  - All of them, to varying degrees, will be in the minds of the SC and the broader Bay community as we propose a path forward.

- We will do a pulse check, using the Consensus Continuum, for each recommendation to help the drafters highlight where there is significant strength of support and where more conversation would be needed.
  - We will use polling software and document the results in the appendix.
  - This information should be helpful for Phase II.

Getting from "A" to "B25"?

1	2	3	4	5
Standardize Information	Combine Recs	Categorize Recs	Measure Consensus	Our Work Ahead

Decide Today, Gather by March

Begin Today, Continue through March

March

Begin March, Through May

Lunch

Until 12:30pm

Day 2 Steering Committee Breakout Session

Breakout Instructions

- Break into groups of ~10
  - Main room (4 groups, in person only)
  - All virtual Steering Committee members in 1-2 breakouts (virtual only)
    - Join the breakout room when prompted
    - Cameras on if possible
    - Shared document may be considered
- Groups self facilitate. Choose volunteers: 1 notetaker, 1 person to report out
- Notes captured
  - Via flip charts (in person only)
- End at 11:00am (automatic)
- Report out key messages

Discussion & Questions
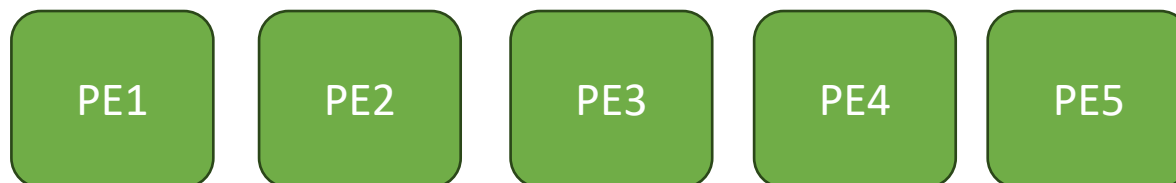
Purpose:

- Divide the Steering Committee into nimble groups to work through Small Group recommendations in an effective way.

Suggested Discussions

Questions:

- What standard information should be included / considered for each recommendation?

- Where can we combine and align recommendations? Bucket by:
  - Impact to Agreement & Partnership
  - Common Themes
  - Degree of Change

CW1	CW2	CW3	CW4	CW5
SW1	SW2	SW3	SW4	SW5
HW1	HW2	HW3	HW4	HW5
CL1	CL2	CL3	CL4	CL5
PE1	PE2	PE3	PE4	PE5

Beyond 2025 Small Groups

DRAFT Recommendations to the Steering Committee

February 26, 2024 (Updated w/ Climate Recommendations)

Shallow Waters

1. **Climate-Resilient Restoration**
   Prioritize system-scale shallow water habitat restoration that provides social, economic, and ecological benefits while also providing resilience and connectivity under changing land-use and climate conditions.

2. **Integrated Modeling and Monitoring**
   Improve understanding of connectivity and habitat function under changing conditions by expanding Chesapeake Bay and watershed monitoring and modeling to include continuous shallow water habitats.

3. **Adaptation Strategy to inform Habitat Management and Project Planning**
   Implement a process for climate adaptation in shallow water habitats that integrates adaptation science and community engagement elements. Primary steps include conducting vulnerability assessments and modeling habitat transitions under alternative future scenarios, engaging the community in setting priorities for planning, implementing measures at both local and system scales while sharing knowledge, and evaluating the effectiveness of the measures to improve the desired outcome.

4. **Communication and Engagement**
   Strengthen the connection between people and shallow water habitats by communicating the importance of these ecosystems and their socio-economic benefits to stakeholders. Develop active and sustained engagement with communities to understand their values and utilize social science strategies to develop stewards of their local waterways. Align actions and funding to these values and socio-economic considerations.

5. **Effective Governance, Collaboration, and Innovative Funding**
   Shift the effort, resources, and accountability evenly across the outcomes. Prioritize product over process and adjust outcomes and funding accordingly. Manage shallow waters as an interconnected ecosystem that leverages collaboration among the Bay Program partnership and organizational structure.

What will we deliver to the Executive Council?

12:30pm Session

Steering Committee Planned Product For EC2024

Where we are

> **Summary of where we are with the 2014 Watershed Agreement**
> - Charting a Course to 2025, Chesapeake Progress: Outcome Attainability
> - CESR, Rising Temperatures, Forest Buffers & Wetlands Conference Reports, meeting reports, Advisory Committee recommendations, and more.

Where do we want to be

> **Vision**
> - Current Partnership Vision – Reaffirm? Refine?

What we do

> **Impact assessment**
> - What is the ability of our Partnership to positively impact each goal and outcome?
> - Do we have the right outcomes for our goals and the right goals for our vision?

How we work
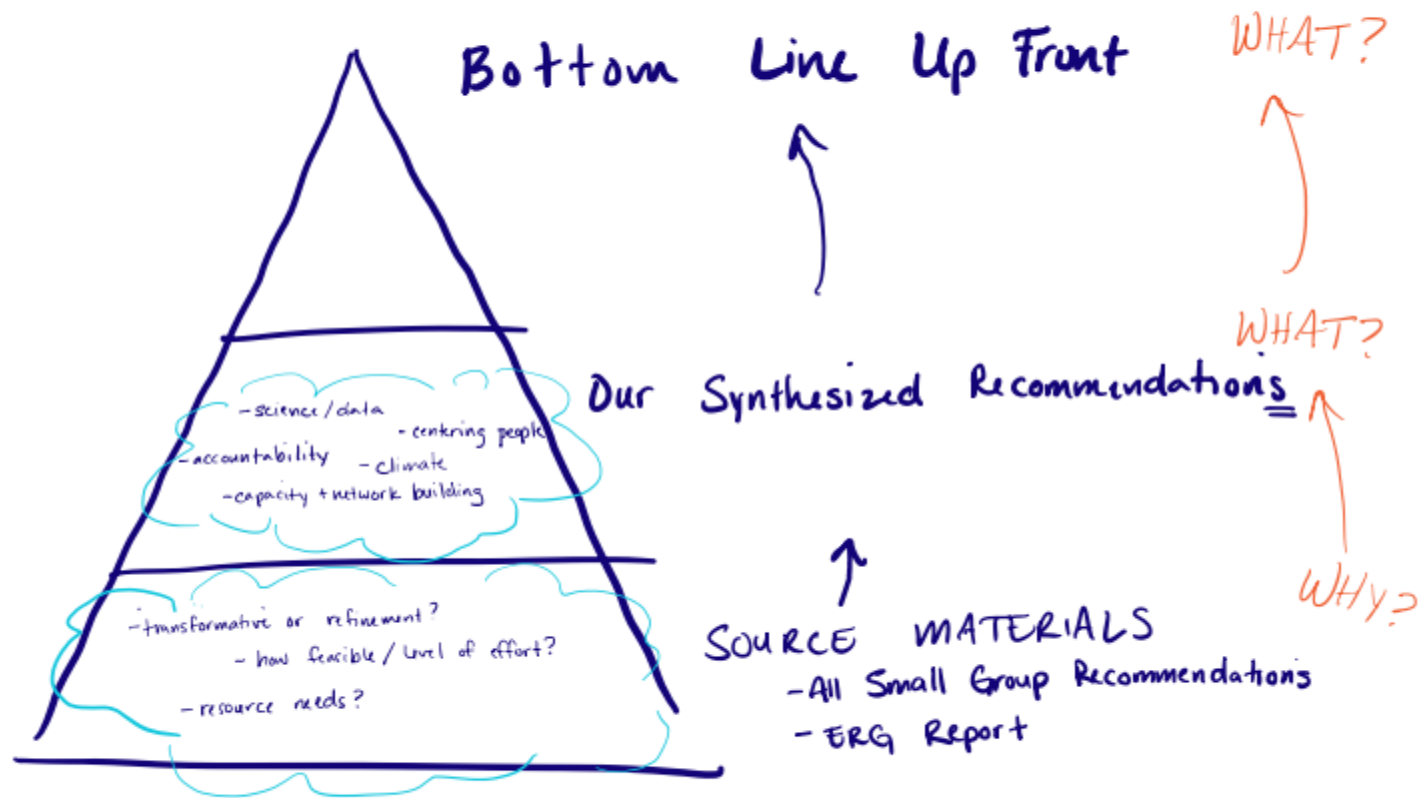
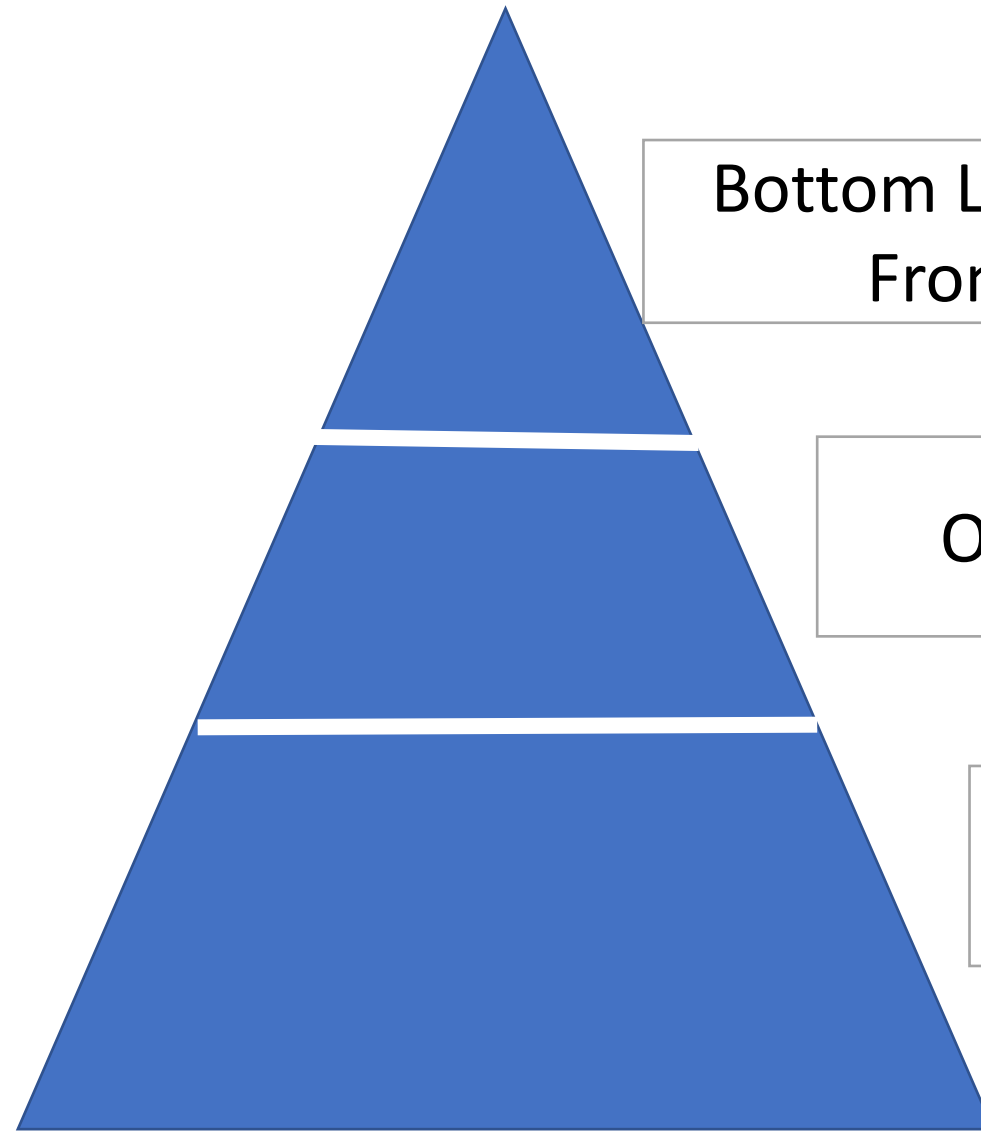> **Assessment of our overall partnership**
> - Partnership Structure
> - Governance and Adaptive Management

Path Forward

> **Recommendation on what to do with the Watershed Agreement post-2025**
>
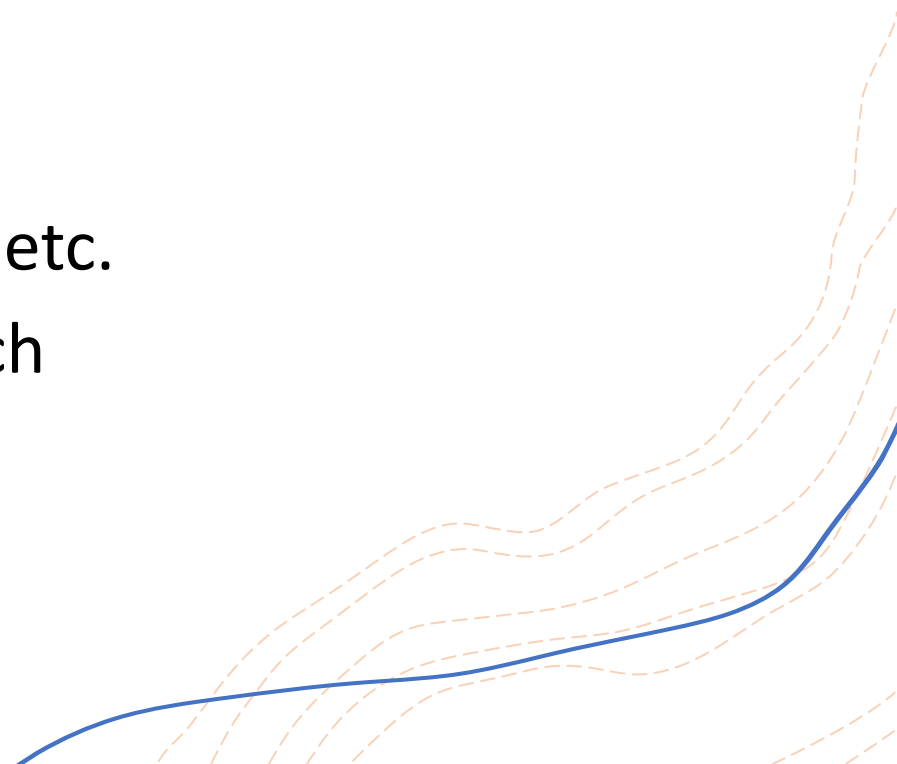> **Recommendations on the Partnership**

Proposed Draft Outline

Page 1-2: Critical Path Forward

- Our Charge

- Our ~~Recommendation~~ *Bottom Line Up Front* (Agreement/Partnership)

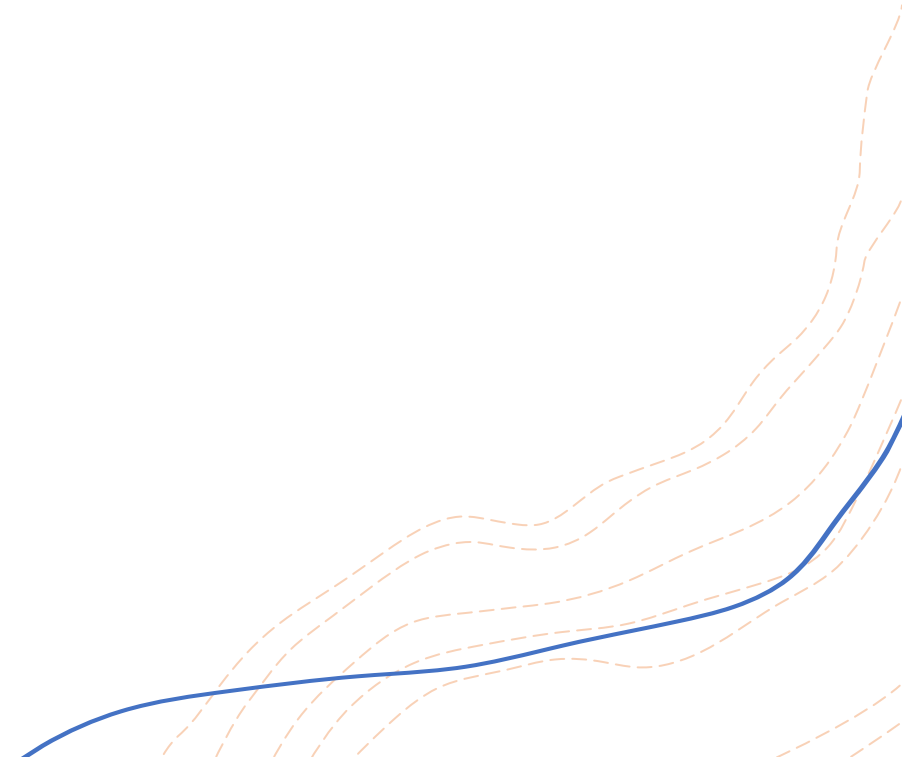- Our Vision for the Partnership

Page 3+: Synthesis / Alignment

- Our Process & what informed our work

- *More detailed* findings categorized by X, Y, Z etc.

- Summary of public engagement and outreach

Source Materials

- Small Group 1-Pager Narratives

- Final ERG Report

Key Questions on Drafting and Outline

- Does this answer the EC Charge? If not, what is missing?

STEP 1 PROCESS

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

Steering Committee

- Jurisdiction/Feds/ACs/GITs/+
- Monthly Meeting Frequency

ERG **(Independent Evaluator via Contract)**

- Evaluation plan (EP) scoped by SC
- EP implemented: Sept '23 to July '24

Small Groups

- People, Climate, Clean Water, Shallow Habitats, Healthy Watersheds
- SC + Invitees
- Active from Nov '23 to Mar '24

SOURCE MATERIAL
Supplemental to SC Product

Evaluation Report
(April - Interim / July - Final)

- Content Analysis + Discussions
- Themes → Statement of Findings
- Considerations for SC

Recommendations (5 x 5 Group)
(March)

- Vanguard, Value, Vision
- People, Climate, Living Resources
- Rationale and Phase 2 Next Steps
- Impact Agreement / Partnership

FINAL PRODUCT

Report to the EC
(December)

(1) DRAFTING
(2) SC REVIEW
(3) PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
(4) REVISIONS
(5) REVIEW

In short, assuming no one has a Tardis, Time Sled, or DeLorean…

	January				February				March				April				May					June					July				August				September				October					November				December			
Week	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Small Groups Recommendations	Discuss & Draft			SC	1-pager			SC																																											
ERG Report	Content Analysis and Interviews												Draft		SC		Draft										SC																								
Steering Committee Draft													Draft									SC									Revise							SC													
Public Engagement																						Comment & Dialogues																													
Approval Process																																							MB					MB				PSC?		EC	

Schedule Requirements

- Work backwards from December EC and November PSC.

- Review and communicate with our MB members and PSC members (June - October)

- A quality product we can put out for public comment by June, which integrates Small Group and ERG content.

- Integrated periods between SC drafting, review, and revisions
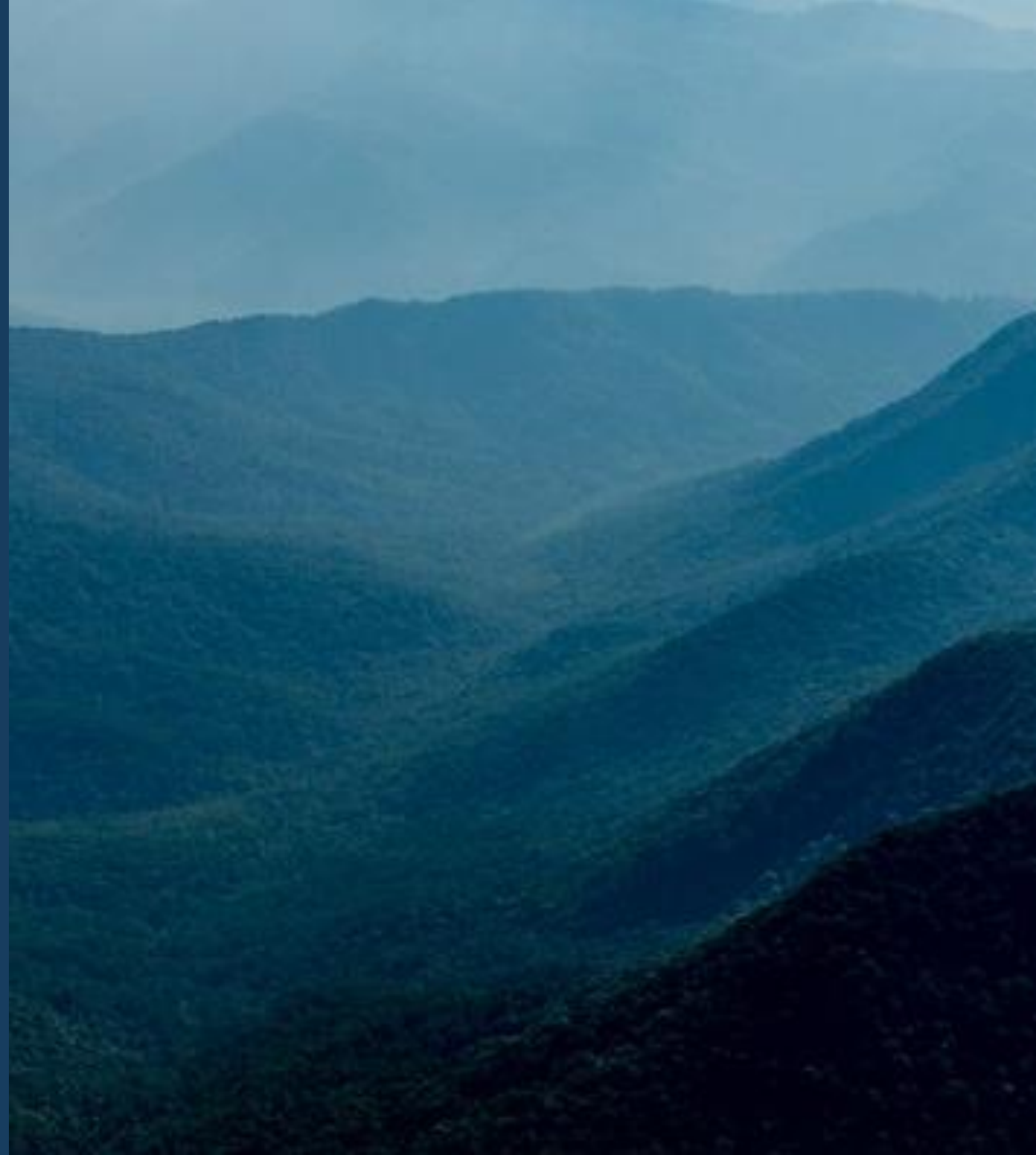
Translating the Scope of Work...

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

1. Small Group Proposals
2. ERG Evaluation & Report
3. SC Recommendation
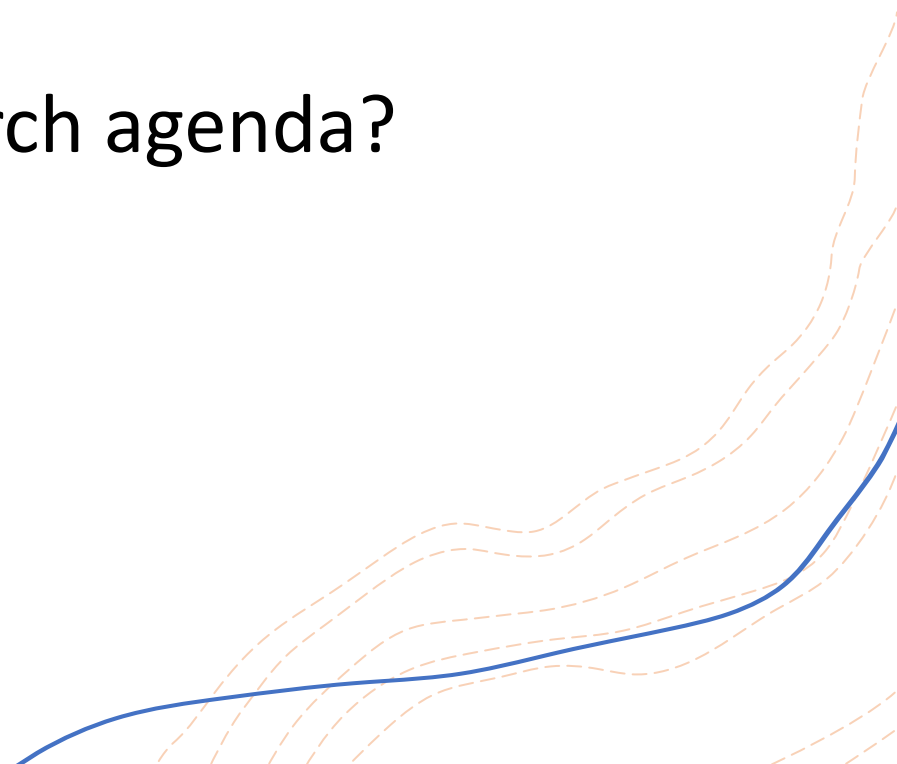4. Public Engagement
5. Approval Process

How do we prepare for March?

1:55pm Session

Key Questions

- What do we need small groups to gather for March?

- What do we need to have on our March agenda?

- How much time will we need for our March agenda?