

# Climate Resiliency

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## **The Climate Resiliency Outcomes in the 2014 *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement***

**Climate Resiliency Goal:** *Increase the resiliency of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, including its living resources, habitats, public infrastructure and communities, to withstand adverse impacts from changing environmental and climate conditions.*

**Monitoring and Assessment Outcome:** *Continually monitor and assess the trends and likely impacts of changing climatic and sea level conditions on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem, including the effectiveness of restoration and protection policies, programs and projects*

**Adaptation Outcome:** *Continually pursue, design and construct restoration and protection projects to enhance the resiliency of Bay and aquatic ecosystems from the impacts of coastal erosion, coastal flooding, more intense and more frequent storms and sea level rise.*

## **The Climate Resiliency Workgroup's Management Approaches to Meeting the Outcomes**

### **Monitoring and Assessment:**

1. Assess past and future trends in sea level, precipitation patterns, temperature and ecosystem response to climate change
2. Develop a research agenda to improve understanding of climate impacts and fill critical data and gaps related to monitoring and modeling
3. Undertake public, stakeholder and local engagement to increase understanding of climate change impacts

### **Adaptation:**

1. Address the design and function of Best Management Practices (BMPs) under a new climate reality
2. Implement and track priority adaptation actions, their effectiveness and ecological response and lessons learned
3. Continually increase knowledge about the resiliency of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, such as the impacts of coastal erosion, inland and urban flooding, more intense and frequent storms and sea level rise
4. Address the institutional capacity of the Chesapeake Bay Program to prepare for and respond to climate change

For more information on the management approaches as well as draft actions in their draft logic and action plan, please see:

- [Climate Resilience Management Strategy](#)
  - This is a 54-page document that summarizes the climate resiliency goal, outcomes, current efforts, gaps in current efforts, and management approaches to their work.
- [Draft Climate Resiliency Logic and Action Plan for 2021-2022](#)
  - This includes the (draft) detailed actions the workgroup will work on to meet the outcome.

### **The Climate Resiliency Workgroup's Preliminary Ideas on How to Incorporate DEIJ**

- Apply a DEIJ and/or environmental justice lens to new climate change indicators and their corresponding data sets.
- Exploring the inclusion of a social equitable planning outcome for the FY19 GIT-Funded project, "Building a Bay-Wide Scorecard to Track Climate Resilience for Watershed Communities."
- Increase capacity to better understand sea level rise impacts to habitats and their ecosystem services, including impacts in areas that are home to environmental justice communities.
- Support the Habitat Goal Implementation Team (GIT) in the FY19 GIT-Funded project, "Targeted Local Outreach for Green Infrastructure" which is doing targeted outreach in environmental justice communities that are vulnerable to climate change impacts.
- Increase capacity and expand workgroup membership to include participants with DEIJ-related experience.

### **Key Contacts for the Climate Resiliency Workgroup**

Julie Reichert-Nguyen, Coordinator - [julie.reichert-nguyen@noaa.gov](mailto:julie.reichert-nguyen@noaa.gov)

Breck Sullivan, Staffer - [bsullivan@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:bsullivan@chesapeakebay.net)