An Accountability Framework

ChesapeakeStat

On June 16, 2014, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement was signed.

The Watershed Agreement made it clear that **four principles** would be critical to the success of our work:

Transparency | Accountability

Reliability | Relevance

Our stakeholders support these organizational goals.

Oversight groups want more information about our work.

And they want to access this information on the web.

How can **ChesapeakeStat** help them?

that's-nifty/Flickr

Over the course of several months, we worked with an outside, objective expert to evaluate ChesapeakeStat: Was it meeting our needs? And those of our users?

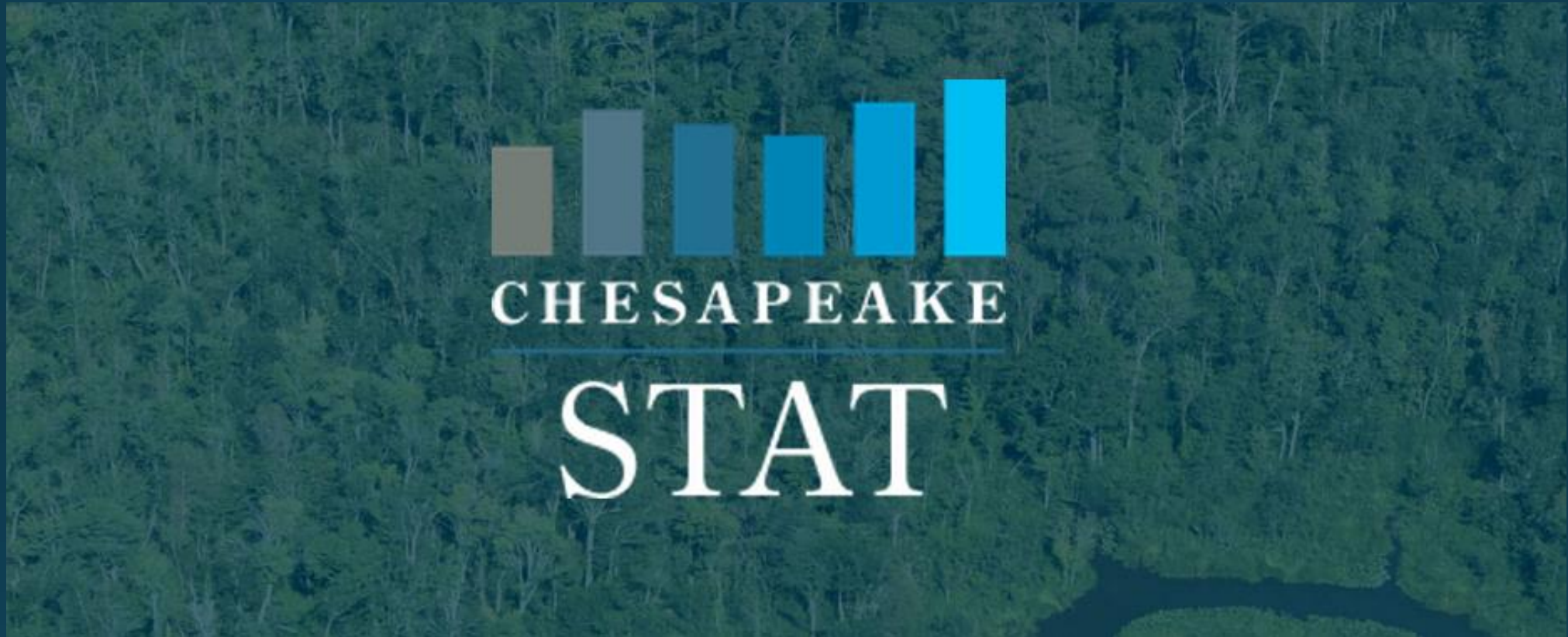In attempting to be all things to all people, you serve very few.

Our research revealed **opportunities:**

Users are familiar with the product and know it is a credible source.

And **challenges:**

Users find the product hard to navigate. Some information is missing, while other information is hard to find.

So we have created something new.

An **accountability framework**.

A **gateway to web products** that will improve information-sharing and decision-making at the Chesapeake Bay Program.

A **communications product** that explains how we are governed, how we work and how we can be held accountable for what we do.

Let's take a look.

CHESAPEAKE
STAT

Managing Watershed Restoration

ChesapeakeStat improves information-sharing and decision-making at the Chesapeake Bay Program. As we work toward the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, we invite you to access reliable, results-oriented data and information about our progress and hold us accountable for our work.

CHESAPEAKE
PROGRESS

Our progress is measured by accurate, up-to-date and accessible information on environmental health, habitat restoration and funding.

CHESAPEAKE
DECISIONS

Our work is guided by a decision-making framework that supports adaptive management: learning while doing and adjusting our efforts as needed.

CHESAPEAKE
DATA

Our decisions are influenced by a range of environmental data, which reach beyond those stories that are told by our indicators of environmental health and restoration success.

Access our TMDL tracker, Two-Year Milestone progress tool, Best Management Practice review table, or Tracking Healthy Watersheds tool.

Learn more about the Watershed Agreement

The Evolution of Accountability at the Chesapeake Bay Program

Since its formation, the Chesapeake Bay Program has been guided by science-based goals. To assess our progress toward these goals, we track a range of environmental indicators. Accurate data and open assessments ensure our work is transparent and allow our partners, stakeholders and oversight groups to hold us accountable for the work that we do.

This timeline highlights important moments in our history of sharing information and making strategic decisions to protect and restore the watershed.
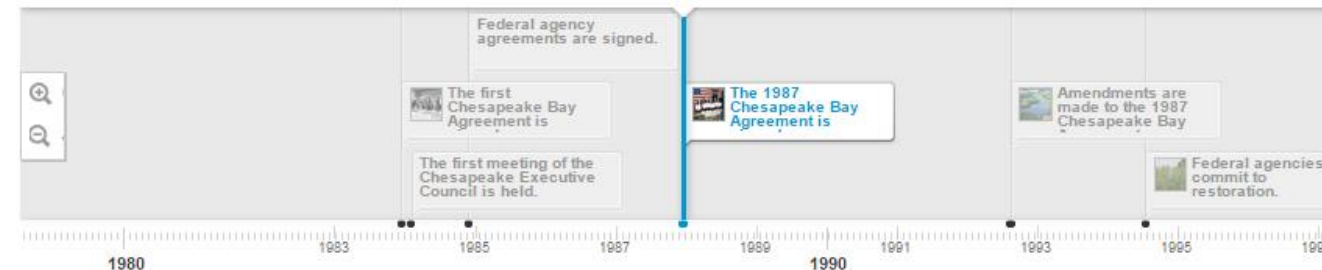

December 15, 1987

The 1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement is signed.

The agreement sets the first ever numeric goals to reduce pollution in the Bay, aiming to make a 40 percent cut to nitrogen and phosphorus loads by the year 2000. Agreeing to numeric goals under specific deadlines was unprecedented at the time, but the practice has become a hallmark of the Chesapeake Bay Program.
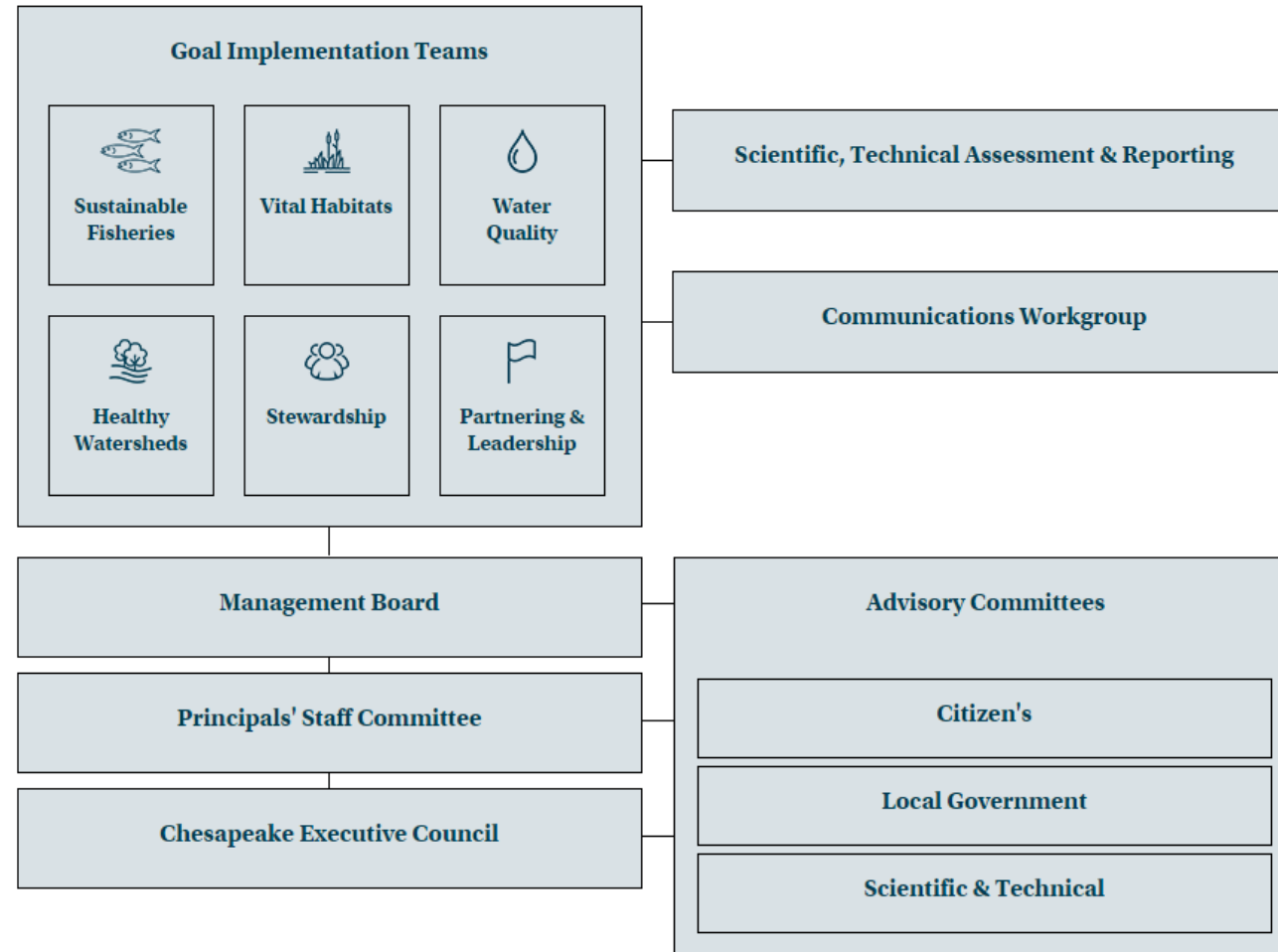
NOVEMBER 21, 1984
Federal agency agreements are signed.

AUGUST 12, 1992
Amendments are made to the 1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement.

Federal agency agreements are signed.

The first Chesapeake Bay Agreement is

The 1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement is

Amendments are made to the 1987 Chesapeake Bay

The first meeting of the Chesapeake Executive Council is held.

Federal agencies commit to restoration.

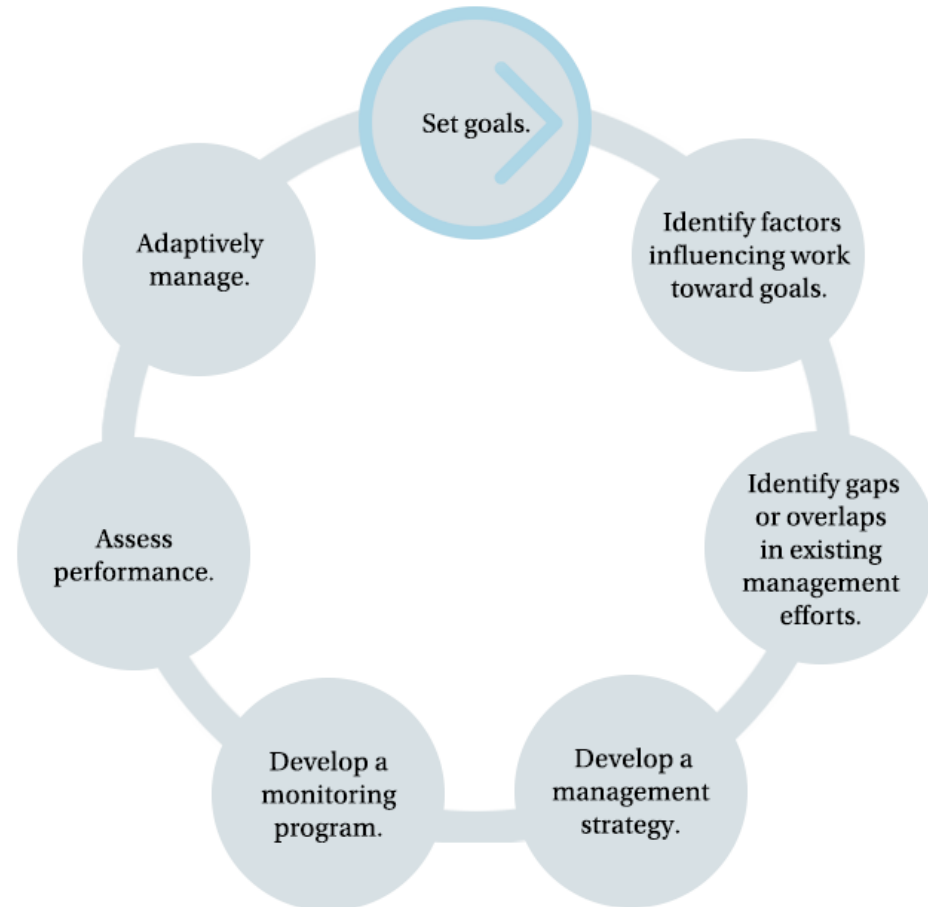1980   1983   1985   1987   1989   1991   1993   1995   1997
1990

How We're Organized

Chesapeake Bay Program staff are organized into Goal Implementation Teams, which put the strategies in place to accomplish the goals and outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. These goal teams are further organized into action teams, committees and workgroups, and are guided by the Management Board. The Management Board is guided by the Principals' Staff Committee, whose members act as policy advisors to the Chesapeake Executive Council. To learn more, click on the boxes in the organizational chart below.

Goal Implementation Teams

- Sustainable Fisheries
- Vital Habitats
- Water Quality
- Healthy Watersheds
- Stewardship
- Partnering & Leadership

Scientific, Technical Assessment & Reporting

Communications Workgroup

Management Board

Principals' Staff Committee

Chesapeake Executive Council

Advisory Committees

- Citizen's
- Local Government
- Scientific & Technical

Adaptive Management

The Chesapeake Bay Program will use a process known as adaptive management to accomplish the goals and outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. This process is ongoing, and will allow us to learn while doing: to take action, monitor results, assess our progress and adjust our efforts as needed. Our decision framework outlines the steps we must take to put adaptive management in place.

Your Name:

Your Email:

How can we help you?

Send

Want to learn more about the people behind ChesapeakeStat? Meet our core team.

Looking for a specific person? Visit or search our staff directory or call us at 800-YOUR-BAY (800-968-7229).

CHESAPEAKE
PROGRESS

CHESAPEAKE
DECISIONS

CHESAPEAKE
DATA

What's next?

Our progress toward the Watershed Agreement is measured by accurate, up-to-date and accessible information on environmental health, habitat restoration and funding.

ChesapeakeProgress will become home to the scientific **data and information** that make up our environmental indicators.

ChesapeakeBay.net will become home to **data-supported stories**.

And our **users** will be **better served.**

Our work is guided by a decision-making framework that supports adaptive management: learning while doing and adjusting our efforts as needed.

Our decisions are influenced by a range of environmental data, which reach beyond those stories that are told by our indicators of environmental health and restoration success.

Doreen Vetter   Catherine Krikstan   Guy Stephens

Want to know more?
Our team is happy to help!

Oberazzi/Flickr

Questions?