### Goal: Land Conservation



### **Protected Lands Outcome:**

By **2025**, protect **an additional two million acres** of lands throughout the watershed – currently identified as high conservation priorities at the federal, state or local level –

including 225,000 acres of **wetlands** and 695,000 acres of **forest** land of highest value for maintaining water quality.



### **Subgoals -- Progress**



Photo credit: Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Ask partners to prioritize acquisition of lands that support wetlands, forest buffers, and brook trout habitat.

552,169
Acres of Forest
Conserved

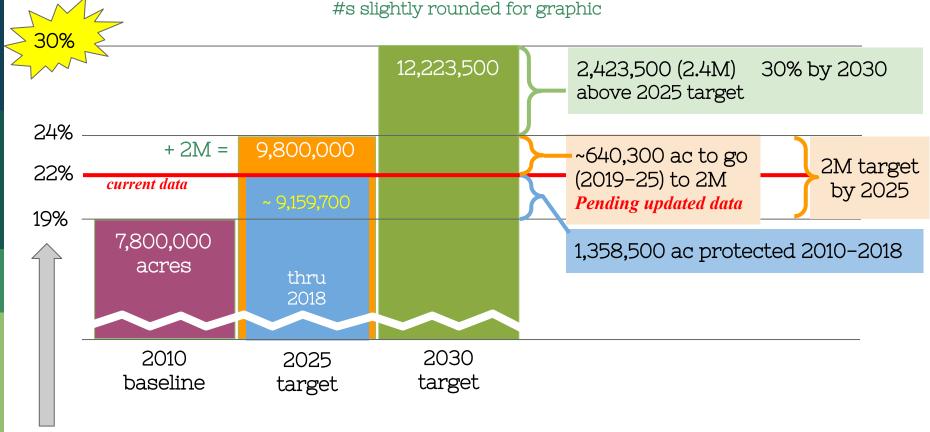
79% of the Goal Achieved

66,892

Acres of Wetlands Conserved 30% of the Goal Achieved

## Achieving $30 \times 30$





% of land in the watershed protected



# Protected Lands Outcome 2022-23 Logic & Action Plan

Management Approach 1: (paraphrased here)

Logic & Action Plan:
Protected Lands Logic and Action
Plan 2022-23 FINAL submitted
12.8.2021.docx - Google Docs

Accelerate protection of lands through collaboration across sectors to achieve the Outcome - additional 2M acres protected by 2025 and working toward 30% by 2030 (another 2.4M ac).

## WETLANDS & FORESTS (1 of 2)

- 1.4 Identify and implement opportunities for land protection/restoration that will contribute to the Protected Lands Outcome target including the wetlands and forest subgoals, and focus on activities on conserved land that contribute to water quality BMPs including restoration of wetlands and establishing riparian forest buffers. Utilize mapping resources provided through the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership to support decision-making.
  - 1.4.a. Participate in CBP workshops on Outcome Attainability for tidal and nontidal wetlands, and riparian forest buffers, to offer the perspective of land protection and conservation BMPs; and assist with associated resulting activity toward solutions, policy

this workshop

## WETLANDS & FORESTS (2 of 2)

#### 1.4.b. Prioritize and accelerate:

- i. **Conserving** acres of tidal and nontidal wetlands and forests of highest value to water quality, including (when possible) land with existing riparian forest buffers;
- ii. **Restoring** wetlands and riparian forest buffers and/or implementing BMPs on existing conserved acreage to contribute to water quality, stream health and brook trout habitat goals; and
- iii. **Developing or accelerating** conservation programs/initiatives that allow for marsh migration in coastal areas and that protect/restore green infrastructure for inland flood mitigation.
- <u>Responsible party</u>: Protected Lands Workgroup with points of contact for each of the Watershed Agreement's signatories, to determine if there are actions they can undertake to help advance efforts to achieve this action in each of the jurisdictions. Identify actions in 2022 that can be achieved or underway by end of 2023 and ongoing in future.



What do you see as opportunities?

What are the challenges or concerns?