



Beyond 2025 Update

Chesapeake Bay Commission Meeting

Martha Shimkin, Deputy Director, EPA CBPO

September 7, 2023



Chesapeake Bay Program

40 years of science, restoration and partnership

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHARGE

“

Thus, this Executive Council charges the Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) in recommending a critical path forward that prioritizes and outlines the next steps for meeting the goals and outcomes of the Watershed Agreement leading up to and beyond 2025. The PSC is to report back to the Executive Council at our 2023 annual meeting with recommendations on how to best address and integrate new science and restoration strategies leading up to 2025. **At our 2024 annual meeting, the PSC is to prepare recommendations that continue to address new advances in science and restoration, along with a focus on our partnership for going beyond 2025.**

”

Goal

We will provide a path for the Chesapeake Bay Program that assesses where we are and identifies the path forward to what we do and how we work that will get us closer to where we want to be in reaching our shared vision for the Bay and its watershed.

A path that assesses

What is our plan, who will be part of executing the plan, and what direction will we give them?

where we are and identifies

What have we, as a partnership, accomplished so far through our current theory of change, beginning with the Reaching 2025 report, other reports, and program evaluations?

path forward to

Is any change needed to any of the foundational guides of our program, like the Watershed Agreement and Governance/Management framework, to make further progress?

what we do and

What is our approach to the goals and outcomes we have achieved and those we have yet to meet; and to the monitoring and modeling we do to set strategies and measure progress?

how we work that will get us closer

How do we improve our Partnership, Governance, Adaptive Management, Time and Resource Allocation, Public Engagement, Communication to do more, better, faster?

to where we want to be.

How do we define a healthy, sustainable, productive Chesapeake Bay and watershed, responding to climate change and community needs?

STEERING COMMITTEE PROPOSED PRODUCTS BY EC2024

Where we are

Assessment of where we are with the 2014 Watershed Agreement

- Reaching 2025 Report
- CESR, Rising Temperatures, Forest Buffers & Wetlands Conference Reports, SRS meeting report, other

Where do we want to be

Vision

- Current Partnership Vision – reaffirm? refine

Path Forward

Value assessment of the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement

- 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?

What we do

Recommendation on what to do with the Watershed Agreement post-2025

- Amend and extend?
- Reform and rewrite?

How we work

Assessment of and recommendations for our overall partnership

- Partnership Structure
- Governance and Adaptive Management

THANK YOU

Martha Shimkin

Deputy Director

US EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Shimkin.martha@epa.gov

2023