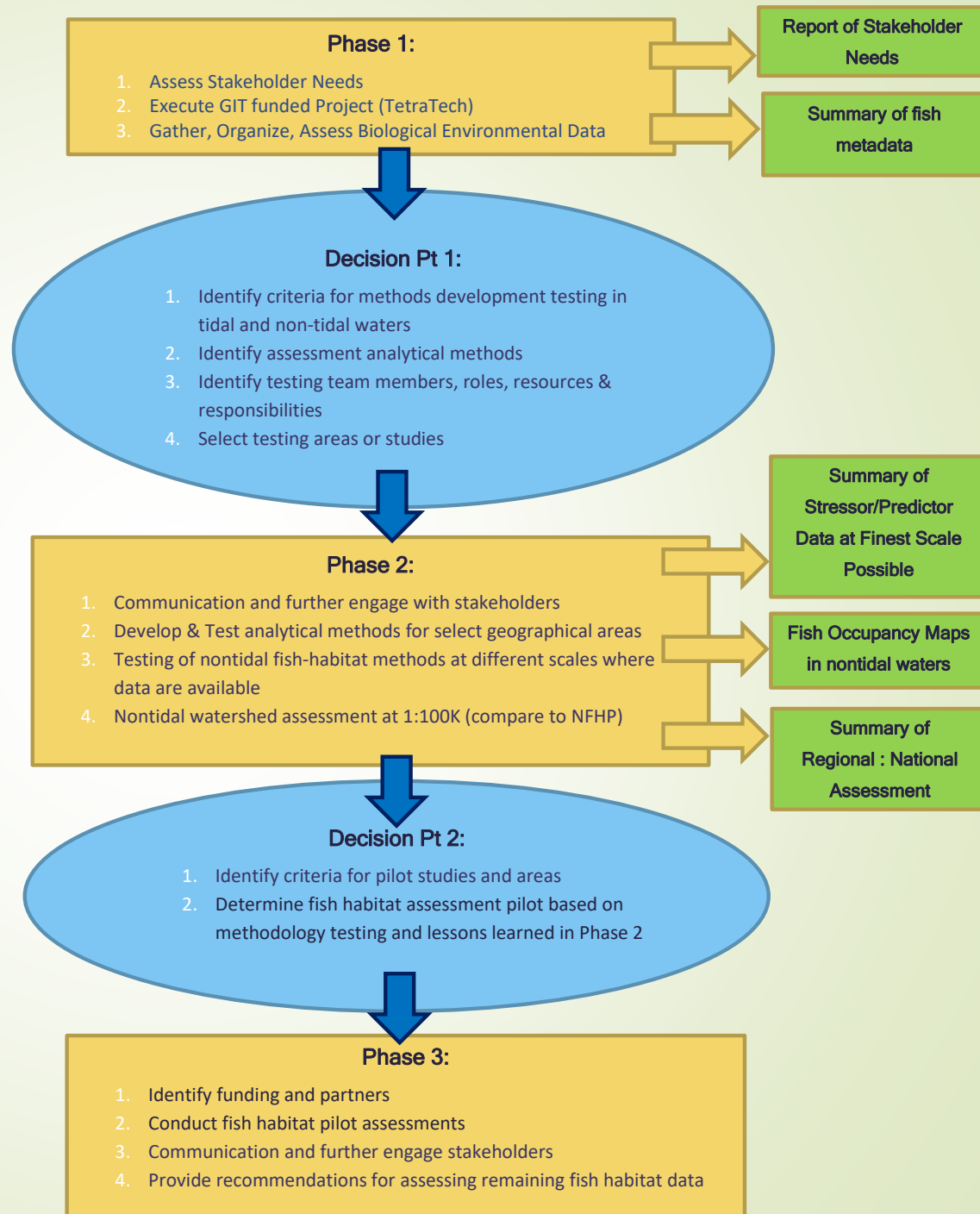


FISH HABITAT OUTCOME

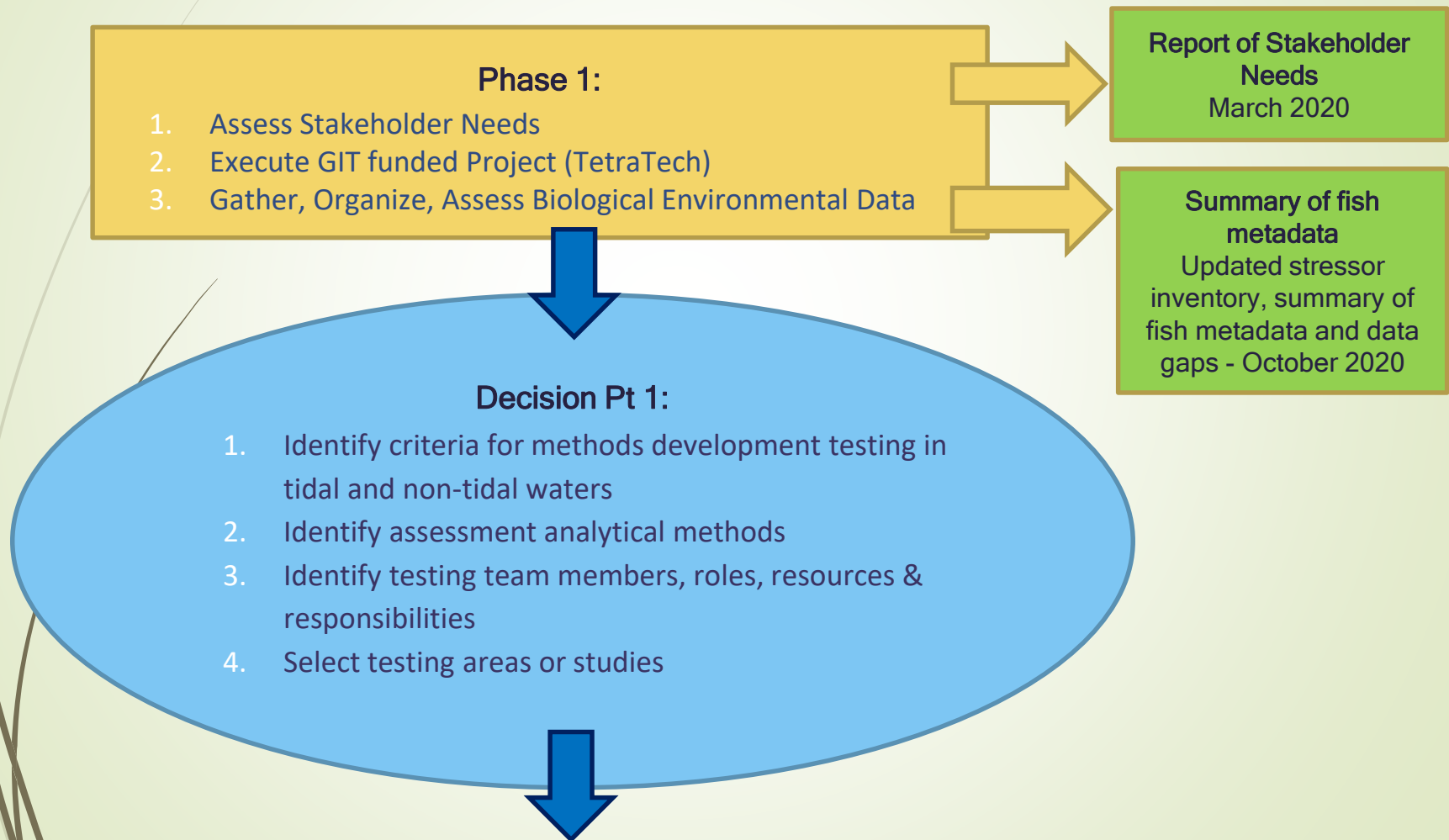


Continually improve effectiveness of fish habitat conservation and restoration efforts by identifying and characterizing critical spawning, nursery and forage areas within the Bay and tributaries for important fish and shellfish, and use existing and new tools to integrate information and conduct assessments to inform restoration and conservation efforts.

Conceptual Model of the Process and Decision Points of a Regional Fish Habitat Assessment



Conceptual Model of the Process and Decision Points of a Regional Fish Habitat Assessment



Timeframe for deliverables is proposed

Stakeholder Needs and Use Cases for Regional Assessment

In 2019, USGS staff met with state agency program managers to discuss their **needs** in a fish habitat assessment. NOAA staff targeted interviews with fishery/resource managers, land-use planners, and environmental consultants/reviewers in tidal waters.

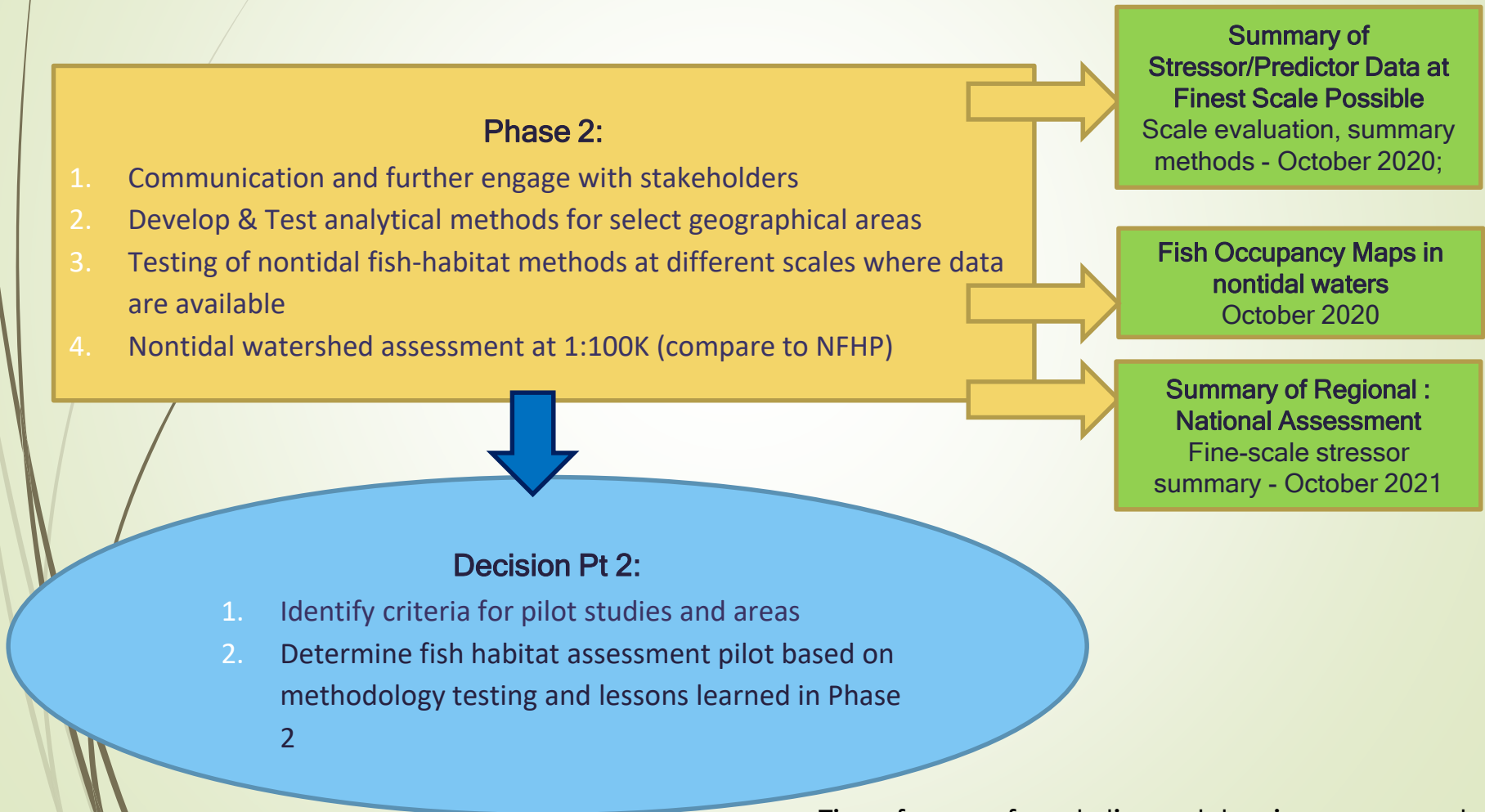
Summary of Needs Report- March 2020

The use or application of a fish habitat assessment varies with the user and the habitat type. A list of potential **use cases** of an assessment has been developed based upon stakeholder input from the interviews.

Assessment **Guiding Principals** and **Purpose Statement** have also been developed:

Identify and assess the quantity and condition of fish habitat in the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed at the finest scale possible to inform conservation, restoration, and fishery management decisions

Conceptual Model of the Process and Decision Points of a Regional Fish Habitat Assessment



Timeframe for deliverables is proposed

Conceptual Model of the Process and Decision Points of a Regional Fish Habitat Assessment

Phase 3:

1. Identify funding and partners
2. Conduct fish habitat pilot assessments
3. Communication and further engage stakeholders
4. Provide recommendations for assessing remaining fish habitat data

Timeframe: Proposed 2022...