



THRIVING HABITAT, FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

Blue Crabs - Brook Trout -
Fish Habitat - Fish Passage
- Oysters - Stream Health
- Submerged Aquatic
Vegetation (SAV) - Wetlands



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Combines work previously under
two GITs: Habitat, and Sustainable
Fisheries

Blue Crabs

Achieve a sustainable Bay-wide blue crab fishery through cross-jurisdictional coordination that supports healthy blue crab populations and thriving fish communities.



Priority: Incorporating management actions based on the new stock assessment

Brook Trout

Protect and enhance brook trout within the Chesapeake Bay watershed by increasing occupancy, abundance and resilience to changing environmental conditions.



Priority: Finalize the Long-Term Monitoring network across the watershed with geospatial mapping

Fish Habitat

Achieve and maintain suitable shallow water fish habitat in tidal and nontidal areas for key species through focused water quality conservation and restoration improvements informed by assessments of habitat and fisheries information.



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Priority: Living Resource Priority Area Assessment



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Fish Passage

Improve habitat and water quality while creating more resilient and sustainable populations of fish and other aquatic organisms by removing barriers throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed's coastal and freshwater rivers and streams.



Priority: expand focus beyond dam removal



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Oysters

Increase ecosystem benefits from oysters through reef habitat restoration, sustainable harvest and aquaculture.



Priority: revise/update restoration metrics



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Stream Health

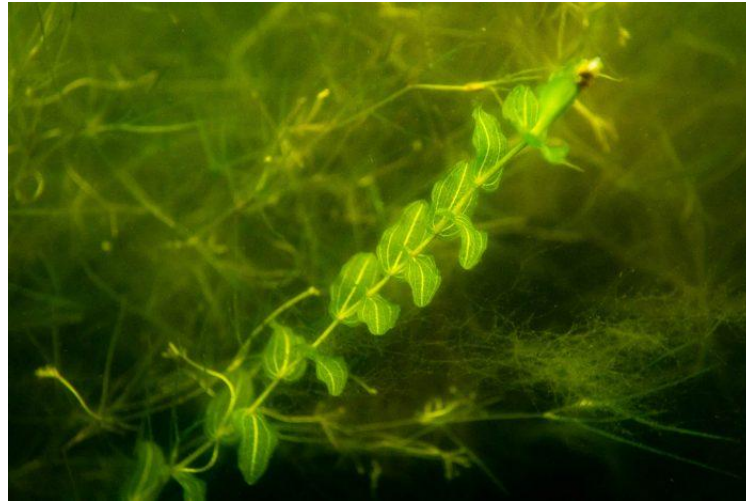
Improve and protect local stream health and function, including their living resources and ecosystem services throughout the watershed, using the best available science to inform land management, planning and conservation.



Priority: developing scientific metrics beyond Chesapeake basin-wide index of biotic integrity for stream macroinvertebrates (Chessie BIBI)

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)

Sustain and increase the habitat and ecosystem benefits of SAV in the Chesapeake Bay. Achieve and sustain the outcome of 196,600 acres of SAV Bay-wide necessary for a restored Bay.



Priority: explore the use of satellite-based imagery to supplement/replace plane-based aerial surveys



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Wetlands

Restore, create, enhance and protect wetlands to support people and living resources, including waterbirds and fish, and provide water quality, flood and erosion protection, recreation and other valuable benefits to people.



Priority: developing tools to evaluate the gains and losses in wetlands across the watershe

Goal Team Points of Contact



Co-Chairs:



Kevin Schabow (NOAA)



Becky Gwynn (VADWR)

Coordinators:



Chris Guy (UFWS)

Staffers:



Christina Garvey (CRC)



Nick Staten(CRC)



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Workgroup Chairs

- Blue Crabs: Ingrid Braun-Ricks (PRFC)
- Brook Trout: Daniel Goetz (MD DNR), Katie Ombalski (Woods & Waters)
- Fish Habitat: TBD
- Fish Passage: Ray Li (USFWS)
- Oysters: TBD
- Stream Health: Alison Santoro (MD DNR), Brock Reggi (VA DEQ)
- SAV: Brooke Landry (MD DNR), Erin Shields (CBNERR-VA)
- Wetlands: Pam Mason (VIMS), Nancy Schumm (City of Gaithersburg)