## RESTORE CLEAN WATER ACTIONS: Federal Water Quality Two-Year Milestones for 2024-2025

The Executive Order (EO) 13508 Strategy calls upon federal agencies to join the Chesapeake Bay watershed jurisdictions in establishing two-year milestones which support the jurisdictions in meeting their water quality milestones leading to the 2025 implementation goal of 100 percent practices in-place. This set of federal two-year milestones for water quality applies to calendar years 2024 and 2025. The list below presents milestones for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and nine other federal agencies (USDA, DoD, USACE, USGS, NPS, FWS, NOAA, DOT, and GSA) that support the water quality goals and outcomes in the <u>Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement</u>. These milestones commitments represent activities with the potential to have significant environmental outcomes, require significant resources, or directly support the jurisdictions in meeting Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) commitments. These commitments are contingent on receiving adequate funding in the 2022 and 2023 fiscal year budgets.

The federal milestones, along with the jurisdictional milestones, will contribute to the achievement of the Outcomes stated in the *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*. Assuming a steady rate of implementation toward the 2025 goal, the following increments of progress will be achieved for the outcomes by the end of the 2024-2025 milestone period.

#### Numeric Milestones:

- EPA facilitates the CBP Partnership to collectively achieve the 2025 goal for implementing nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution reduction actions to achieve final Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocations, as measured through the Phase 6.0 Watershed Model.\* As of 2025, it is expected that BMPs will be in place to reduce pollution to achieve 100% of the nutrient and sediment reductions needed to attain applicable water quality standards when compared to the 2009 baseline established in the 2010 Bay TMDL.
- EPA's portion of air deposition load reduction to tidal surface waters will be reduced by at least 0.71 million pounds of nitrogen over the 2024-2025 period based on the Phase 6.0 Watershed Model. This is 100 percent of the required load reductions from 2009 to achieve the 11.4 million-pound air deposition load reduction to the watershed and to the tidal waters by 2025.
- Apply 300,000 acres of conservation practices in conjunction with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) High Priority Performance Goals.
- Monitor at least one timber sale/year for water quality BMPs utilizing the USFS National BMP Monitoring protocol for Veg Management (protocol A). The monitoring protocol assesses post-harvest BMP implementation and effectiveness. (If the site is not found to be meeting standards, then follow-up corrective actions are required.) (USFS)
- Implement 1 culvert/road/AOP improvement project per year (2 total). FY22-23 ongoing. FY22 funds secured to replace Railroad Hollow culvert for aquatic organism passage (AOP) improvement. Target completion September 30, 2022. FY23 planning Wilson Dam remediation, funding dependent. (USFS) (On schedule) (Wilson Creek Dam removal AOP complete)
- Implement Road Decommissioning or Road Closure of approximately 1 mile (USFS)
- Implement 10,000 acres of prescribed burning per year (20,000 acres total). (USFS).
- Submit 2024-2025 planned BMP implementation in CAST for VA, MD, DC, and PA.(DoD)

## **Programmatic Milestones:**

## Restore Clean Water - TMDL/WIP Support

Announce federal 2024-2025 water quality two-year milestones. (EPA, USDA, DOD, USACE, DOT, USGS, FWS, NPS, NOAA, GSA)

Evaluate jurisdictional and federal 2022-2023 two-year milestone progress. Evaluate jurisdictional, Conowingo, and federal 2024-2025 two-year milestone commitments. (EPA)

Assess progress made to implement the 2022-2023 two-year milestones to ensure jurisdictions remain on pace to achieve 100% practices in place by 2025 to achieve the CBP partnership's water quality goal. This does not include unaccounted additional loads (i.e, modeled load increases caused by changes to the model after the planning targets were adopted in 2018). (EPA)

Federal agencies to report BMP implementation progress to the Bay jurisdictions annually with copy to EPA. (Multiple Federal Agencies/EPA)

Complete technical review of the CBP analysis of future climate risk to the living resource-based Chesapeake water quality standards. Work on 2035 climate impacts. (EPA)

Complete technical work on understanding climate resilient BMPs given future climate change risk to the living resource-based Chesapeake Bay water quality standards. Starting with the 2022-2023 milestones, determine how climate change will impact the BMPs included in the WIPs and address these vulnerabilities in the two-year milestones. Develop tools to support resilient stormwater management. (EPA)

Determine methods for improving the reporting and crediting of BMPs on federal land, working with the Federal Facilities Workgroup. (EPA)

Continue to provide funding to support technical expertise to the partnership. (EPA)

Provide trainings on CAST to federal, state and local partners in the Bay watershed. (EPA)

Develop BMP planning, prioritization, tracking and reporting tools in coordination with jurisdictions and their local partners to provide access to data that can help with BMP siting and streamline tracking and reporting, especially from local partners. (EPA, Chesapeake Conservancy)

Work with jurisdictional agencies on improvements to their BMP Verification Program Plans including their BMP and wastewater Quality Assurance Program Plans to better ensure adherence to verification guidance established through partnership-approved protocols. (EPA)

<sup>\*</sup> This outcome used 2009 as the baseline year.

Provide staffing support for the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee advising development of recommendations for meeting the Chesapeake Executive Council charge to the Principles' Staff Committee on charting a course beyond 2025.

Contract third-party consultant to complete a Chesapeake Bay Program partnership program evaluation which assesses the partnership's organizational structure and governance and impact in attainment of Chesapeake Bay Agreement goals and outcomes, including water quality goal.

Communicate findings of trends updates in the watershed and tidal waters to support WIP implementation. Provide key results updates for watershed trends (nutrients and sediment) and tidal trends (DO, clarity and nutrients) to WQ GIT and associated work groups. Work with jurisdictions to understand water-quality response in selected areas to practices being implemented to reduce nutrients and sediment. Continue maintenace and updates of the <a href="Chesapeake Bay Watershed Data Dashboard">Chesapeake Bay Watershed Data Dashboard</a>. See agriculture, storm water and science support sections for more details. (USGS, academic partners, working with EPA)

Continue to work with Chesapeake Conservancy and additional partners, including the Land Use Workgroup, to update the watershed-wide high-resolution land cover and land use, analyses of land use/land cover changes, and additional metrics, and to develop methods for improved mapping of hydrologic features, particularly streams, throughout the watershed. (EPA, USGS)

Federal agencies will work with jurisdictions to correct any errors identified in the federal land GIS files for landholdings within the Chesapeake watershed. (USGS coordinating; DoD, GSA, NPS, USFWS, USDA-USFS, USDA-other, Smithsonian) *Pending decision on whether to postpone this activity to closer to Phase 7 model development.* 

NPS will continue to work with jurisdictions to identify and correct discrepancies in boundary and land ownership maps in GIS. NPS will also continue to work with D.C., states, and jurisdictions to identify and correct Stormwater BMP record discrepancies.

Continue to work with Chesapeake Conservancy and jurisdictions to develop BMP siting, tracking and reporting tools, such as Field Doc, that incorporate available high-resolution data for use in WIP implementation. (EPA, USGS)

Take appropriate action on proposed state water quality criteria updates developed to be consistent with the *Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Dissolved Oxygen, Water Clarity and Chlorophyll-a for the Chesapeake Bay and Its Tidal Tributaries- 2017 Technical Addendum.* (EPA)

Conduct DoD CB TMDL Progress Evaluations in VA, MD, DC, and PA. (DoD)

Submit 2022-2023 planned BMP implementation in CAST for VA, MD, DC, and PA. (DoD)

Participate in the Federal Facilities Workgroup to enhance collaborative efforts within the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership. (multiple federal agencies)

EPA and NOAA will conduct outreach on the oyster restoration BMP to increase awareness and facilitate its implementation

USACE will ensure technical assistance and other programs are disseminated and available to all communities, including disadvantaged communities. (USACE)

Continue to meet with EPA and the District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment (DC DOEE) to reconcile BMP datasets, improve BMP crediting in CAST, and address any remaining equity issues. (DoD)

Given available funding, continue to develop BMP Crediting Reports in VA, MD, DC, and PA. Provide the reports to DoD installations and jurisdictions to identify opportunities to maximize TMDL credit in CAST. (DoD)

Given available funding, conduct DoD CB TMDL Progress Evaluations in VA, MD, DC, and PA. (DoD)

Participate in the Federal Facilities Workgroup to enhance collaborative efforts within the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership, including understanding the role of USACE loads and BMPs on DoD TMDL Progress. (DoD)

Support Middle Chesapeake (MD), Tidewater and Potomac (VA), and Kittatinny Ridge (PA) Sentinel Landscapes to implement off-base projects that provide for water quality improvements in support of jurisdiction WIPs. Implemented projects will be reported in the updates. (DoD)

Educate installation on new BMPs and retrofits that can increase pollutant removal effectiveness(DoD)

Educate installations on the impacts of microplastics and their impacts on 2014 CB Watershed Agreement goals and outcomes. Encourage installation cleanup activities to reduce plastic pollution. (DoD)

NPS will evaluate funding and contract vehicles for stormwater pollutant reduction and climate resilience projects in Chesapeake Bay parks. NPS will design and implement current projects funded by Inflation Act Reduction Act (IRA)., e.g., native reforestation, riparian buffer restoration, meadow and grassland restoration, and cropland conversion projects in parks. (NPS)

NPS will annually update and refine the NPS Chesapeake Stormwater BMP GIS database to track and report Stormwater BMPs. (NPS)

NPS will collaborate with other agencies and non-profit partners to identify and implement Stormwater BMP and native restoration projects that improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. NPS will implement ongoing partnership Stormwater BMP and native restoration projects that are designed, funded, and permitted. (NPS)

NPS will evaluate new funding and contract vehicles for stormwater pollutant reduction and climate resilience projects in Chesapeake Bay parks. NPS will design and implement current projects funded by Inflation Act Reduction Act (IRA), e.g., native reforestation, riparian buffer restoration, meadow and grassland restoration, and cropland conversion projects in parks. (NPS)

NPS will perform Stormwater BMP Opportunity Assessment Phase 2 Study at six or more priority parks in 2024-2025. (NPS)

### **Restore Clean Water - Agriculture**

Identify five watersheds in which to coordinate/enhance monitoring, including continuous water quality moinitoring, to measure the effect of agricultural conservation practices on water quality of local streams and rivers. Sensor package includes continuous nitrate monitoring in addition to the traditional flow station suite. (USGS, NRCS, EPA)

EPA and USDA will work together to fund climate-smart agricultural conservation practices that benefit both climate resiliency (sequester carbon, reduce greenhouse gas emissions) and local/Chesapeake Bay water quality. (EPA, USDA)

EPA and USDA NRCS will assess opportunities to prioritize support for historically under-served farmers and ranchers through outreach, ranking, match adjustment options, and the selection process associated with agricultural conservation practice grants and implementation grants (e.g., Most Effective Basins) in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. (EPA, NRCS)

- EPA will provide our Authorized states technical assistance as needed as they implement their NPDES CAFO permits. (EPA)
- EPA will conduct oversight of our authorized state NPDES agriculture programs and permits through Animal Agriculture Assessments and conducting real-time permit reviews of draft CAFO individual and general permits. (EPA)

USDA, USGS, and EPA will continue to support State agencies in BMP reporting within the Chesapeake Bay watershed through the annual provision of aggregated USDA conservation data to the States. (EPA, USDA, USGS)

EPA, USDA, and USGS present the findings and final published report of the pilot project in Pennsylvania to develop a data management methodology to more comprehensively account for agricultural conservation practices implemented through state, federal and voluntary efforts. (EPA, USDA, USGS)

EPA will facilitate meetings, as requested, with State agencies, local partners, and the agricultural community to explore how the Clean Water State Revolving Fund can be used to reduce nutrient and sediment loads from agriculture and rural communities. (EPA)

Continue to support the implementation of agricultural certainty and recognition programs in the Bay watershed states. (EPA, USDA)

NRCS will continue to support voluntary actions by farmers and landowners to improve water quality and other resources by providing technical assistance through its Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) program; and technical and financial assistance from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). (USDANRCS)

USDA will continue to provide financial and technical support for voluntary temporary retirement of cropland and marginal pasture and establishment of conservation cover for water quality and wildlife habitat improvement, through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CRP). (USDA-FSA, USDA-NRCS)

Incorporate changes in Farm Bill Conservation Programs resulting from any new Farm Bill or conservation funding bill into ongoing efforts to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. Work with partners to inform Chesapeake Bay Program partners and the general public about farm bill conservation program opportunities. (USDA-NRCS)

Work with partners to develop and implement strong projects to improve water quality, working with agricultural producers through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). (USDA-NRCS)

Provide opportunities for non-USDA conservation professionals to participate in NRCS technical training activities such as for conservation planning and practice design and implementation. (USDA-NRCS)

Promote adoption of practices and systems by agricultural producers that improve soil health and mitigate climate change. (USDA-NRCS)

Annual review of grazing permits and restore grazing allotments along the SF Shenandoah River. (USFS)

Implement forest management and habitat restoration practices that will improve water quality and improve climate resiliency. (USFS)

EPA will continue to update our evaluations of the Bay jurisdictions animal agriculture programs during the milestone period. In 2015, EPA evaluated the agriculture programs of six of the seven Bay states (the District of Columbia does not have an agriculture program). EPA will provide updates to each of those evaluations and will post those as they are completed over the next few years. (EPA)

EPA and USDA will present final recommendations of the USDA-EPA Task Force on Crediting USDA Chesapeake Bay Conservation Investments to the Principals' Staff Committee and Management Board for review and assignment to the appropriate Chesapeake Bay Program committee(s) per the CBP structure and delegation. (EPA, USDA).

NPS will implement ongoing cropland conversion projects in Chesapeake Bay national parks to convert agricultural lands to native grasslands, meadows, and riparian buffers, and evaluate opportunities for future cropland conversion projects, e.g., national battlefield parks. (NPS)

## Restore Clean Water – Atmospheric Deposition

Significantly reduce nitrogen deposition to the Bay and watershed by 2023 through implementation of national rules under the Clean Air Act. (EPA)

- Apply and track new Community multi-scale Air Quality Model (CMAQ) air deposition modeling for future climate risk in the CB watershed incorporating estimated increased wet deposition loads. (EPA)
- Continue implementation of Tier 3 vehicle emission standards. (EPA)
- Oversee state implementation of Clean Air Act 129 rules, including those for Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration Units (CISWI); Sewage Sludge Incineration Units (SSI); and Hospital, Medical, Infectious Waste Incinerators (HMIWI). Once fully implemented, these rules will reduce emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> as well as air toxic pollutants. (EPA)
- Work with states and review SIPs that address reasonably available control technology (RACT) standards for the 2008 and 2015 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). RACT requirements limit the NO<sub>x</sub> emissions at certain sources. (EPA)
- Work with states to develop State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. (EPA)
- Work with states and review SIPs that address infrastructure requirements, including interstate transport, for the 2015 ozone NAAQS. (EPA)
- Work with states to develop rules to implement the 2015 ozone NAAQS. (EPA)
- Assist states with their development of state implementation plan submissions to address reasonably available control technology (RACT) for the 2015 ozone NAAQS. (EPA)
- Assist states with their development of regional haze state implementation plan submissions for the second planning period.
   These plans may include federally enforceable rules that reduce air emissions of visibility impairing pollutants, including NO<sub>x</sub>.
   (EPA)

Review state permits which may include rules that limit emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>. (EPA)

#### **RESTORE CLEAN WATER - Stormwater**

Conduct oversight review and comment, per federal regulations and NPDES Memoranda of Agreement with the states, on draft state Municipal, Construction, and Industrial Stormwater permits to ensure consistency with the Bay TMDL allocations and the level of pollutant reduction called for in state WIPs, and to ensure permits contain enforceable performance measures. (EPA)

Review certain MS4 TMDL Plans for compliance with permit requirements. (EPA)

Conduct MS4 permittee and state inspector trainings in coordination with jurisdictions, as requested. (EPA)

Conduct Forums/Workshop for regulated MS4s in Maryland. (EPA)

Continue to provide funding toward the Green Streets, Green Towns, Green Jobs (G3) program to help communities develop and implement plans that reduce stormwater runoff, increase the number and amount of green spaces in urban areas, improve the health of local streams and the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and enhance quality of life and community livability. (EPA)

#### **RESTORE CLEAN WATER - Wastewater**

Continue to partner with state technical assistance (TA) staff and non-profit TA staff to conduct classroom and on-site training to wastewater professionals on topics ranging from compliance assistance and workforce development to nutrient removal optimization. (EPA)

Track number of significant NPDES permits reviewed and objections. (EPA)

Review Bay jurisdictions' trading and offset regulations and policies and support Bay jurisdictions as they develop trading and/or offset programs. (EPA).

Work with other Federal agencies to build capacity that will support an efficient and robust trading market. (USDA, EPA, DOT, USACOE)

### **RESTORE CLEAN WATER - Toxic Contaminants**

Take appropriate action on proposed PCB TMDLs and restoration plans submitted in the Bay watershed for local waters. (EPA)

Take appropriate action on proposed state water quality criteria updates developed to be consistent with EPA's latest CWA Section 304(a) recommendations. (EPA)

Update a GIS desktop tool to identify potential land sources of contamination in the watershed (PCBs and mercury). The use of EJ SCREEN will be evaluated to identify the location of such sites in areas with diverse populations. (EPA)

Review NPDES permits to ensure consistency with the requirements and assumptions with the PCB TMDLs. (EPA)

Conduct inspection(s) and take appropriate enforcement follow-up to ensure compliance with the Toxic Substances Control Act regulations related to PCBs. (EPA)

Conduct studies of the sources and occurrence of PCBs in the Washington DC region to help support multi-jurisdictional approach for reduction. (USGS working with DC and MD)

Conduct four quarterly meetings each year at the Toxic Contaminants Workgroup focused on PFAS in the Chesapeake watershed. Solicit input from the workgroup and refer to the 2023 STAC report on PFAS for high priority issues. (EPA and USGS)

Optimize the site assessment tool SAM v 3.0 to ensure it provides the information of greatest use to the jurisdictions in planning management actions within PCB TMDLs and other regulatory programs that promote track-down studies (EPA)

Coordinate on PFAS 304 recommended criteria for water quality protection and coordinate with states. (EPA)

### **RESTORE CLEAN WATER - Enforcement**

Track EPA-led enforcement cases for Stormwater, Wastewater, Agriculture, Trading/Offsets, Air that result in nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment, and/or nitrogen oxides reductions.

- Clean Water Act enforcement case conclusions for stormwater, wastewater and agriculture operations (EPA)
- Clean Air Act stationary source enforcement case conclusions with nitrogen oxide reductions (EPA)
- Clean Air Act case enforcement case conclusions for stopping after-market defeat devices (EPA)

### **RESTORE CLEAN WATER - Climate Actions**

Make meaningful progress on all elements of the Climate Change Directive—Workplan July 5th, 2022, Appendix B: Federal Commitment to Implement the Chesapeake Executive Council Directive No. 21-1 Collective Action for Climate Change.

Report on Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI), REPI Challenge, and Sentinel Landscape Projects that include water quality co-benefits. (DoD)

Provide a tally of dollars spent and a list of BMP project types implemented that provide climate resilience co-benefits. (DoD)

Report on the number and percentage of installations who have updated their Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans to address climate change(DoD)

Report on the incorporation of climate resiliency themes into existing DoD CBP outreach materials (Quarterly Journal articles, factsheets, Annual Progress Report, etc.) to build climate literacy and a climate-informed workforce. (DoD)

Report on the number of new installations and facilities with a DoD Climate Assessment Tool (DCAT) assessment. The DCAT provides a screening-level assessment of an installation's future climate exposure related to eight hazards: coastal flooding, riverine flooding, heat, drought, energy demand, land degradation, wildfire, and historical extreme weather events. (DoD)

Report on significant collaborative efforts to enhance resilience with a water quality co-benefit (VCRMPF, SERDP research, MIR/CUP planning efforts, CBF Billion Oysters for the Bay, etc.) (DoD)

Complete a pilot project to report on the carbon sequestration resulting from annual BMP and other conservation project implementation on DoD-managed lands in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. (DoD)

NPS will develop projects providing co-benefits for stormwater management and climate resilience in Chesapeake Bay parks. NPS will advance Sustainability tracking system, "Green Parks Plan," and "Climate Friendly Parks Plan." (NPS)

### **RESTORE CLEAN WATER - Monitoring and Science Support**

Conduct trainings to jurisdictional and local partners on the <u>Chesapeake Bay Watershed Data Dashboard</u>. Conduct user testing and iteratively incorporate feedback to improve content and usability of the tool. Update website platform and add new features. (EPA, USGS)

Assess current decision-support tools developed and used by the Partnership and develop path forward for integrating new information on water quality and other outcomes, including participatory science, when appropriate. (EPA, USGS)

Continue to support the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative's ongoing integrated non-traditional monitoring partners into the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership's Watershed and Tidal Monitoring Networks, thereby expanding data of documented quality available to support Chesapeake Bay and watershed restoration decision making. (EPA, USGS)

Collaborate with the all six states and DC to continue monitoring of nutrient and suspended-sediment conditions across the full range of hydrologic conditions at each of the stations in the CBP nontidal network and the associated river-input stations. Work through STAR Integrated Monitoring Networks work group to coordinate activities. (USGS working with academic institutions, States, and EPA)

Compute total loads to the Bay to help understand changes in tidal water-quality conditions. The CBP monitoring and modeling teams combine information from the RIM stations with loadings from unmonitored areas to estimate annual loads for N, P, and S. RIM stations now include continuous water quality monitoring. Activity is funded by EPA. (UMCES, PSU, USGS, EPA)

Conduct monitoring of tidal waters to assess attainment of water-quality standards and associated conditions. Monitoring conducted by multiple partners in MD and VA and funding provided mostly by USEPA. (EPA, MD, VA)

Analyze tidal monitoring data, including results from SAV surveys, to assess progress toward attainment of water-quality standards. The CBP monitoring team is responsible for the analysis and funded primarily by EPA. (EPA, UMCES, ICPRB, USGS)

Analyze tidal monitoring data to assess changes in water-quality conditions important for living resources. The CBP monitoring team works with state and academic partners to employ consistent trend methods for updates in nutrients, clarity, and selected parameters important for living resources. The effort is funded primarily by EPA. (UMCES, ICPRB, USGS, agencies in MD and VA, EPA)

Conduct surveys of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) to provide information for attainment of water-quality standards and assess progress toward SAV acreage goals. Explore Artificial Intelligence (AI) approaches for mapping SAV coverage. (Old Dominion University, EPA)

Complete the final 2-year cycle of the Biennial Strategy Review System, an adaptive management process designed to improve our effectiveness in achieving the Chesapeake Agreement Goals and Outcomes. (EPA)

**Commented [HA1]:** USGS prefers this stay as "watershed"

NOAA with support from USGS and EPA will provide technical leadership and resources to implement and maintain the Chesapeake Bay water column hypoxia monitoring system and coordinate with the Chesapeake Bay Program's Hypoxia Collaborate to inform system management en.. (NOAA, EPA, USGS)

## **RESTORE CLEAN WATER - EPA Grant Support to States and the District of Columbia**

Provide financial support to Bay jurisdictions, as authorized and assuming adequate appropriations, through EPA's assistance programs including CWA Section 319, SRF, CWA, <u>Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants</u> (OSG); 117 CBIG and CBRAP, MEB; Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) will provide supplemental funding for the Chesapeake Bay Program (e.g., MEB, INSR, SWG) and SRF programs for the next two year period. (EPA)

Provide financial support to localities and other entities, as authorized and assuming adequate appropriations, through the Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grants and the Small Watershed Grants. (EPA)

Implement Chesapeake Bay Program Equity Strategy which outlines how CBPO IIJA funds will be provided to support environmental benefits and community-driven outcomes in disadvantaged communities and meet the goals of the Justice 40 Initiatve. (EPA)

Analyze the distributional implications of Chesapeake Bay restoration expenditures, particularly for disadvantaged communities and communities with environmental justice concerns. Conduct focus groups to better understand how various human populations interact with the watershed, accrue benefits from restoration, and rate the importance of restoration benefits. (EPA)

Draft, Deliberative, Do Not Cite

Draft EPA Milestones for 24-25 milestone period

## **Acronym Guide**

BayFAST/CAST/MAST/VAST - Federal Assessment Scenario Tool/Chesapeake AST/Maryland AST/Virginia AST

BMP – Best Management Practice

CAFO - Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation

CBP - Chesapeake Bay Program

CBIG - Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grants

CBRAP – Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program Grants

CEAP - Conservation Effects Assessment Project

CWA - Clean Water Act

DNREC - Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

DoD – Department of Defense

DOT – Department of Transportation

EJ SCREEN – Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool

EO Strategy – Executive Order 13508 Strategy for Protecting and Restoring the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

FSA - Farm Services Agency

FWS - Fish and Wildlife Service

GIS – Geographic Information System

**GSA** - General Services Administration

Maryland DNR - Maryland Department of Natural Resources

MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

NAAQS – National Ambient Air Quality Standards

NFWF - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NOx - Nitrogen Oxides

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NRCS - Natural Resources Conservation Service

NPS - National Park Service

PCB - Polychlorinated Biphenyl

RACT - Reasonably Available Control Technology

SAV – Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

SIP - State Implementation Plan

SRF - State Revolving Fund

STAC – Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee

STAR – Scientific and Technical Assessment Reporting team
TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load
UMCES – University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
USACE – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFS- U.S. Forest Service
USGS – U.S. Geological Survey
WIP – Watershed Implementation Plan
WQ GIT - Water Quality Goal Implementation Team