



# Public Access



**Goal:** Expand public access to the Bay and its tributaries through existing and new local, state and federal parks, refuges, reserves, trails and partner sites.

**Outcome:** By 2025, add 300 new public access sites, with a strong emphasis on providing opportunities for boating, swimming and fishing, where feasible. (2010 baseline year)

# What We Want



To have the Management Board support our efforts in:

- Increasing the number of quality vs. just quantity of new public access sites
- Increasing the number and diversity of new site users
- Funding for planning, development, and maintenance

# 1

## Setting the Stage:

*What are our assumptions?*

# Background

Increased public access to the Bay and its tributaries increases public health and quality of life, therefore inspiring people to care for:

- Critical landscapes
- Heritage and culture
- Recreation
- Local economies
- Long-term conservation



# Logic Behind Our Outcome

**Following the Decision Framework:**



# Factors Influencing Public Access

- Quality sustainable sites
- Funding for development, operation, and maintenance

# Factors Influencing Public Access

- Inadequate access on existing public lands
- Accessibility for a diverse watershed community and those with disabilities
- User conflicts

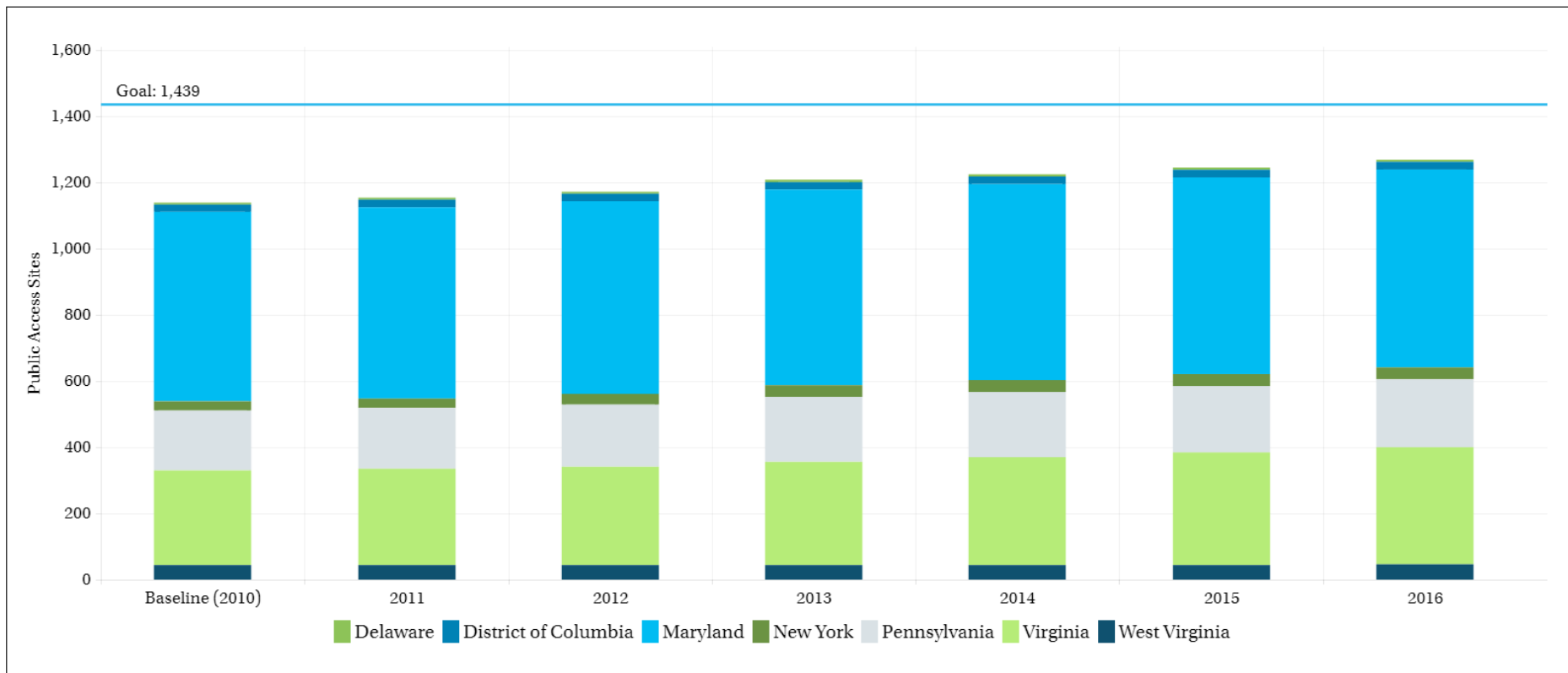


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Progress:

*Are we doing what we said we would do?*

# What is our progress? Are We on Track?



# **Analysis**

**Which actions were most critical in progress thus far? Why?**

- **Developing partnerships**
- **Developing quality access sites on existing, publicly owned lands**

# Analysis Continued...

Which management actions will be the most critical to your progress in the future? Why?

- Development of high quality sites that are appropriately managed and maintained
- Funding for staff to provide technical assistance, planning, development, and management of sites
- Increasing number and diversity of new users

Based on this analysis, what management approaches will be carried forward?

- Continue to look at enhanced access on existing sites
- Continue to leverage financial assistance programs
- Continue to request and support funding for agency staff
- Continue to build partnerships for development of quality access sites

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## Challenges:

*Are our actions having the expected effect?*

# Challenges

Did any factor, gap, or management approach present a challenge?

- Pre-planning to ensure projects could be built as envisioned once funded.

Did an unforeseen factor influence your ability to move forward with an approach?

- Drops in agency funding at all government levels to support access programs.

# 4

## Adaptations:

*How should we adapt?*



# Based on what we've learned, we plan to...

- Address quality over quantity in development of new public access opportunities. Doing so could increase:
  - Citizen Stewardship Action
  - Diversity
  - Environmental Literacy
- Increase diversity and number of users through programing with partners.
  - E.g. Kids in Kayaks, [Canoe Mobile](#), Youth Conservation Corps

- Enhance public awareness of access opportunities through resources such as:
  - [Paddle the Potomac](#)
  - [Find Your Chesapeake](#)

# Agreement Goals and Outcomes

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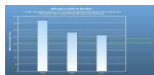
## Sustainable Fisheries

- Blue Crab Abundance
- Blue Crab Management
- Oyster
- Forage Fish
- Fish Habitat



## Vital Habitats Goal

- Wetlands
- Black Duck
- Stream Health
- Brook Trout
- Fish Passage
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)
- Forest Buffer
- Tree Canopy



## Water Quality Goal

- 2017 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP)
- 2025 WIP
- Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring



## Toxic Contaminants Goal

- Toxic Contaminants Research
- Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention



## Healthy Watersheds Goal

- Healthy Waters



## Stewardship Goal

- Citizen Stewardship
- Local Leadership
- Diversity



## Land Conservation Goal

- Protected Lands
- Land Use Methods and Metrics Development
- Land Use Options Evaluation



## Public Access Goal

- Public Access Site Development



## Environmental Literacy Goal

- Student
- Sustainable Schools
- Environmental Literacy Planning



## Climate Resiliency Goal

- Monitoring and Assessment
- Adaptation Outcome

# Cross-Outcome Considerations

Space for map or graphics TBD

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# Discussion