



# Wetlands

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*Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to...*



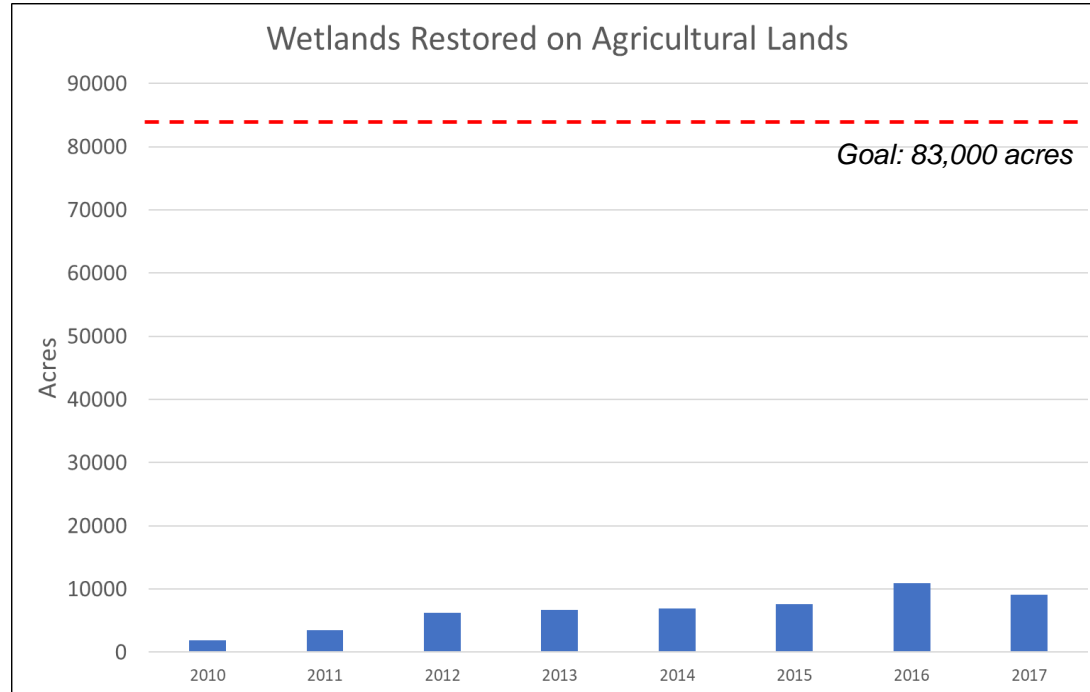
Goal: *WETLANDS*

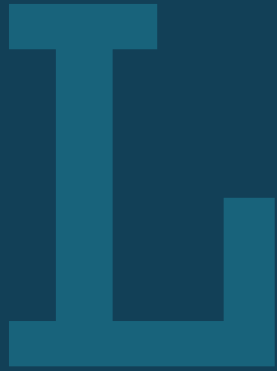
Outcome:

Continually increase the capacity of wetlands to provide water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed. Create or reestablish 85,000 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and enhance function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands by 2025. These activities may occur in any land use (including urban), but primarily occur in agricultural or natural landscapes.



## What is our Expected and Actual Progress?





# Learn

*What have we learned in the last two years?*



## Successes and Challenges

One year since  
Logic and Action plan revision

- Good engagement from WWG members
- Increased interest in wetlands goal work
- Concerns regarding perverse consequences of wetland BMPs as incentives for projects other than wetlands
- Need continued focus on communications efforts



## On the Horizon

- Potential effects of COVID on Federal, State and NGO budgets decreasing funding
- FEMA policies on NNBFs
- State policies on wetlands and buffers (Virginia new living shorelines law and climate inclusion in CBPA and VDOT policy)
- Research on climate impacts on non-tidal and tidal wetlands



# Adapt

*How does all of this impact our work?*



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

- We have not identified adaptations since last November.
- Continue to focus on current actions.
- Commit to increased communications via formal presentations, shared meetings and cross-sector engagement.





# Help

*How can the Management Board  
lead the Program to adapt?*



## How You Can Help



- Goal is off-track
- Not surprising given challenges
- Need increased commitment in funding and personnel time to advance wetlands restoration, creation and enhancement



## Help Needed

- Directed collaboration among the state agencies (reg and non-reg) on wetland data. If there is an annual data call, then there needs to be more support and collaboration to ensure accuracy.



# Discussion