



# Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Water Resources & Restoration Plan (Comp Plan), DC, DE, MD, NY, PA, VA & WV

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

FACT SHEET as of February 1, 2015

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**AUTHORIZATION:** Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Water Resources and Restoration Plan, DC, DE, MD, NY, PA, VA & WV - Resolution of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate, adopted September 26, 2002.

**TYPE OF PROJECT:** Ecosystem Restoration and Protection

**CONTRIBUTION TO CHESAPEAKE BAY:** Directly contributes to achieving protection and restoration goals established by the 2009 Executive Order 13508 and the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Program Agreement by restoring clean water, recovering vital habitat, sustaining fish and wildlife, conserving land, enhancing environmental literacy, and providing climate resiliency.

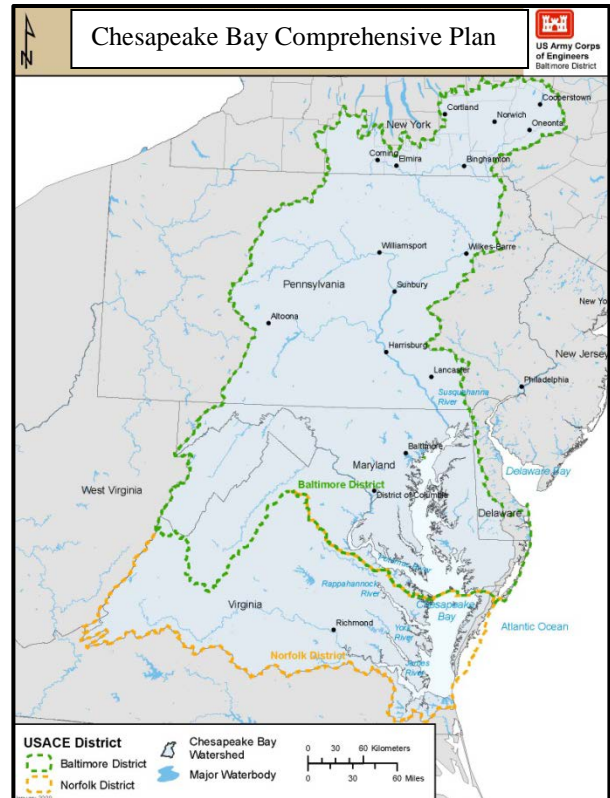
**PROJECT PHASE:** Reconnaissance

**CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST:** Senators Carper and Coons (DE), Mikulski and Cardin (MD), Schumer and Gillibrand (NY), Casey and Toomey (PA), Warner and Kaine (VA), Manchin and Capito (WV), and Representative Holmes-Norton (DC)

**NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR:** National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) has agreed to serve as the “umbrella” sponsor. Still acquiring state non-Federal partners.

**BACKGROUND:** The Chesapeake Bay’s natural infrastructure is an intricate system of terrestrial and aquatic habitats linking the landscape and environment of the Bay. It is composed of thousands of miles of river and stream habitat that interconnect the land, water, living resources and human communities of the Bay watershed.

Long-term protection of this unique ecosystem is essential. These vital habitats, including open water, submerged aquatic grasses, tidal and non-tidal marshes, freshwater wetlands and vernal pools, streams and forests, support species abundance and diversity, which is the bedrock to sustainable ecosystems. A comprehensive plan, or integrated watershed management plan for the purpose of cross-cutting problem identification, identifying alternatives and recommending technical solutions and implementation strategies is needed.



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The comprehensive plan will include existing Federal (including DoD), State and local plans and will address the most recent Chesapeake Bay Agreement commitments and Executive Order 13508, which mandates the integration of living resource protection and restoration, vital habitat protection and restoration, water quality protection and restoration, sound land use, and stewardship and community engagement.

**STATUS:** This study was funded in fiscal 2014 and funding has been utilized by the Baltimore and Norfolk Districts to begin identifying non-Federal sponsors in the Chesapeake Bay states, to complete a 905(b) reconnaissance report, and begin preparing a project management plan(PMP) for conduct of the feasibility phase. The feasibility phase is envisioned as a watershed assessment, and would be cost-shared 50-percent Federal and 50-percent non-Federal. Depending on the needs and abilities of the sponsors, the comprehensive plan could be a single document, or a series of documents covering portions of the watershed. This effort will insure, however, that the studies complement each other.

**BUDGET (\$):**

	<u>Investigations</u>	
	<u>Reconnaissance</u>	<u>Feasibility</u>
<u>Total Estimated Cost</u>	\$300,000	\$3,000,000
Federal Cost Estimate	300,000	1,500,000
Non-Federal Cost Estimate	0	1,500,000
 <u>Federal Funds Data</u>		
Allocation thru FY 2013	0	0
Allocation for FY 2014	250,000	0
President's Budget 2015 <sup>1</sup>	0	100,000
Allocation for FY 2015 <sup>2</sup>	50,000	50,000
Balance to Complete	0	1,450,000

NOTES:

<sup>1</sup> The President typically sends the budget to Congress in February each year. Upon release, budget amounts for the USACE Civil Works programs and specified studies are posted online at the HQUSACE website in a Program Budget Press Book at <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Budget.aspx>.

<sup>2</sup>The final FY 2015 allocation amounts will be made available upon final approval pursuant to the Energy and Water Appropriations Act's continuing funding requirements.

**SCHEDULE:**

FY 2014 Completed Work: In FY 2014 the study team initiated discussions with NFWF and several of the Bay States, prepared a 905(b) reconnaissance report, and began drafting a preliminary PMP.

FY 2015 Scheduled Work: Complete the draft Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement.

**COMPLETION:** With optimal funding in future yearsthe comprehensive restoration and protection plan could be completed in fiscal 2018.

**For more information** regarding the Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Water Resources and Restoration Plan, please contact Daniel Bierly, CENAB-PL-P, (410) 962-6139, or e-mail [daniel.m.bierly@usace.army.mil](mailto:daniel.m.bierly@usace.army.mil).

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