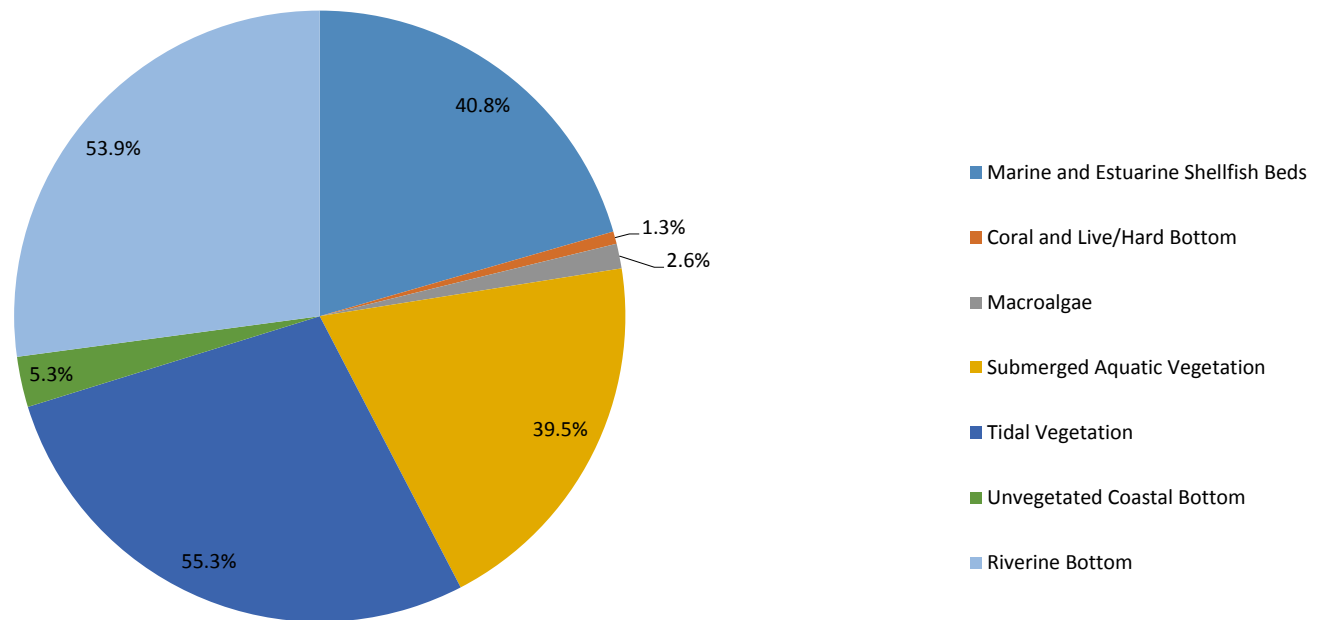
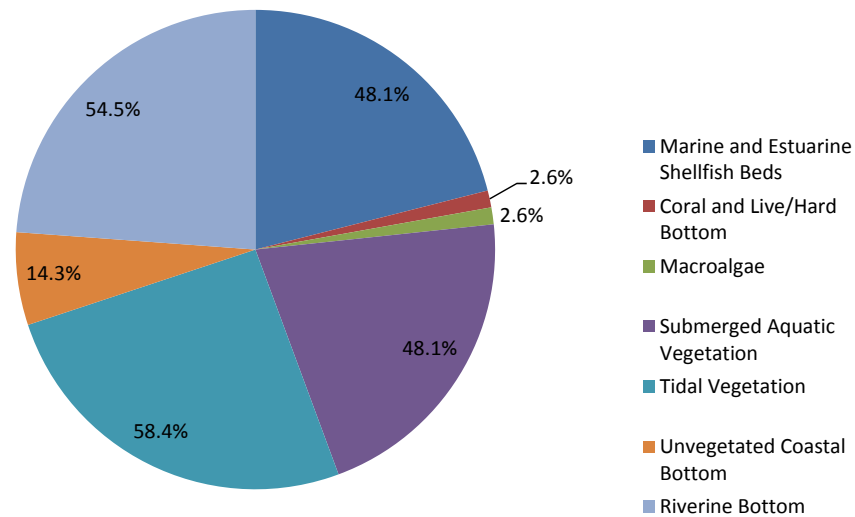


Which habitats are you currently working to restore? Please check the THREE habitats on which you currently dedicate the majority of your time.

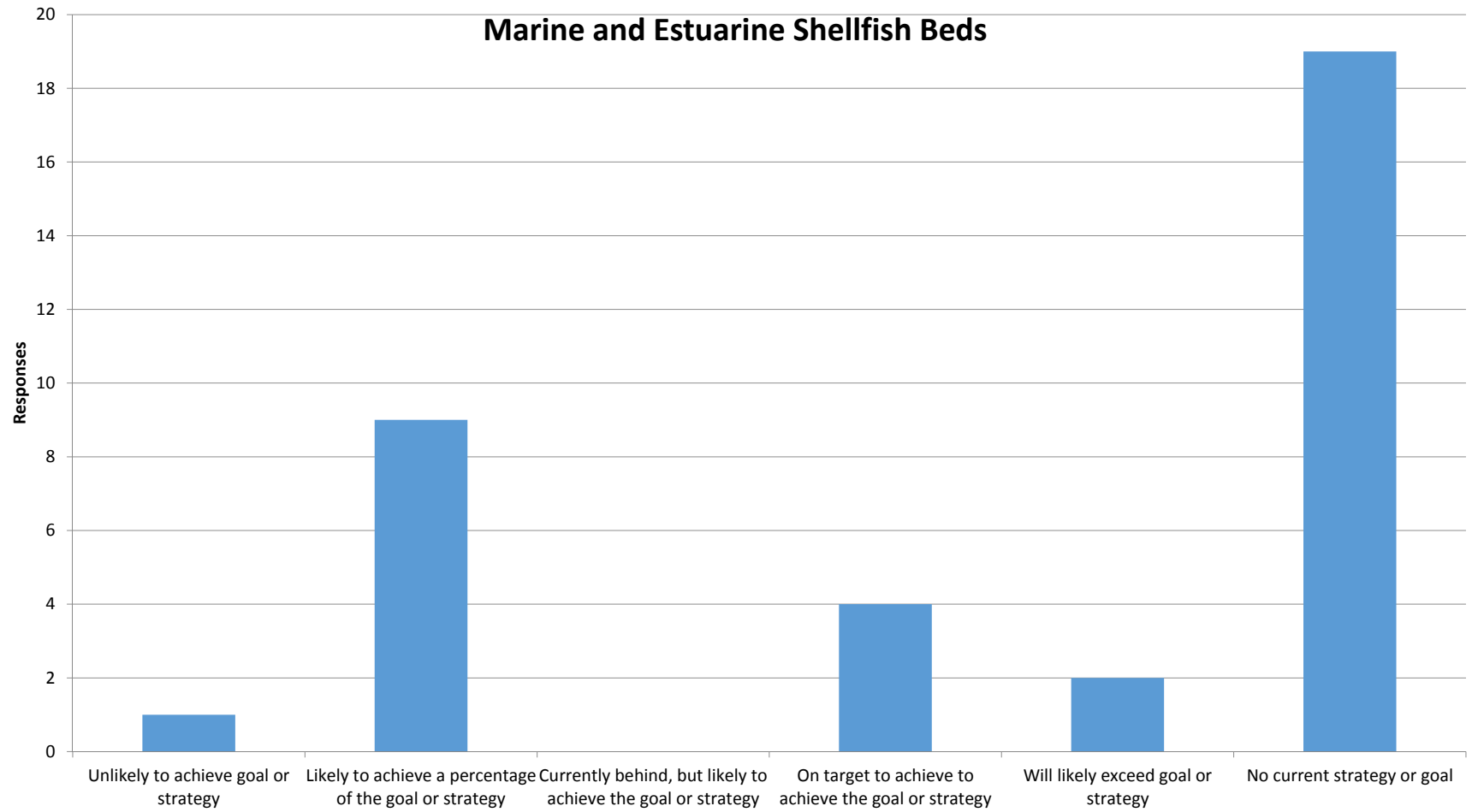


Which habitats do you anticipate working to restore over the next five years? Please check the THREE habitats on which you anticipate dedicating the majority of your time.



Which habitats do you anticipate working to restore over the next five years? Please rank each of the choices below with a range between very unlikely to very likely.

| Answer Options | Very Unlikely | Unlikely | Undecided | Likely | Very Likely | Rating Average | Response Count |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------|-----------|--------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| Marine and Estuarine Shellfish Beds | 13 | 12 | 6 | 10 | 23 | 3.28 | 64 |
| Coral and Live/Hard Bottom | 44 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 1.41 | 56 |
| Macroalgae | 38 | 13 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 1.50 | 58 |
| Submerged Aquatic Vegetation | 13 | 8 | 9 | 16 | 18 | 3.28 | 64 |
| Tidal Vegetation | 9 | 3 | 8 | 16 | 27 | 3.78 | 63 |
| Unvegetated Coastal Bottom | 22 | 14 | 8 | 10 | 3 | 2.26 | 57 |
| Riverine Bottom | 10 | 9 | 2 | 12 | 30 | 3.68 | 63 |
| answered question | | | | | | | 69 |
| skipped question | | | | | | | 12 |



Which statement below best describes current progress towards the strategy or goal you are primarily seeking to achieve for each habitat listed?

| Answer Options | Unlikely to achieve goal or strategy | Likely to achieve a percentage of the goal or strategy | Currently behind, but likely to achieve the goal or strategy | On target to achieve the goal or strategy | Will likely exceed goal or strategy | No current strategy or goal | Other (please specify below) | Rating Average | Response Count |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Marine and Estuarine Shellfish Beds | 1 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 19 | 3 | 4.54 | 38 |
| Coral and Live/Hard Bottom | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 22 | 2 | 5.75 | 26 |
| Macroalgae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 2 | 6.00 | 24 |
| Submerged Aquatic Vegetation | 3 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 20 | 1 | 4.34 | 36 |
| Tidal Vegetation | 3 | 9 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 12 | 3 | 3.82 | 42 |
| Unvegetated Coastal Bottom | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 1 | 5.35 | 24 |
| Riverine Bottom | 1 | 14 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 3.63 | 42 |
| If Other (please specify) | | | | | | | | | 7 |
| answered question | | | | | | | | | 58 |
| skipped question | | | | | | | | | 23 |

Bad data ?

| Which of the following threats are you currently working to address for each habitat type? Please check all that apply. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|---|----------------|----------------|--|------------------|--|
| Answer Options | Obstructions to Fish Movement/Habitat Connectivity | Dredging and Coastal Maintenance | Water Quality Degradation and Eutrophication | Consumptive Water Withdrawal | Sedimentation | Vessel Operation Impacts | Water Contamination (ground and surface) and Sediments | Invasive Species | Climate Change | Not currently working to address a threat | Rating Average | Response Count | | | |
| Marine and Estuarine Shellfish Beds | 0 | 4 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 6.53 | 40 | | | |
| Coral and Live/Hard Bottom | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 9.72 | 29 | | | |
| Macroalgae | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 25 | 9.21 | 29 | | | |
| Submerged Aquatic Vegetation | 0 | 4 | 16 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 5.50 | 36 | | | |
| Tidal Vegetation | 4 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 11 | 6.36 | 45 | | | |
| Unvegetated Coastal Bottom | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 7.48 | 27 | | | |
| Riverine Bottom | 32 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 2.90 | 49 | | | |
| Other (please specify) | | | | | | | | | | | | 7 | | Other Responses: | |

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Restoration Practitioners Survey

In your opinion, are there particular habitats in need of restoration, or threats in need of correction, which are currently under addressed in your geographic and along the east coast? (300 character limit)

| Answer Options | Response Count |
|-------------------|----------------|
| | 42 |
| answered question | 42 |
| skipped question | 39 |

Relative to the scale of degradation caused by dams: the funding, incentives, and on-the-ground project management for dam removals all need to be dramatically increased.

Water Quality is being addressed by the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, but the goals are massive and it is unclear whether states and localities are able to fulfill their obligations. Ensuring progress throughout this process is a major concern.

shell fish bed restoration

One of the most significant threats to shellfish in the South Atlantic is that it is not managed for it's habitat value, rather only as a harvestable resource. While there are still good numbers, without future conservation of the resource the populations will most likely continue to decline.

high marsh

Salt Pond habitat degraded by intense shoreline development affecting water quality with non-point surface water runoff, and contaminated groundwater from inadequate waste disposal treatment.

I think all these issues are addressed. The corrections are too slow in coming! Lost in a quagmire of public debates and miss used funding to re-study the same issue. Money wasted on paper work and not on the physical solution. Breaching a dam that everyone except a small handful of people should not take 45 years.

56 river miles of Florida's Ocklawaha River--the southernmost suitable striped bass spawning habitat in the U.S.--needs to be restored to free-flowing again from Silver Springs to the St. Johns River which would be made possible by the breaching of Rodman (Kirkpatrick) Dam.

seabed disturbance due to shellfish and finfish harvesting with mobile gear

Water quality improvements (stormwater and wastewater) are needed before SAV restoration can be successful but water quality is underaddressed due to the size of the problem and scale of resources needed to address it fully

ACFHP Implementation Plan Status to April 2015



Ft. Lauderdale, FL – April 20th – 22nd, 2015

The Process -in 2012

- Conservation Strategic Plan has:
 - 16 Objectives
 - 37 Strategic Actions
 - 79 Tasks
- We winnowed this for the Implementation Plan to:
 - 9 Objectives
 - 14 Strategic Actions
 - 29 Tasks

What we are going to do today

- Review the process and our commitments
- Review the current status of each Task
- Agree on the current status of each Task
- Decide on future actions:

Continue with no changes or additional Tasks added

Continue Tasks selected & add new non-selected Tasks

Selectively add additional Objectives, Strategic Actions and Tasks

Winnow a new set of Objectives, Strategic Actions and Tasks

Task Status Color Code

This Power Point has color coding to categorize each selected Task.

- Item(s) Selected - Red
- Completed tasks – Blue
- Ongoing tasks– no endpoint - Yellow
- Ongoing tasks – with endpoint, not complete – Orange
- To Do or Action needed tasks– no activity yet - Green

Habitat Protection Objectives:

OBJECTIVES Selected:

1. Ensure adequate and effective fish movement past existing or potential barriers to maintain connectivity within Sub-regional Priority Habitats.
4. Minimize or reduce adverse impacts to Sub-regional Priority Habitats associated with coastal development and water dependent activities (e.g. recreational boating, and marine transportation).
6. Increase public awareness of the threats facing sub-regional priority habitats and the protection measures available to avoid and minimize those threats.

Habitat Protection Objectives:

OBJECTIVES Not Selected:

2. Maintain or improve water quality and hydrology in Sub-regional Priority Habitats that are currently functioning, through incorporation of BMPs and/or technological controls.
3. Define the water flows and volumes needed to sustain the structure and function of healthy aquatic ecosystems (including groundwater and surface water interactions, maintaining appropriate salinity regimes) and ameliorate consumptive water usage where detrimental to Sub-regional Priority Habitats.
5. Maintain or increase the resiliency of Sub-regional Priority Habitats to the impacts of climate change.

Protection Objective 1: Ensure adequate and effective fish movement past existing or potential barriers to maintain connectivity within Sub-regional Priority Habitats.

STRATEGIC ACTION Selected:

1. Coordinate with partners to synthesize existing information in order to identify and prioritize watersheds for conservation where fragmentation of, or barriers to, fish dispersal are a potentially critical threat to be addressed.

STRATEGIC ACTION Not Selected:

1. Coordinate with partners to develop and disseminate a “standardized toolbox” of fish passage technologies (techniques and methodologies) and guidance to assist ACFHP partners in the development and implementation of effective fish passage protocols designed to alleviate this threat for new projects.

Protection Objective 1: Ensure adequate and effective fish movement past existing or potential barriers to maintain connectivity within Sub-regional Priority Habitats.

Strategic Actions 1: Coordinate with partners to synthesize existing information in order to identify and prioritize watersheds for conservation where fragmentation of, or barriers to, fish dispersal are a potentially critical threat to be addressed.

TASKS Selected:

1. Consult with appropriate ASMFC entities (diadromous species management entity; Fish Passage Working Group; TCs for each diadromous species) to determine whether there are existing priority lists for restoration, subregionally.

3. Compile existing lists, i.e, American Rivers in NC through the Aquatic Connectivity Team, is presently compiling a list of priority barriers. In NH, get Restoration Partners priority list; compile FERC filed diadromous fish restoration plans for watersheds in which they have been prepared; TNC NE Connectivity Project

7. Determine (Science and Data Committee task) what scale of watershed (HUC 8?, HUC 12?) ACFHP wishes to address.

Protection Objective 1: Ensure adequate and effective fish movement past existing or potential barriers to maintain connectivity within Sub-regional Priority Habitats.

Strategic Actions 1: Coordinate with partners to synthesize existing information in order to identify and prioritize watersheds for conservation where fragmentation of, or barriers to, fish dispersal are a potentially critical threat to be addressed.

TASKS: Not Selected

2. Coordinate with existing National Estuary Programs and partnerships (APNEP-NC, PREP-NH; DEBEP?; IRNEP-FL, Narragansett Bay NERR
4. Contact each Regional Alliance (i.e., SAA, MAR) to determine whether they have developed priority watershed lists.
5. Work with partners to make the lists, i.e., during ASMFC Shad and River Herring Habitat Plan development (Amendment 3; plans due 2014, so defer this action; we think that ACFHP makes this recommendation to ASMFC-HC, who in turn will make it to ASMFC SRHTC for implementation, with information developed to come back to ASMFC-HC and back to ACFHP) encourage development of priority lists.
6. Look in state Wildlife Action Plans to see if there are priority lists, and/or information which can contribute to the development of such lists.

Protection Objective 4: Minimize or reduce adverse impacts to Sub-regional Priority Habitats associated with coastal development and water dependent activities (e.g. recreational boating, and marine transportation).

Strategic Action 1: Identify current work being done on this objective (e.g. guidance on dredging and low impact development) and determine how ACFHP can best partner with these efforts.

TASK Selected:

2. Communicate impacts to audiences that can make a difference; e.g., for recreational boating scouring impacts, communicate with Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation to disseminate our guidance; also state boat annual licensing offices within DNRs or other state agencies.

TASK Not Selected:

1. State and federal representatives on SC and SDWG contact local zoning commissions (or other local govt entities), tell story of maintaining habitat for fish from broad Atlantic coast or sub-region perspectives, include \$\$ values of intact habitats.

Protection Objective 6: Increase public awareness of the threats facing Sub-regional Priority Habitats and the protection measures available to avoid and minimize those threats.

Strategic Action: Develop and disseminate public outreach materials on the adverse impacts of human activities on fish and fish habitat as well as ways to avoid and minimize those impacts.

TASKS: No specific – this is ongoing

Habitat Restoration Objectives

Objectives Selected:

1. Restore and enhance hydrological or physical connections between Sub-regional Priority Habitats to promote fish utilization and improve overall aquatic health.
2. Restore Sub-regional Priority Habitats, such as replanting eelgrass beds or restoring oyster beds, in locations where threats have been minimized or removed (does not include dam or other barrier removal).

Objectives Not Selected:

3. Restore water quality in areas where it has degraded or eliminated Subregional Priority Habitats.
4. Maintain or increase the resiliency of Subregional Priority Habitats to the impacts of climate change through restoration activities.

Restoration Objective 1: Restore and enhance hydrological or physical connections between Sub-regional Priority Habitats to promote fish utilization and improve overall aquatic health.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS Selected:

2. Restore tidal hydrology in priority wetland areas (e.g. repairing or removing culverts or berms restricting flow or separating wetlands).
3. Identify priority areas in each sub-region where Priority Habitats have been degraded or eliminated by past alterations to hydrology, and where conditions for restoration of habitats exist.
5. Coordinate with partners to compile fish movement/habitat restoration techniques and guidance documents to aid partners in the planning, design, implementation, and monitoring of effective fish movement improvement projects.

Restoration Objective 1: Restore and enhance hydrological or physical connections between Sub-regional Priority Habitats to promote fish utilization and improve overall aquatic health.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS Not Selected:

1. Remove dams and other physical barriers in areas identified as a priority for fish movement restoration.
4. Compile information to identify barriers where fragmentation of habitats or barriers to fish movement exist.

Restoration Objective 1: Restore and enhance hydrological or physical connections between Subregional Priority Habitats to promote fish utilization and improve overall aquatic health.

Strategic Action 2: Restore tidal hydrology in priority wetland areas (e.g. repairing or removing culverts or berms restricting flow or separating wetlands).

TASK Selected:

2. Fund on-the ground projects through USFWS-NFHAP funding

Task Not Selected:

1. Consult with NERRS regarding salt marsh restoration projects (culverts, berms, water control structures, etc.); instream flow models.

Restoration Objective 1: Restore and enhance hydrological or physical connections between Subregional Priority Habitats to promote fish utilization and improve overall aquatic health.

Strategic Action 3: Identify priority areas in each subregion where Priority Habitats have been degraded or eliminated by past alterations to hydrology, and where conditions for restoration of habitats exist.

TASKS Selected:

1. Determine where partners are already working to remove barriers, to identify priorities and gaps.

TASK Not Selected:

2. Solicit proposals for barrier removal in identified priority watersheds.

Restoration Objective 1: Restore and enhance hydrological or physical connections between Subregional Priority Habitats to promote fish utilization and improve overall aquatic health.

Strategic Action 5: Coordinate with partners to compile fish movement/habitat restoration techniques and guidance documents to aid partners in the planning, design, implementation, and monitoring of effective fish movement improvement projects.

TASKS:

- *No 2012 tasks identified for this action.*

Restoration Objective 2: Restore Subregional Priority Habitats, such as replanting eelgrass beds or restoring oyster beds, in locations where threats have been minimized or removed (does not include dam or other barrier removal).

STRATEGIC ACTION Selected:

1. Restore Subregional Priority Habitats in each subregion where:
 - (a) they have been damaged or destroyed by past declines in water quality or human activities, such as dredging, filling, development, or vessel operation; AND
 - (b) conditions for restoration of habitats exist; AND
 - (c) goal(s) of habitat restoration can be maintained.

STRATEGIC ACTION Not Selected:

2. Prevent and attempt to control invasion of non-indigenous species, where feasible.

Restoration Objective 2: Restore Subregional Priority Habitats, such as replanting eelgrass beds or restoring oyster beds, in locations where threats have been minimized or removed (does not include dam or other barrier removal).

Strategic Action 1: Restore Sub-regional Priority Habitats in each sub-region where: (a) they have been damaged or destroyed by past declines in water quality or human activities, such as dredging, filling, development, or vessel operation; AND (b) conditions for restoration of habitats exist; AND (c) goal(s) of habitat restoration can be maintained.

TASKS Selected:

1. Establish funding mechanisms and or ideas for funding mechanisms to do on the ground work. Seek additional funding for ACFHP, eg. NOAA grants, FWS-NFHAP etc. (figure out what admin components are needed).

2. Compile list of projects by survey of the committee and or partners (NEP state management plans and etc) on what sub-regional priority habitats they are focusing and specifics on restoration sites.

3. Develop assessment criteria to in order to prioritize?

Restoration Objective 2: Restore Subregional Priority Habitats, such as replanting eelgrass beds or restoring oyster beds, in locations where threats have been minimized or removed (does not include dam or other barrier removal).

Strategic Action 1: Restore Sub-regional Priority Habitats in each sub-region where: (a) they have been damaged or destroyed by past declines in water quality or human activities, such as dredging, filling, development, or vessel operation; AND (b) conditions for restoration of habitats exist; AND (c) goal(s) of habitat restoration can be maintained.

TASKS Not Selected:

4. Prioritized list based on ability of project to be sustainable
5. Steer restoration practitioners to sub-regional priority habitats via compiled list of sub-regional priority habitat restoration projects.
6. Gap analysis. What needs to be done and is not getting done for sub-regional priority habitats

Science & Data Objectives

OBJECTIVE Selected:

2. Work to achieve ACFHP Science and Data Needs (ACFHP, 2011) and fulfill science and data responsibilities established by NFHAP.

OBJECTIVE Not Selected:

1. Maintain or increase the resiliency of Sub-regional Priority Habitats to the impacts of climate change through restoration activities.

Science and Data Objective 2: Work to achieve ACFHP Science and Data Needs (ACFHP, 2011) and fulfill science and data responsibilities established by NFHAP.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS Selected:

1. Develop additional products and conduct continuing analysis of the Species-habitat Matrix.
2. Continue to synthesize, update, and fill in information gaps in the Assessment, and identify new applications.
3. Beginning with the results of the Assessment and the work conducted by the National Fish Habitat Science and Data Committee, refine data and associated GIS layers to produce maps and other products that can be used to inform the goals and objectives laid out in this plan and to develop time-bound, spatially-explicit, and quantitative conservation objectives in future Plans or revisions to the Strategic Conservation Plan.

Science and Data Objective 2: Work to achieve ACFHP Science and Data Needs (ACFHP, 2011) and fulfill science and data responsibilities established by NFHAP.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS Not Selected:

4. Develop Fish Habitat Occupancy Models and the information needed to support them.

5. Develop project tracking and evaluation capabilities for the purpose of capturing, assessing, and reporting conservation results to stakeholders.

Science and Data Objective 2: Work to achieve ACFHP Science and Data Needs (ACFHP, 2011) and fulfill science and data responsibilities established by NFHAP.

Strategic Action 1: Develop additional products and conduct continuing analysis of the Species-habitat Matrix.

TASKS Selected:

1. Identify number of publications and specific journals to submit manuscript for the existing matrix
2. Prepare outline
3. Prepare publication(s); submit for review to all coauthors
4. Peer-review

Science and Data Objective 2: Work to achieve ACFHP Science and Data Needs (ACFHP, 2011) and fulfill science and data responsibilities established by NFHAP.

Strategic Action 2: Continue to synthesize, update, and fill in information gaps in the Assessment, and identify new applications.

TASKS Selected:

1. Check with Caroly to see if fits under his work plan
2. Subcommittee conference call to ID work plan
3. ID funding sources if needed

Science and Data Objective 2: Work to achieve ACFHP Science and Data Needs (ACFHP, 2011) and fulfill science and data responsibilities established by NFHAP.

Strategic Action 3: Beginning with the results of the Assessment and the work conducted by the National Fish Habitat Science and Data Committee, refine data and associated GIS layers to produce maps and other products that can be used to inform the goals and objectives laid out in this plan and to develop time-bound, spatially-explicit, and quantitative conservation objectives in future Plans or revisions to the Strategic Conservation Plan.

TASKS Selected:

1. Check with Moe to see if fits under his work plan
2. Review habitat assessments that have been done for the FHPs in Region 3 and 6 and determine if ACFHP would like a similar product.
3. If steering committee and science and data committee are interested, determine if the organization that worked on the habitat assessments in Region 3(I think it was Downstream Strategies) is available and how much they would charge.
4. Subcommittee conference call to take ideas from the National Assessment and Midwest FHP's assessments and make a work plan to make them useful at a regional scale and for coastal habitats. Workplan would include action items and a timeline.
5. ID funding sources

Science and Data Objective 2: Work to achieve ACFHP Science and Data Needs (ACFHP, 2011) and fulfill science and data responsibilities established by NFHAP.

Strategic Action 3: Beginning with the results of the Assessment and the work conducted by the National Fish Habitat Science and Data Committee, refine data and associated GIS layers to produce maps and other products that can be used to inform the goals and objectives laid out in this plan and to develop time-bound, spatially-explicit, and quantitative conservation objectives in future Plans or revisions to the Strategic Conservation Plan.

TASK Not Selected:

6. Give contractor guidance on the incorporation of existing maps and/or data layers and/or geodatabases (species occurrence, impervious surface, ag. use, wetlands inventory, SAV). Determine how a coastal assessment would differ from inland assessments.

Communication & Outreach Objectives

OBJECTIVES Selected:

1. Develop or maintain physical or virtual information or avenues for communicating information to partners and the broader conservation community.
2. Develop or maintain relationships with partners and the broader conservation community.

Communications and Outreach Objective 1: Develop or maintain physical or virtual information or avenues for communicating information to partners and the broader conservation community.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS Selected:

1. Maintain a website that meets the needs of partners and the broader conservation community.
3. Attend events such as conferences or meetings to promote ACFHP's mission and activities and encourage new partners to join.

STRATEGIC ACTION Not Selected:

2. Develop/use outreach materials (e.g. display, fact sheets) that meet the needs of partners and the broader conservation community.

Communications and Outreach Objective 1: Develop or maintain physical or virtual information or avenues for communicating information to partners and the broader conservation community.

Strategic Action 1: Maintain a website that meets the needs of partners and the broader conservation community.

TASKS Selected:

1. Update the Funding, Conference, Other Events, Funded Projects, Endorsed Projects, and Outreach pages
2. Send out periodic Breaking News items and maintain archives

TASK Not Selected:

3. Add a “Whitewater to Bluewater” page, or link to one

Communications and Outreach Objective 1:

Develop or maintain physical or virtual information or avenues for communicating information to partners and the broader conservation community.

Strategic Action 3: Attend events such as conferences or meetings to promote ACFHP's mission and activities and encourage new partners to join.

TASKS Selected:

1. Present at American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting and/or Restore America's Estuaries Conference

Communications and Outreach Objective 2: Develop or maintain relationships with partners and the broader conservation community.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS Selected:

2. Cooperate and exchange lessons learned with other landscape or regional partnerships and the National Fish Habitat Board.
3. Promote the missions of ACFHP and NFHAP by participating in NFHAP's legislative strategy to further the objectives of all fish habitat partnerships and coordinate such activities with the legislative staff in each partner organization.

STRATEGIC ACTION Not Selected:

1. Develop a protocol for identifying and bringing in new partners.

Communications and Outreach Objective 2: Develop or maintain relationships with partners and the broader conservation community.

Strategic Action 2: Cooperate and exchange lessons learned with other landscape or regional partnerships and the National Fish Habitat Board.

TASK Selected:

2. Develop individual FHP and joint messaging strategies that would identify key target audiences and generate core messages for members of the partnerships to communicate clearly and consistently with those audiences.

TASK Not Selected:

1. Hold joint FHP Communications and Outreach meetings quarterly via conference call and/or WebEx to provide regular, focused coordination of overall communications and outreach efforts.

Communications and Outreach Objective 2: Develop or maintain relationships with partners and the broader conservation community.

Strategic Action 3: Promote the missions of ACFHP and NFHAP by participating in NFHAP's legislative strategy to further the objectives of all fish habitat partnerships and coordinate such activities with the legislative staff in each partner organization.

TASKS:

- *No 2012 tasks identified for this action*
- Lisa has been working with the NFHAP Board on this.

Finance Objectives

OBJECTIVE Selected:

2. Secure ACFHP operational funding.

Objective Not Selected:

1. Develop a mechanism and infrastructure within ACFHP for managing finances.

Finance Objective 2: Secure operational funding for ACFHP.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS Selected:

2. Secure project funding opportunities.
3. Identify private partners who can assist in providing matching funds to support operational and on-the-ground project activities.

STRATEGIC ACTION Not Selected:

1. Leverage conservation dollars.

Finance Objective 2: Secure ACFHP operational funding.

Strategic Action 2: Secure project funding opportunities.

TASKS Selected:

2. Solicit, rank, and submit a list of priority projects to FWS for FY13 NFHP funding.
3. Apply for NOAA Community Based Restoration funding

THEN.....

1. Endorse applicable projects for NFWF/NOAA protection funding

Finance Objective 2: Secure ACFHP operational funding.

Strategic Action 3: Identify private partners who can assist in providing matching funds to support operational and on-the-ground project activities.

TASK Selected:

Identify a short list of foundations and schedule a phone call or meeting

Summary Status of the 29 Tasks Selected

- Completed tasks – Blue - 13
- Ongoing tasks– no endpoint - Yellow - 9
(no specific task identified for 2)
- Ongoing tasks – with endpoint, not complete – Orange - 8
- To Do or Action needed tasks– no activity yet - Green - 2
(no tasks identified for 1)



ACFHP

Conservation Strategic Plan

Ft. Lauderdale, FL
April 20th – 22nd, 2015

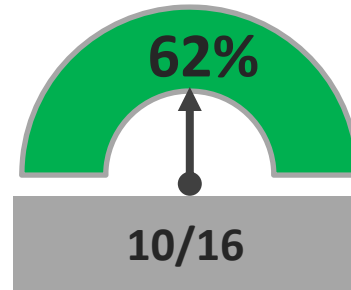
Looking Back/Looking Forward

- **What did we do** (i.e. performance)? Which goals and objectives were completed? What strategic actions were successfully implemented?
- **Did it matter** (i.e. impact)? Was there/What were the measurable impacts?
- **What have we learned?** Should we do something different? Have we learned something to share?

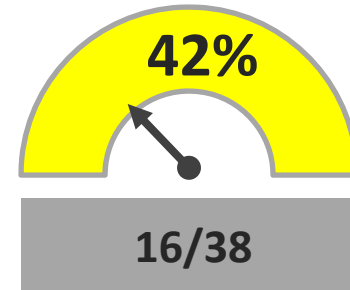
Performance: Overall

What did we do?

Objectives Tackled:



Actions Tackled:



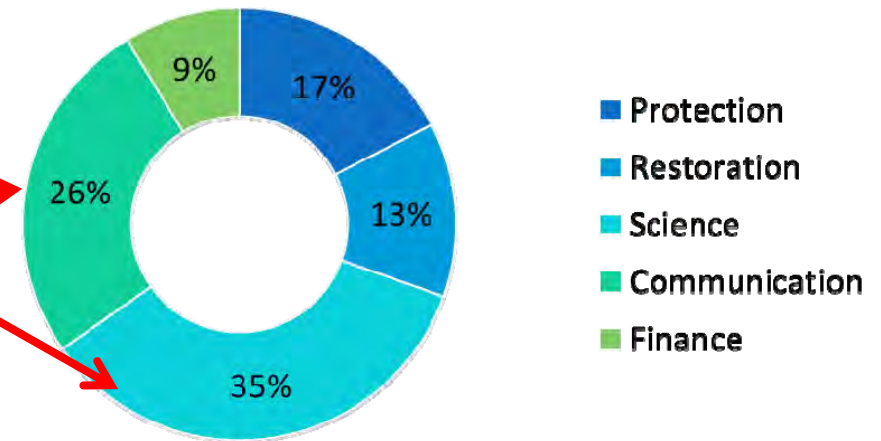
Progress on Tasks:

| | | |
|-------------|----|-----|
| Complete* | 23 | 72% |
| Incomplete | 8 | 25% |
| No Activity | 1 | 3% |

Overall, we performed at a fairly high level with respect to our Conservation Strategic Plan. We tackled over half of the plan's objectives and just under half of the strategic actions outlined in 2012. We completed the majority of tasks we set for ourselves as well.

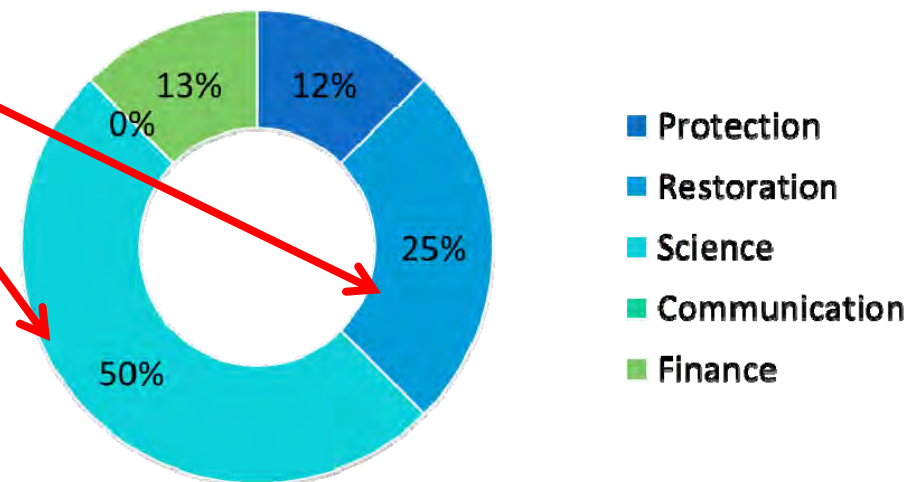
Performance-wise, **Communications** and **Science** were s our most accomplished areas over the past few years.

Completed* Tasks By Objectives



However, we overestimated our ability to accomplish **Science** tasks and our **Restoration** performance was enhanced by being able to fund on-the-ground projects.

Incomplete Tasks By Objectives



Questions: Performance

- Are our strategic actions being implemented as planned? *Why or why not?*
- Which objectives or strategic actions are receiving less attention than others? Should we revisit these?
- What do our previous answers suggest as to how (and when) we should adapt or change our strategic plan?

Impact: Overall

What have we produced?

- **Protection**
- **Restoration**
- **Science & Data**
- **Communications**
- **Finance**

How do we want to document or track our results and impacts? Right now, we don't have a good approach.

Questions: Impact

- What have been our measurable results or impacts so far?
 - Protection, Restoration, Science, Communications and Finance?
- Are these the impacts or results that are needed (Do they contribute to change? Are other outcomes a higher priority?)
- How long-lived or “leverageable” are our impacts?

Next Strategic Plan (2016 – 2021)

- What do we want to do for the next plan?
 - What are our strengths for our next plan?
 - New threats (e.g. ocean acidification)?
 - New tools/efforts we can directly work on?
 - How do we move forward with next CSP (timing, process, etc.)?



NFHP Funded ACFHP Projects

2009 – Present

2014 Funding

Oyster Reef and Salt Marsh Restoration in Stump Sound, North Carolina



Oyster Reef Restoration in Great Bay Estuary, New Hampshire



2014

| Project Name | Amount Requested | Total Cost | Applicant |
|--|------------------|-------------|--|
| Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Operations FY14 | \$30,000 | \$150,256 | Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership/Atlantic States Marine Fish Commission |
| Seagrass, Mangrove and Tidal Marsh Restoration for Fish Habitat in Lake Worth Lagoon, FL | \$50,000 | \$2,660,309 | Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management |
| Oyster Reef and Salt Marsh Habitat Restoration, Stump Sound, Holly Ridge, NC | \$34,463 | \$78,087 | North Carolina Coastal Federation |
| Barrier Removal, Westecunk Creek, Eagleswood, NJ | \$50,000 | \$184,200 | Barnegat Bay Partnership - Ocean County College |
| Oyster Reef Restoration, Great Bay Estuary, Rockingham County, NH NFHAP | \$38,744 | \$129,281 | The Nature Conservancy, NH Chapter |
| CFE Pond Lily Dam Removal, West River, New Haven County, CT | \$50,000 | \$667,963 | Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound |
| Daniel Island Shoreline Stabilization and Restoration – Wando River – Berkeley County / City of Charleston, SC | \$30,000 | \$225,000 | City of Charleston |
| Cape Fear River Fisheries Enhancement Project | \$49,948 | \$198,048 | Cape Fear River Watch |
| Sawyer Mill Dam Removals, Bellamy River, Dover, NH | \$15,000 | \$118,000 | Sawyer Mill Associates, Inc. |
| Pelican Island Phase IV Hard Bottom Creation, Indian River Lagoon, Sebastian, FL NFHAP | \$42,000 | \$102,037 | Coastal Resources Group, Inc. |
| South Middleton Dam removal (design phase), Ipswich River, Middleton, Essex County, MA | \$20,000 | \$75,400 | Ipswich River Watershed Association |
| St. Lucie County Ontogenetic Fish Corridor – Phase I: Mid-Shelf Hard Bottoms, FL | \$49,600 | \$127,172 | St. Lucie County |
| Millstone River Dam Removal Initiative: Restoring Migratory Fish Passage | \$50,000 | \$395,396 | Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association |
| Oyster Reef Restoration Within Historically Impacted Grand Strand Tidal Swash Estuaries | \$45,981 | \$99,787 | Coastal Carolina University |
| Oyster Reef Construction and Enhancement, Indian River Lagoon, Brevard County, FL NFHAP | \$45,000 | \$65,000 | Brevard County Natural Resources Management Department |
| Barrier Removal, Davis Creek, Worcester County, MD | \$34,850 | \$61,900 | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Chesapeake Bay Field |
| Living Shorelines Project, Potomac River, Leesylvania, VA | \$50,000 | \$95,048 | Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) |
| Cotton Gin Mill Dam Removal, Satucket River, Plymouth Co., | \$50,000 | \$85,000 | The Nature Conservancy |
| China Lake Outlet Stream Design and Permitting Study to Remove Masonry Dam in Vassalboro, ME NFHAP | \$20,000 | \$35,000 | Sebasticook Regional Land Trust |
| | \$725,586 | \$5,402,628 | Total |

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership

Operations FY14

- Three in-person Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership meetings
 - Two steering committee meetings - to address specific tasks from the ACFHP Conservation Strategic Plan
 - One Science and Data Working Group meeting
 - determine priorities for new science and data projects
 - advance ongoing projects
- Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission
 - Funding Amount Requested: \$75,000
 - Total Cost of Project: \$105,256
- ACFHP funding
 - NFHP - \$30,000 (\$12,857)
- Partner funding
 - AFWA – Multi-state grant: \$35,876
 - ASMFC – Wallop-Breaux: \$39,380

Oyster Reef and Salt Marsh Habitat Restoration, Stump Sound, Holly Ridge, NC



- Protect 200 ft of estuarine shoreline in Stump Sound, Holly Ridge, North Carolina
 - restore 0.05 acres of fringing oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) reef
 - Resore 0.07 acres of tidal salt marsh (*Spartina alterniflora*) habitat.
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
 - Funding amount requested: \$34,463
 - Total cost of project: \$78,087
- ACFHP Funding
 - NFHP - \$24,657 (\$10,567 indirect)
 - NOAA - \$9,806

Oyster Reef Restoration, Great Bay Estuary, Rockingham County, NH



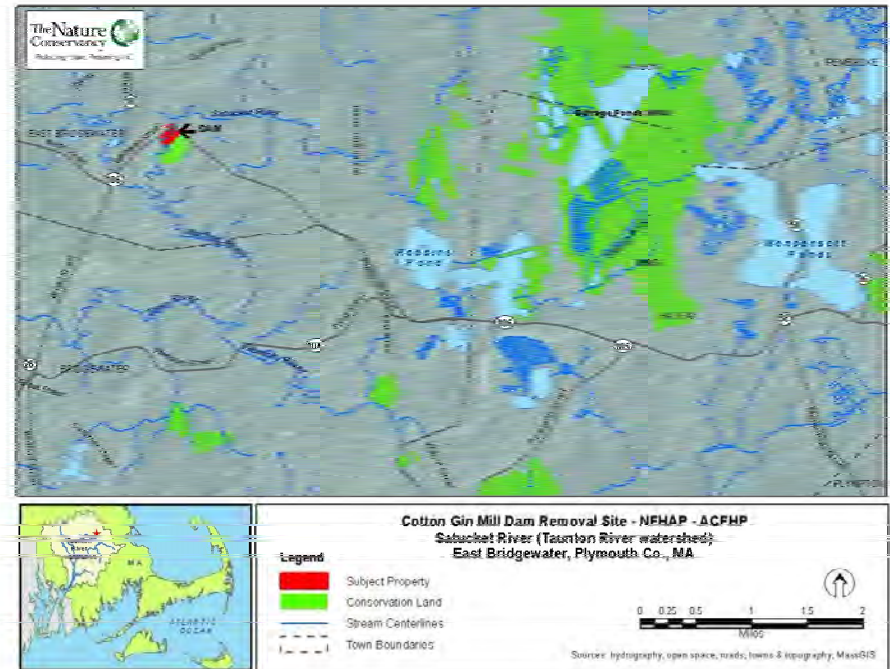
- Restore two acres of native oyster reef and 0.5M oysters in Great Bay Estuary (GBE) using proven reef restoration methods
 - Reef foundation constructed on river bottom with surf clam shell spread by a barge
 - Finish layer is oyster seed in the form of spat on recycled oyster shell
- The Nature Conservancy
 - Funding amount requested: \$ 38,744
 - Total Cost of project: \$129,281
- ACFHP funding:
 - NFHP: \$40,525 (\$17,368)

2015 Proposed Funding

Renewing Diadromous Fish Passage, Patten Stream, Maine



Cotton Gin Mill Dam Removal and Fish Passage Project, Satucket River, Massachusetts



2015 proposed

| Project Name | Amount Requested | Total Cost | Applicant |
|--|------------------|-------------|--|
| Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Operations FY15 | \$75,000 | \$150,256 | Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership/Atlantic States Marine Fish Commission |
| Renewing Diadromous Fish Passage, Patten Stream, Surry, ME | \$50,000 | \$234,548 | Town of Surry |
| Cotton Gin Mill Dam Removal and Fish Passage Project, Satucket River, East Bridgewater, MA | \$50,000 | \$500,000 | The Nature Conservancy |
| CFE Pond Lily Dam Removal, West River, New Haven County, CT | \$50,000 | \$667,963 | Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound |
| Daniel Island Shoreline Stabilization and Restoration – Wando River – Berkeley County / City of Charleston, SC | \$30,000 | \$225,000 | City of Charleston |
| Cape Fear River Fisheries Enhancement Project | \$49,948 | \$198,048 | Cape Fear River Watch |
| Sawyer Mill Dam Removals, Bellamy River, Dover, NH | \$15,000 | \$118,000 | Sawyer Mill Associates, Inc. |
| | \$244,948 | \$1,943,559 | Total |

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership

Operations FY15

- Three in-person Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership meetings
 - Two steering committee meetings - to address specific tasks from the ACFHP Conservation Strategic Plan
 - One Science and Data Working Group meeting
 - determine priorities for new science and data projects
 - advance ongoing projects
- Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission
 - Funding Amount Requested: \$75,000
 - Total Cost of Project: \$105,256
- Proposed ACFHP funding
 - NFHP - \$30,000 (\$12,857)
- Partner funding
 - AFWA – Multi-state grant: **\$35,876? - \$50,000?**
 - ASMFC – Wallop-Breaux: **\$39,380? or less?**

Renewing Diadromous Fish Passage, Patten Stream, Surry, ME



- Nature-like fishway to restore access to 20 stream miles and 1,200 alewife spawning acres in Patten Stream in Surry
- Town of Surry, ME
 - Funding amount requested: \$50,000
 - Total cost of the project: \$234,548
- Proposed ACFHP Funding
 - NFHP - \$12,000
 - NOAA - \$13,000 (or maybe \$13,550?)
- Other Funding
 - Proposed FWS – NFPP Funding - \$84,000

Cotton Gin Mill Dam Removal and Fish Passage Project, Satucket River, East Bridgewater, MA



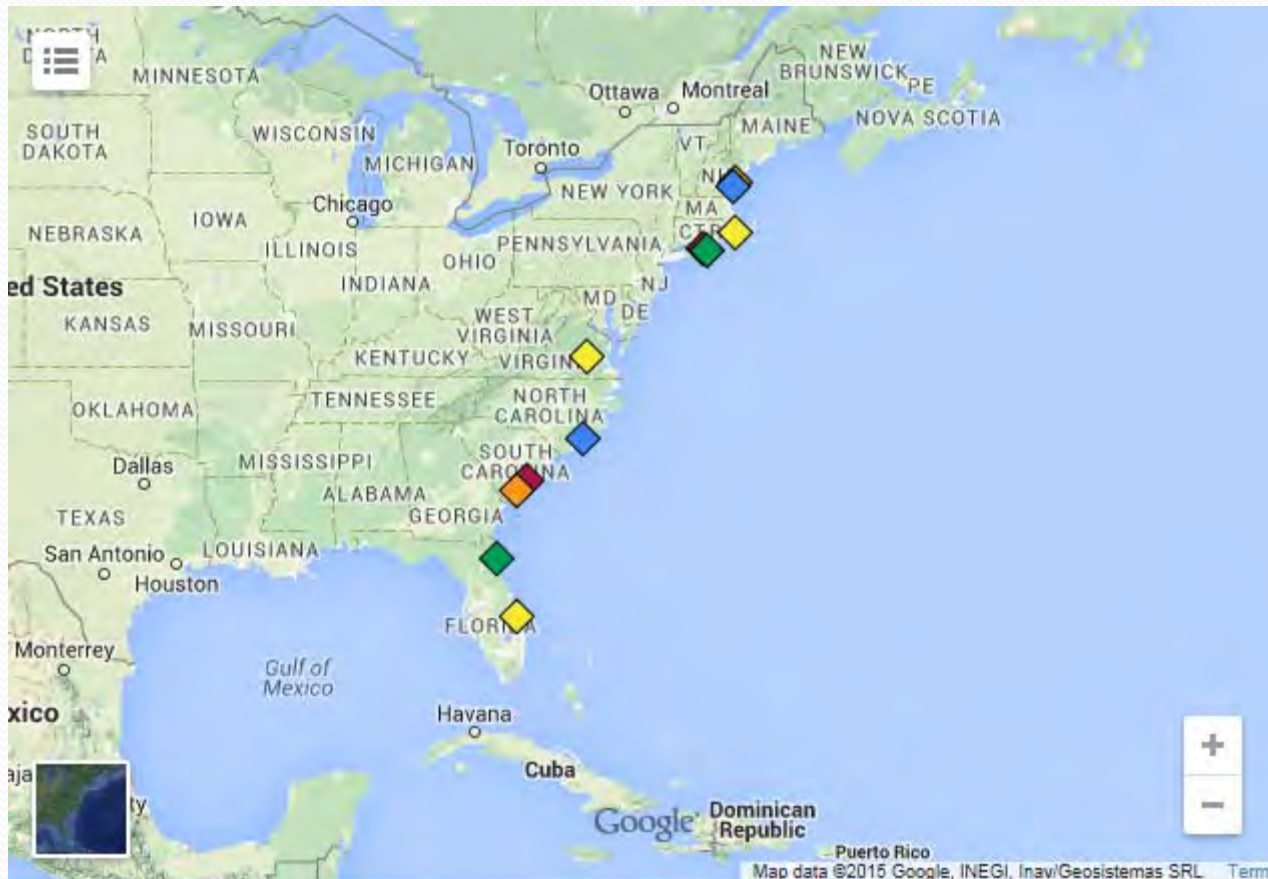
- Remove the dam
 - Connectivity to 4.4 river miles upstream
 - Fish passage from the ocean to Robbins Pond
 - 124 acres of spawning habitat.
 - Future improvements to Monponsett Ponds would provide 528 more acres.
- The Nature Conservancy
 - Funding amount requested: \$50,000
 - Total cost of the project: \$500,000
- Proposed ACFHP Funding
 - NFHP - \$50,000 (\$21,429)
- Other Funding
 - NFWF Sandy Resiliency - \$401,308

CFE Pond Lily Dam Removal, West River, New Haven County, CT



- Remove dam
- Restore 2.6 miles of the West River and 76 acres of Konold's Pond to migratory fish passage
- Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound
 - Funding amount requested: \$50,000
 - Total cost of the project: \$667,963
- Proposed ACFHP funding
 - NFHP - \$50,000
- Other funding
 - USFWS – Sandy resiliency - \$628,425

2009-2014 NFHP funded projects



<http://www.atlanticfishhabitat.org/projects/fundedprojects/>

| Project Name | NFHAP Funds | Non-FWS Contributions | Total Project Costs | Completion Date |
|--|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| FY10 Alewife Brook/Scoy Pond and Staudinger's Pond Alewife Access and Habitat Enhancement, NY | \$51,000 | \$30,000 | \$60,000 | not completed |
| FY10 Goose Creek Dam Eel Passage Restoration Project, SC | \$39,000 | \$36,391 | \$75,391 | August, 2012 |
| FY11 Restoring Diadromous Fish Passage and Habitat to Shorey's Brook, South Berwick, ME | 19,410 | \$319,193 | \$343,603 | November, 2011 |
| FY11 Shoreline and Spartina Marsh Stabilization Along the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway in SC | \$35,148 | \$35,655 | \$70,802 | Summer 2012 |
| FY12 Restoring the Mangroves of the Indian River Lagoon | \$71,429 | \$64,375 | 146,069 | Summer 2014 |
| FY12 James River Atlantic Sturgeon Habitat Restoration | \$43,200 | \$159,560 | \$202,760 | July, 2013 |
| FY 12 Eelgrass Restoration with Conservation Moorings in Buzzards Bay, MA | \$27,387 | \$11,612 | \$38,999 | May, 2014 |
| FY13 Expanding Marine Meadow Habitat in Peconic Estuary, NY | \$39,149 | \$68,587 | 116,739 | November, 2014 |
| FY13 Restoring Coastal Fish Habitat Using Oysters, Mussels, and Marsh Grass at Guana Peninsula, FL | \$44,910 | \$46,137 | \$91,047 | June, 2014 |
| FY14 Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Operations | \$51,000 | \$75,256 | \$105,256 | ongoing |
| FY14 Oyster Reef and Salt Marsh Habitat Restoration, Stump Sound, Holly Ridge, NC | \$49,233 | \$36,356 | \$78,087 | ongoing |
| FY14 Oyster Reef Restoration, Great Bay Estuary, Rockingham County, NH | \$55,349 | \$90,537 | \$129,281 | ongoing |
| Total | \$526,215 | \$898,403 | \$1,424,618 | |

NALCC Aquatic Habitat Assessment

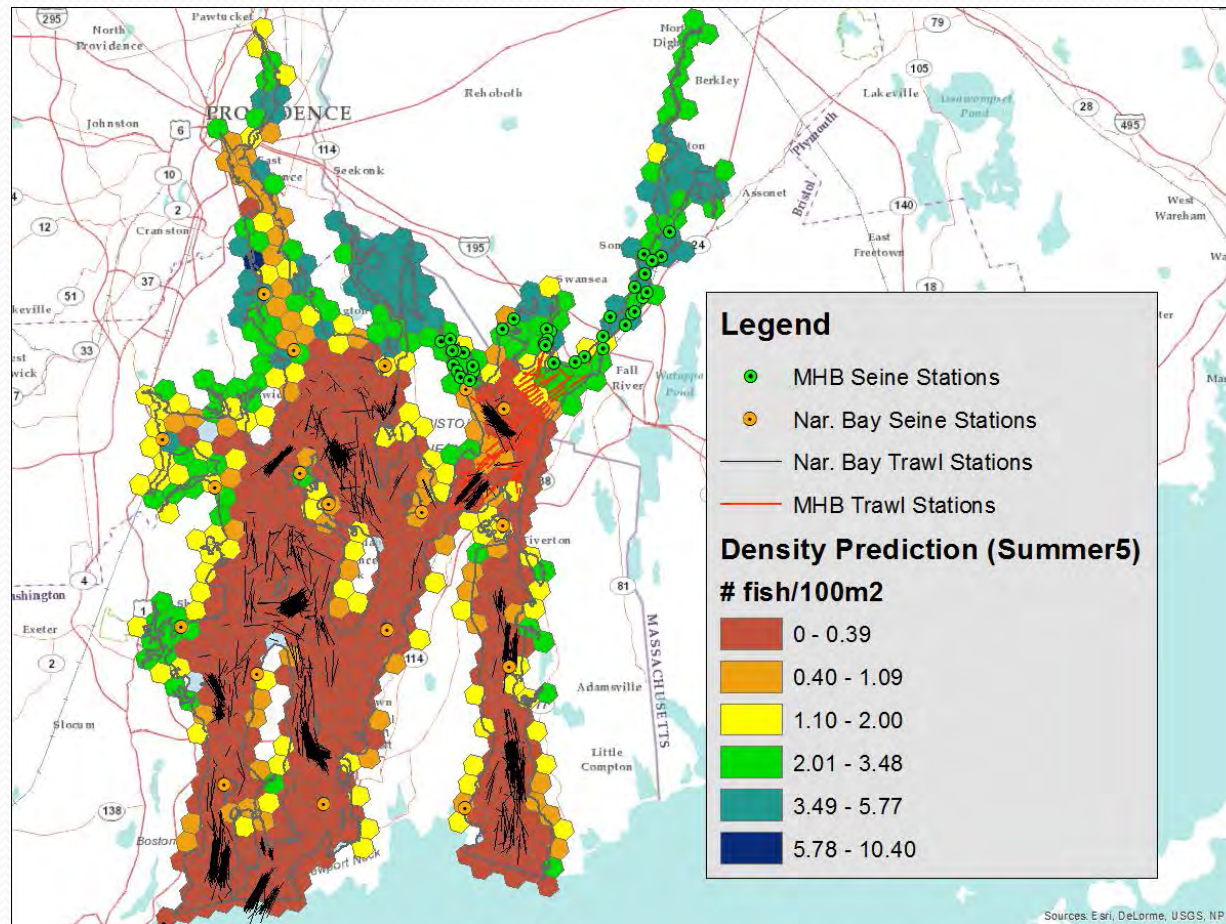
USFWS
Downstream Strategies
ACFHP
EBTJV



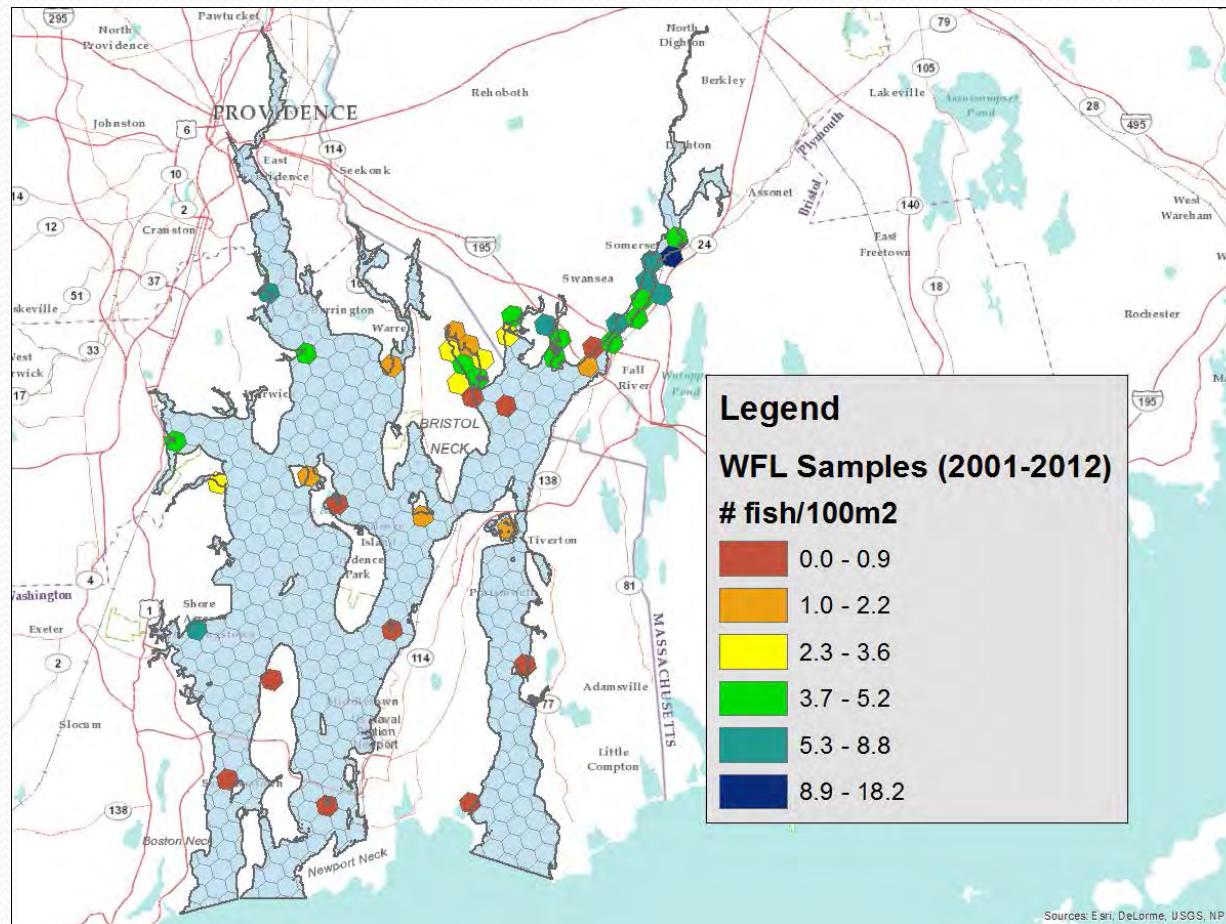
Winter Flounder

- Narragansett Bay
 - Trawl and seine combined – not accepted
 - Seine only - complete
 - Trawl only – future?
- Long Island Sound
 - Trawl and seine combined – not trying
 - Trawl only – working on this
 - Collecting predictor data – Caroly
 - Seine only – not enough data?
- Final Report
 - Intro, Narragansett Bay Seine Only, Long Island Sound Trawl Only, Lessons Learned – discuss drawbacks of trying to use two gear types for predictive model

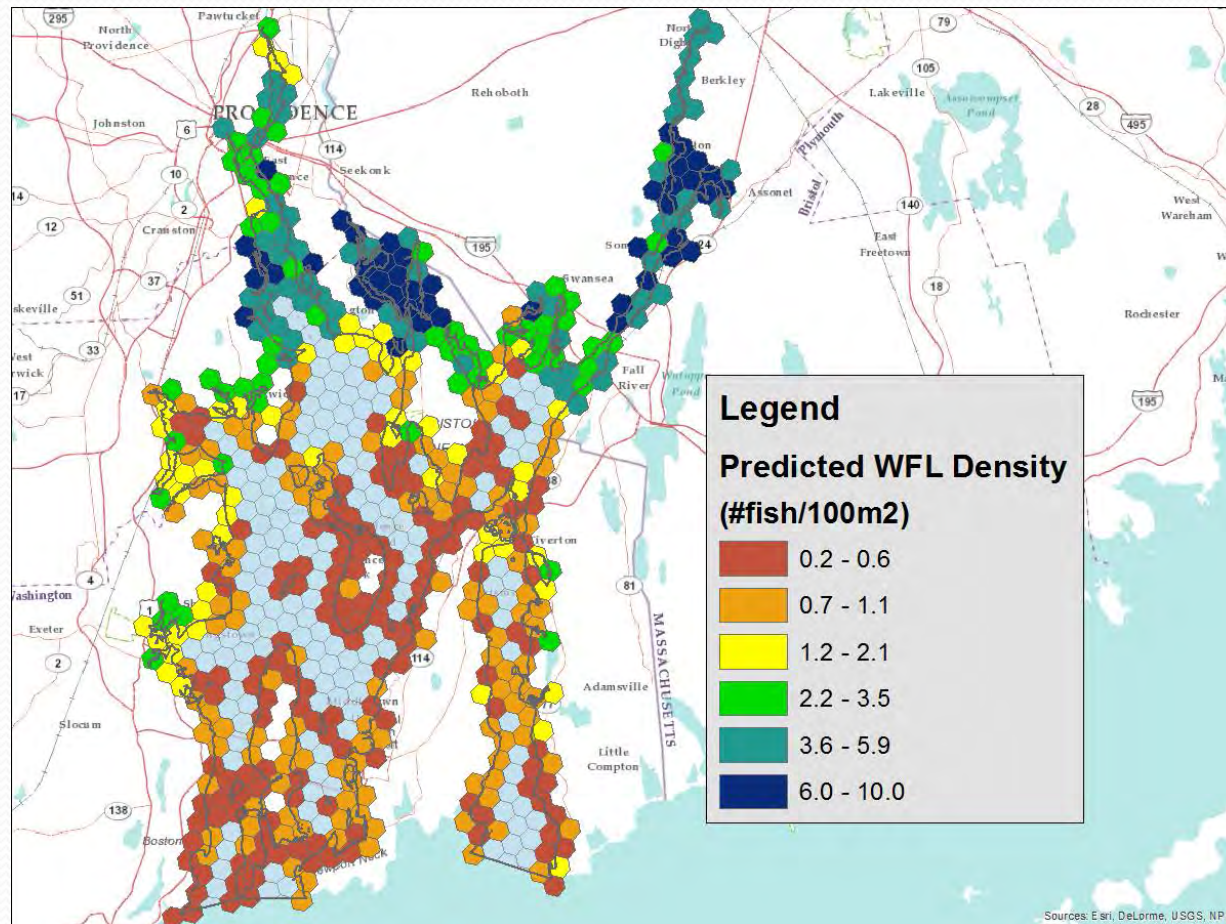
Seine and Trawl



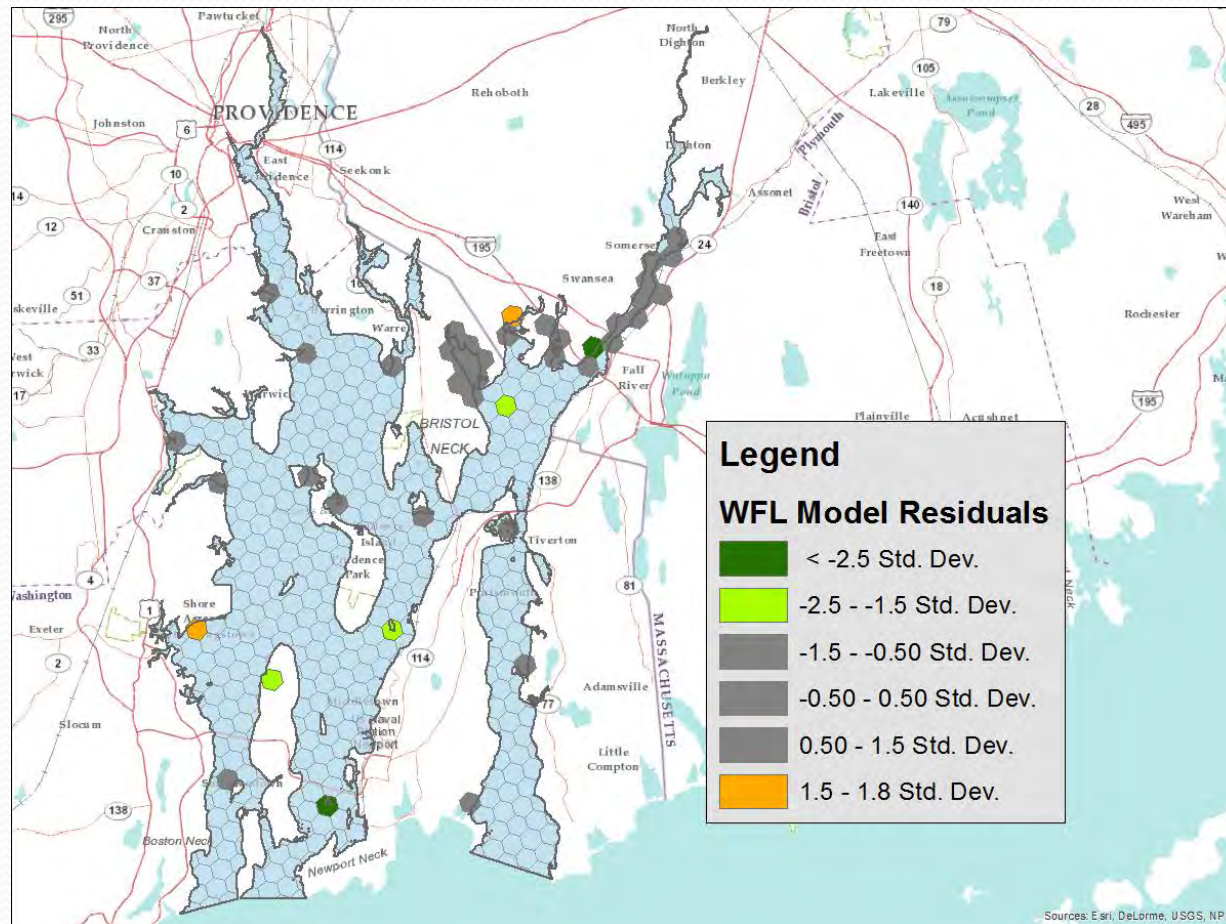
Seine Only - Sample Sites

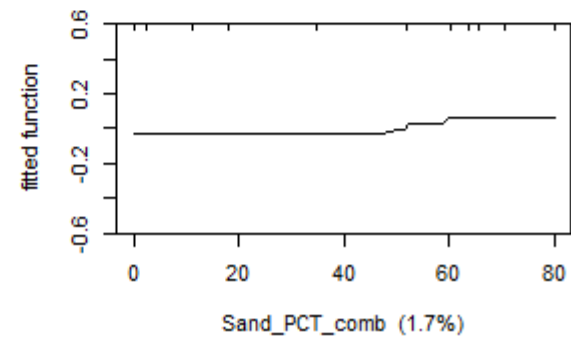
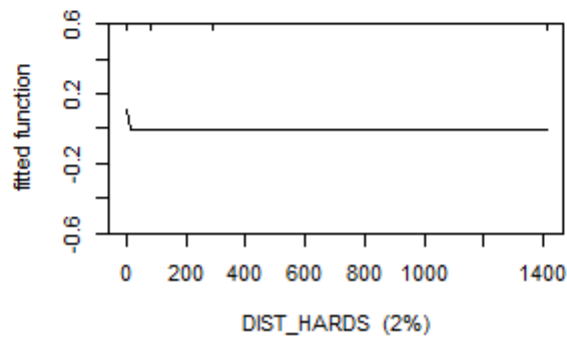
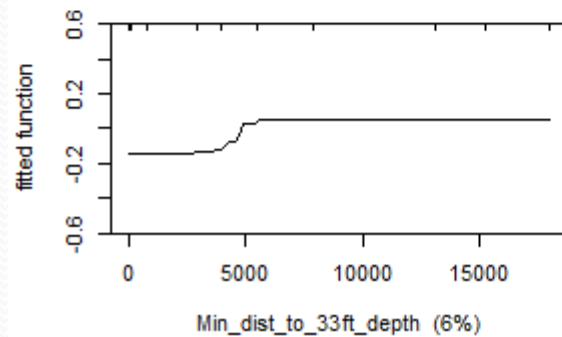
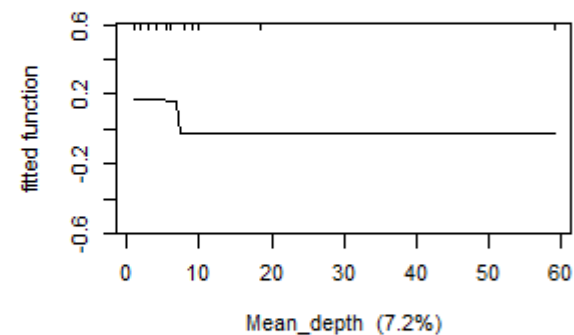
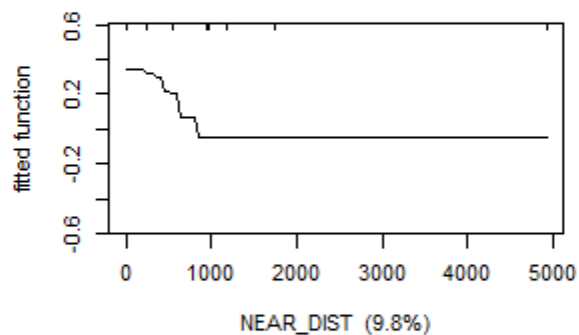
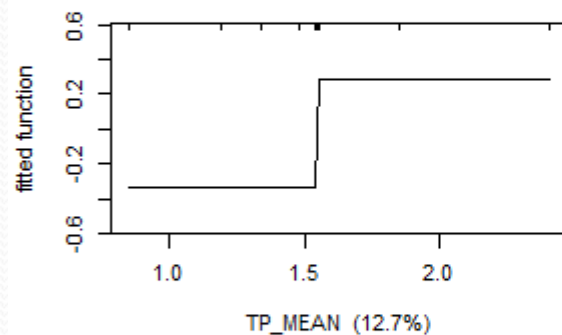
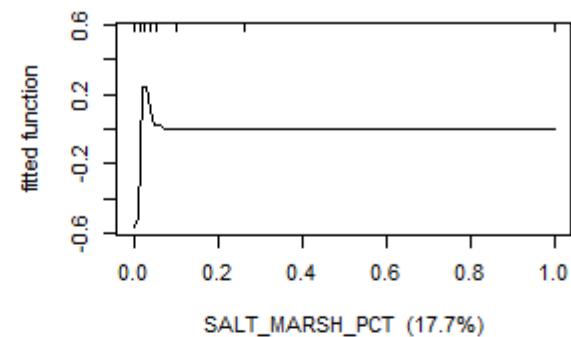
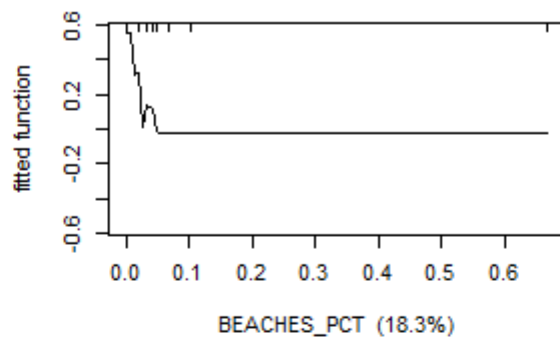
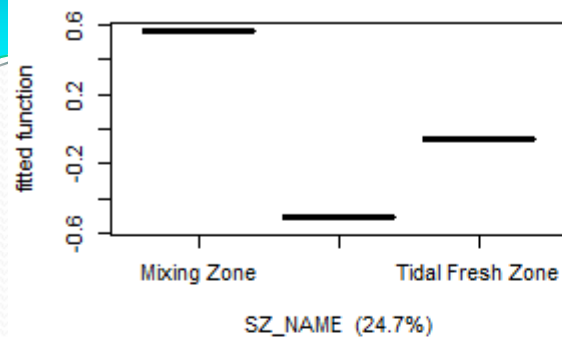


Seine Only – Predicted Density

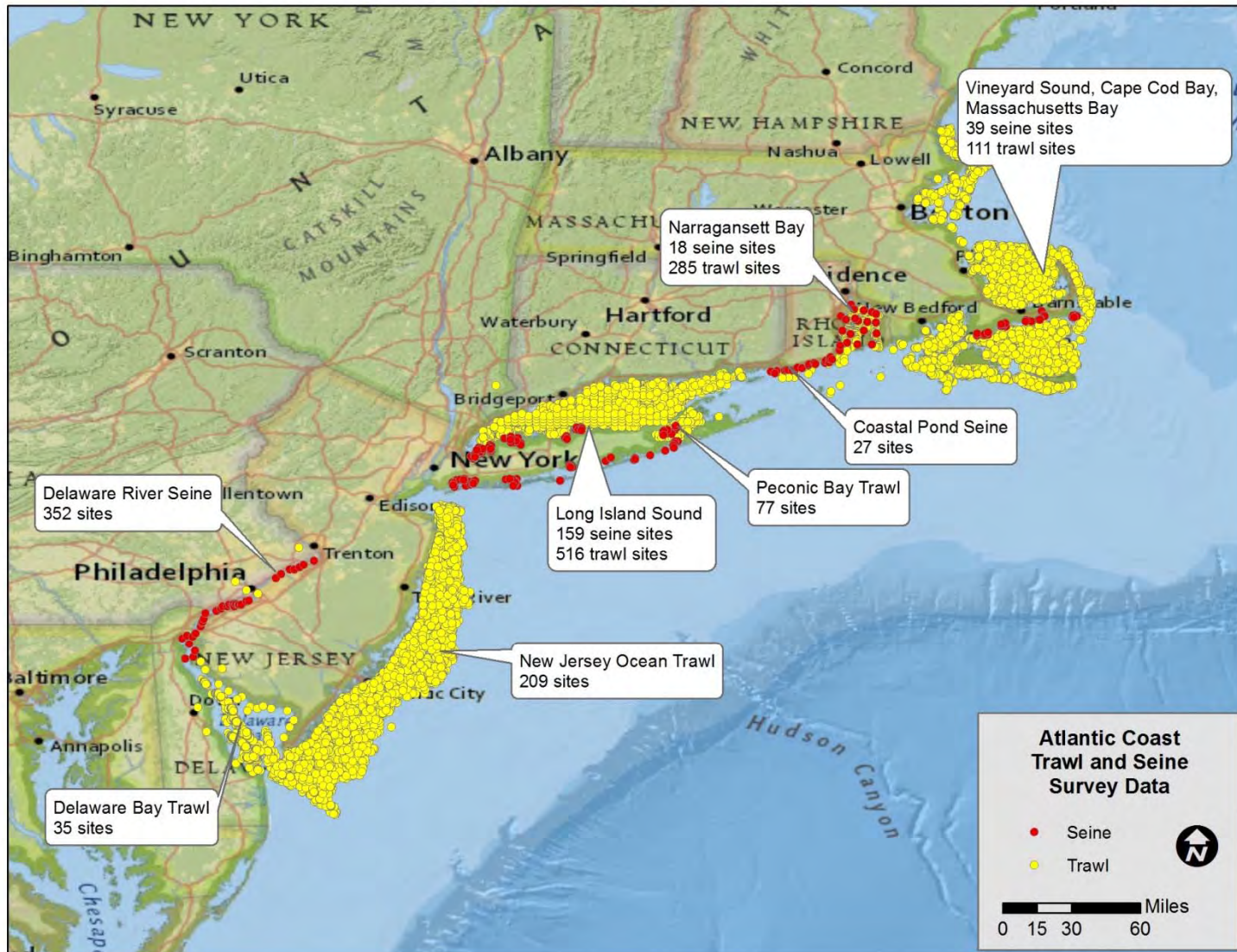


Residuals





Seine and Trawl Data





River Herring

- Build a predictive model based on available stock assessment data –
 - Abundance influenced by effectiveness of fish ladder not by habitat
- Build a predictive model using presence/absence
 - Not enough absence data
- Use surrogate species – white perch, white suckers
 - TC did not like this – not enough data – no confidence
- Use data that TU put together for NFWF and TNC has already mapped to create a decision support tool
- Nothing
 - Find funding for TNC to develop decision support tool
 - Use leftover NALCC funds to do more winter flounder models

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

River Herring Project Update

C. Shumway, MRWC April 21, 2015



Goals, Outcome, Locations

Partners: TNC (Mari-Beth De-Lucia, Alison Bowden, Erik Martin)
ACFHP (Lisa Havel, Caroly Shumway (MRWC), Cheri Patterson)

Goal: to prioritize, plan, and strategize river herring needs by convening expert working groups in the SNE, Mid-Atl., and SE regions.

Deliverable: Final report with summary of threats, water quality impact, and ranked, actionable, habitat restoration priorities for next 10 years for river herring

Locations:

- ◆ Chesapeake Bay watershed
- ◆ Delaware River
- ◆ Hudson River
- ◆ Connecticut River
- ◆ Santee-Cooper River
- ◆ Gilbert-Stuart River (aka Narrow R/; aka Pettascquamscutt River)

Why were these focal rivers chosen?

NFWF's River Herring Program and the resulting NFWF Business Plan for river herring conservation describes a comprehensive 10-year strategy to guide NFWF conservation investments to achieve a 300% increase in river herring spawning runs in key rivers along the eastern seaboard from 2008.

NFWF chose watersheds with historic or current important spawning runs that have a long time-series of measurable counts.

Work Accomplished

- ◆ Chesapeake: One workshop on the Chesapeake Bay drainages (May 7-8, 2014):
White Paper, Report
- ◆ Delaware: Meeting and webinar for the Delaware River Fish and Wildlife
Management Cooperative
- ◆ Connecticut River: Worked with 30 experts within Connecticut River Atlantic
Salmon Commission River Herring Subcommittee
- ◆ Santee-Cooper: Presentation and restoration discussion with 15 experts at
Southern Division – American Fisheries Society 2015 meeting
- ◆ Hudson River: Used threat assessment and priorities from Hudson River Habitat
Restoration Plan (2014).
- ◆ Gilbert Stuart: Webinar and phone interviews

To Do:

Final Report April 30, 2015

? Webinar for public outreach

Chesapeake Bay

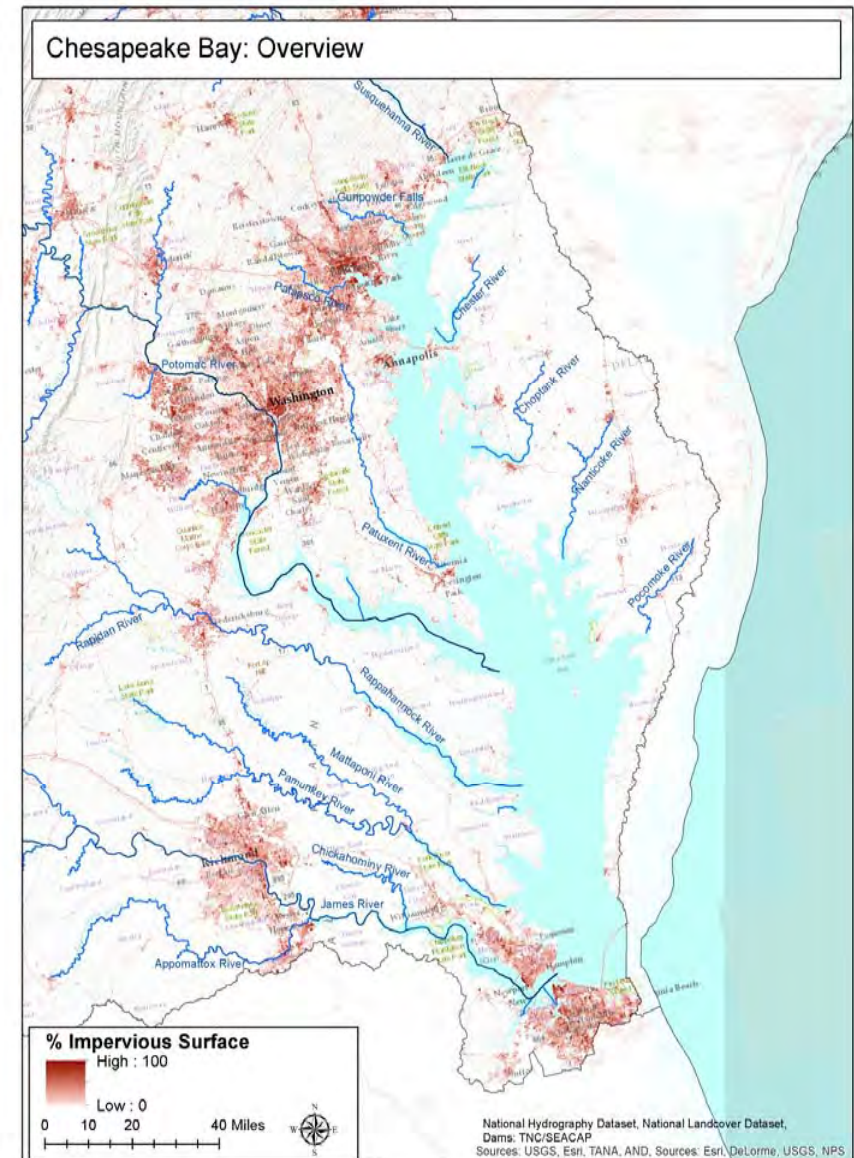
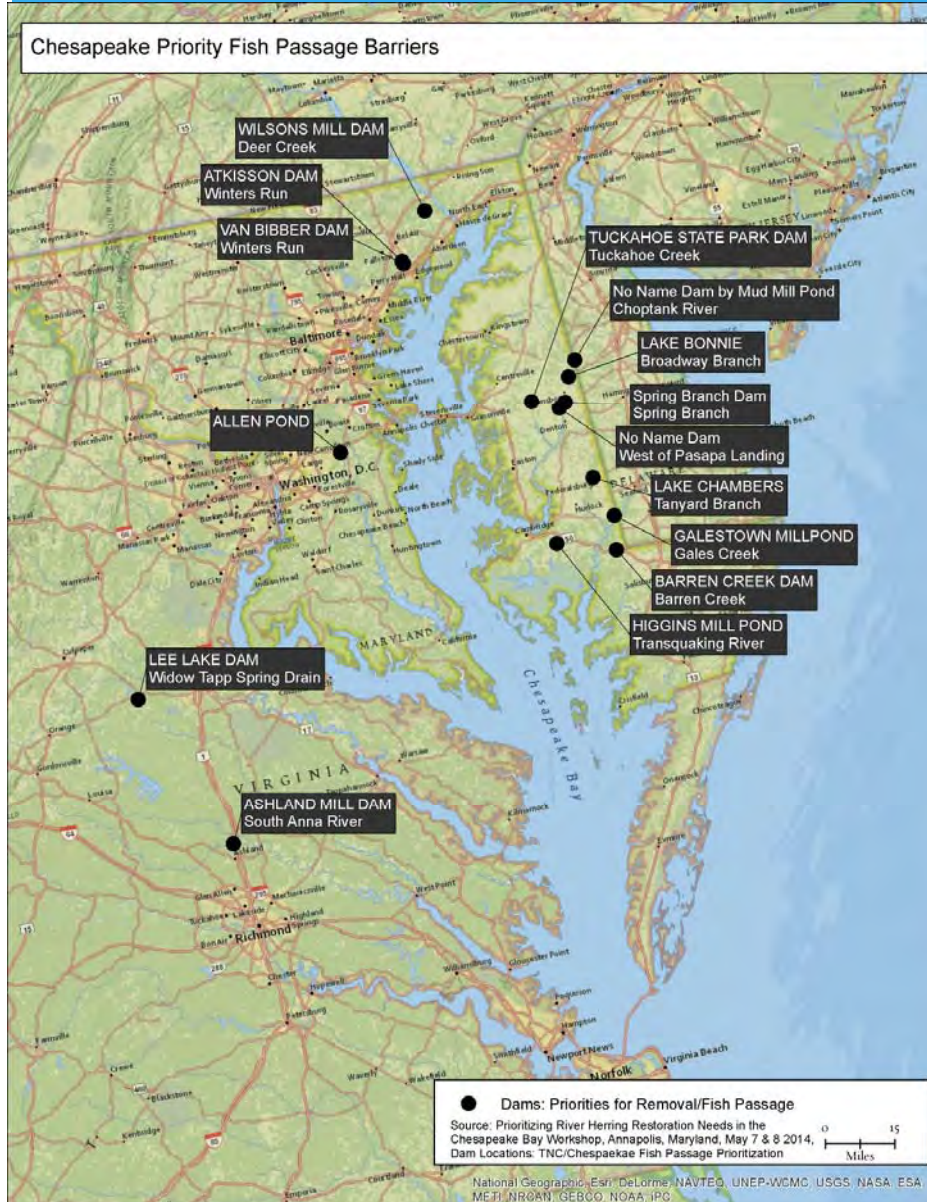
Threats

- * Water Quality/Imp. Surfaces (H)
- * Urbanization/Land Conversion
- * Dams and Other Barriers (H)
- * Predation by invasive catfish (M)
- * Sedimentation (M)
- * Climate Change and Climate Variability (M)

Restoration Priorities

- Reduce Impervious surfaces thru land protection, comp plan development, zoning
- Fish Passage Improvement

Chesapeake Bay



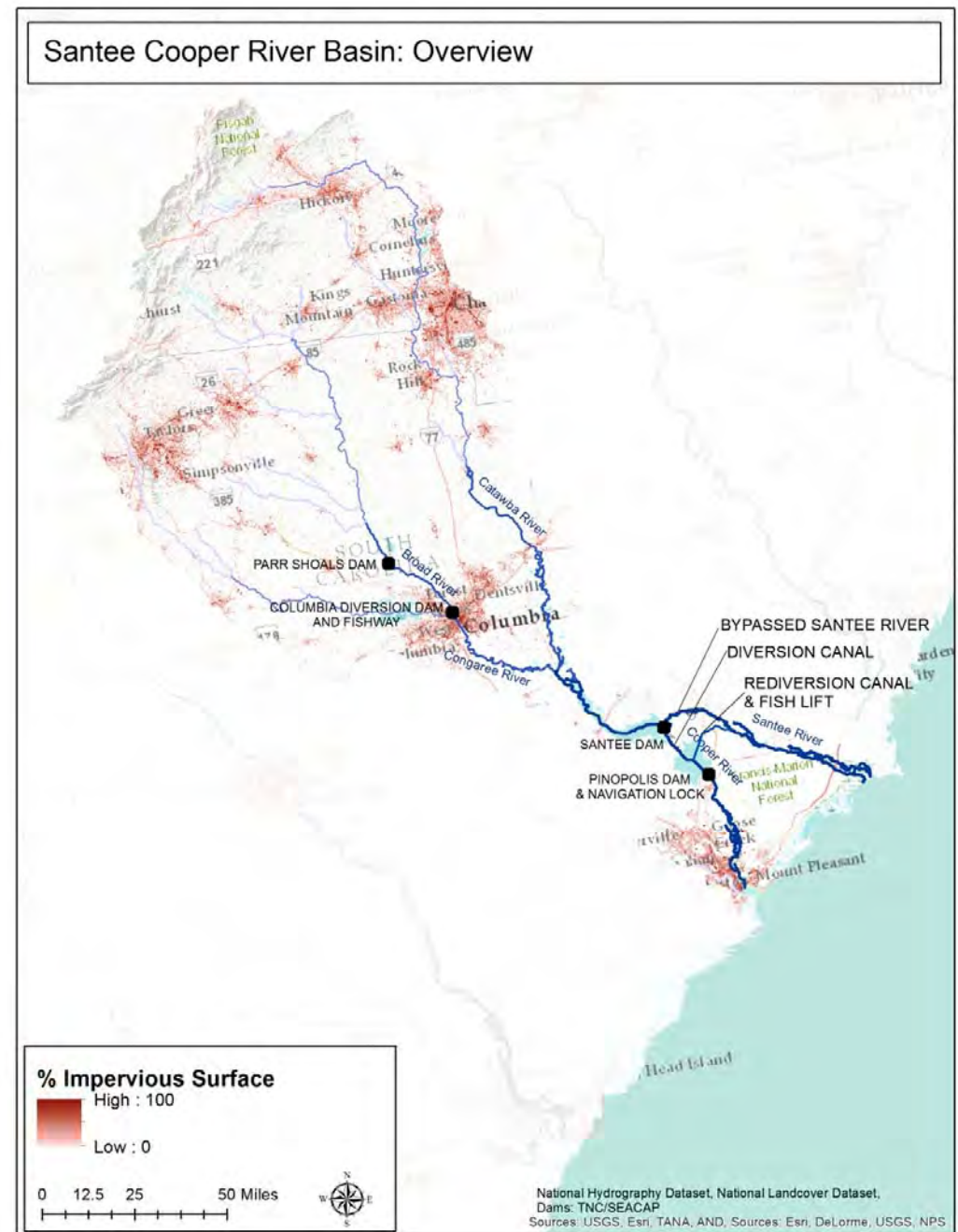
Santee-Cooper River

Threats

- Barriers
- Predation (cormorants, fish)
- SAV destruction by power companies

Restoration Priorities

- Fish Passage Improvement



Delaware River

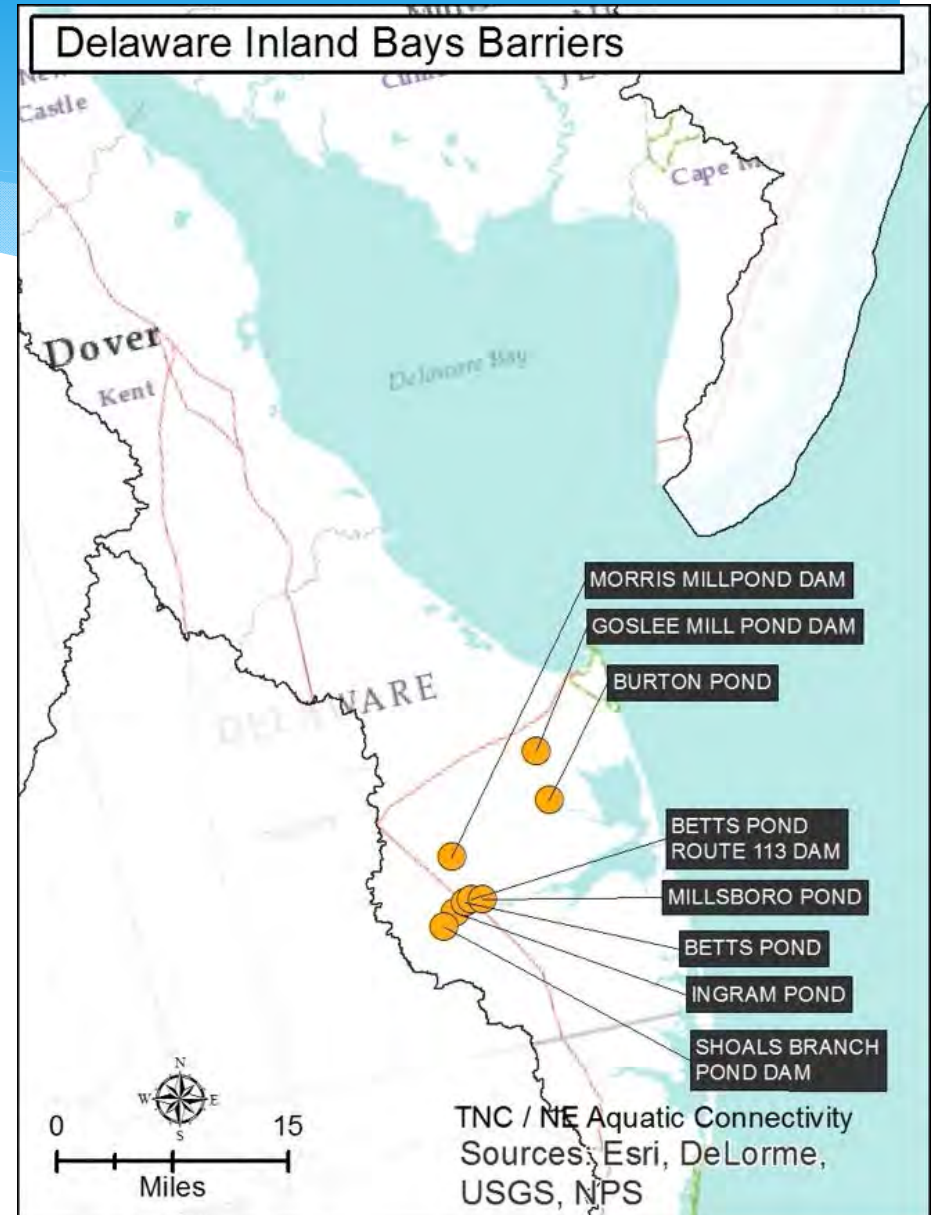
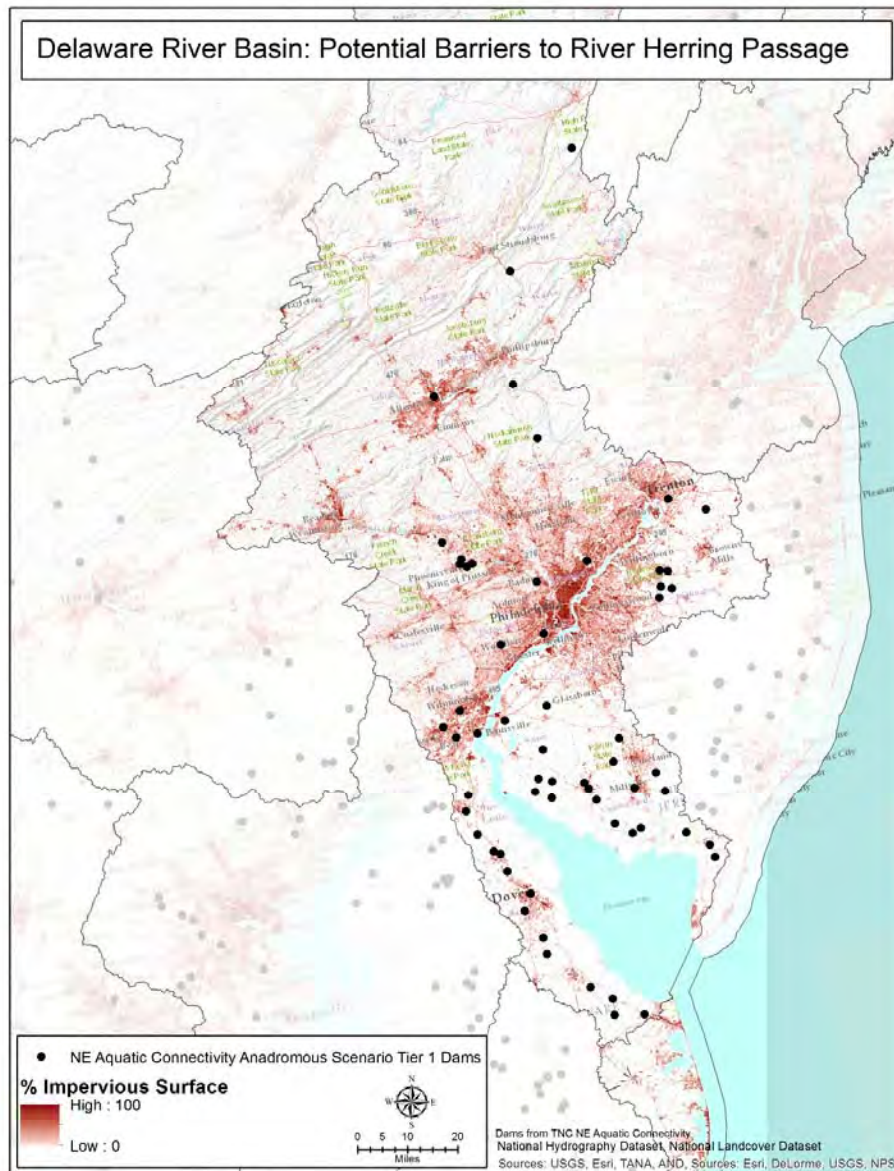
Threats

- Barriers on tributaries
- Altered predator-prey
- Impingement and entrainment
- Urbanization
- Water Quality

Restoration Priorities

- Assess efficacy of fish passages
- Dam removal
- Assess water quality and riparian impact (NJ, DE)

Delaware River



Hudson River

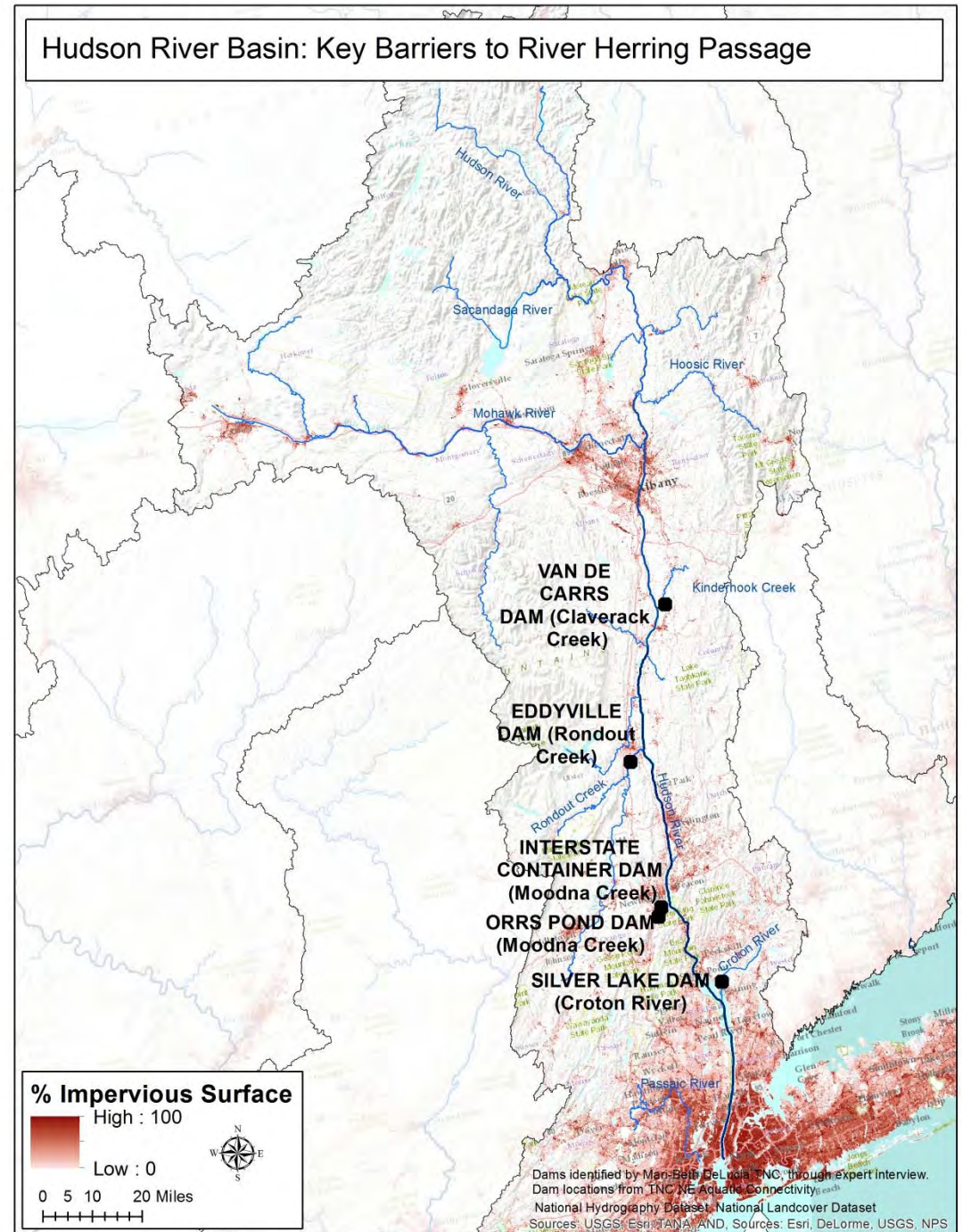
Threats

- Habitat loss (shallow water habitat)
- Loss of Habitat Complexity
- Zebra Mussels
- Sea Level Rise
- Urbanization
- Barriers

Restoration Priorities

- Side Channel Restoration
- Floodplain Restoration
- Fish Passage Improvement

Hudson River (continued)



Connecticut River

Threats

- Climate change (H)
- Barriers (H)
- Ocean bycatch (H)
- Water Quality (M)
- Habitat degradation (M)
- Culverts (M)

Restoration Priorities

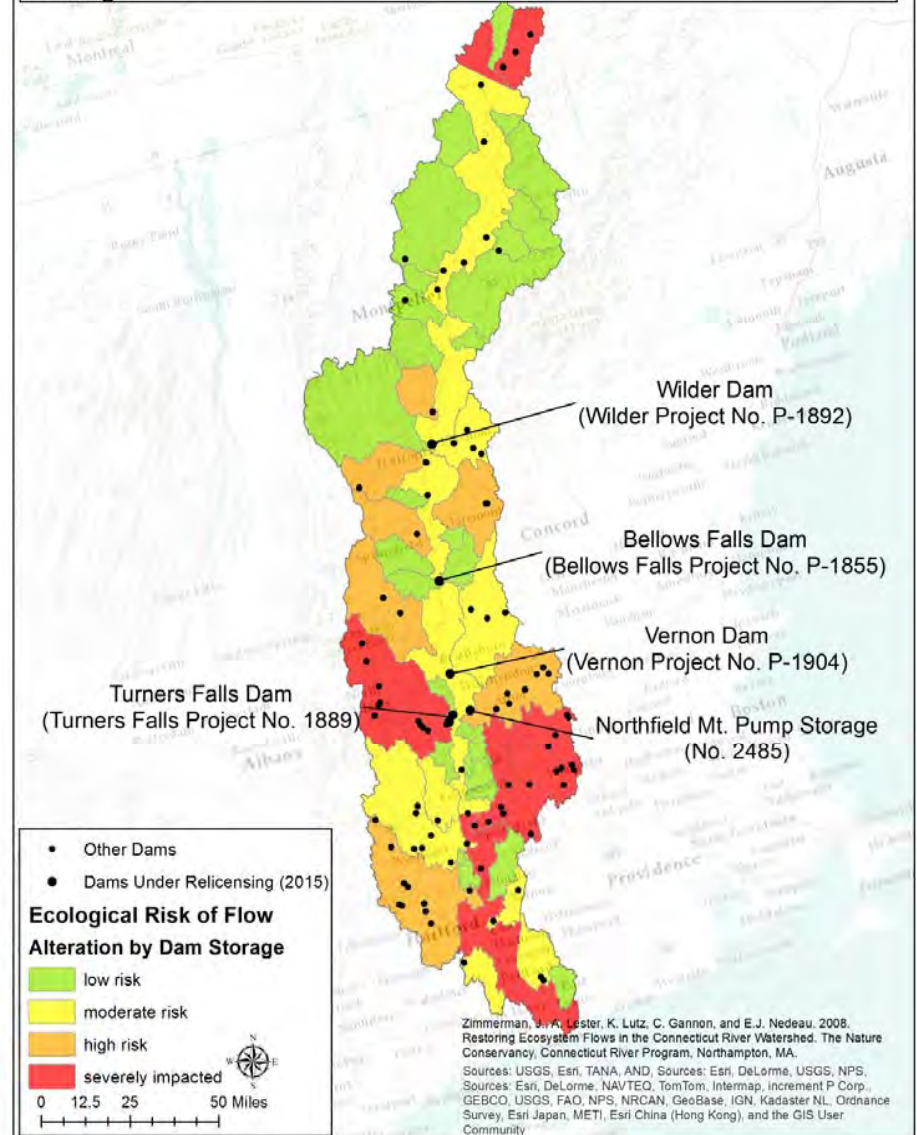
- Fish Passage Improvement at large dams
- Barrier removal and fish passage improvement
- Policy and demonstration projects for culverts
- Green infrastructure/LID for water quality

Connecticut River

Connecticut River Basin: Connectivity



Connecticut River Basin: Ecological Risk of Flow Alteration by Dam Storage



Connecticut River (continued)



Gilbert Stuart (aka Narrow River)

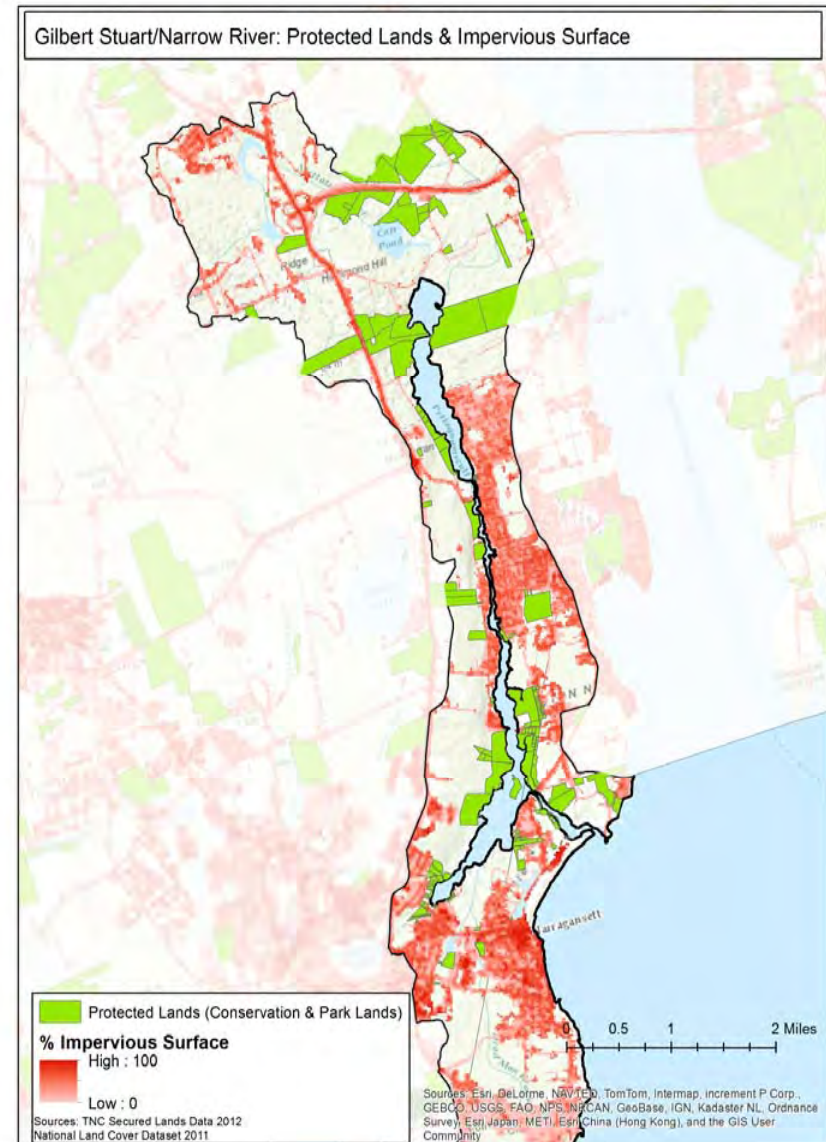
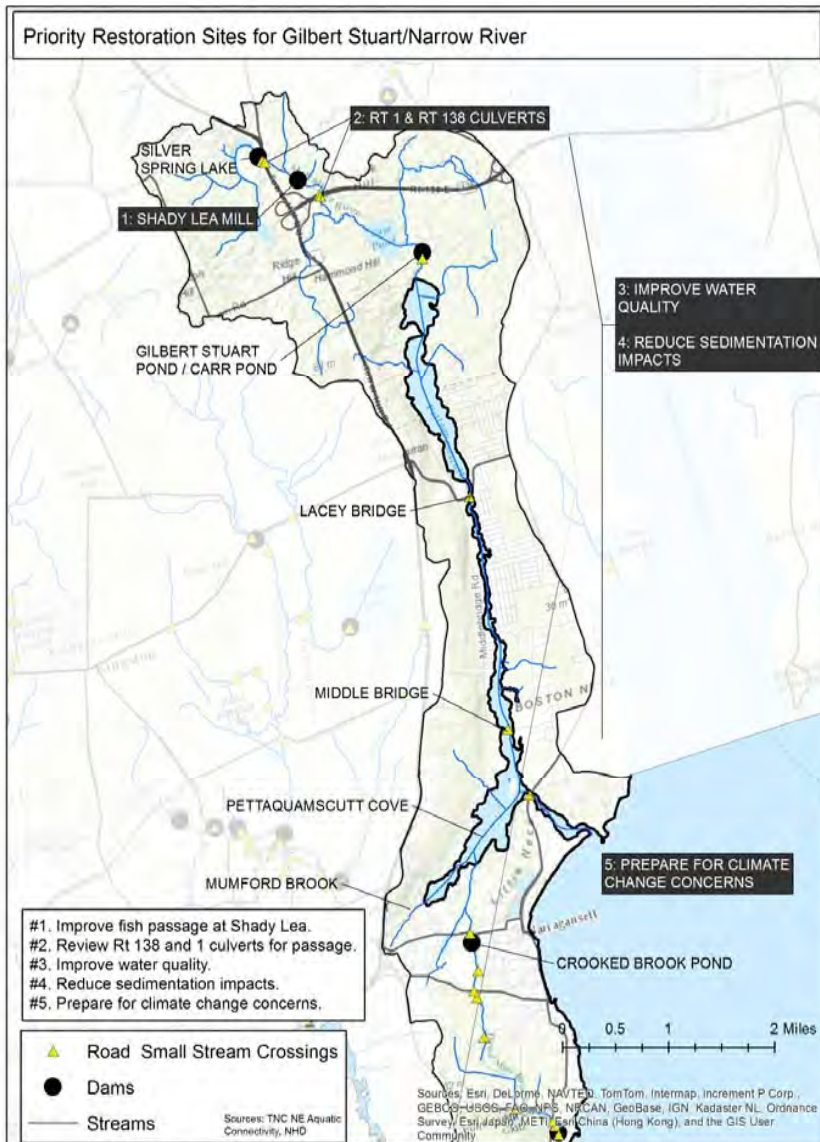
Threats

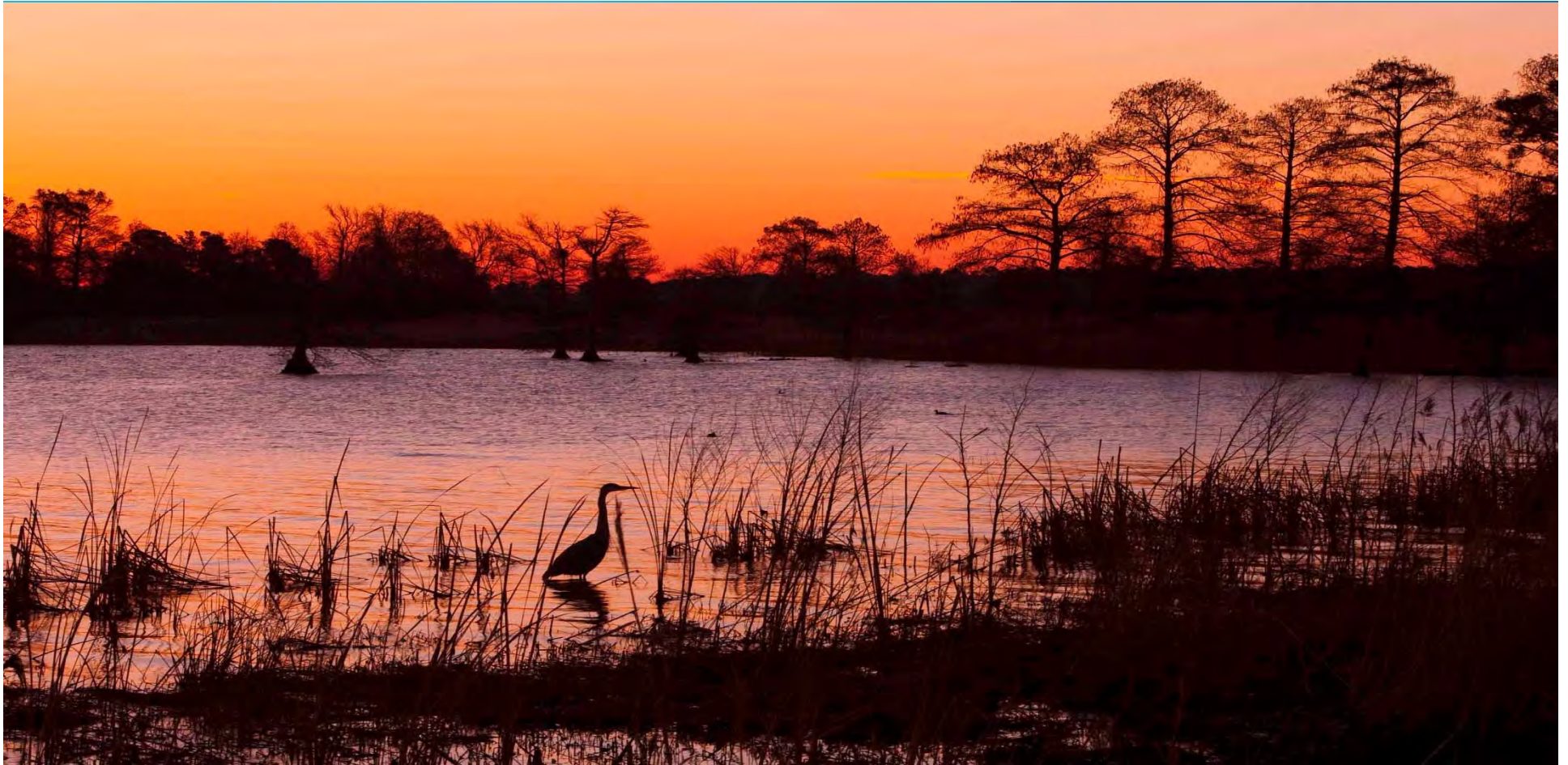
- Barriers
- Water Quality
- Ocean Bycatch
- Sedimentation
- Sea Level Rise

Restoration Priorities

- Fish Passage Improvement (dams and culverts)
- Improve water quality
- Reduce sedimentation
- Prepare for climate change

Gilbert Stuart (aka Narrow River)





North Carolina
Coastal Federation

Working Together for a Healthy Coast

OVERVIEW



Our Mission



The N.C. Coastal Federation empowers coastal residents and visitors from all walks of life to protect and restore the water quality and critically important natural habitats of the N.C. coast.



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Bird's Eye

501(c)3 conservation nonprofit

Three offices: Manteo, Ocean, Wrightsville Beach (Raleigh)

30 staff—scientists, educators, planners, advocates

29-member volunteer board of directors—fishermen, bankers, lawyers, philanthropists, etc.

5,000+ volunteers and students annually

Dozens of federal, state, local and other partners



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Membership

Membership is open
to anyone.

Currently more than
16,000 members and
supporters.



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Budget

2015 operating budget: \$2 million

Restoration, protection and education
projects: \$3.5 million



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast



Program Areas

- **Restoring and preserving** habitat and water quality
- **Advocating** for stronger environmental standards, laws and enforcement
- **Educating** students, community members and community leaders



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Restore and Preserve

- Oyster reef restoration
- Wetlands restoration: coastal marsh and large-scale wetlands
- Stormwater retrofits
- Living shorelines
- Land acquisition and easements
- Science: monitoring and modeling



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Advocate

- Champion low-impact development (LID)
- Advance natural beach preservation
- Support sensible coastal development and resource management
- Increase public access
- Support consistent and reasonable adoption and enforcement of laws, rules
- Safeguard estuarine shorelines



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Educate

- Accurate and timely information
- Hands-on learning
- Students, adults, professionals, governments
- Field trips, workshops, conferences, publications.



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Projects of Interest to ACFHP

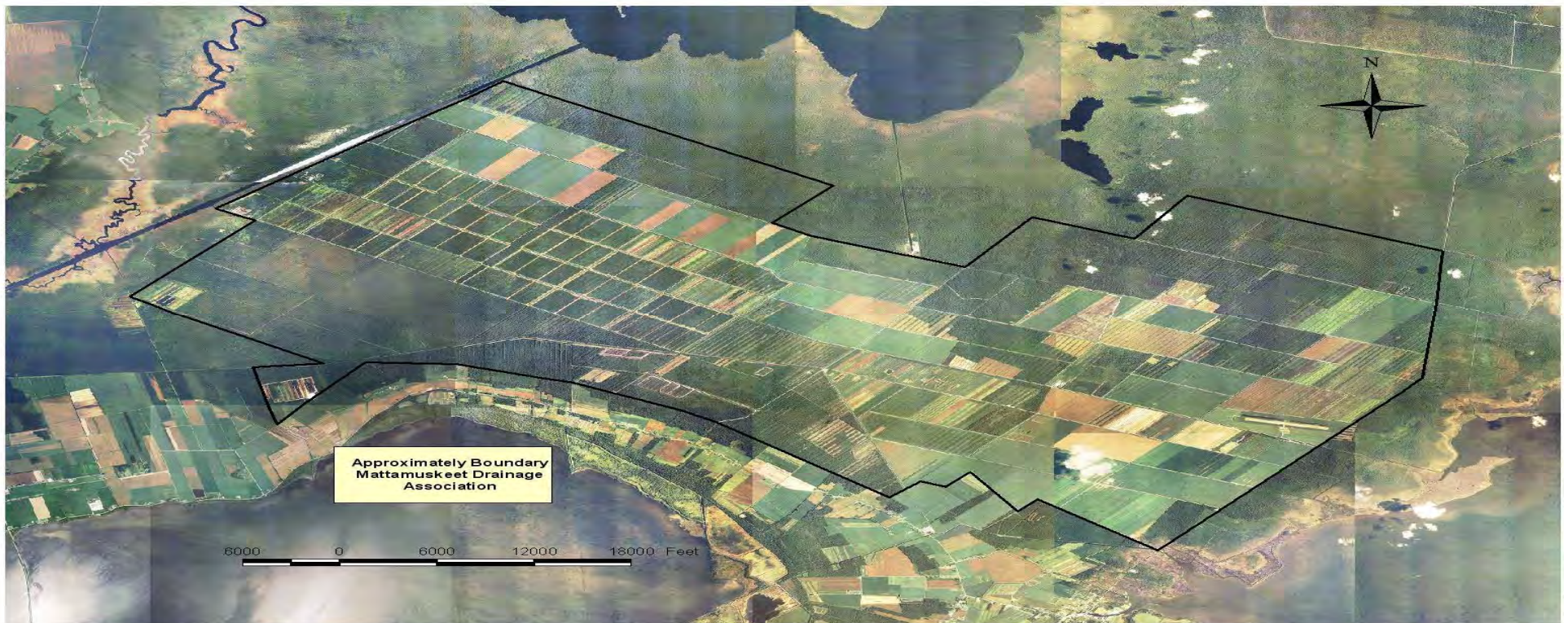
\$5 million federal economic stimulus grant: over 60 acres of oyster reefs, 140 jobs coast-wide.



Projects of interest to ACFHP

Mattamuskeet Drainage Association

- 42,500 acres
- Billions of gallons pumped annually
- Innovative partnership keeps runoff out of coastal waters, prevents subsidence



Projects of interest to ACFHP

- North River Farms
- 6,000 wetlands restoration
- More than 200 acres of shellfish waters opened



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Projects of Interest to ACFHP: Environmental Restoration = Jobs



"Stimulus money funds oyster rehabilitation, jobs"



Stimulus money funds building local oyster reefs

Organizers hope restocking addresses oyster population shortage along coast

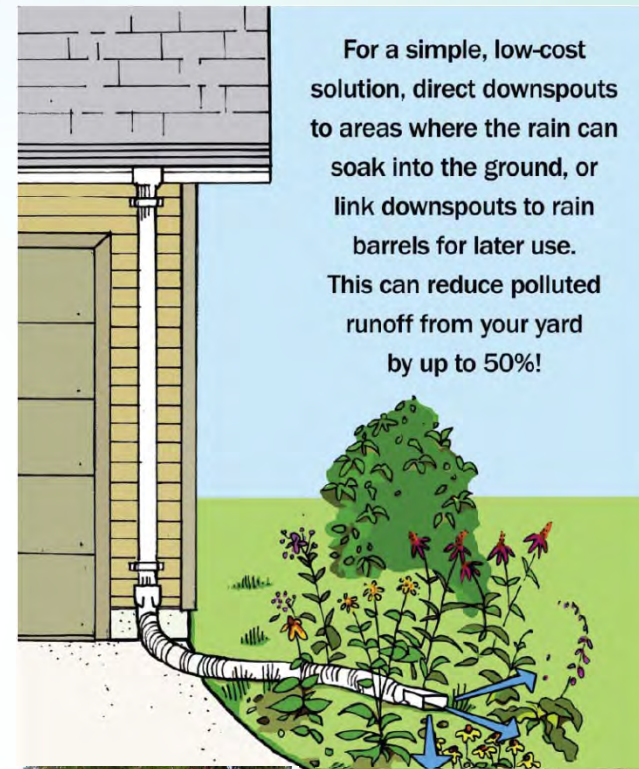


"It helps us in more ways than one," said Steven Galloway, 21. "It's work for now. It's good money. Then in a few years, we'll have more oysters and fish. It's sort of win-win all the way around."



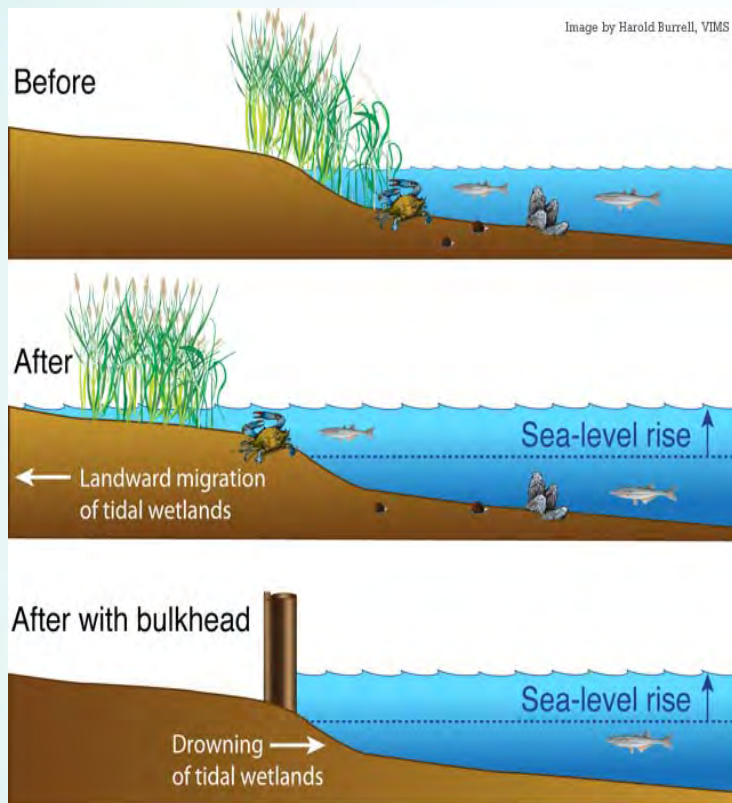
North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Projects of Interest to ACFHP: Low Impact Development (LID) & Smart Yards



Projects of Interest to ACFHP: living shorelines

Protect and restore natural vegetative buffers



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast





North Carolina Coastal Federation

Working Together for a Healthy Coast

WWW.NCCOAST.ORG

WWW.COASTALREVIEW.ORG

Christine Miller, Assistant Director

3609 N.C. 24 (Ocean)

Newport, NC 28570

[252-393-8185](tel:252-393-8185)

christinem@nccoast.org

ACFHP SCIENCE AND DATA NEEDS

C. Shumway (Chair)

Marek Topolski (Vice-Chair)

April 21, 2015

ACFHP Science/Data Tasks

MATRIX

1. Create searchable database (and map?) of species and references for matrix
2. Improve matrix, incorporating rarity/vulnerability to climate change/(seasonality?)

ASSESSMENT

1. Improve assessment of existing information; add regional info

WEB-BASED TOOL

1. Create decision-support tools that incorporate NALCC modeling, matrix, and assessment

Current Members, Science and Data Committee

- * Jeff Beal
- * Alison Bowden
- * Michael Celestino
- * Jaclyn Daly
- * Mari-Beth Delucia
- * Julie Devers
- * Roman Jesien
- * Dan Kircheis
- * Danielle Kreeger
- * Jacob Kritzer
- * William Lellis
- * Rachel Muir
- * David (Moe) Nelson
- * David O'Brien
- * Jay Odell
- * Willian Shadel
- * Caroly Shumway
- * Albert Spells
- * Marek Topolski
- * Robert van Dolah
- * Alan Weaver
- * Bartholomew Wilson
- * Craig Woolcott

Proposed Timeline

- ◆ Agree on Sci/Data Tasks (Steering Committee)
- ◆ Check with current members to see if want to remain on committee
- ◆ Set up Conference Call (May); In-Person meeting (June) date and location; assign subcommittees
- ◆ Follow-up with subcommittees

Grassy Flats Restoration Project



Kent Smith, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Eric Anderson, Project Manager, Palm Beach County Department of Environmental
Resources Management**



Lake Worth Lagoon

- Located between Village of North Palm Beach and the Town of Ocean Ridge
- 20 mi long, $\frac{1}{2}$ mi wide, 6-10' deep
- Resources include:
 - 1,689 acres of seagrass
 - 283 acres of mangroves
 - 5 acres of oysters



Muck in the Lake Worth Lagoon

- Fine-grained, organic rich sediment
- Primarily from stormwater discharge
- Blankets natural sand substrate
- Reduces available benthic habitat
- Decreases biodiversity

Easily re-suspended

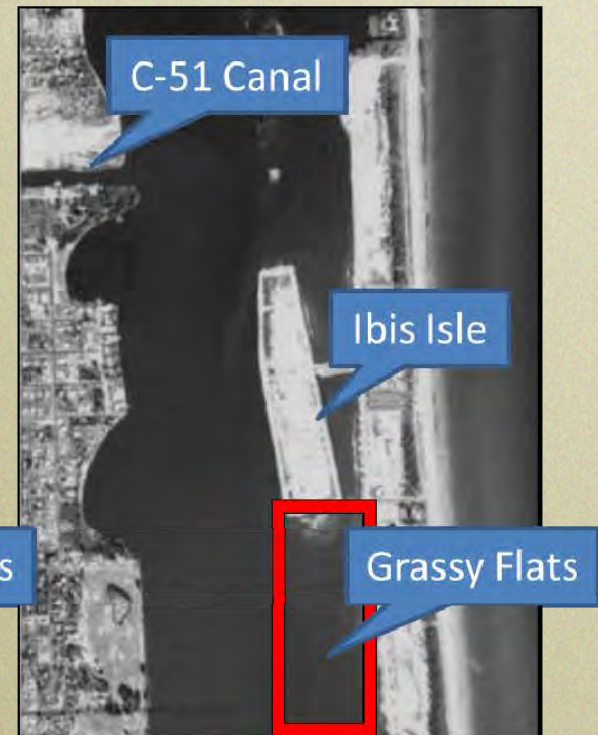


Stormwater Discharges

- Main source of stormwater discharge is C-51 Canal, just northwest of project site

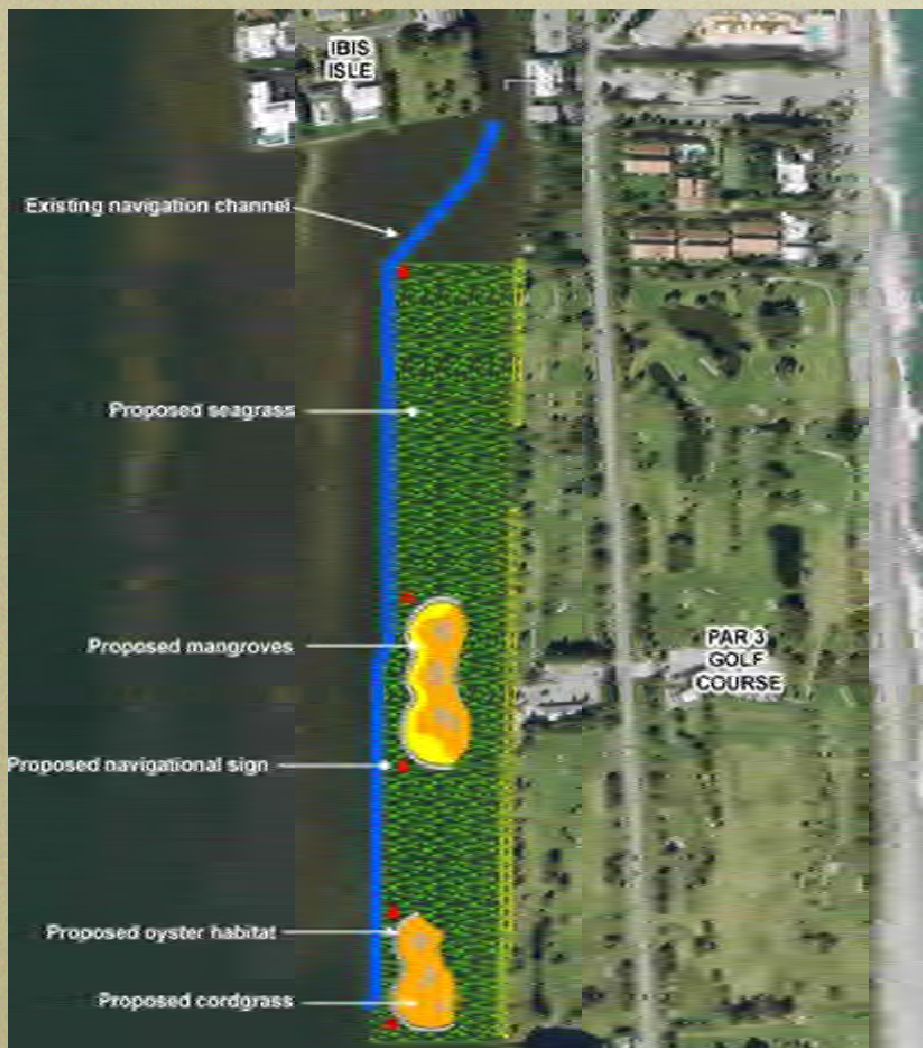


1940



1953



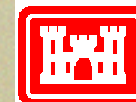


Grassy Flats



**Partners sharing cost
\$3.4 million**

- USFWS (\$777K)
- FDEP / NOAA (\$110K)
- USACE (\$842K)
- LWLPP FDEP (\$960K)
- PBC (\$800K)
- FWC (in-kind)
- WPBFC (in-kind)
- MIA (in-kind)

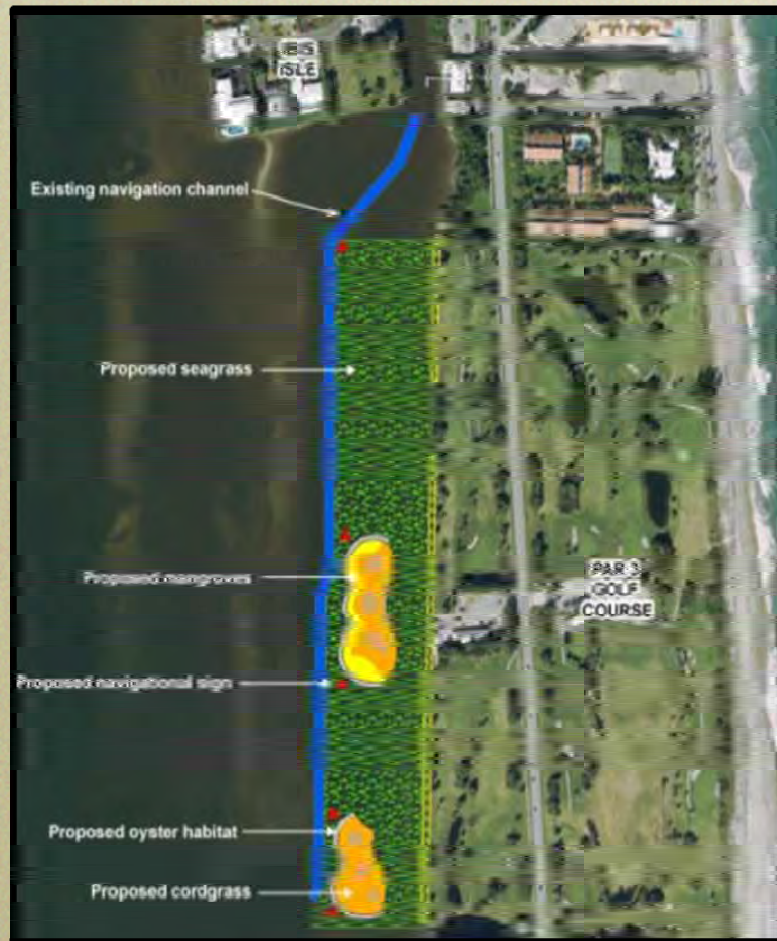


**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**



Project Goals

- Place approximately 52,000 cubic yards of sand over 12.2 acres to cap muck sediments and construct two islands
- Create 10.5 acres of seagrass habitat, 1.1 acres of salt marsh, 0.3 acres of mangroves, 0.3 acres of tidal flats, and 0.6 acres of artificial reef/oyster habitat
- Place approximately 2,800 tons of limestone rock to stabilize the two islands and provide a hard surface for the growth of oysters
- Plant approximately 2,900 red mangroves and 25,000 plugs of smooth cordgrass



- Import of 17,000 cy of Sand from South Lake Worth Inlet (beneficial re-use)
- Placement of 2,758 tons of limestone Rock

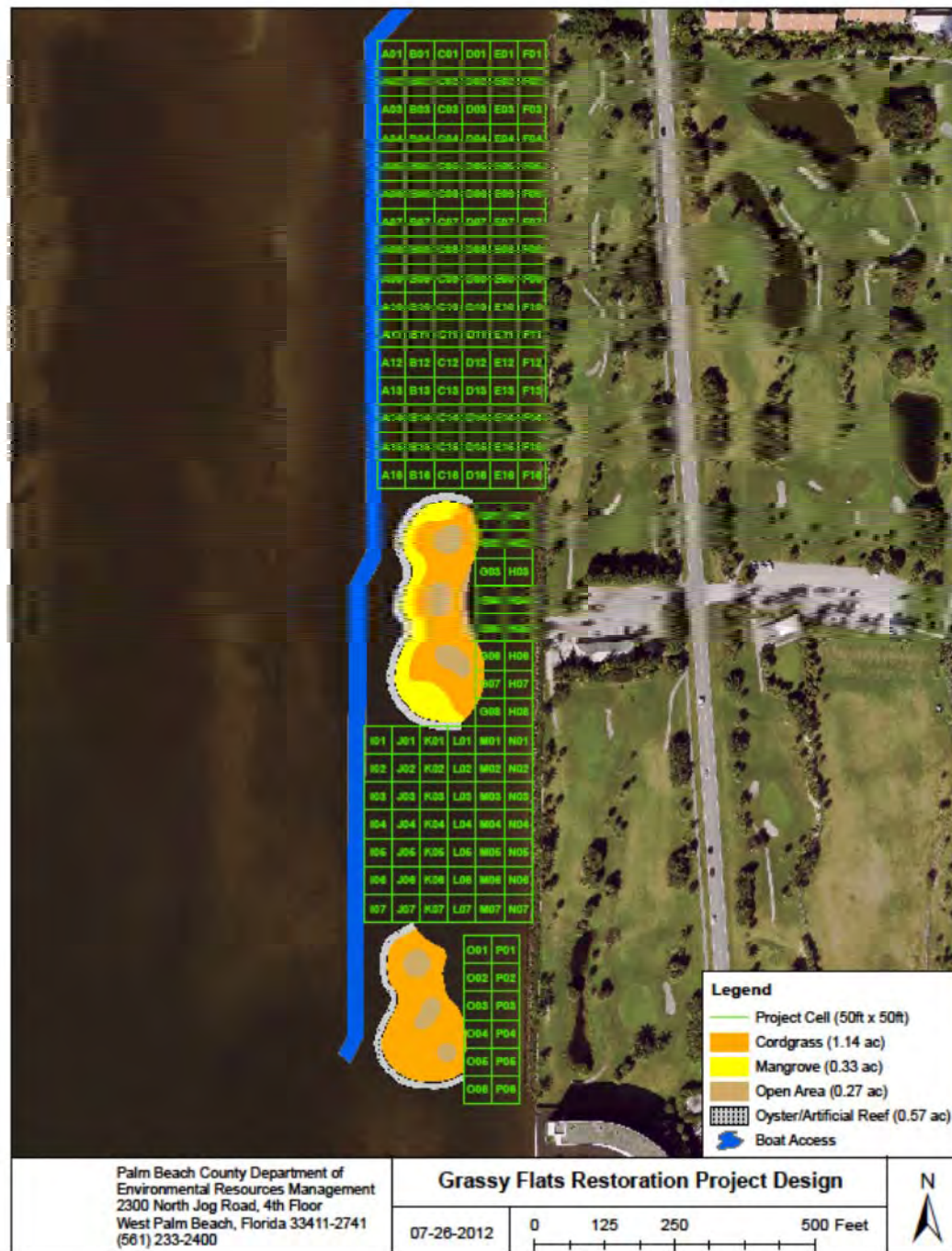


- Import 10,000 cy of Sand Hypoluxo Natural Area
- Import 25,000 cy of Sand from Okeeheelee Park





- Create 10.5 acres of seagrass habitat by capping muck sediments
- 166 50' x 50' grids
- Broadcasted sand in 100 grids





- 17 - 50' conveyors
- 24 platform barges
- 1 sand broadcaster
- 2 generators
- 1 loader
- 2 long stick excavator
- 1 transport barge



Crazy Flats





Grassy Flats



12-06-14



Muck Capping Process



Conditions Prior to Restoration



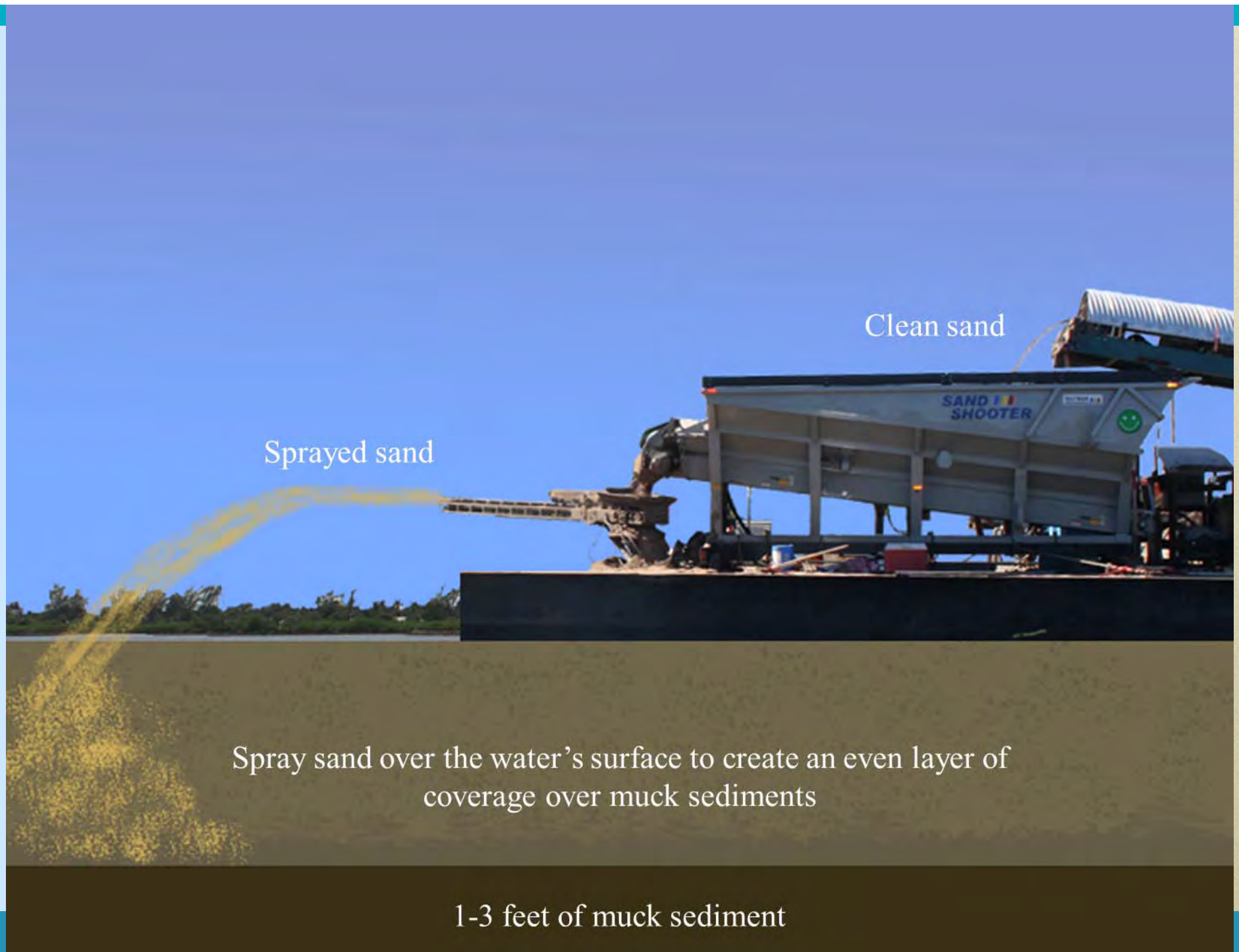
Wind, wave and tidal conditions can easily re-suspend muck sediments
resulting in poor water quality

1-3 feet of muck sediment



Water column with suspended sediments

1-3 feet of muck sediment



Clean sand

Sprayed sand

Spray sand over the water's surface to create an even layer of coverage over muck sediments

1-3 feet of muck sediment

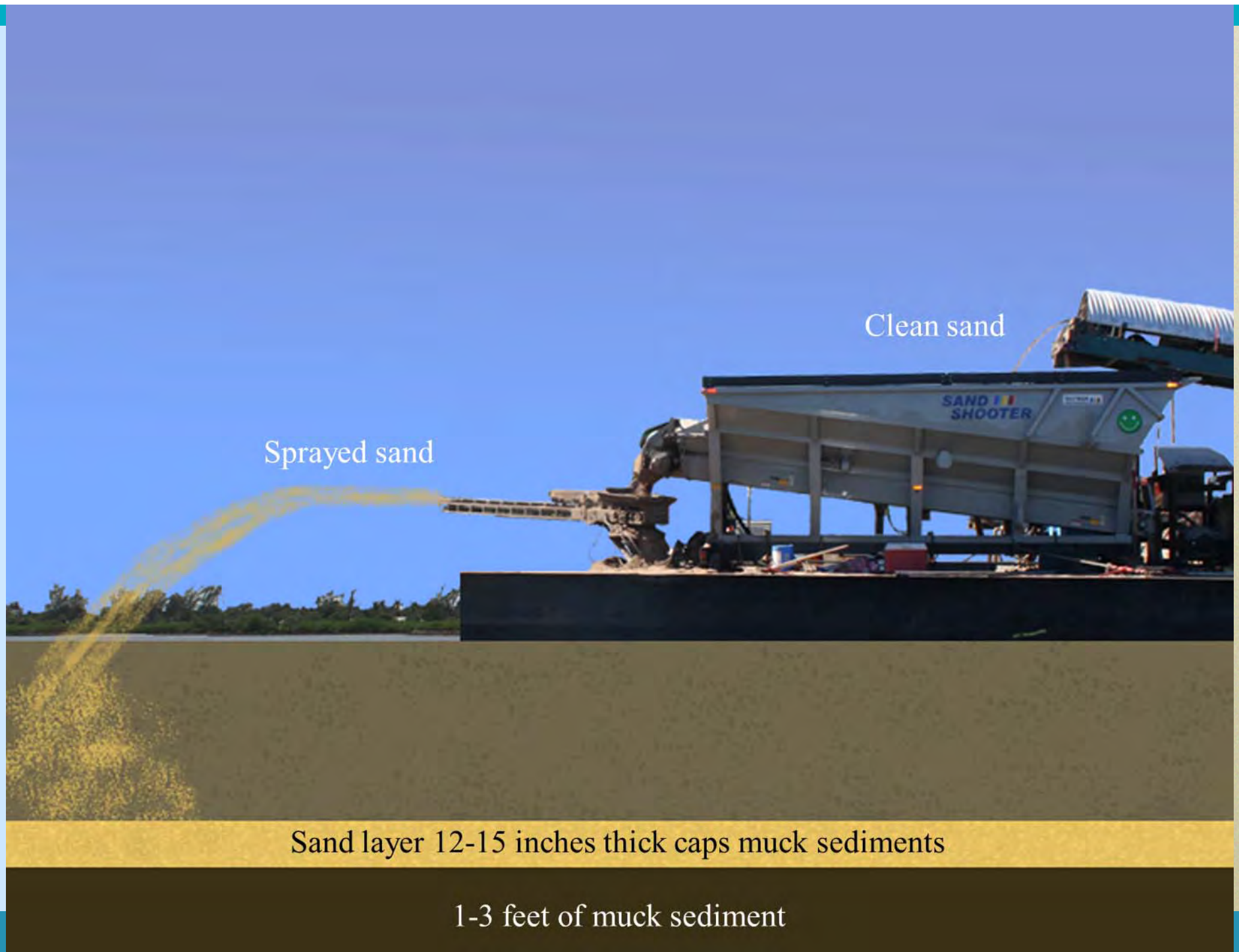


Clean sand

Sprayed sand

Sand starts to build in an even layer

1-3 feet of muck sediment



Clean sand

Sprayed sand

Sand layer 12-15 inches thick caps muck sediments

1-3 feet of muck sediment

End of restoration



Water quality improves as muck layer is capped by sand
and is no longer re-suspended

Sand layer 12-15 inches thick caps muck sediments

1-3 feet of muck sediment

Conditions after restoration

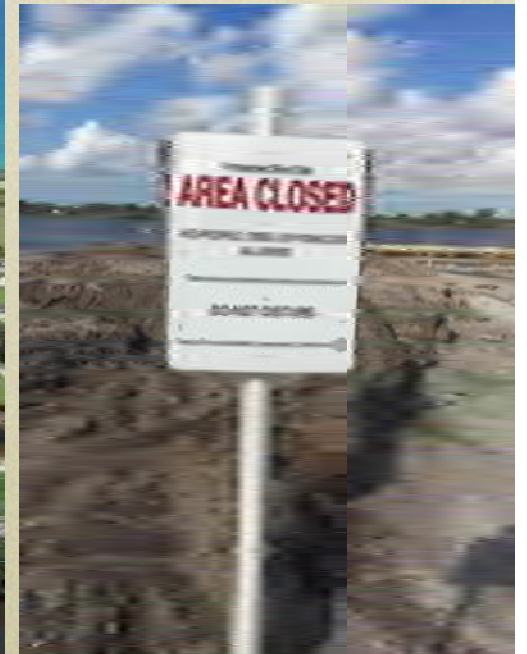


Fish Art © Diane Rome Peebles

Sand layer compacts muck and stabilizes sediments
Ideal for seagrass and shallow water habitat



GRASSY FLATS
RESTORATION PROJECT



AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHERS AT GRASSY FLATS



FWC and FAU Fisheries Monitoring in Lake Worth Lagoon

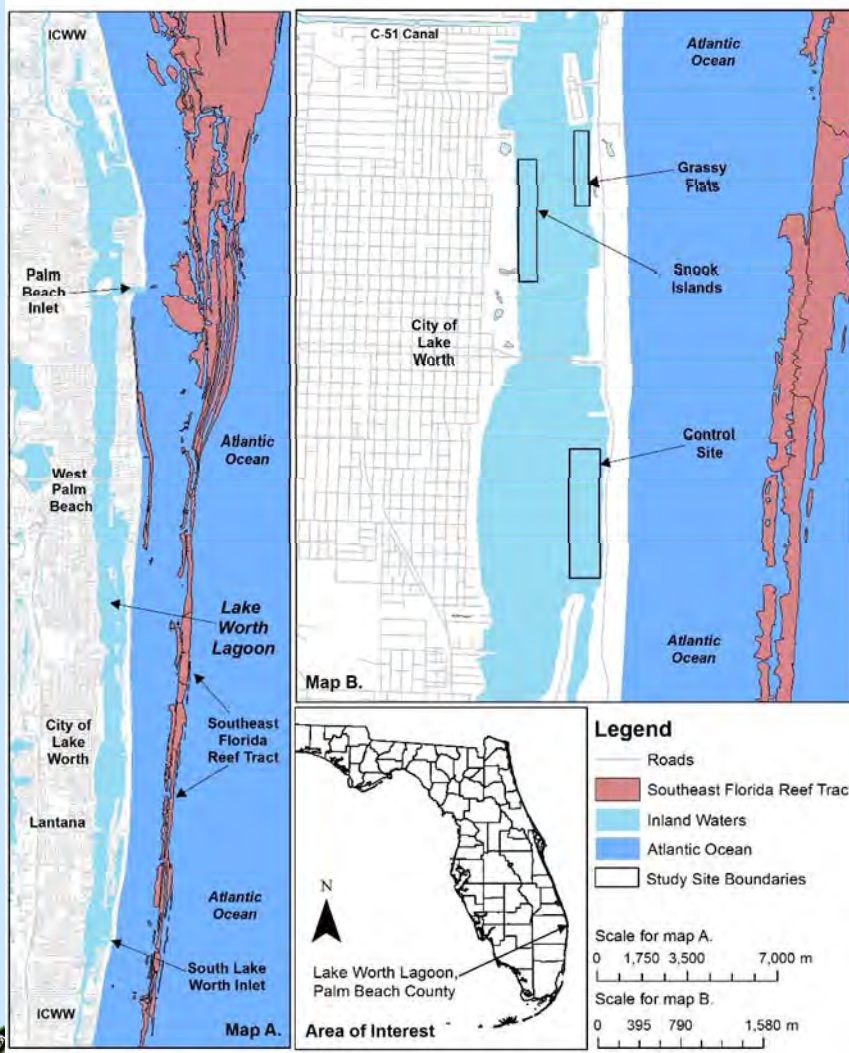


Kent Smith, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Dr. Scott Markwith, Florida Atlantic University



Goal

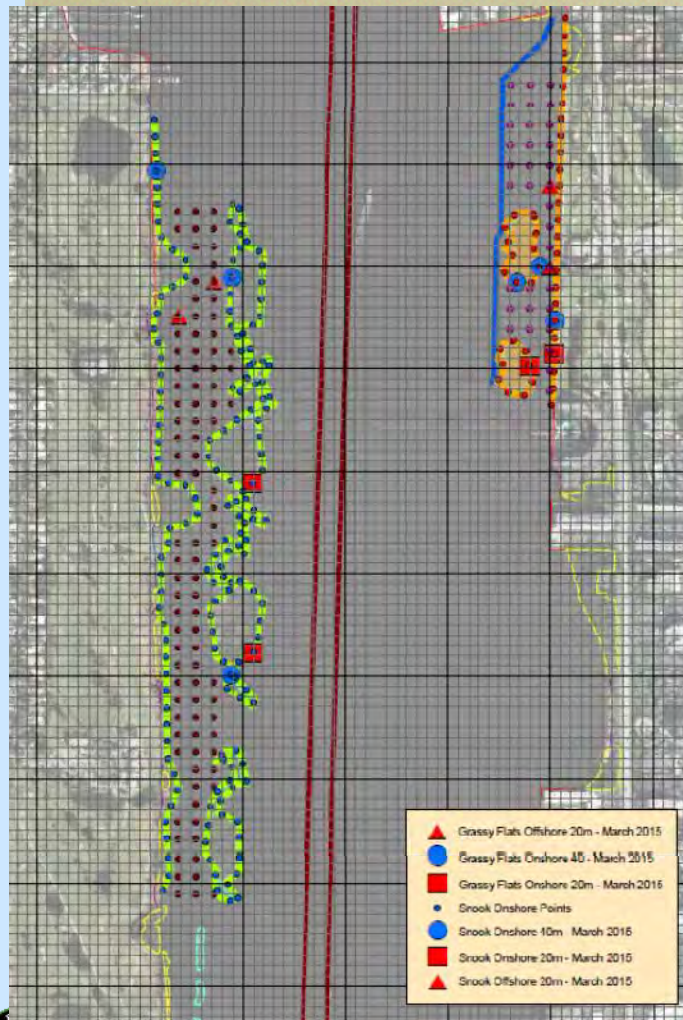
- Assess utilization Grassy Flats restoration project site by juvenile and adult fish species common in the Central Lake Worth Lagoon.



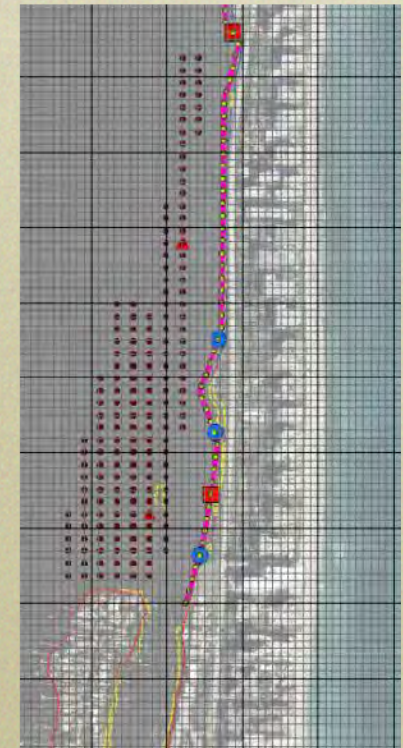
Methods



Methods



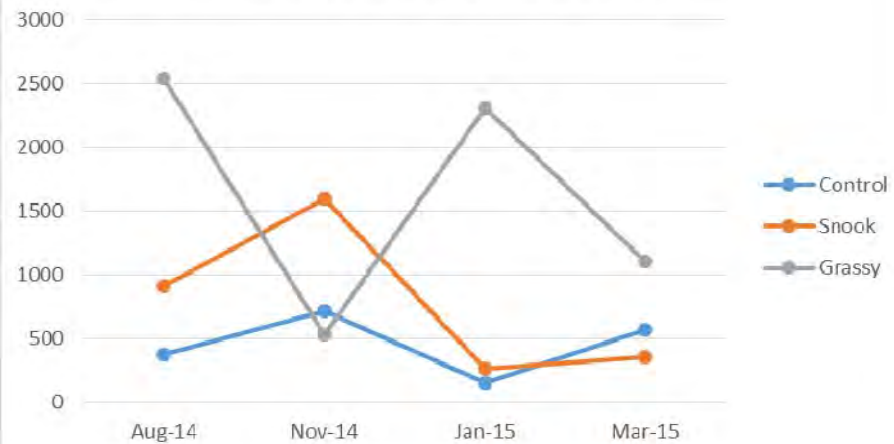
- Events in Aug '14, Nov '14, Jan '15, & Mar '15.
- 21.3 m seine and a 40 m seine
- Inshore and offshore
- Sites: Grassy Flats, Snook Islands (established restoration site), Control Site



Preliminary 1st Year Results

- 11,463 fish over 4 events.
- 58 species of fish total.
 - Not including 3 blue crab species, and 1 shrimp.
- 96% of catch is composed of bay anchovy, menhaden, mojarras, scaled herring, and checkered puffers.

Total Catch Per Sample Period



Species Richness Per Sample Period



Preliminary 1st Year Results

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Grassy Flats | Snook Islands | Control |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------|
| <i>Achirus lineatus</i> | Lined Sole | 7 | | 1 |
| <i>Albula vulpes</i> | Bonefish | 3 | | 2 |
| <i>Anchoa hepsetus</i> | Broad-striped anchovy | | 1 | |
| <i>Anchoa mitchilli</i> | Bay anchovy | 4878 | 797 | 416 |
| <i>Archosargus probatocephalus</i> | Sheepshead | 1 | 3 | 7 |
| <i>Ariopsis felis</i> | Hardhead sea catfish | 8 | | |
| <i>Bathygobius soporator</i> | Frillfin goby | | 1 | |
| <i>Brevoortia</i> spp. | Menhadens | 380 | 1 | 310 |
| <i>Calamus</i> spp. | Porgies | 1 | | |
| <i>Caranx latus</i> | Horse-eye jack | | 2 | 7 |
| <i>Centropomus undecimalis</i> | Common Snook | 5 | 3 | |
| <i>Chilomycterus schoepfii</i> | Striped burrfish | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| <i>Citharichthys spilopterus</i> | Bay Whiff | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| <i>Ctenogobius boleosoma</i> | Darter goby | 3 | 6 | 5 |
| <i>Ctenogobius smaragdus</i> | Emerald goby | 3 | | |
| <i>Cynoscion nebulosus</i> | Spotted seatrout | 2 | 1 | |
| <i>Dasyatis sabina</i> | Atlantic Stingray | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| <i>Diapterus auratus</i> | Irish mojarra | 439 | 331 | 96 |
| <i>Diodon holocanthus</i> | Longspined porcupinefish | | 1 | |
| <i>Elops saurus</i> | Ladyfish | 1 | | |
| <i>Eucinostomus gula</i> | Jenny mojarra | 134 | 971 | 333 |
| <i>Eucinostomus jonesii</i> | Slender mojarra | 2 | 9 | 8 |
| <i>Eucinostomus harengulus</i> | Tidewater mojarra | 50 | 469 | 179 |
| <i>Eucinostomus</i> spp. | Mojarras | 339 | 370 | 167 |
| <i>Eugerres plumieri</i> | Striped mojarra | 1 | | |
| <i>Gastropsetta frontalis</i> | Shrimp flounder | | 2 | |
| <i>Gerres cinereus</i> | Yellow fin mojarra | | 4 | |
| <i>Gobionellus oceanicus</i> | Highfin goby | 7 | | 1 |
| <i>Gobiosoma bosc</i> | Naked Goby | | | 1 |
| <i>Haemulon parra</i> | Sailor's grunt | | 1 | |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------|----|------|
| <i>Harengula jaguana</i> | Scaled herring | | 54 | |
| <i>Hippocampus erectus</i> | Lined seahorse | | | |
| <i>Jenkinsia lamprotaenia</i> | Dwarf round herring | 1 | | 1 |
| <i>Lagodon rhomboides</i> | Pinfish | 1 | | 2 |
| <i>Leiostomus xanthurus</i> | Spot | 7 | | 7 |
| <i>Lobotes surinamensis</i> | Tripletail | | | |
| <i>Lutjanus griseus</i> | Grey snapper | 3 | | |
| <i>Membras martinica</i> | Rough silverside | 1 | | |
| <i>Menidia</i> spp. | Silversides | 10 | | 1 |
| <i>Microgobius thalassinus</i> | Green goby | 24 | | |
| <i>Micropogonias undulatus</i> | Atlantic croaker | 1 | | |
| <i>Mugil cephalus</i> | Flathead grey mullet | 22 | | 6 |
| <i>Mugil curema</i> | White mullet | 29 | | 27 |
| <i>Mugil rubrioculus</i> | Red eye mullet | 2 | | |
| <i>Oligoplites saurus</i> | Letherjacket | 3 | | 3 |
| <i>Opisthonema oglinum</i> | Atlantic thread herring | 2 | | |
| <i>Orthopristis chrysoptera</i> | Pigfish | | | |
| <i>Prionotus tribulus</i> | Bighead searobin | | | |
| <i>Sciaenops ocellatus</i> | Red drum | | | 1 |
| <i>Scorpaena plumieri</i> | Spotted scorpionfish | 1 | | |
| <i>Selene vomer</i> | Lookdown | 1 | | |
| <i>Sphoeroides nephelus</i> | Southern puffer | 3 | | 2 |
| <i>Sphoeroides testudineus</i> | Checkered pufferfish | 111 | | 49 |
| <i>Sphyraena barracuda</i> | Great barracuda | 4 | | 9 |
| <i>Strongylura marina</i> | Atlantic needlefish | | | |
| <i>Strongylura notata</i> | Redfin needlefish | | | 4 |
| <i>Synodus foetens</i> | Inshore lizardfish | | | 4 |
| <i>Trachinotus falcatus</i> | Permit | | | |
| Total Catch | | 6495 | | 3147 |
| Species Richness | | 40 | | 35 |

Note:

- 3 Bonefish at Grassy (caught after construction)
- 5 Snook at Grassy (2 caught during construction and 3 after construction)



