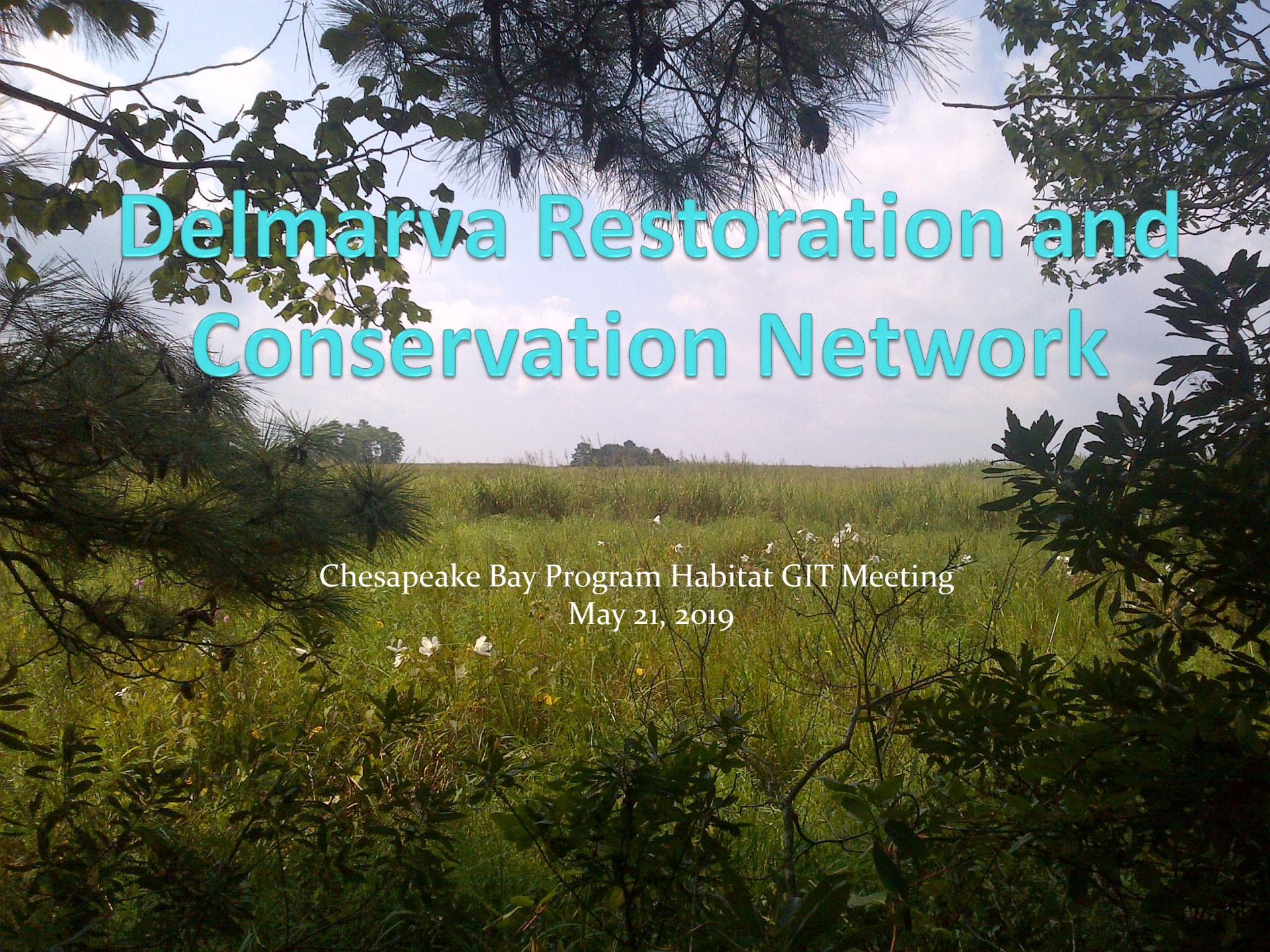


Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network

Chesapeake Bay Program Habitat GIT Meeting
May 21, 2019

Economics of Delmarva's Natural Lands, Farmland, and Open Space*

- Outdoor enthusiasts spend up to $3.9 billion per year supporting 27,900 jobs;
- 7,000 farms yield $2.8 billion in farm products per year on 1.3 million acres;
- Commercial fishing in the Chesapeake Bay is worth $300 million per year;
- Delmarva Peninsula fishery leads the nation in total weight of catch;
- All told, contributes over $15 billion in ecological Services annually, supporting important Industries like fisheries and tourism;
- Conservation, aquaculture, and conservation visitor spending contributed $270 million dollars to Virginia's Delmarva in 2016.

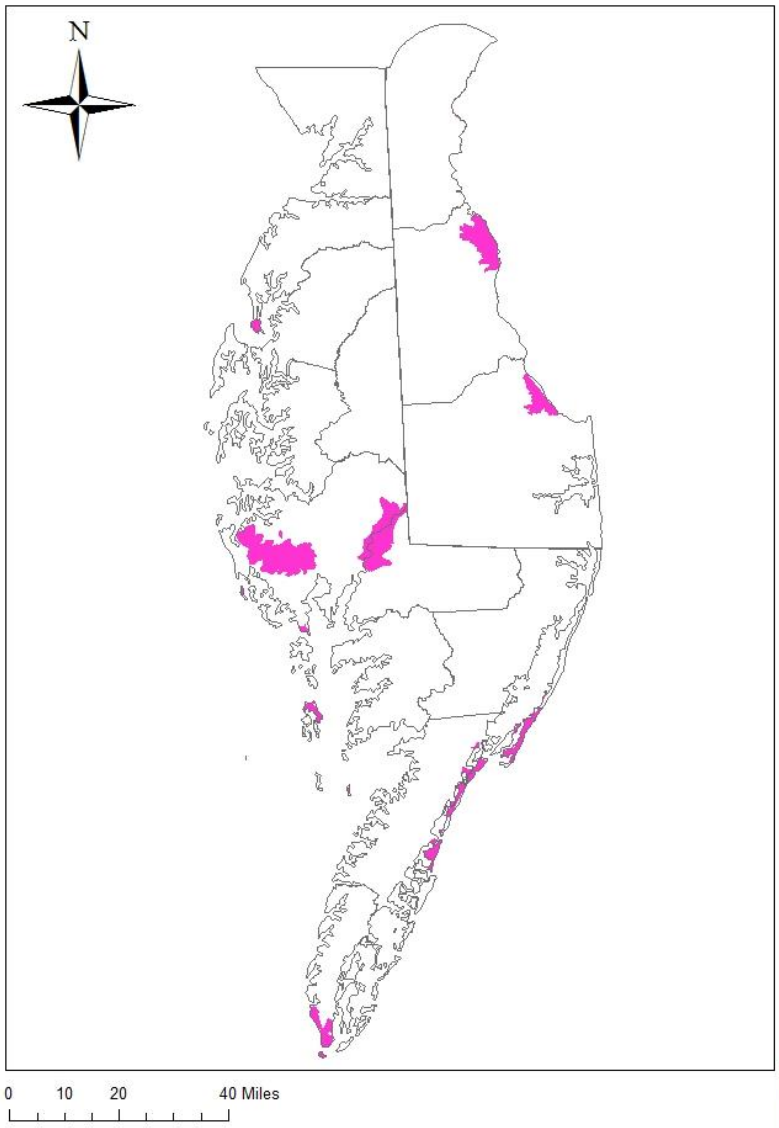
*A 2012 study on the economics of natural areas (including farmland) on Delmarva by Southwick Associates & a socio-economic study by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

TMDL

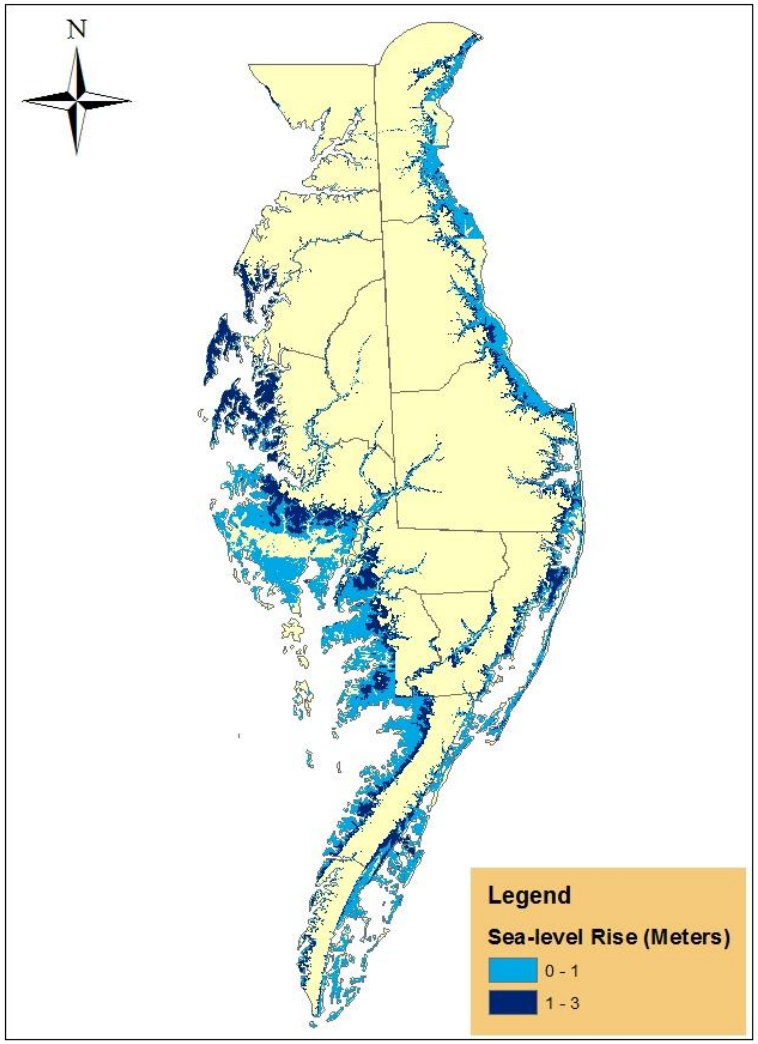
- Phase III WIP – States working with Key Local Partners – Counties

- Delmarva Restoration & Conservation Network Strategic Action Plan to help implement & fund BMPs.

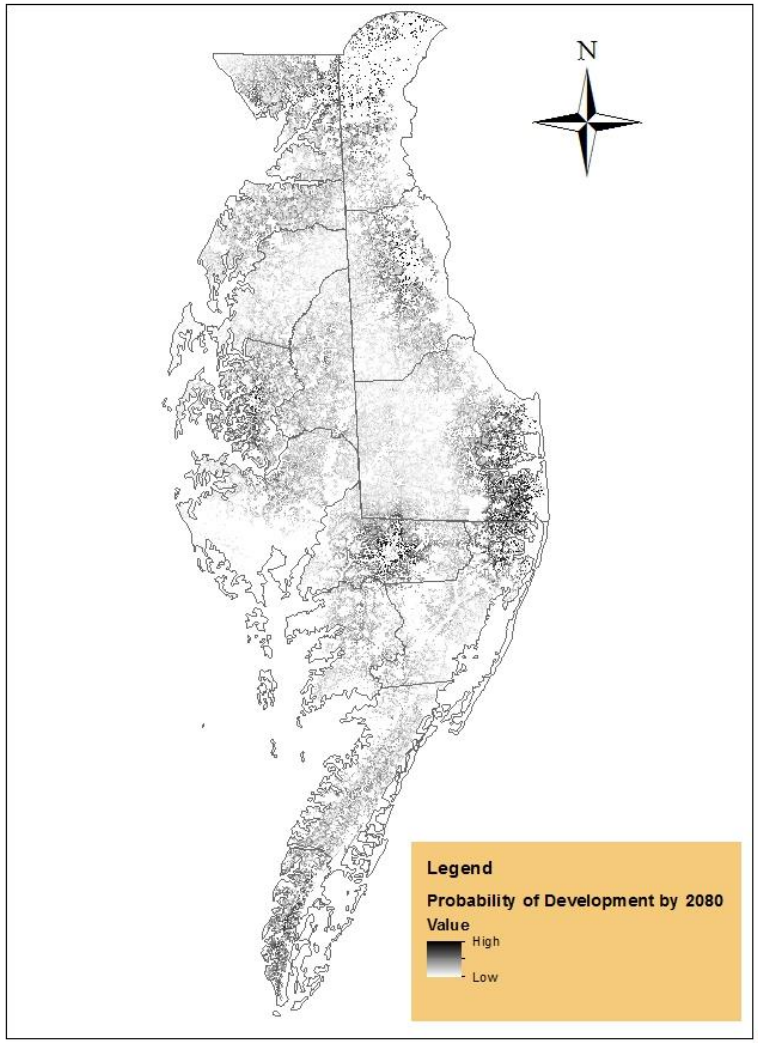
Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network
Delmarva National Wildlife Refuges



Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network
Sea-level Rise



Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network
Probability of Development by 2080



Strategic Action Plan

- Protect the Delmarva countryside we all love.
- What needs to be done and where?
- How we will work together to get support and funding for voluntary restoration and conservation on Delmarva.

Members of the Growing Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network

- Core Team: 24 People from 11 Organizations
- Extended Team: 49 People from 18 Organizations
- Total: 72 People from 24 Organizations
  - Federal
  - State
  - NGO
  - Local: Counties

The Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network Vision, Mission, and Goals

Mission

To restore and conserve Delmarva's landscapes, waterways, and shorelines that are special to its people, fundamental to its economy, and vital for its native fish, wildlife, and plants.

Vision

We envision a Delmarva where native fish and wildlife thrive; the fabric of healthy natural and working lands and waters enrich the lives of those who live, work, and play on the land; and rich forestlands and coastal areas support and sustain present and future generations.

Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network Goals

Goal 1 – Shape and support a network of cooperative alliances among the diversity of people, governments, organizations, and industries that rely on Delmarva's natural resources.

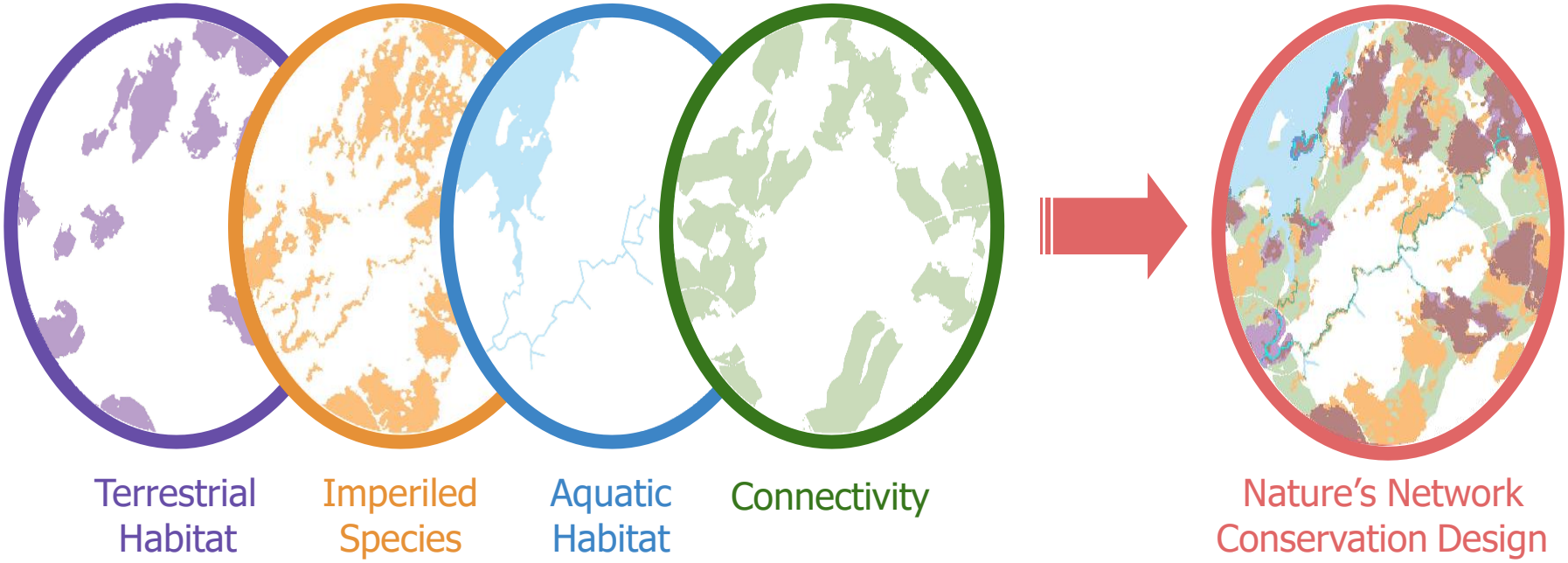
Goal 2 –Enhance the Sustainability of resource-based industries -- including fisheries, agriculture, forest products, tourism, and outdoor recreation -- that enable the economies of Delmarva communities to thrive.

Goal 3 - Identify, conserve, restore, and manage the vital network of working and natural lands and waters that support a diversity of habitats for native fish and wildlife, and maintain resiliency in the face of future development and climate change for present and future generations.

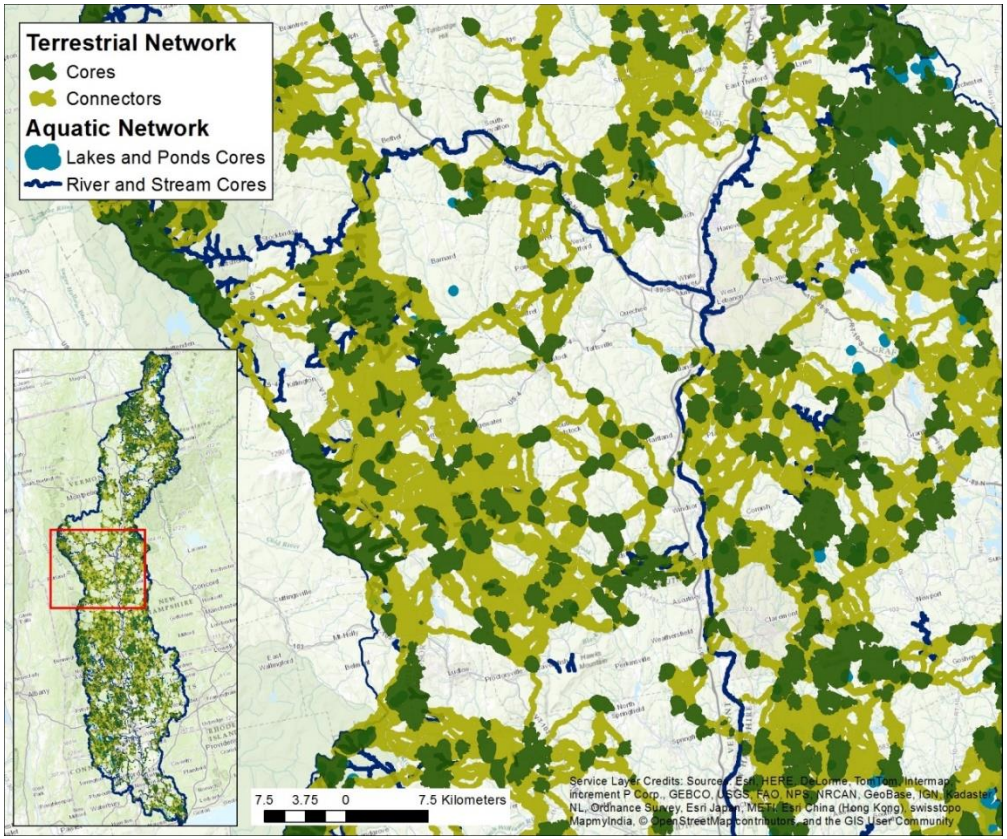
Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network Representative Species (47)

The conservation design

www.naturesnetwork.org

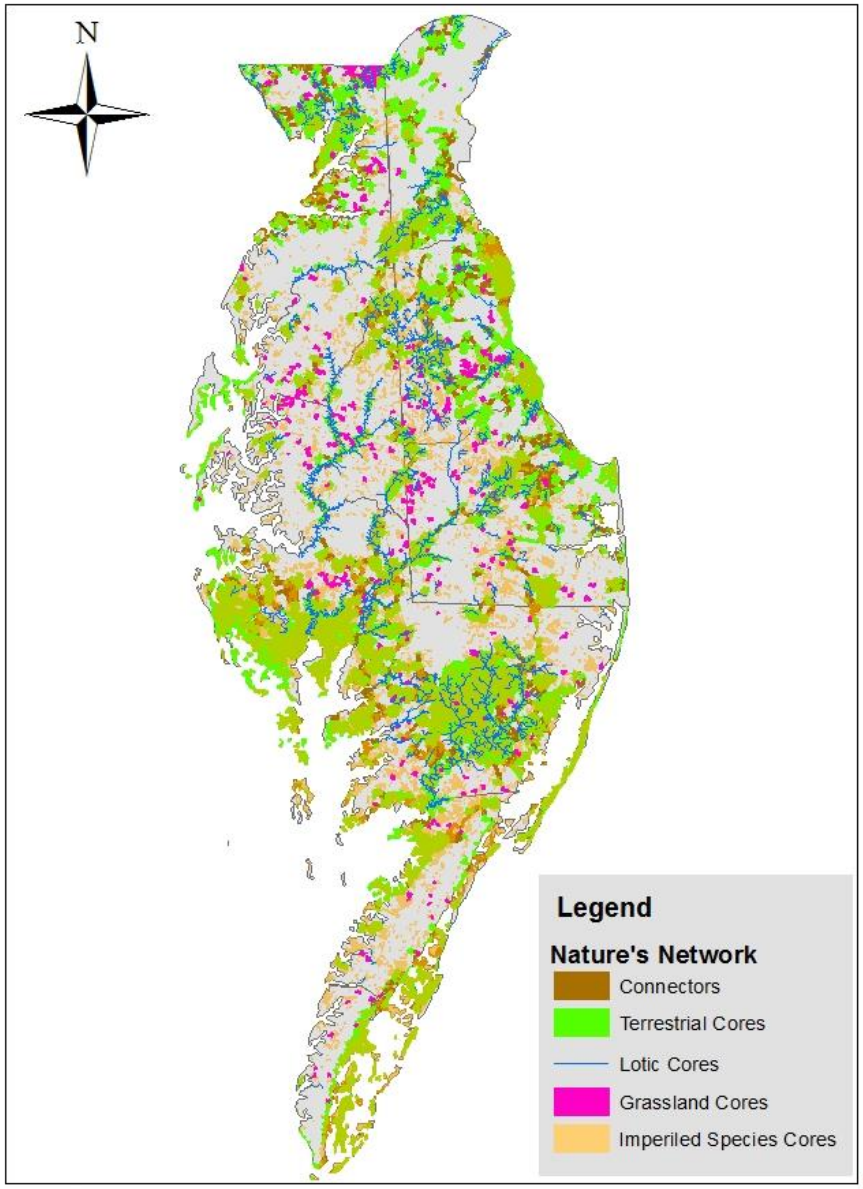


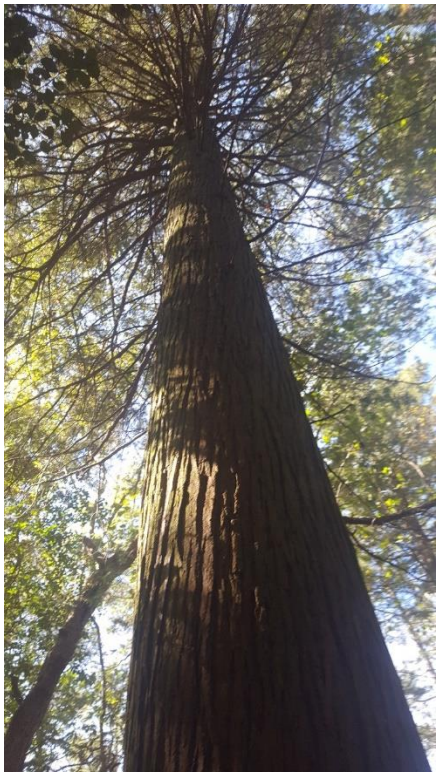
The key features of each of the four components are **integrated in one map** for Nature's Network Conservation Design, but many complementary data layers are available to support conservation planning.


Terrestrial Network
Cores
Connectors
Aquatic Network
Lakes and Ponds Cores
River and Stream Cores
7.5 3.75 0 7.5 Kilometers
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY PROHIBITED

Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network
Nature's Network Core Map





https://fws.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=edoffe0ab6744485a8cb51e1b2935ce27

Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network

Proposed Schedule

- **March 2017** – Initial meetings with practitioners in each state

- **September 2017 – April 2019** – Core Team meets monthly to come to consensus on:
  - Goals & Objectives
  - Communications and Outreach Strategy
  - Representative, Ecologically & Economically Important Species
  - Data Sources and Tools

- **April 2019 – July 2019** - Core Team prepares Draft Action Plan

- **July 2019** – Draft Action Plan shared with Extended Team for review and comment.

- **September 2019** – Action Plan Finalized

Local Benefits

- Help Meet TMDL Targets
- Reduce Flooding and Protect Infrastructure by restoring/ protecting streams, floodplains, and wetlands.
- Increase Hunting and Fishing: Improve public access, restore and protect forests, wetlands, and streams.
- Deliver New Funds: Seek federal, state, and NGO grants (Land and Water Conservation Fund, Farm Bill, others)
- Strengthen the Local Economy: Boost tourism and outdoor recreation jobs.
- Sustain and Diversify farm and forest product industries

Protecting the Rural Character of the Delmarva We All Love

- Quality of Life
- Clean drinking Water
- Clean streams, rivers, Chesapeake Bay
- Meeting TMDLs for Chesapeake Bay
- Working Farms and Forests
- Flourishing Towns
- Thriving Sustainable Economy
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- Places to Hunt and Fish
- Outdoor Recreation
- Good Jobs
- Private and Public Funding and Investment in Delmarva
- Healthy Rivers and Streams Supporting a Burgeoning Commercial Fishery
- A Great Place to Live for Present and Future Generations of Delmarva Citizens!