



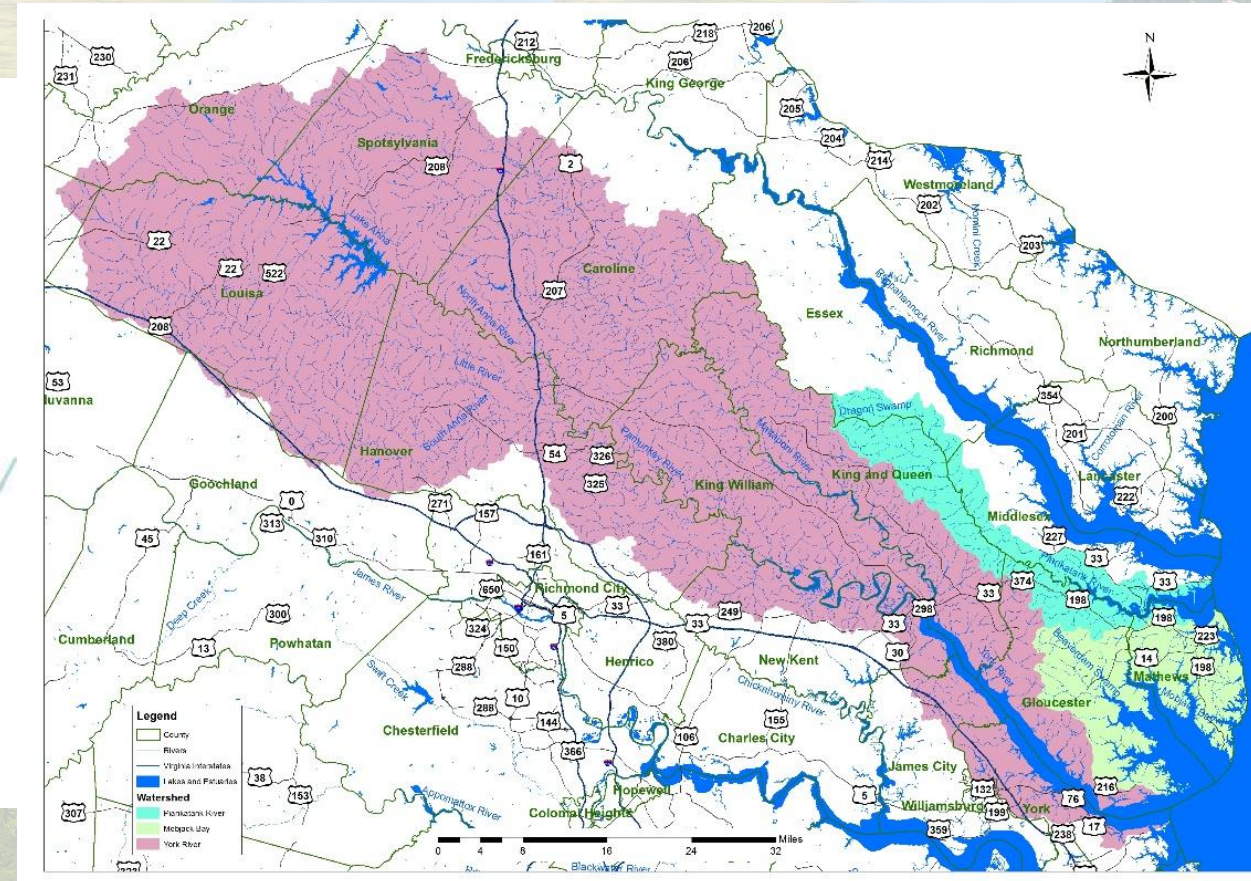
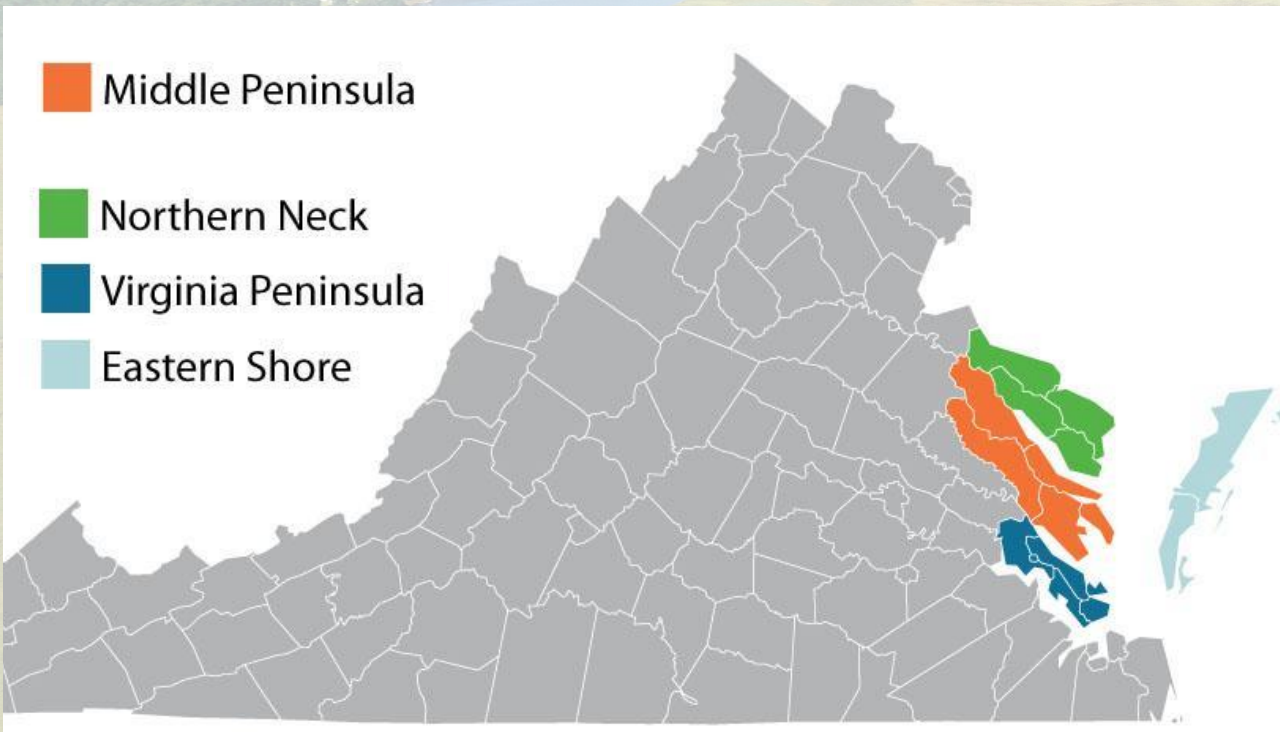
Place-Based Strategy: Middle Peninsula of Virginia

Sean Corson, NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office
Management Board
April 9, 2020

Photo Credit: Mattaponi River, Chesapeake Bay Program

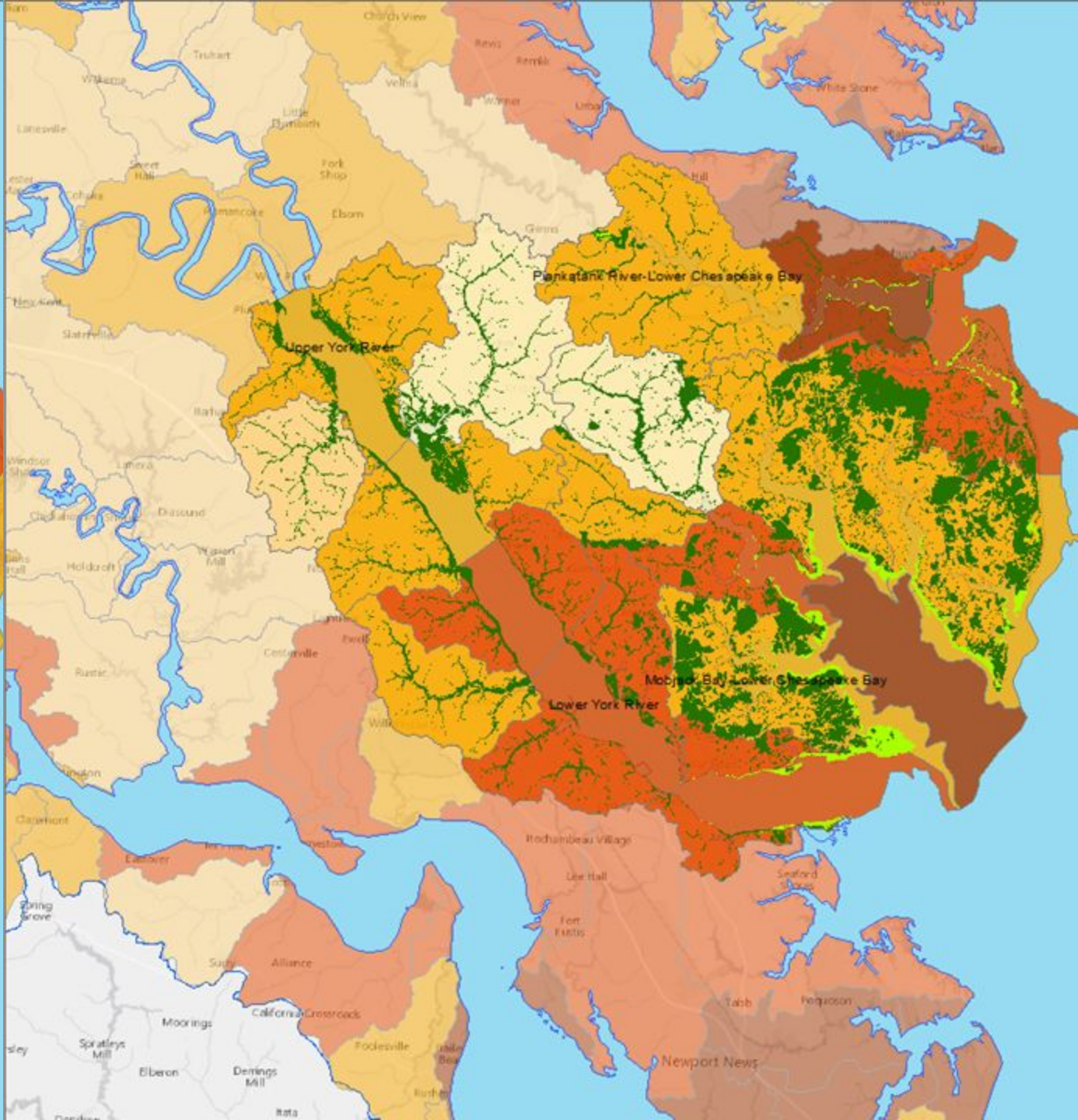
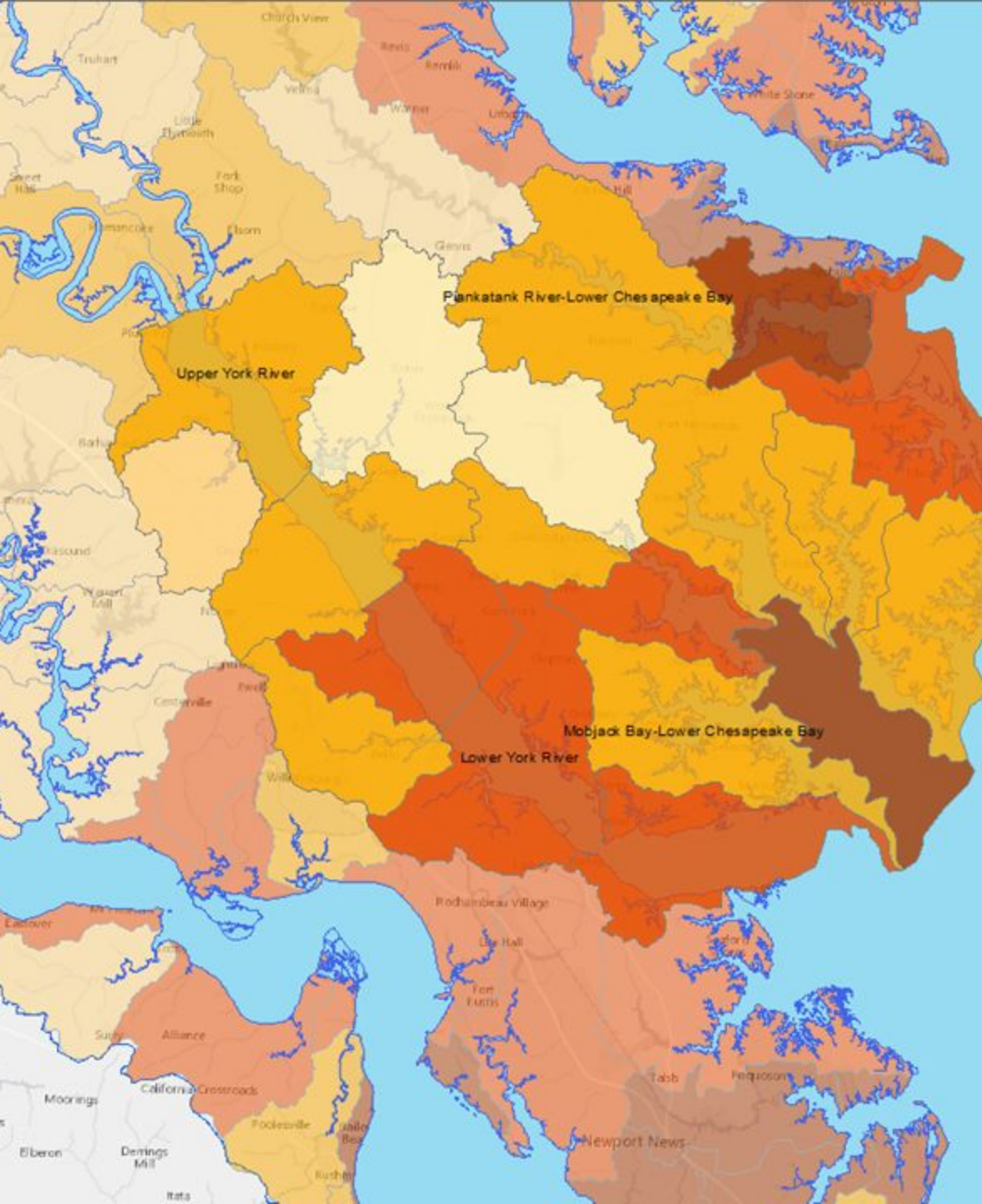
Characterizing the Middle Peninsula

Includes 3 Watersheds: Piankatank River, Mobjack Bay, York River



Characterizing the Middle Peninsula



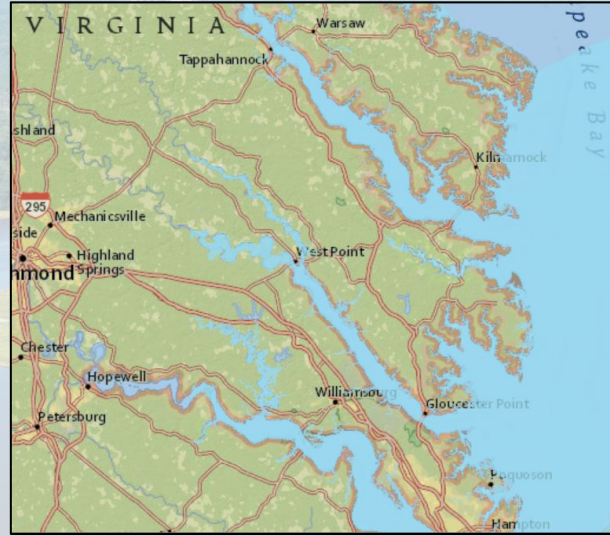


Characterizing the Middle Peninsula

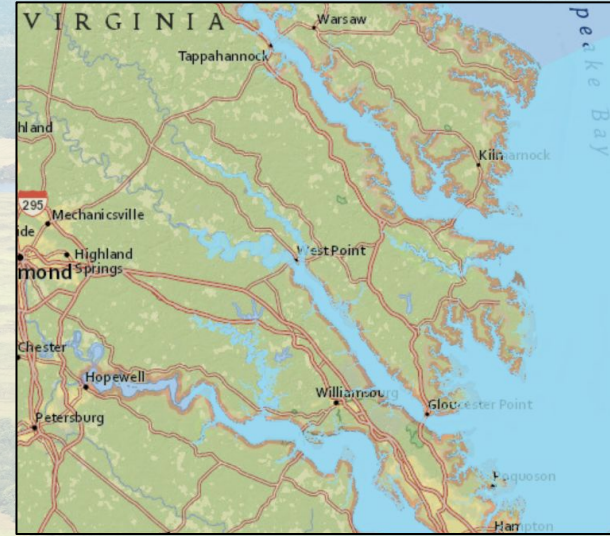
Sea Level Rise



Baseline



1 foot

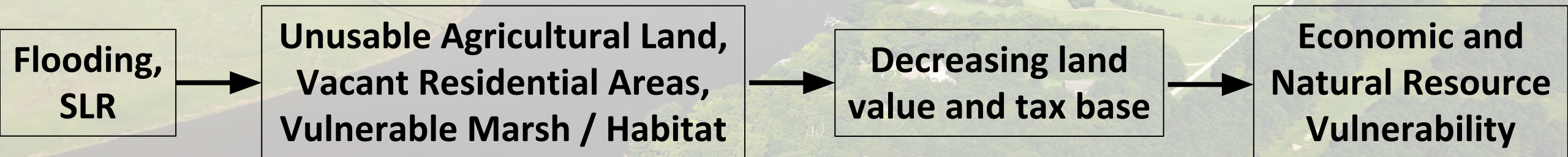


3 feet



6 feet

A mix of sea level rise, storm surge, wave energy and erosion is resulting in cascading effects, from natural resource to economic vulnerability.



Signs of Interest and New Partners

- **Oyster Reef Restoration**
 - Piankatank and York
- **Workshop and Roundtable**
 - Establishing a community of practice
- **Support for Partners' Nearshore Habitat Restoration Projects**
 - Nearshore workshop and 6 “shovel ready” projects plans over 3 years

Common Interests

NCBO

- Piankatank and York River oyster restoration
- Fish Habitat
- Coastal resiliency

VA Secretary, VMRC, & DEQ

- Strong supporters of CBP goals
- Oysters, TMDL, resiliency, etc.
- Rural coastal economy

VA NERR and VIMS

- Living shoreline
- Coastal islands/inundation

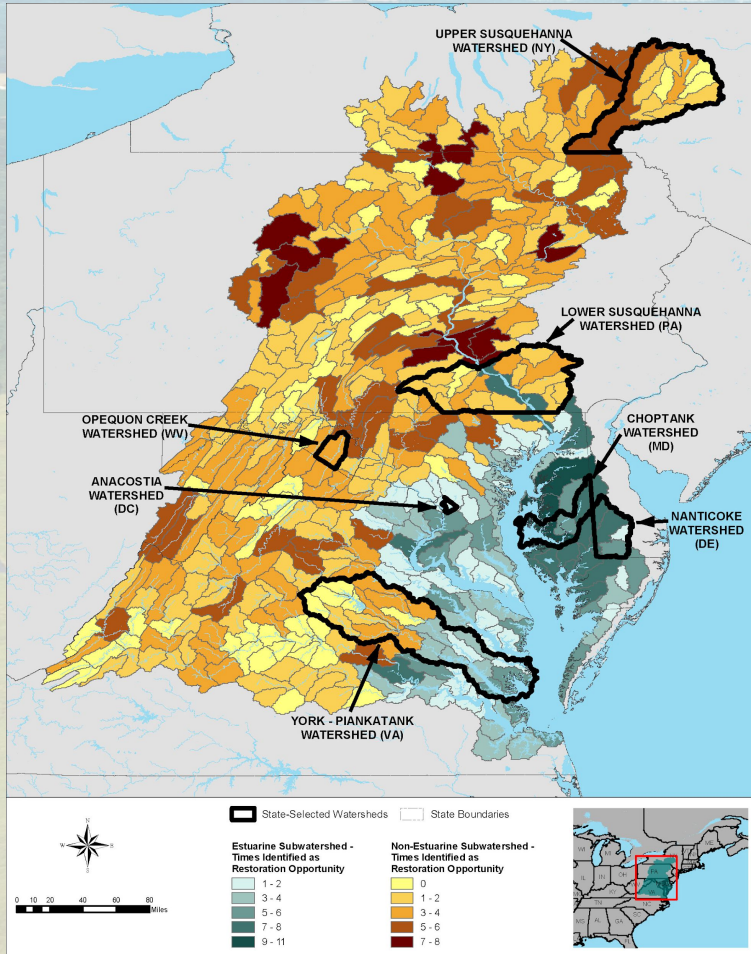
VA Coastal Zone Focal Area

- Green infrastructure
- Living shorelines



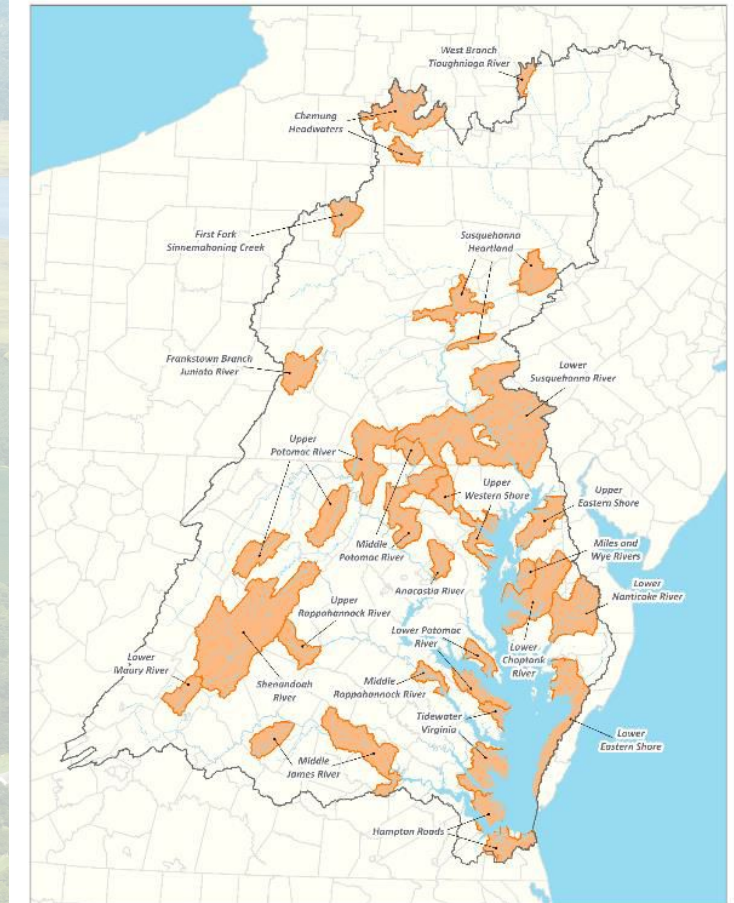
Common Interests

USACE Comprehensive Conservation Plan

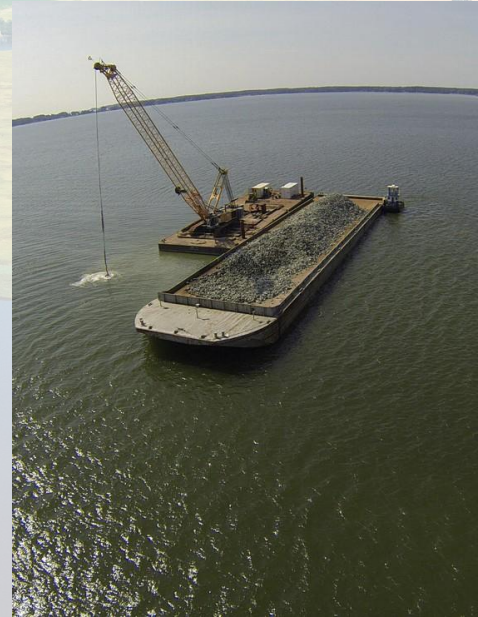


- Oysters
- Shorelines
- SAV
- Wetlands

NFWF Chesapeake Bay Business Plan



- Oysters
- Water quality
- Black duck
- River herring
- Capacity building





NBC12

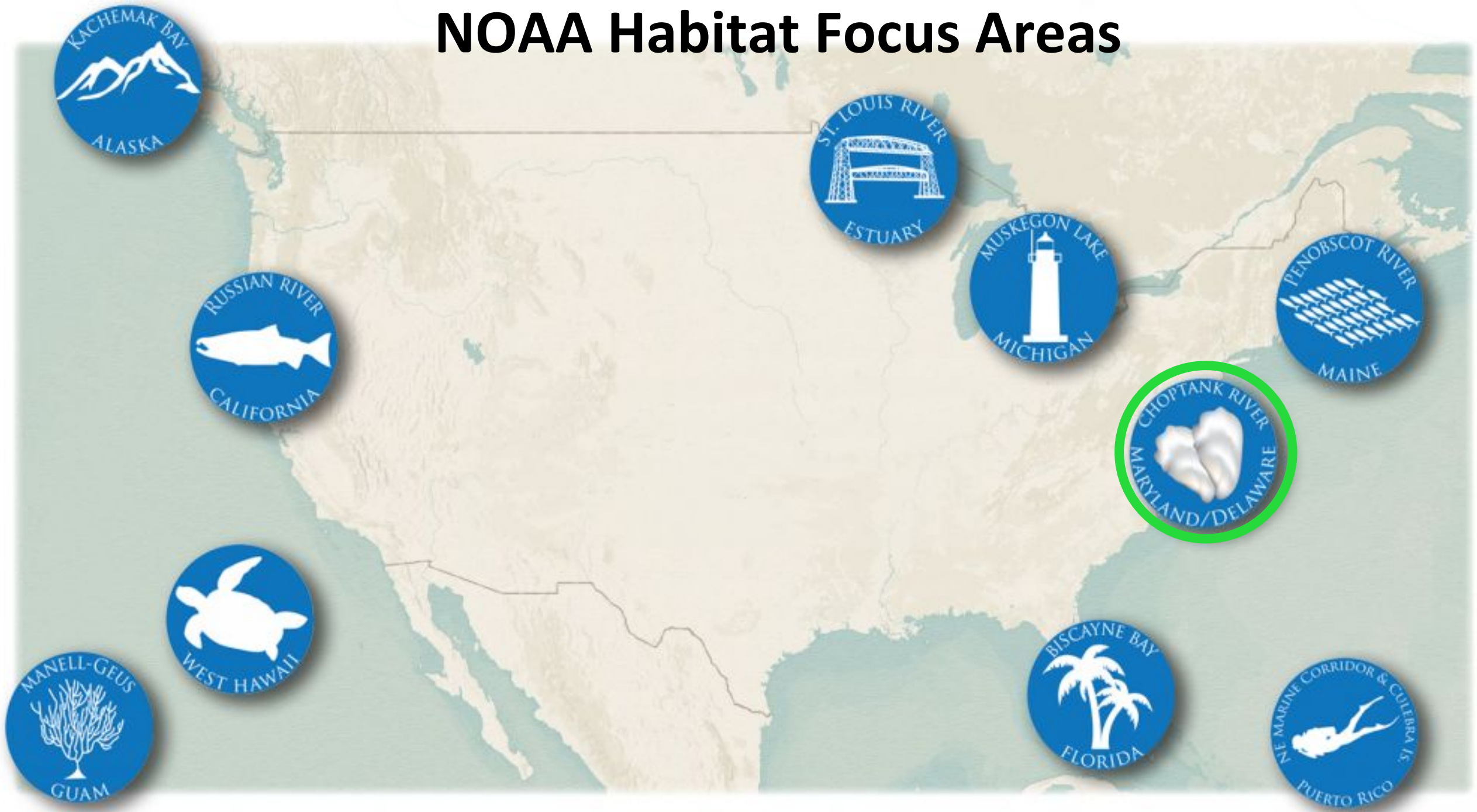


- Blue economy
- Green infrastructure
- Erosion control
- Storm surge abatement
- Flood reduction
- Nature based economy



Mark Gormus

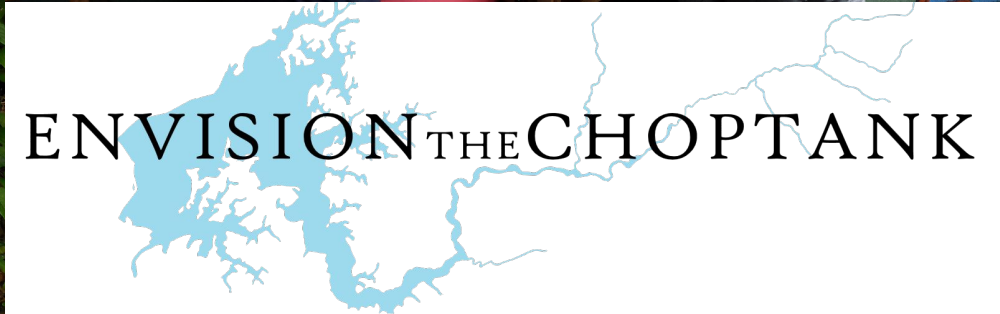
NOAA Habitat Focus Areas



Choptank River Habitat Focus Area Objectives

- Restore Habitat
- Provide Science and Data to Assist Decision-makers
- Engage Communities





Next Steps

- **Identify Partners**
 - Good list already in hand
 - Are there others? RCPP, REPI, GITs?
- **Establish Mutual Goals and Objectives**
 - Coastal community resiliency (support local economy)
 - Green infrastructure (erosion, flooding, salt intrusion)
 - Oyster restoration
- **Consider Pursuing an HFA**
 - Submit an application
 - Develop a workplan and rename it?
- **Continue Current Conservation Work**
 - Current oyster restoration and resiliency efforts will continue with an HFA in place or not