Regional Restoration in the Delaware Estuary Watershed



To be discussed

The Delaware Estuary

brief orientation

Making our efforts count:

why can regional restoration help?

Regional Restoration Initiative

goals & approach evolution

tools: - restoration matrices

- ecoservice framework

- project registry

structure case studies

NRDA

Regional Restoration Initiative

Blueprint for the Delaware Estuary

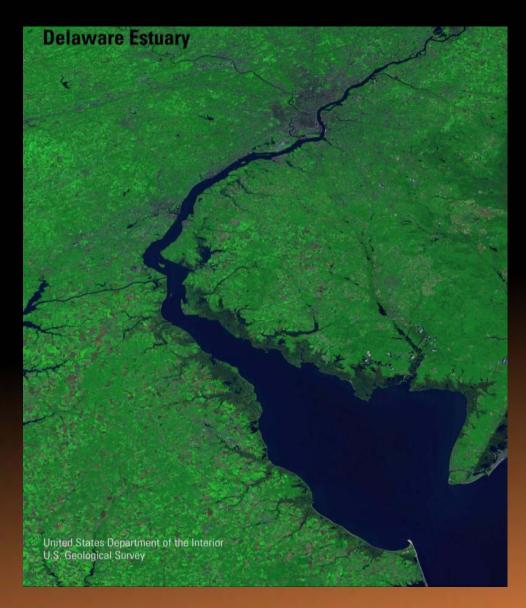




A Publication of the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary A National Estuary Program

October 2009

Facts and Figures





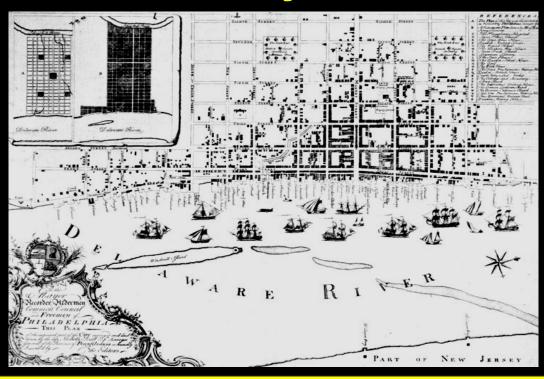
Facts and Figures

- Largest Freshwater Port in World
- Approx 3,000 vessel arrivals/year
- 3rd largest petro-chemical port in U.S.
- 75% of east coast oil
- 1 million barrels of crude oil per day
- Largest North American port for steel, paper, and meat imports
- Port system generates \$19 billion in annual revenue
- Home to 6 nuclear power plants

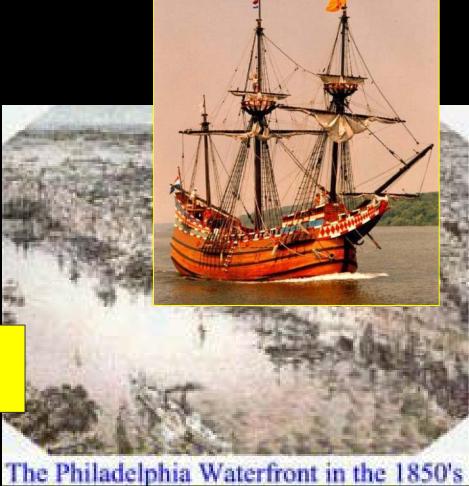


Slide adapted from USCG 2005

Seat of the Nation History as a "Working River"



1762 map showing Philadelphia on the Delaware River



Slide adapted from Jonathan Sharp, 2005

Also a "Living River" Ecological Resources of the Delaware Estuary

- Largest breeding population of horseshoe crabs in the world
- One of the four most important shorebird migration sites in the world with the 2nd highest concentration of shorebirds in North America
- Habitat for protected endangered species populations of dwarf wedgemussels, short-nose sturgeon, bald eagles and bog turtles



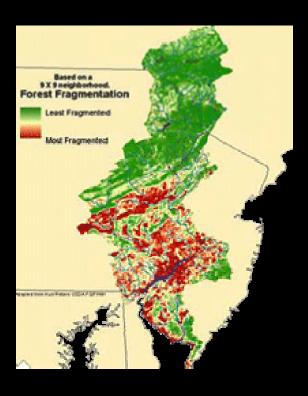
Delaware Estuary Resources Continued

- One of the largest freshwater tidal estuaries in the world, with rare freshwater tidal marshes and fauna
- 185 natural vegetation community types, 35 ecological systems
- More than 405,000 acres of wetlands that fringe the estuary, functioning as "kidneys for the system", fish factories and providing flood protection



Complex Landscape





Upper Watershed:

"pristine" recreational area water supply for NYC



Tidal River

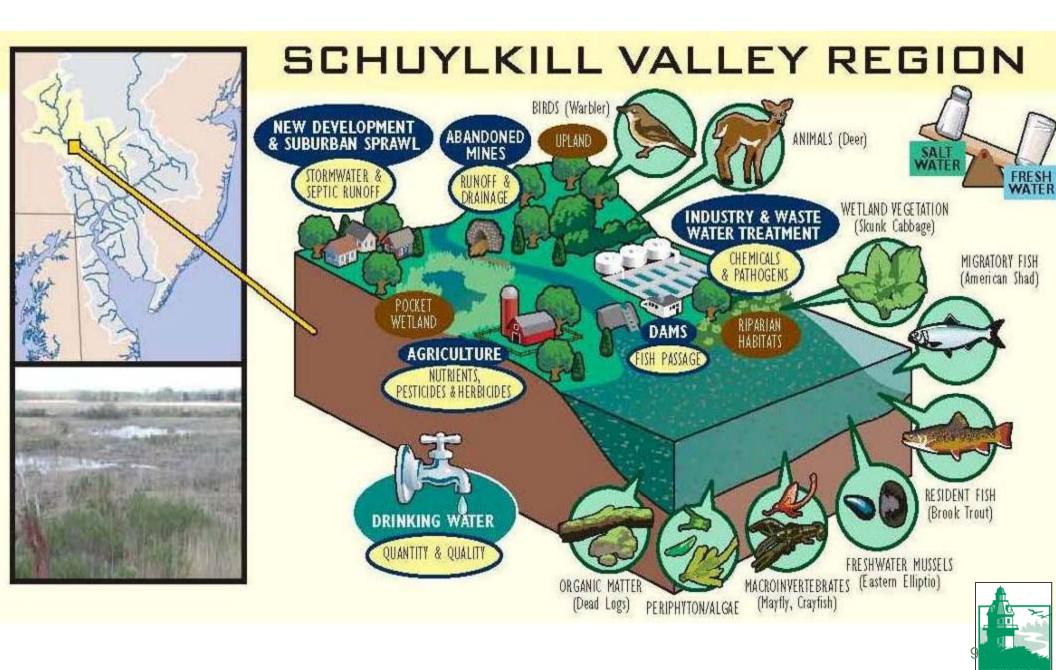
4th largest US urban center world's largest freshwater port

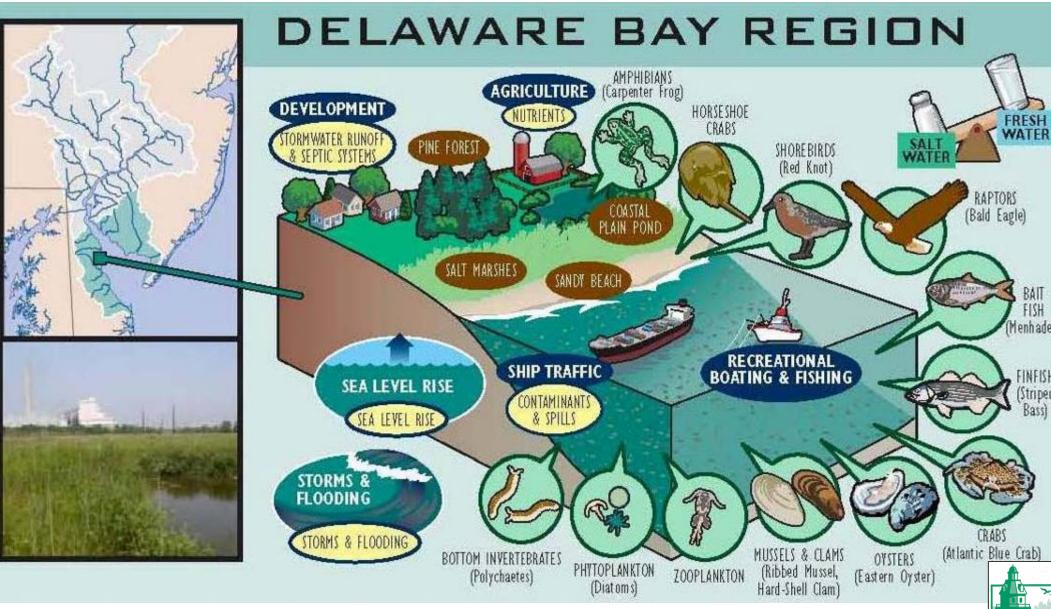


Lower Estuary:

Water fowl, finfish, shellfish Horseshoe crab population







Evolving Complexity

- Marcellus Shale
- · Climate Change
- · Withdrawals
- · Wind Farms
- · Land Use Change
- Development
- Emerging Pollutants

- Ecological Flows
- · Spills, NRDA



11/27/2004

Geospatial Overlay

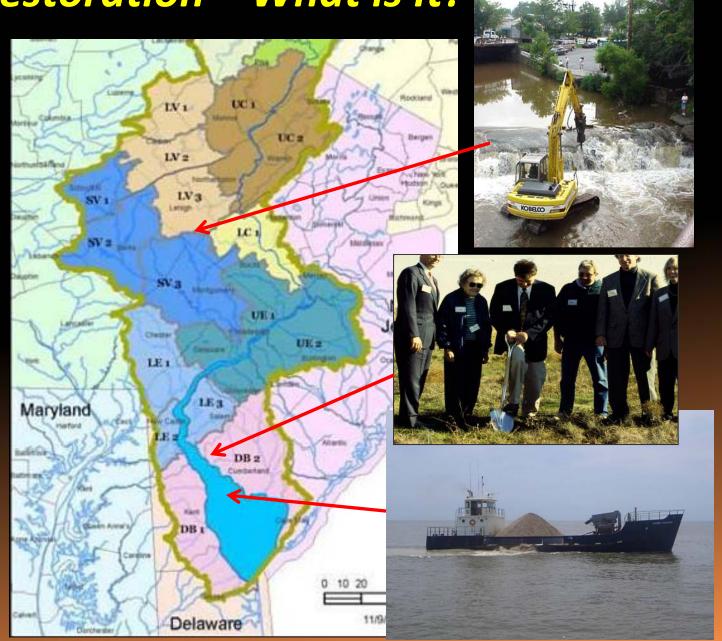
Restoration Needs



Geospatial Overlay

Restoration Needs

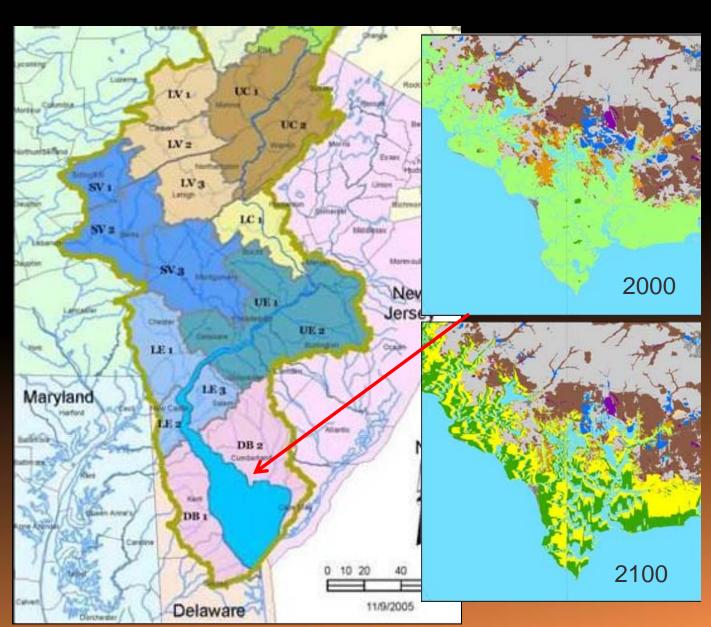
Available Projects



Geospatial Overlay

Science

Available Projects



Geospatial Overlay

Science

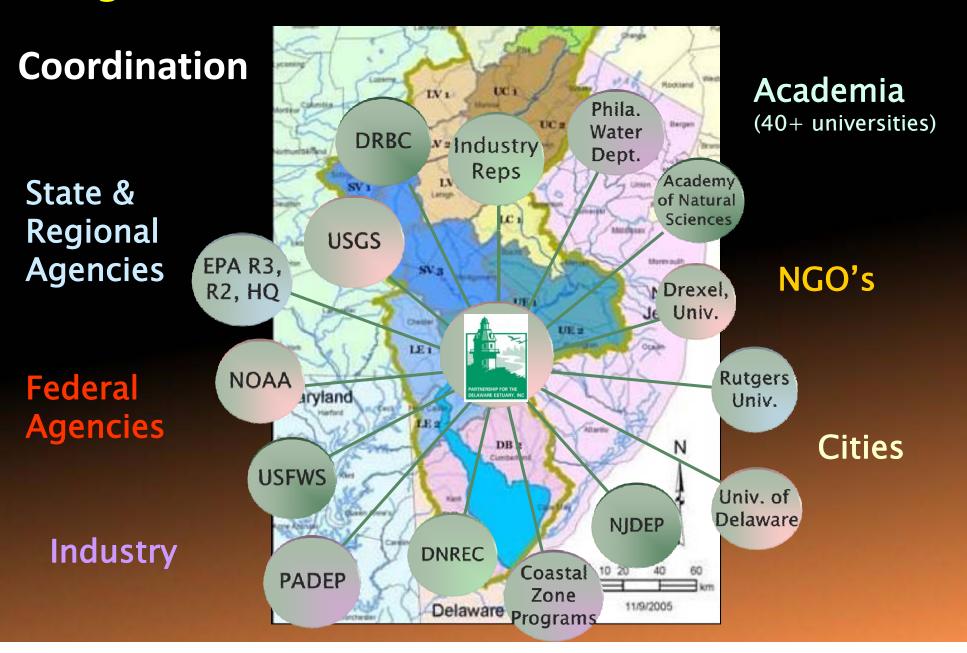
Project R & D



Geospatial Overlay

Project R & D





Regional Restoration - Why?

- Proactive, not reactive
- Restoration from the system's perspective, includes gap analysis
- Science based priorities yield maximum ecosystem benefits (uplift)
- Enhanced coordination
- Expedited identification of suitable projects
- Potential for restoration "up front" and larger projects
- Provides a one stop shop for projects

Goals & Approach

Inventory ecologically significant resources in different watershed regions

Assess ecological goods and services associated with them

Use a natural capital valuation approach to identify activities that maximize uplift in goods and services from them

Identify, inventory and rank specific projects that conserve, enhance or restore them

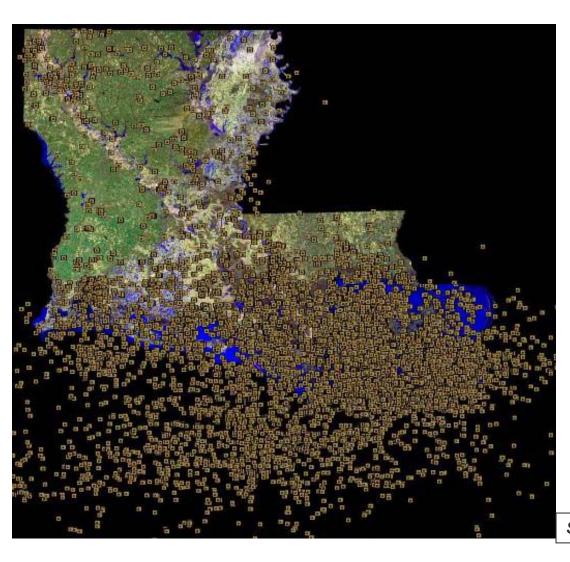
Identify high value activities for which we still need projects and work to fill these project gaps



Evolution



LOUSIANA OIL SPILL STATISTICS



of Notifications/Year: 2000

% of U.S. Notifications: 20

% of U.S. Volume: 20

of NRDA cases ≈25

Slide from Karolien Debusschere, Office of the Governor

2

		POTENTIALLY INJURED RESOURCES/SERVICES											
		Herbaceous Wetlands	Forested Wetlands	Beach/Shoreline/ Streambed	Oyster Reefs (& other)	Water Column Org.	Birds	Wildlife	Recreational	Cultural			
		Coastal Herbaceous Wetlands	√ ,	√,		√	√	√	V	√			
		Coastal Forested Wetlands	√	√	,		√	√	V	√			
	C/E ⁽¹⁾	Coastal Beach/Shoreline/Streambed			√	,	√,	√,	√	√			
		Coastal Oyster Reefs (& other)				√,	√	√	√	√			
		Coastal Artificial Reefs	,			√,	√	√	√	√			
		Coastal SAV	√	,		√	√	√	√	√			
}	 (2)	Coastal Herbaceous Wetlands	√,	√		√	√ /	√	√ ,	√ ,			
:	PP ⁽²⁾	Coastal Forested Wetlands	√	√	,		√,	√	√	√			
;		Coastal Beach/Shoreline/Streambed	,	,		,	√,	√	√	√			
9		Coastal Herbaceous Wetlands	√	√		√	√	√,	√	√			
	– (2)	Coastal Forested Wetlands	V	√	,		√	√,	√	√			
:	Ac/LP ⁽³⁾	Coastal Beach/Shoreline/Streambed			√	<u></u>	√	√	√	√.			
		Coastal Oyster Reefs (& other)				√	√	√	√	√			
ĺ		Coastal SAV					√	√	√	√			
-		Coastal Water Column Org.					√			√			
	S ⁽⁴⁾	Coastal Oyster Reefs (& other)				√	√			√			
		Birds						√		√			
		Wildlife Birds								√			
	PF ⁽⁵⁾						√	L.,.	√				
		Wildlife							V	V			
		Recreation								√			
	Creation/Enhan	Cultural									$\sqrt{}$		

- 2) Physical Protection of Habitat
- 3) Acquisition/Legal Protection
- 4) Stocking of Fauna
- 5) Physical Protection of Fauna

Slide from Karolien Debusschere, Office of the Governor

Restoration Opportunities

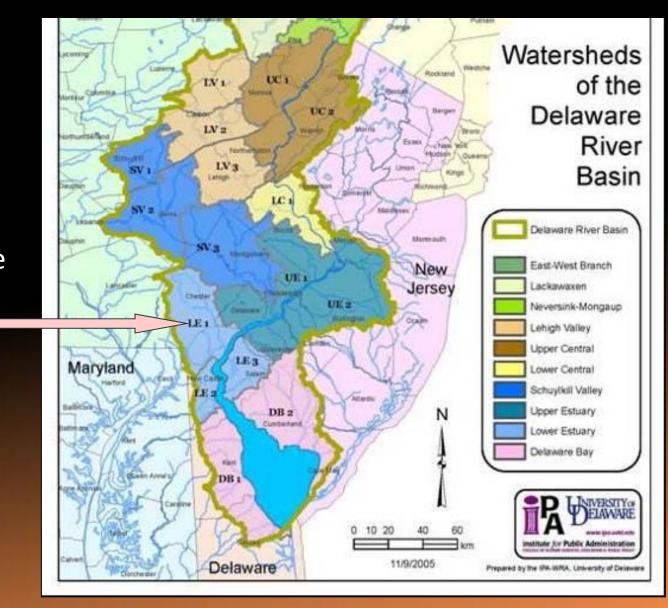


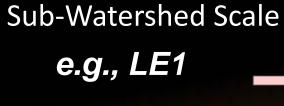
				-	POTEN					_	
		INLAND	Herbaceous Wetlands	Forested Wetlands	Beach/Shoreline/ Streambed	Upland Vegetation	Water Column Org.	Birds	Wildlife	Recreational	Cultural
		Inland Herbaceous Wetlands					$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	√	$\sqrt{}$	
	C/E ⁽¹⁾	Inland Forested Wetlands		\checkmark				$\sqrt{}$			
	G/E·	Inland Beach/Shoreline/Streambed									
		Inland Upland Vegetation						$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	
ſ		Inland Herbaceous Wetlands					\checkmark				
က္ယ	PP ⁽²⁾	Inland Forested Wetlands		\checkmark							
<u>ا</u> چ		Inland Beach/Shoreline/Streambed			\checkmark		\checkmark				
} [Inland Upland Vegetation							$\sqrt{}$		
중		Inland Herbaceous Wetlands					\checkmark				
RESTORATION TYPES	Ac/LP ⁽³⁾	Inland Forested Wetlands		\checkmark			\checkmark				
≱	AC/LI	Inland Beach/Shoreline/Streambed	l		$\sqrt{}$		\checkmark		$\sqrt{}$		
٤L		Inland Upland Vegetation									
ញ [Inland Water Column Org.					\checkmark				
œ	S ⁽⁴⁾	Birds									
Į		Wildlife									
ee	er PF ⁽⁵⁾	Birds						22			
	,	Wildlife									
		Recreation									
ſ		Cultural									٦

Conceptual Matrix for the Delaware Estuary Ecosystem

Nun	Nontidal Watershed					Tidal Estuary													
	Freshwater					Freshwater (<1 ppt)			Brackish (1-8 ppt)				Bay (>8 ppt)						
	(above F	re River River Mile 33)	Other Rivers and Streams (below River Mile 133)			Approximately River Mile 82 to 133			Approximately River Mile 58 to 82				Approximately River Mile 0 to 58						
	Main Channel	Tributaries to Delaware River (e.g., Lehigh)	Schuylkill River & Its Tributaries	Christina River & Its Tributaries	Other Tributaries	Main Channel	Shallow Subtidal	Intertidal Edges, Shorelines	Wetlands	Main Channel	Shallow Subtidal	Intertidal Edges, Shorelines	Wetlands	Main Channel	Shallow Subtidal	Intertidal Edges, Shorelines	Wetlands		
		Physical	1a	2a	3a	4a	5a	6a	7a	8a	9a	10a	11a	12a	13a	14a	15a	16a	17a
	Pelagic	Chemical	1b	2b	3b	4b	5b	6b	7b	8b	9b	10b	11b	12b	13b	14b	15b	16b	17b
Aquatic		Biological	1c	2c	3c	4c	5c	6c	7c	8c	9c	10c	11c	12c	13c	14c	15c	16c	17c
Aquatic	Benthic	Physical	1d	2d	3d	4d	5d	6d	7d	8d	9d	10d	11d	12d	13d	14d	15d	16d	17d
		Chemical	1e	2e	3e	4e	5e	6e	7e	8e	9e	10e	11e	12e	13e	14e	15e	16e	17e
		Biological	1f	2f	3f	4f	5f	6f	7f	8f	9f	10f	11f	12f	13f	14f	15f	16f	17f
	Tidal Buffers*									8g	9g			12g	13g			16g	17g
Terrestrial	ial Riparian Buffers**		1h	2h	3h	4h	5h												
	Watershed Uplands**		1i	2i	3i	4i	5i			8i	9i			12i	13i			16i	17i
Socioeconiomic			1j	2j	3j	4j	5j	Kre 6j	eger 7j	8j	9j	10j	11j	12j	13j	14j	15j	23 _{16j}	17j

Restoration Matrices

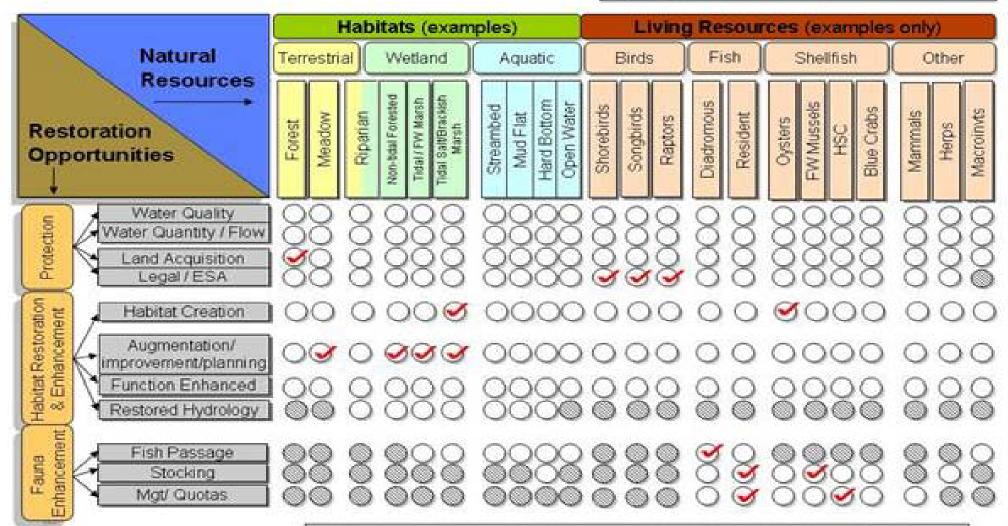




Basic Restoration Matrix

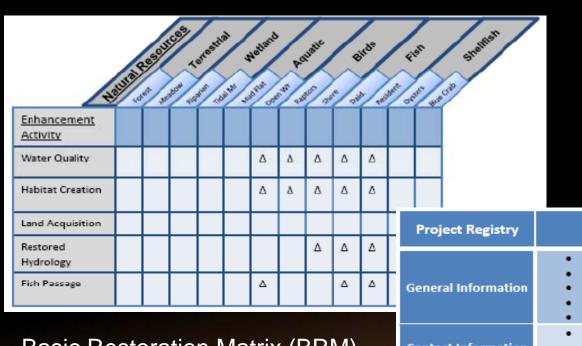
LE-1: Restoration Opportunities Layer





Each circle will receive a unique cell code for use in the project directory & database 25. The Information shown contains examples only, to be refined in later stages of the RRI.

Project Registry



Basic Project Info

Basic Restoration Matrix (BRM)

┝	Project Registry	Examples of Information in Project Registry
	General Information	 Project Status Implementation start date Size of area directly manipulated Size of area being monitored CCMP Action
	Contact Information	 Name, address Agency/Organization/Project website Confidentiality
	Geographic Location	State/County/City HUC Code Longitude/Latitude USGS Topo Quad Watershed subregion GIS layer showing the restored area?
	Habitat Types and Acreage Restored	 Wetland, Headwater, Urban Waterfront, etc. Habitat Activity Type (Enhancement, Protection, Establishment, etc.) Scale (acres, miles, linear feet, etc.) Species Affected
	Project Budget	Original proposed project cost estimate Total cost estimate for monitoring

Restoration Projects

Includes Uplift and Restoration Science/Outreach



Delaware Estuary Project Registry

Launched 12/1/2009

Currently contains >50 projects; e.g.,

- stream restoration
- wetlands enhancement and creation
- dam removal
- oyster revitalization

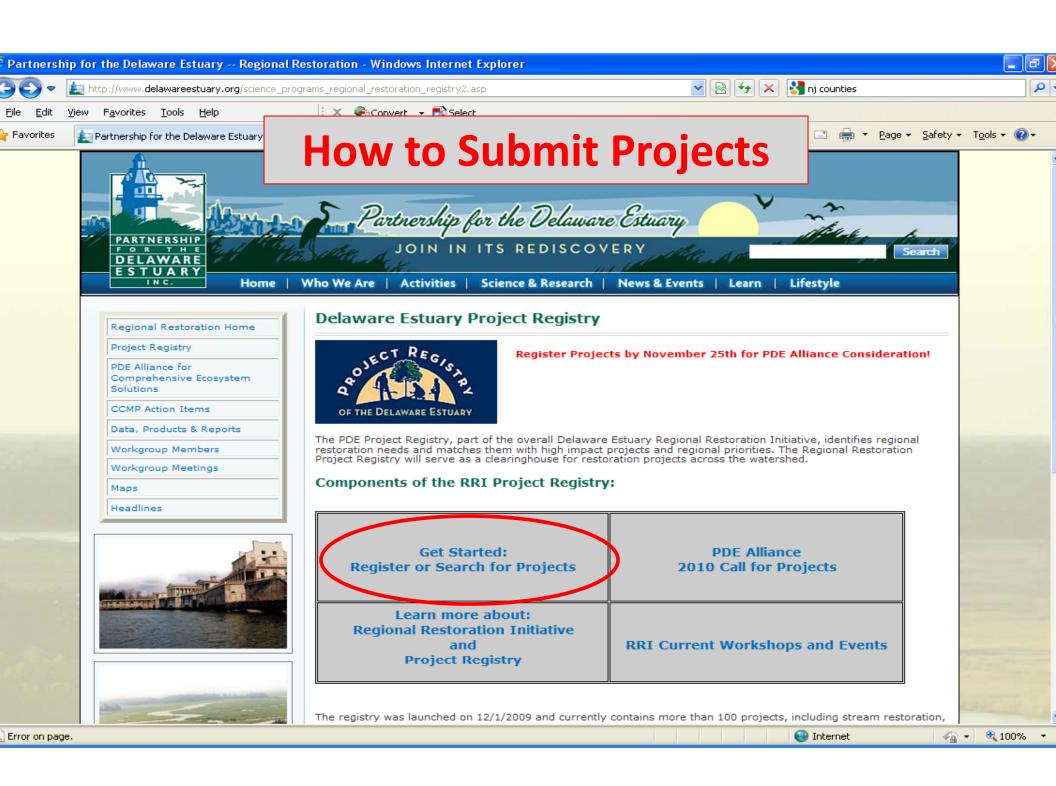


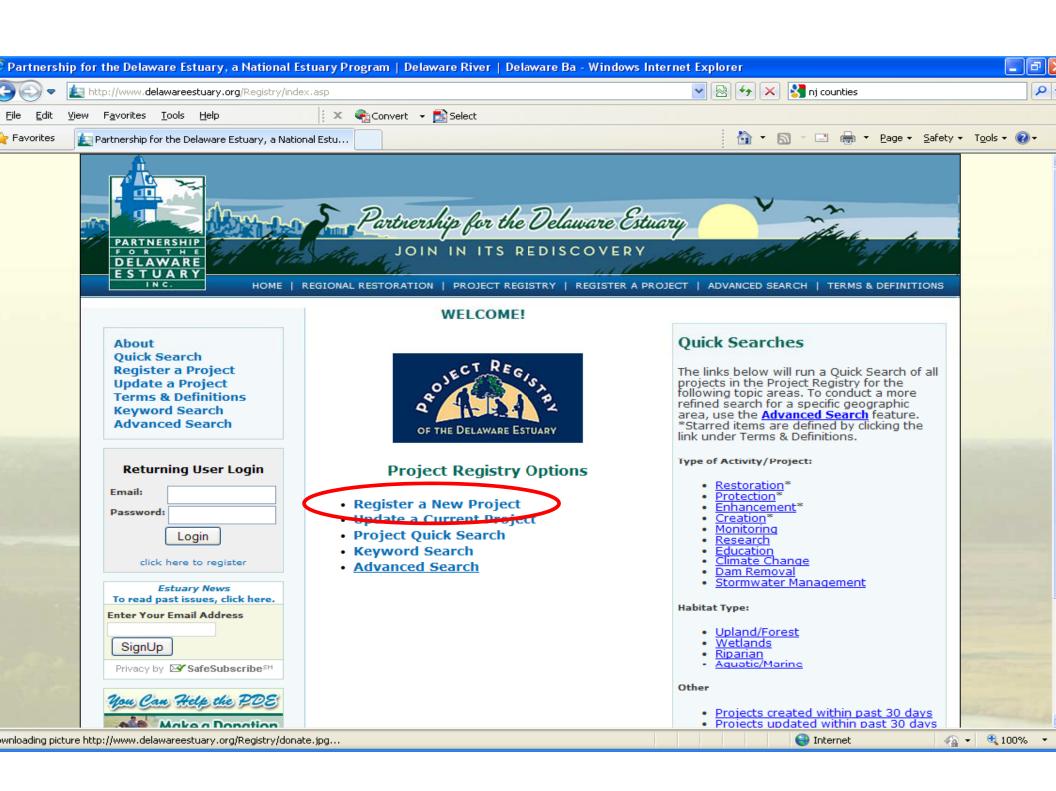
Goal: Inventory the full diversity of environmental improvement projects; e.g.,

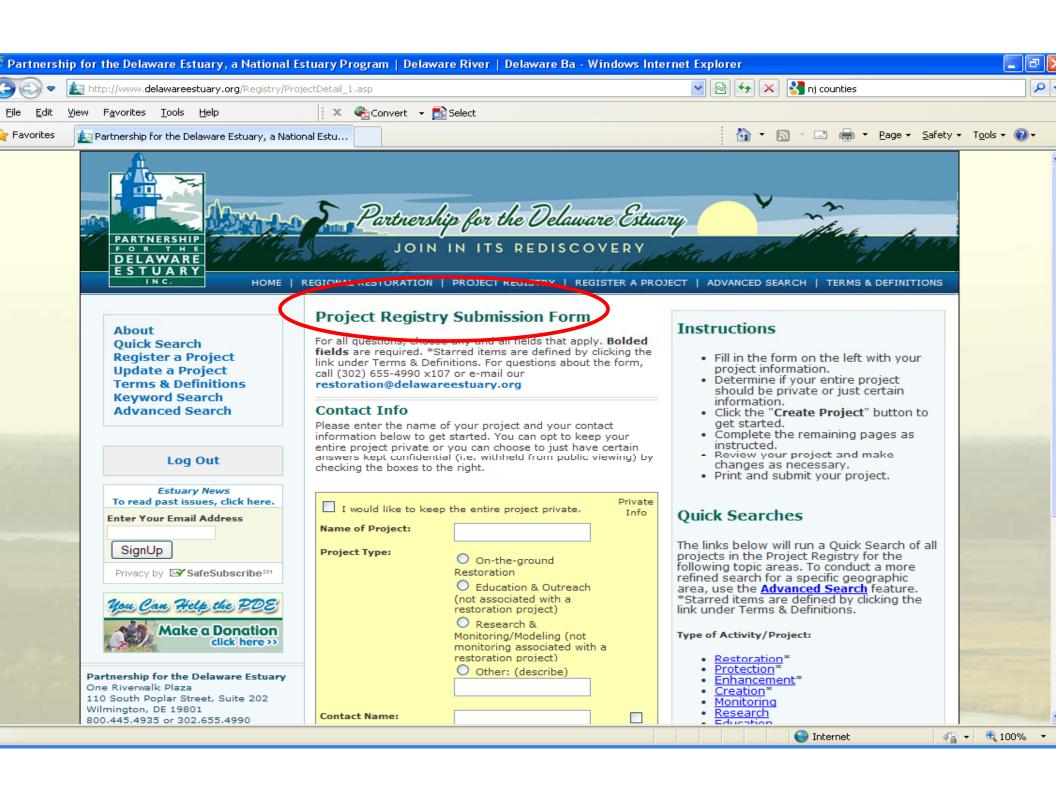
- "earth-moving" projects
- research/monitoring studies that support strategic restoration
- outreach projects that strengthen understanding about restoration

Utility:

- clearinghouse for potential funders
- tracking mechanism for restoration progress
- quantify and market the total restoration need within the Delaware Estuary River Basin



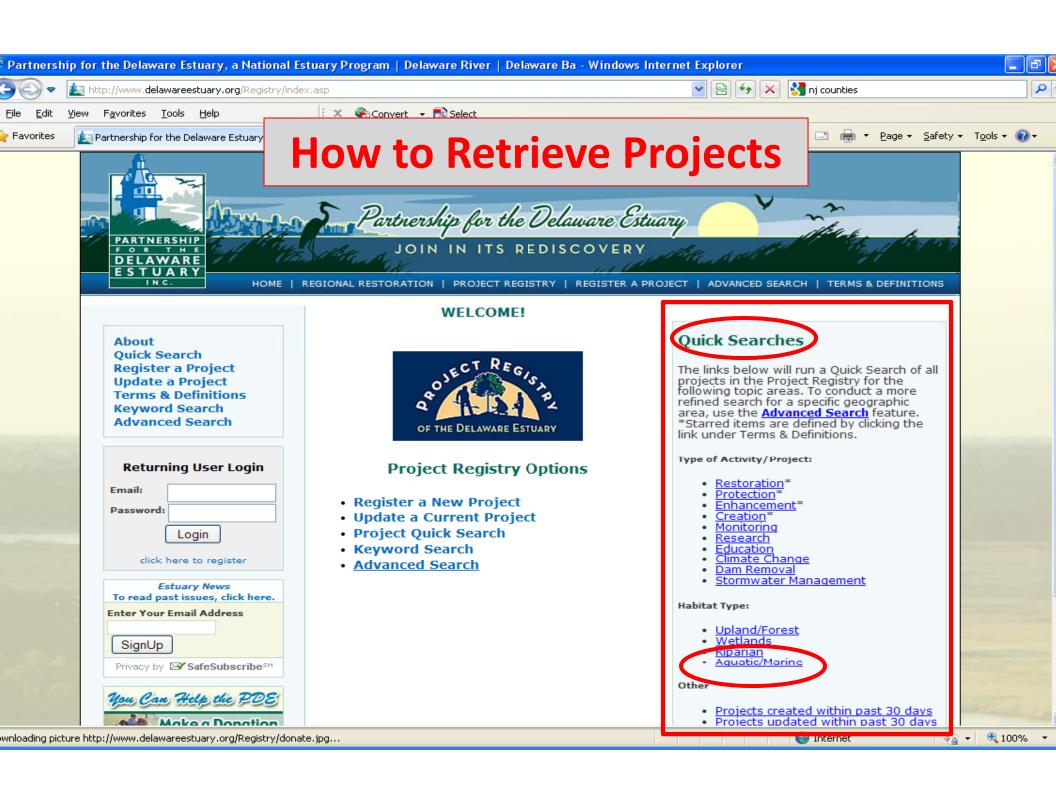


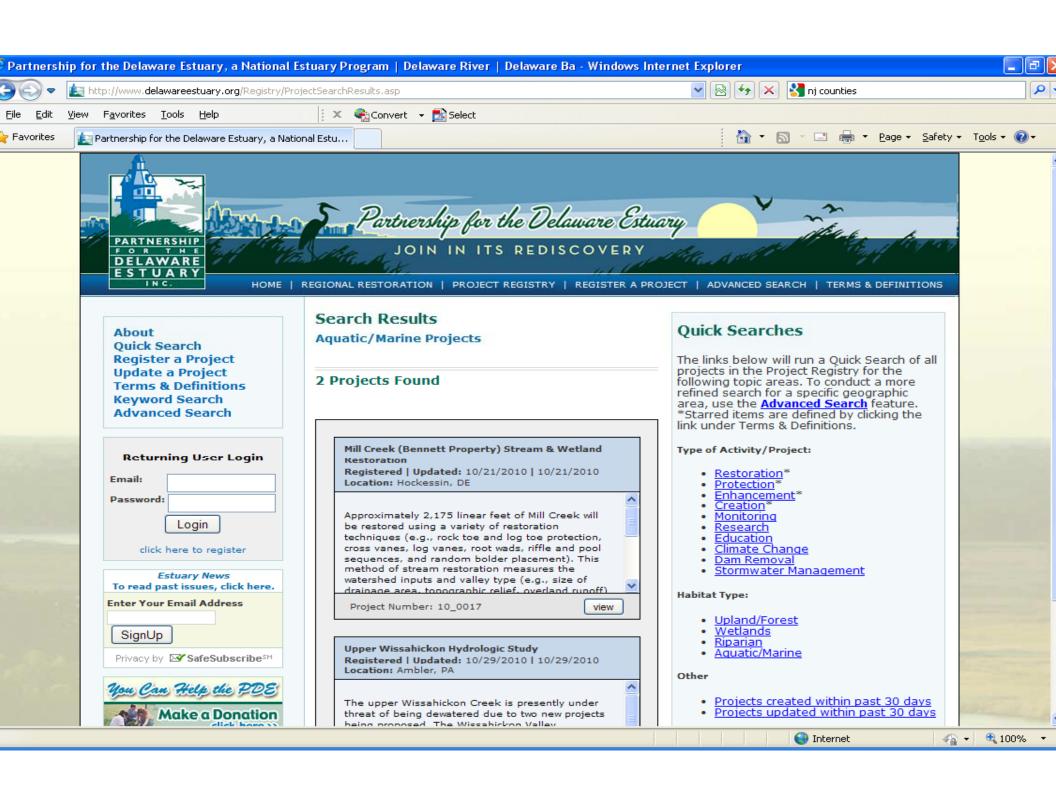


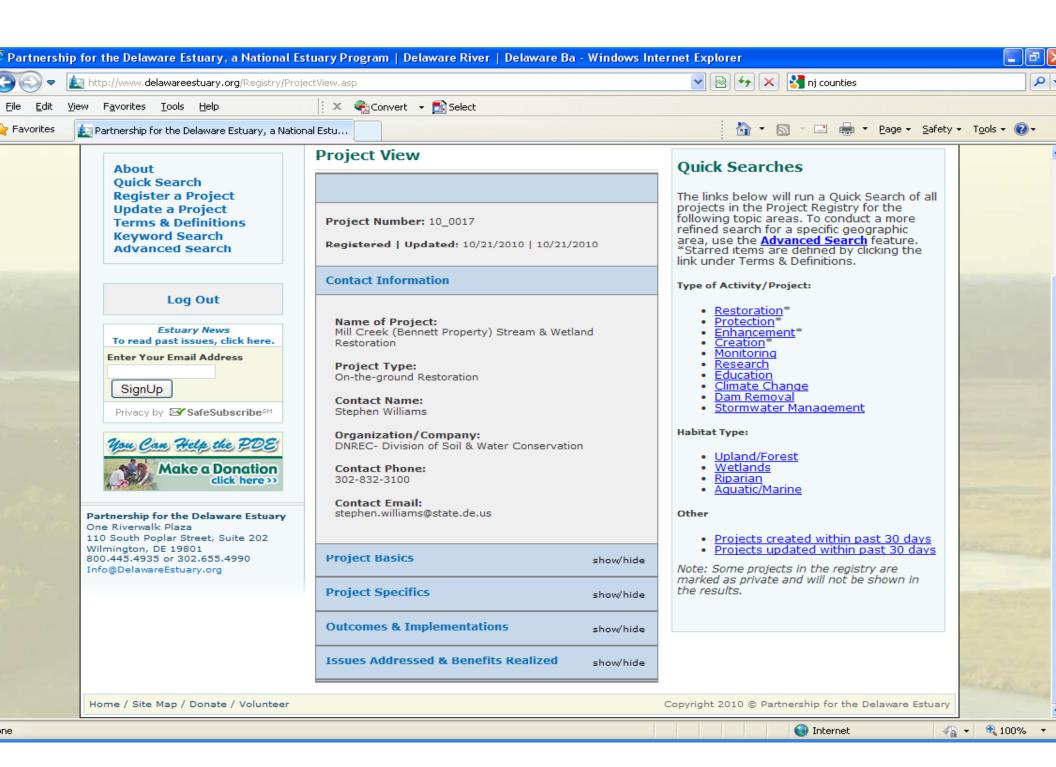
Project Registry Submission Info

- Project Description
- Keywords
- Project Address
- Nearest City/Town
- Size of Project
- Type of Activity
- Total Estimated Project Cost
- Project Status
- Site ownership
- Project Duration
- Funding Secured?









Potential Users

Grant Agencies

ACES / Estuary Program

Mitigation / NRDA Trustees



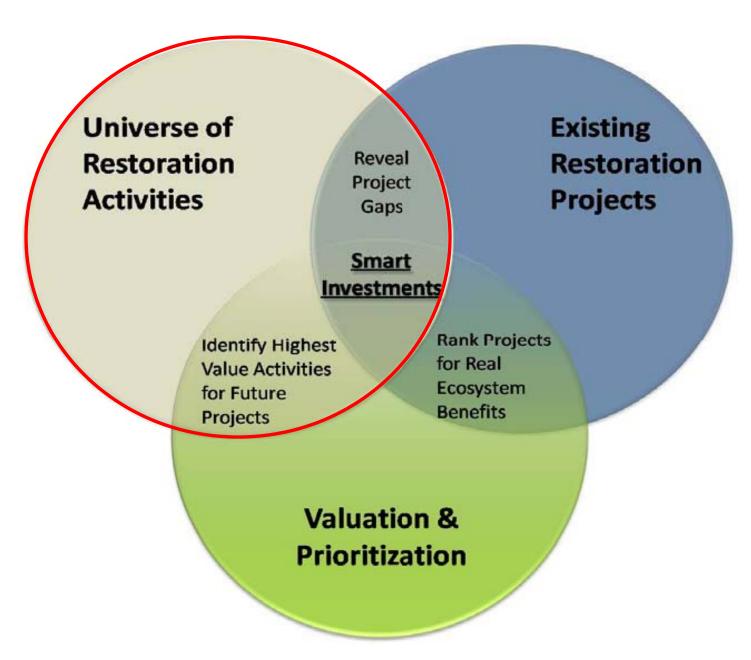
Other Applications

Tracking Progress on Restoration

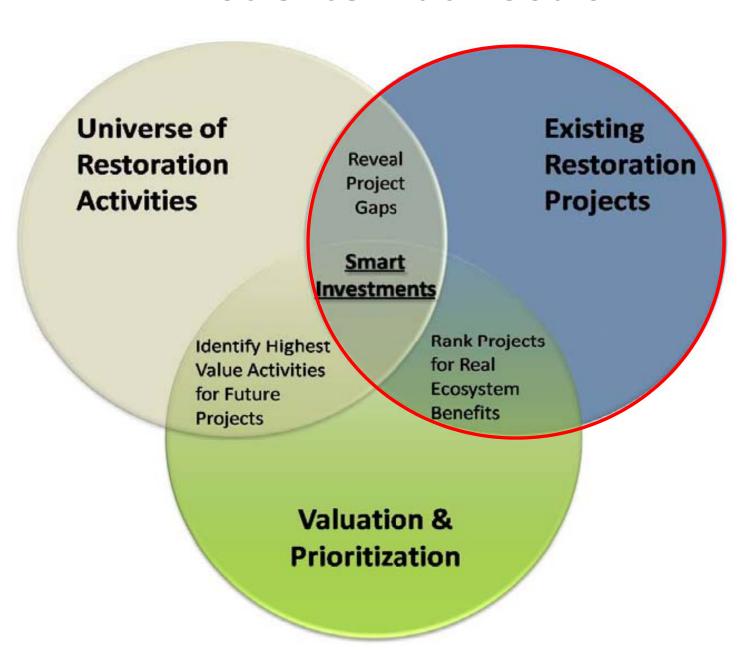
Marketing the Need to the Nation



RRI Science Track Goals



RRI Science Track Goals



Natural Capital Concepts

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Values

Additional Values



Supporting Value

 Value for ecological functioning (water quality improvement, habitat for fish and birds)



Provisioning Value

Commercial value, extractable, food & fiber (fisheries, timber)



Regulating Value

• Shoreline Protection, Carbon Sequestration, TMDL mitigation



Cultural/Recreational/Historical

· Also includes Spiritual, Aesthetic, Human Well-Being



Functional Dominance

 Identifies species or habitats that are pivotal ecologically; i.e., their collapse would precipitate wider ecosystem collapse



Lack of Opportunity

Challenges because of historically lost or minimal opportunity;
 limited window (e.g. urban waterfront restoration)



Critical Imperilment Value

Species or habitat types that are in danger of being lost



Signature Type Value

Hallmarks of the Delaware Estuary not found much elsewhere

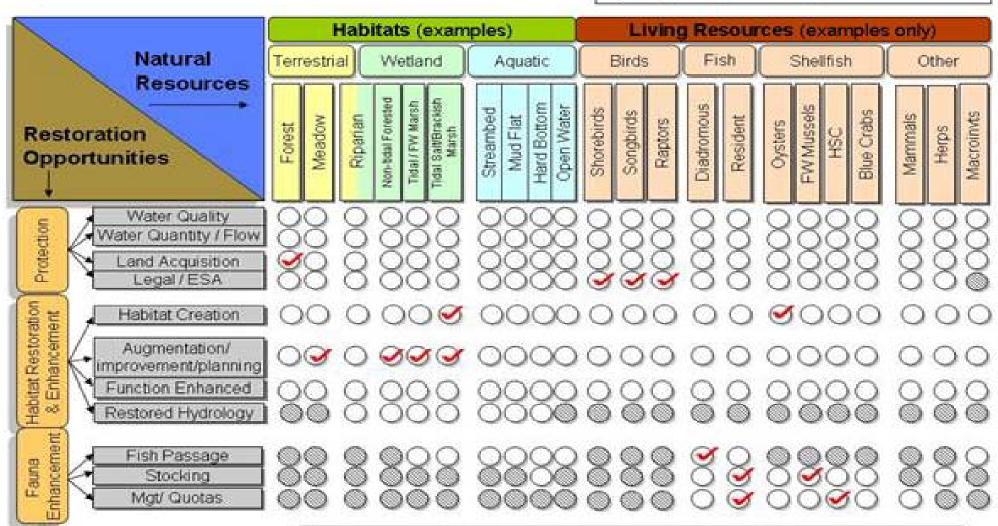
Value-Added Decision Tools

> "Uplift"

Basic Restoration Matrix

LE-1: Restoration Opportunities Layer





Each circle will receive a unique cell code for use in the project directory & database 40. The Information shown contains examples only, to be refined in later stages of the RRI.



Value-Added Restoration Matrix

Restoration Activity							Terrestrial			Wetland	
						hab1	hab2	hab 3	hab 4	hab5	
			Scale		Key		Forest	Weadow	Other	Non-tidal Forested Wetland	Tidal Freshwater Wetland
		Cell Code Projects Exist?			2a ////			20	3∎ GAP	4a /////	5e high need
Hebitet Restoration	Natural Capital Values	E coservice Value Extractive Value (Trust)	0-10 0-10		med	hi			2 2	8 4	9
		Functional Dominance	0-5	lo	med	hi			1	4	5
		Critical Imperiled	0-5		med	hi			0	4	4
	Other Values	Signature Type	0-3	lo	med	hi			0	1	5
		Lack of Opportunity	0-3	lo	med	hi			1	0	0
		Other Considerations**	0-3	lo	med	hi			1	0	1
		Importance Score						na	7	21	25

Structure

Regional Restoration Initiative

Blueprint for the Delaware Estuary



Track 1

Regional Restoration Workgroup (RRWG)

Track 2

PDE Alliance for Comprehensive Solutions (ACES)

Case Studies

ID Key Resources

Ecological Valuation

N.C. Outcomes from Activities

Project
Registry & Gaps



Tidal Marshes



Bivalve Shellfish



Headwater Streams



Urban Waterfront

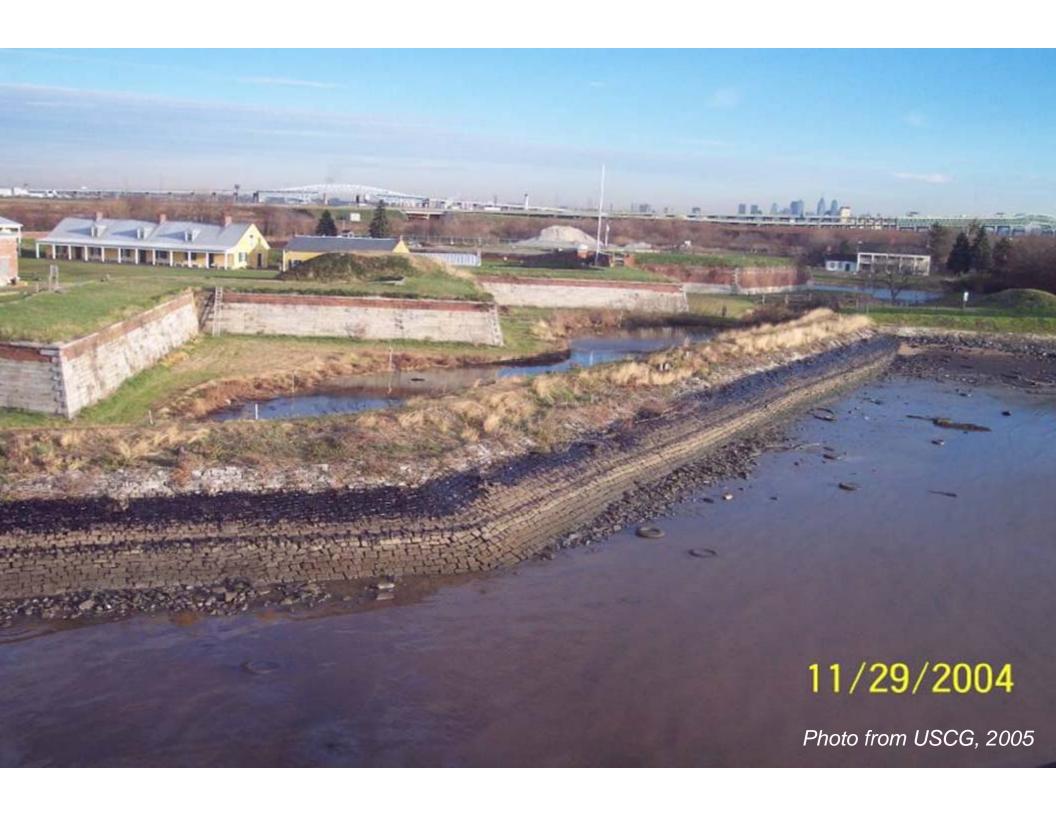
Spills Happen

T/S ATHOS I



Thanksgiving, 2004





Most Oil Sunk





Photos from USCG, 2005

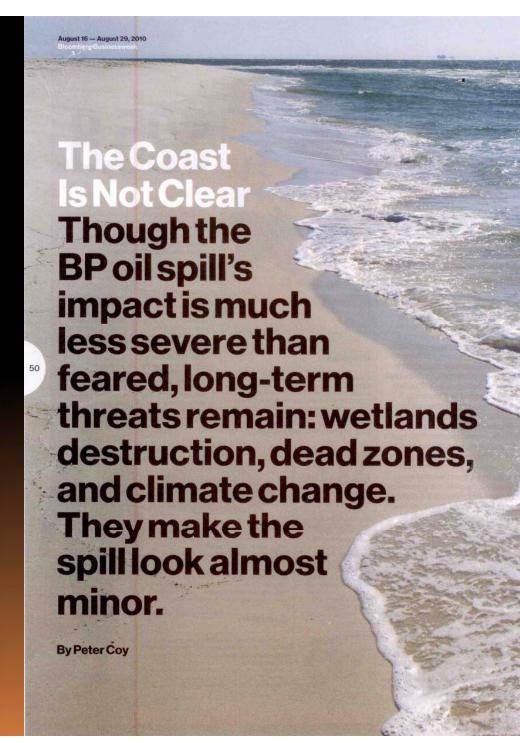
Deepwater Horizon

Can it happen here?

- Well Blow-Out
 type of spill can't happen here
- 700x volume of Athos I spill spill volume can't happen here

Lessons for the Delaware Estuary

- Prevention
- Response
- Recovery
- Mitigation



STAC Brief

Purpose: pose unaddressed science and management questions



Science and Technical Advisory Committee

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary: A National Estuary Program www.DelawareEstuary.org

Oil Spill Preparedness in the Delaware Estuary Comments and Questions by the STAC

PREPARED BY:

Danielle A. Kreeger, Ph.D., Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
Desmond M. Kahn, Ph.D. Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife
John Kraeuter, Ph.D., Rutgers University
Susan S. Kilham, Ph.D., Drexel University
David Velinsky, Ph.D., Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia

DATE: July 27, 2010

The unprecedented environmental catastrophe underway in the Gulf due to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill provides a unique opportunity to re-examine the science and management of oil spill protection, response and mitigation in the Delaware Estuary.

- 1. What is the combined volume, type and characteristics of oil entering the tidal portion of the Delaware Estuary each year?
- How has this changed over time?
- How do oil spills vary spatially and temporally?
- What are the typical types of oils spilled?
- How does recovery success vary with spill size or type?



- 2. What is the cumulative environmental impact of various size spills?
- What type of baseline monitoring for oil compounds is needed for this assessment?
- 3. What is the relative impact of tidal oil spills versus other oil sources?
- Can oil fingerprinting and other methods be used to assess the relative amount of oils derived from different sources?
- 4. Are there new approaches to remediation that can be applied here, such as bioremediation?

- 5. Can a program be established to fund monitoring, assessment and mitigation of oil spill effects?
- Despite the size of the petrochemical industry and imported oil volumes, no baseline monitoring exists for oils and their effects
- 6. Can local researchers be engaged to help assess these unknowns?
- 40+ universities and diverse, relevant scientific expertise



7. Can NRDA be strengthened, broadened or replicated to assess and repair injury to non-trust natural resources and ecosystem functions?

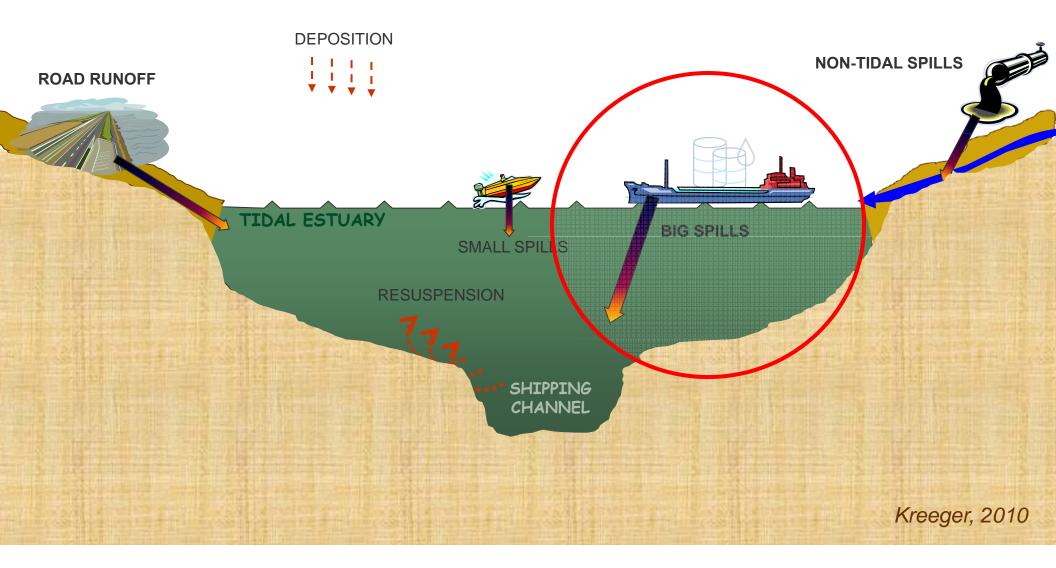
For a copy of the STAC Brief:

http://www.delawareestuary.org/science_stac_briefs.asp



Oil Sources in the Delaware Estuary

Observation: Oils, petrochemicals and hydrocarbons enter the environment through a variety of means and in many places



Additional ImpactsStanding Waves and Erosion



NRDA:

a critical component of regional restoration

Efforts to build a Trust to go beyond NRDA have not progressed in the Delaware Estuary

Funding for the Gulf of Mexico restoration and the Chesapeake Executive Order – will that affect our efforts to grow the restoration pie here?

Can we do more with less?

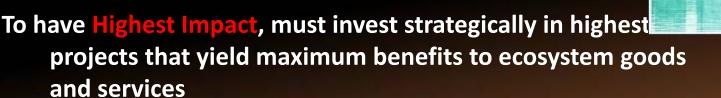


Restoration for the Future



Summary

- Large and complex system
- Limited resources
- Broad CCMP
- Urgency



Regional restoration considers which activities are best across time and space at both the watershed and sub-watershed scale

The Project Registry and other RRI tools are available for potential use by trustees and others

