

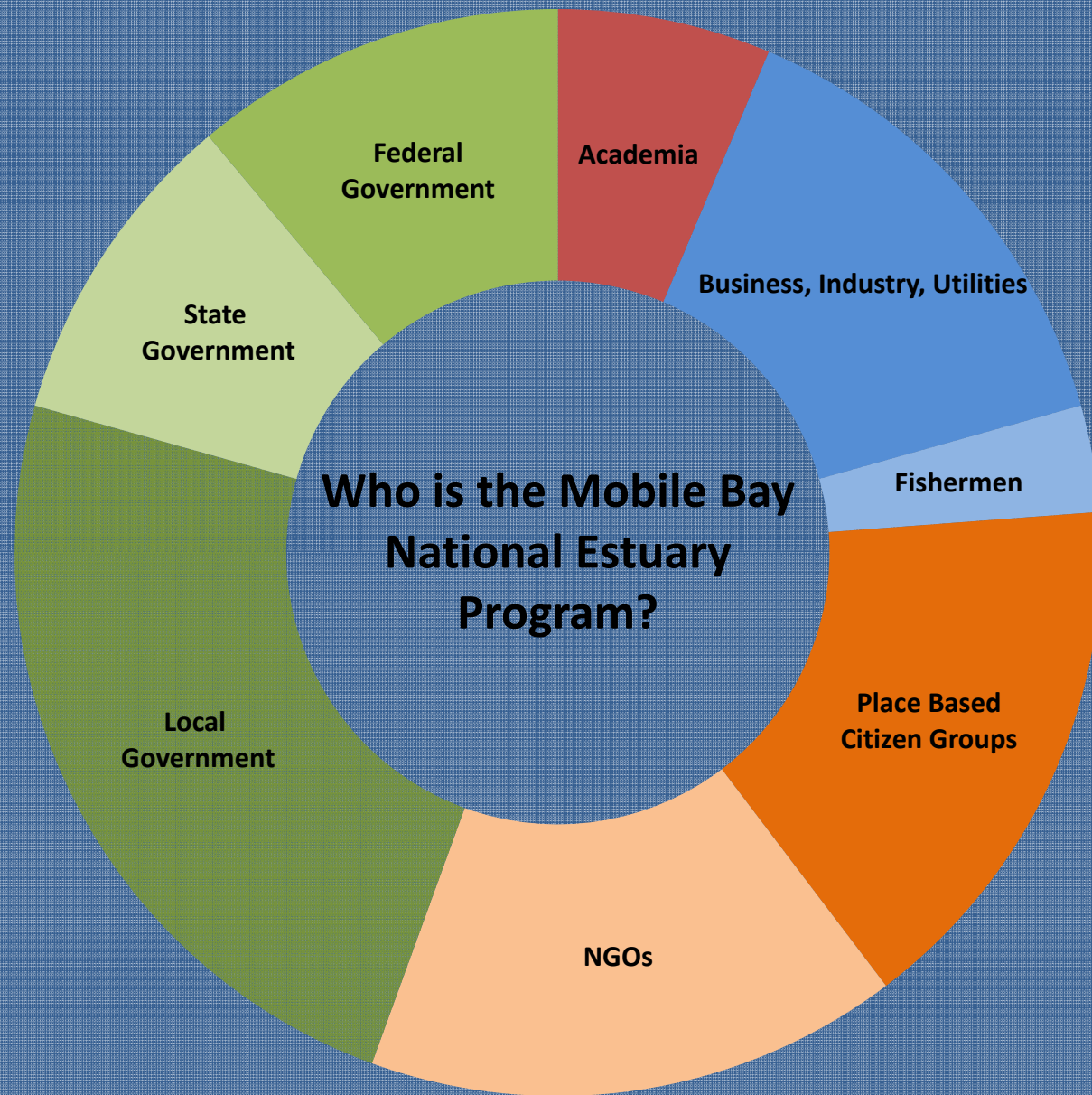
Video

A sunset over a body of water with a pier in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with some clouds. The water is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky. The pier is made of wooden posts and extends into the water.

On the Path Toward Coastal Restoration ...

Projects and Watershed Management Plans

*Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
ADEM Non-Point Source Conference 2016
Montgomery , Alabama*



**Who is the Mobile Bay
National Estuary
Program?**

Academia

Business, Industry, Utilities

Fishermen

**Place Based
Citizen Groups**

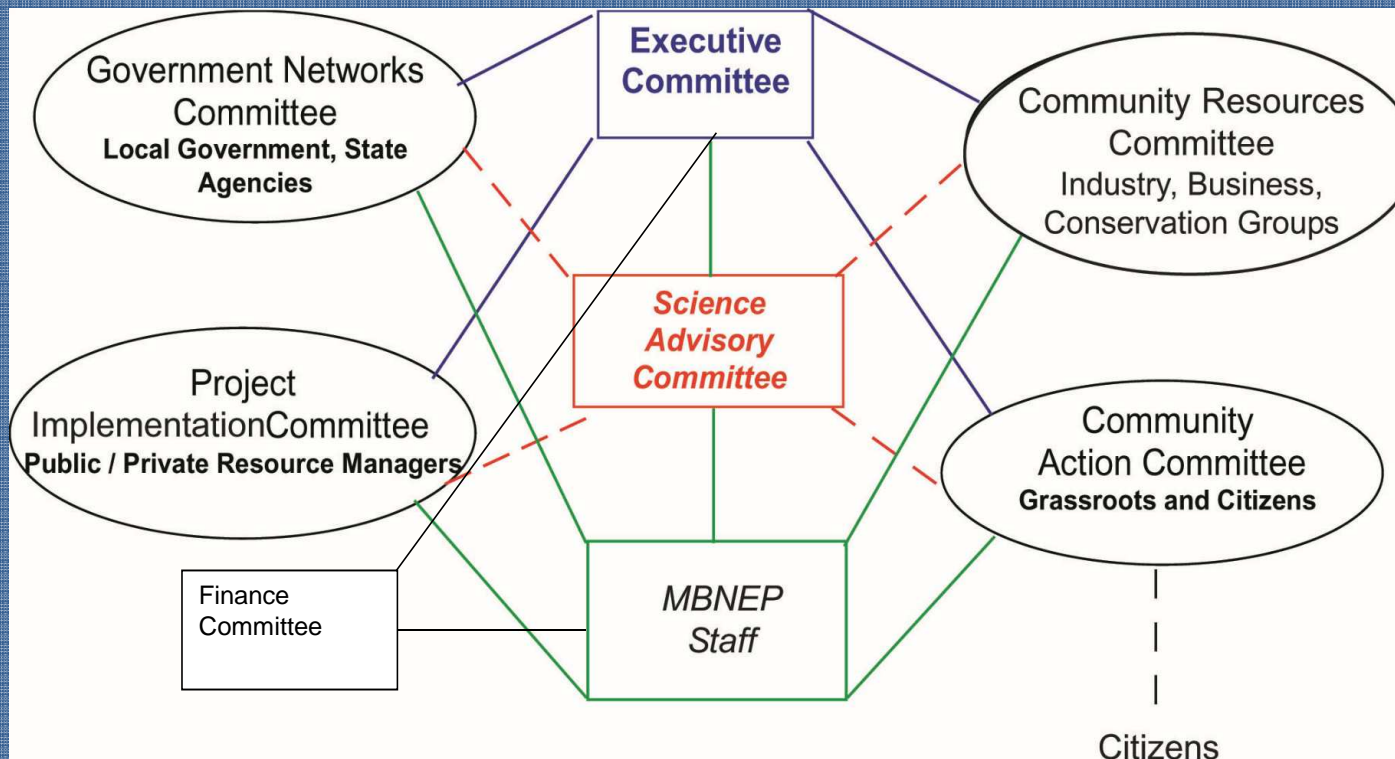
NGOs

**Local
Government**

**State
Government**

**Federal
Government**

How does the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Management Conference Work?



Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan
for Alabama's Estuaries & Coast

2013-2018



What people value most
about living in coastal
Alabama...



Access to Water and Open Spaces



**Coastlines
(Beaches and Other Shorelines)**



Fish



Heritage and Culture



Environmental Health and Resilience



Water Quality

Highest Ranking Habitats, Ecosystem Services and Stresses

Habitat	Ecosystem Services Most Stressed	Top Stress Impacts	Values
Freshwater Wetlands	Nesting for birds and turtles Biodiversity Wildlife, Fisheries	Land Use Change Fragmentation Dredging and Filling	Access Fish Heritage Resilience Water Quality
Intertidal Marshes and Flats	Biodiversity Fisheries Wildlife Water Quality	Sediment Sea Level Rise Fragmentation	Access Beaches Fish Heritage Resilience Water Quality
Streams and Rivers (Riparian Buffers)	Fish Biodiversity Water Quality Sediment	Freshwater discharge Land Use Change Sediments	Access Fish Heritage Resilience Water Quality

MBNEP's Focus Areas

Ecosystem Status and Trends (SAC)

- Research
- Assessment and Monitoring
- Reporting

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building (GNC, BRC, CAC)

- Tools
- Training
- Incentives
- Direct Assistance

Ecosystem Restoration and Protection (PIC)

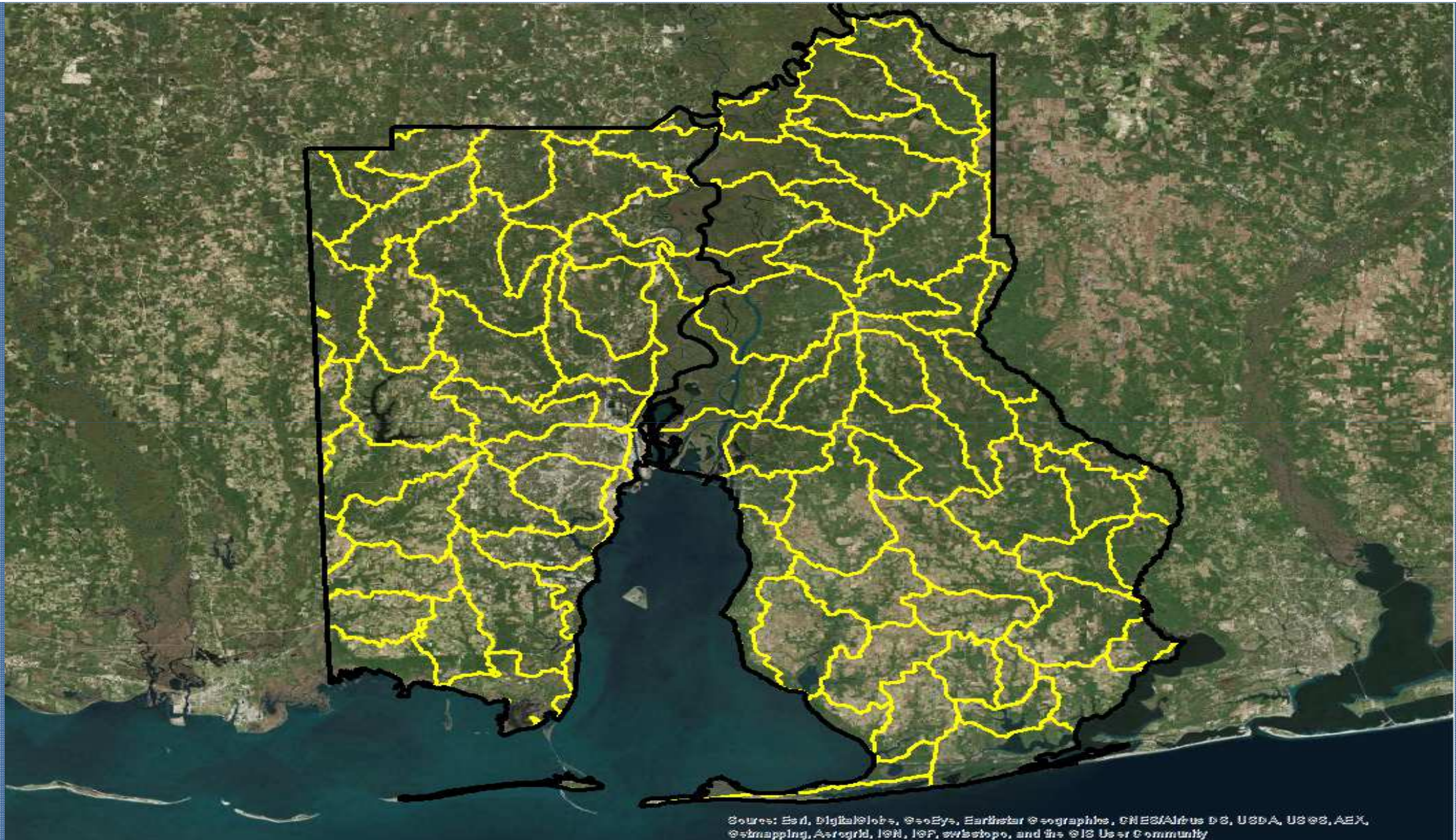
- Water Quality
- Living Resources
- Habitats
- Healthy Communities

Community Awareness, Education, Involvement (BRC, CAC)

- Awareness Campaigns/Materials
- Outreach & Public Involvement
- Citizen Monitoring
- Volunteer support for restoration



Photo by Gail



Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroX, Swisstopo, AerialGrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

What will coastal restoration look like in 2016?

Estuary Status and Trends

CCMP Goals

Increase data related to the status of the estuarine ecosystem

Establish Process for measuring change in estuarine condition

Improve understanding of how restoration contributes to improved biological conditions and community services

Looking Forward to 2016

- ❄ Habitat and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation **Maps** and Soil **Surveys**
- ❄ First **full year of ecological assessment data** for D'Olive Watershed
- ❄ Adequate monitoring data to **remove Joes Branch** from the State's Impaired Waters list

Ecosystem Restoration and Protection

Goals

Improve trends in Water Quality

Improve function and resilience of beaches and shorelines

Restore/Expand human connections to our coastal resources

Looking Forward to 2016

- ❖ **Complete 8** Watershed Plans
- ❖ **Implement 6** Watershed Plans
- ❖ **Initiate 5** Watershed Plans
- ❖ **Begin Construction:** Mon Louis Island Tip
- ❖ **Complete first section** Three Mile Creek Trail



Technical Assistance and Community Capacity Building

CCMP Goals

Improve business community understanding and support for protecting the estuary/coast

Improve Local Government capability to manage and maintain coastal resources

Minimize impacts of stormwater runoff on local waterways

Promote the protection and restoration of Gulf beaches and their associated economies, including working waterfronts

Looking Forward to 2016

- ❖ Engage **8** businesses in the *Create a Clean Water Future* campaign
- ❖ Identify **3** needs for governance authority to ensure restoration success
- ❖ Establish **1** public private partnership for watershed implementation

Education and Public Outreach: Raising Awareness and Promoting Wise Stewardship

Looking Forward to 2016

- ❄ **Engage 15** grassroots groups in a *Create a Clean Water Future* Service Day
- ❄ **Improve and expand 1** comprehensive volunteer monitoring program
- ❄ **Conduct 2** trainings to help build grassroots capacity

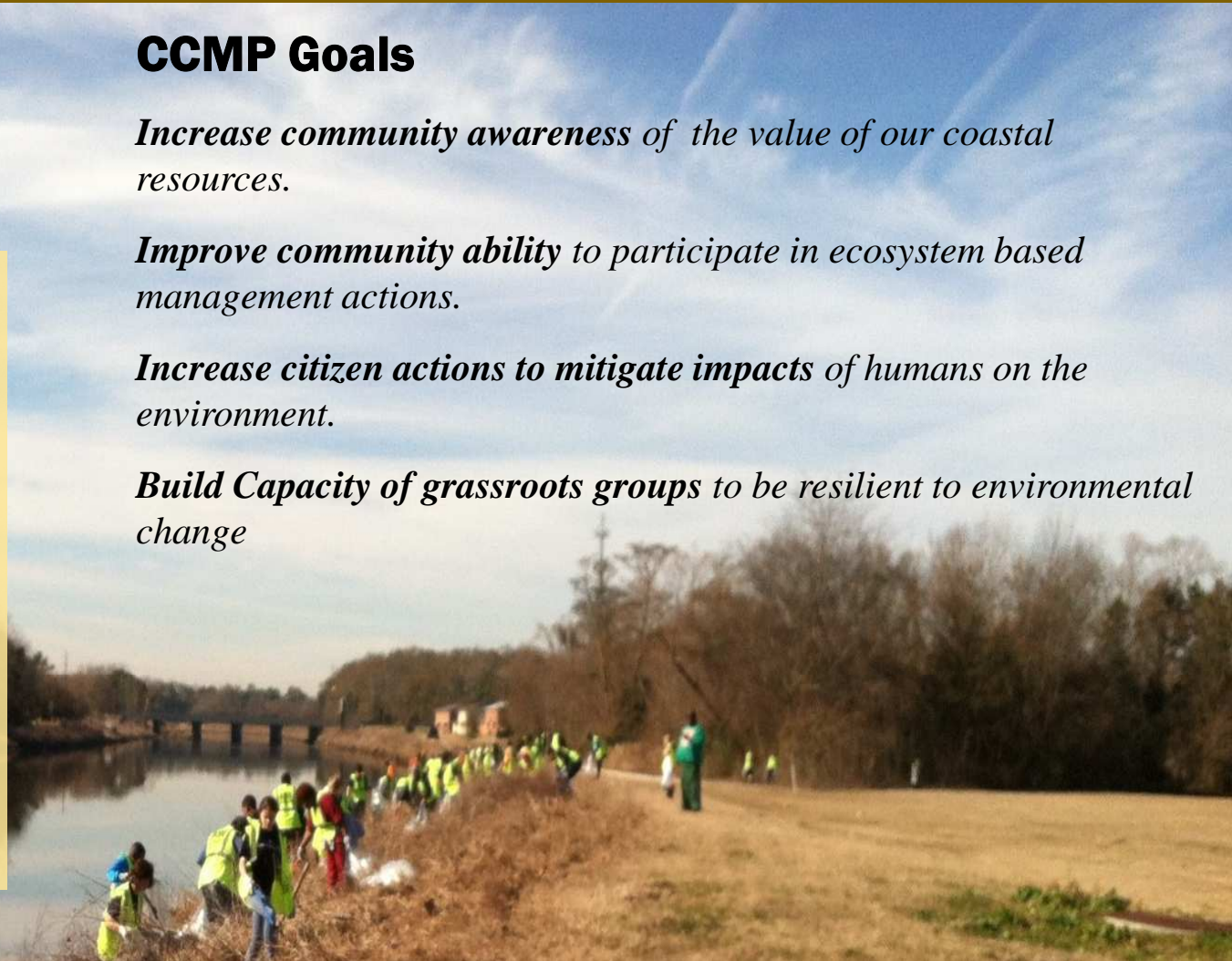
CCMP Goals

Increase community awareness of the value of our coastal resources.

Improve community ability to participate in ecosystem based management actions.

Increase citizen actions to mitigate impacts of humans on the environment.

Build Capacity of grassroots groups to be resilient to environmental change



Together, we will

