

Partnering to Achieve Results for Our Coastal Environment

2004 COASTAL AMERICA
PROGRESS REPORT





COASTAL AMERICA
2002 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Background: In response to the need to protect, preserve and restore our coastal heritage the Coastal America Partnership was established by a Memorandum of Understanding in 1992 and continued by the Memorandum of Understanding of 1994. This 2002 Memorandum of Understanding supersedes the earlier versions.

Purpose: The purpose of Coastal America is to: (1) protect, preserve, and restore the Nation's coastal ecosystems through existing Federal capabilities and authorities; (2) collaborate and cooperate in the stewardship of coastal living resources by working together and in partnership with other Federal programs, and by integrating Federal actions with state, local, tribal government, and non-governmental efforts; and (3) provide a framework for action that effectively focuses expertise and resources on jointly identified problems to produce demonstrable environmental and programmatic results that may serve as models for effective management of coastal living resources.

Statutory Basis: This interagency partnership operates within existing authorities and serves to link many Federal statutes that affect coastal resources including but not limited to: Clean Water Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), Water Resources Development Acts, and National Environmental Policy Act. This Memorandum of Understanding does not amend or abridge any existing statutory authorities.

General Scope: Coastal America provides a forum for interagency collaborative action and a mechanism to facilitate regional action plans to protect, preserve, and restore the Nation's coastal living resources. Partnership efforts will continue to emphasize the shared coastal concerns of habitat loss and degradation, nonpoint source pollution, and contaminated sediments. Other priority issues will be addressed as appropriate. To facilitate program activities, the partners have established a Principals Group, a National Implementation Team (NIT), Regional Principals, Regional Implementation Teams (RITs), and the Coastal America coordinating office. In addition, the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center (CELC) network and the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (CWRP) have been established in collaboration with non-governmental partners. The partners ensure their organization's adequate regional and national representation and participation in these endeavors.

Responsibilities: The Principals establish overall policy for the Coastal America partnership. The Principals are senior policy representatives of the partnership agencies at the sub-cabinet level. The Chair of the Principals Group is designated by the Partnership. The group meets semiannually at a minimum. Similarly, the Regional Principals are senior policy representatives of the partnership agencies at the regional level.

The NIT members represent their respective agencies at national coordinating meetings, provide advice to the Coastal America office, represent Coastal America in various forums, participate on special workgroups as necessary and explore and facilitate coordination of national, inter-regional and other large-scale projects. The members are senior national-level managers from the appropriate operating elements of the partnership agencies. The NIT is chaired by the Director of the Coastal America office. The team meets monthly at a minimum.

The RITs are the primary operating units for Coastal America and provide forums for interagency consultation and action. The RIT members identify or develop regional strategies for joint action and facilitate mechanisms for their implementation. The members are senior regional-level managers from the appropriate operating elements of the partnership agencies. The RIT chairs are elected on a rotating basis by the respective teams. The teams meet quarterly at a minimum.

The CELC network creates a partnership between the federal partners and marine education centers of excellence. The network includes aquaria and other marine science-based institutions. The primary goal of the Learning Centers is to educate and involve the public in protecting our nation's coastal ecosystems.

The CWRP is a voluntary public-private partnership in which corporations join forces with federal and state agencies to restore wetlands and other aquatic habitats. The objective of the partnership is to reverse the degradation of America's fresh and saltwater wetlands and other aquatic habitats. The partnership also involves local communities, non-profit organizations and academia.

The Coastal America office serves to coordinate the activities related to the purpose of the partnership mission. The office provides the external point of contact for the partnership and facilitates the activities of the Principals, NIT and RITs, CELCs and CWRP. In addition, the office is a catalyst for development and facilitation of national projects and products, and education and training activities.

Funding: Each fiscal year, the partners identify those authorities under which multi-agency, intergovernmental projects can be funded. Partners will endeavor, where appropriate and consistent with their needs, to afford priority within their programs to projects meeting Coastal America criteria. All funding arrangements under this agreement will be consistent with any applicable restrictions on interagency financing.

Reports and Documentation: On an annual basis the Coastal America office prepares and submits a progress report to the Principals, which identifies management actions undertaken, and evaluates the effectiveness of program activities.

Duration and Effect: This Memorandum of Understanding is effective as of the date of signature by all parties. This MOU shall be reviewed periodically by the parties at least once every three years to determine whether it should be revised, renewed or canceled, and may be amended by mutual written agreement.

Dispute Resolution: Nothing herein is intended to conflict with any of the federal agency partners' existing administrative orders, regulations, or legal authorities. At the first opportunity for review of the MOU, any necessary changes will be accomplished either by amendment to this MOU or by entering into a new MOU, whichever is deemed expedient and in the interest of all federal agency partners.

Approvals: This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into and made effective as of the date latest in time indicated below.

Signatures and dates of representatives from various agencies including James L. Connaughton (Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality), Mark Rey (Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment), George S. Dunlop (Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army), Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr. (Vice-Admiral, U.S. Navy), Roy A. Bernardi (Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development), P. Lynn Scarlett (Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget), H.T. Johnson (Assistant Secretary of the Navy), John F. Turner (Assistant Secretary for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs), Emil Frankel (Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy), and G. Tracy Mehan, III (Assistant Administrator for Water, Environmental Protection Agency).

COASTAL
AMERICA...

A
Partnership
for
Action



Partnering to Achieve Results for Our Coastal Environment

2004
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Message from the Chair



Welcome to the Coastal America Partnership! The following 2004 Progress Report highlights activities of the Partnership conducted during the past year.

Coastal America brings together people from federal agencies, state and local governments, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to collaboratively address our Nation's coastal environmental issues. Our Partnership focuses on the protection, preservation and restoration of some of our Nation's most scenic and valuable areas — our oceans and coasts.

2004 was an exciting year for Coastal America. The Coastal America Strategic Assessment, featured later in this report, is enhancing our operating structure and creating new opportunities for collaborative environmental projects. The Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership has expanded to include over 200 corporations and businesses, in addition to over 100 other agencies and organizations. The Corporate Partnership also now includes an international component which has begun to fund projects at some of our world's most threatened aquatic environments. The Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center Network welcomed two new aquaria in 2004, with plans underway to welcome an additional aquarium partner in early 2005.

We are in an extremely promising era for our Nation's oceans and coastal areas. The Ocean Action Plan, released by President Bush at the end of 2004, responds to the U.S. Ocean Commission's recommendations for systematic and accountable ocean governance. The Coastal America Partnership is one mechanism through which President Bush's Administration will reach its environmental goals.

On behalf of the Coastal America Principals, I invite you to read about our accomplishments over the past year, as well as participate in Coastal America efforts over the coming years. We pledge to continue to work with those committed to a positive future for our oceans and coasts.

Sincerely,

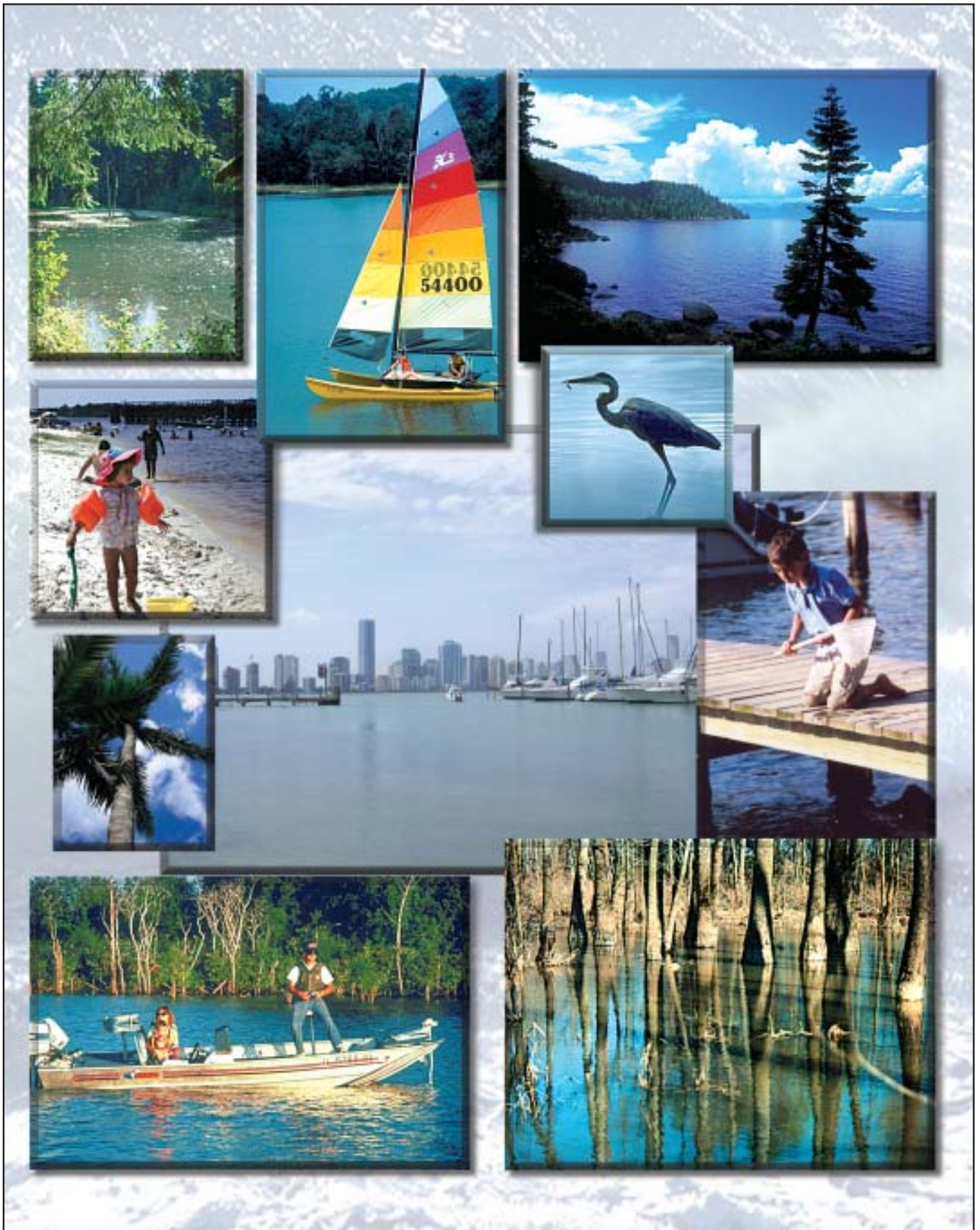
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Connaughton". The signature is fluid and cursive.

James L. Connaughton
Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality,
Executive Office of the President, and
Chair, Coastal America Partnership

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I. THE COASTAL AMERICA PARTNERSHIP

WHAT IS COASTAL AMERICA?

Coastal America is an action-oriented, results-driven process aimed at restoring and preserving vital coastal ecosystems and addressing our most critical environmental issues. The Coastal America Partnership was launched in 1991 by then-President George H.W. Bush, and formalized in 1992 with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by nine sub-cabinet level agency representatives. These representatives committed their agencies to work together and integrate their efforts with state, local and non-governmental activities.



Coastal America Federal Partners

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of the Air Force
- Department of the Army
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Energy
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of the Interior
- Department of the Navy
- Department of State
- Department of Transportation
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Executive Office of the President

The Coastal America federal partner agencies, under the Chairmanship of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, most recently updated the Coastal America MOU in November 2002. With a goal of better management of coastal resources, the partners pledged to coordinate their statutory responsibilities and combine their resources and expertise.

The collaborative process used by Coastal America brokers skills and leverages funding to enhance problem solving, allowing quick and effective project implementation. The result of these efforts has been to maximize the benefits and minimize the costs, both environmental and economic, of addressing complex coastal problems.

It is the mission of the federal interagency Coastal America Partnership to protect, preserve and restore the Nation's coastal ecosystems through collaborative action and partnership.

Mission Statement of the Coastal America Partnership, as agreed upon by the Coastal America Principals

HOW DOES COASTAL AMERICA OPERATE?

The Coastal America Partnership operates through a national, regional, and local team structure that brings together key participants at each level. This collaborative approach enables the identification and resolution of national policy matters, development and implementation of regional plans, and completion of local projects in a timely and cost-efficient manner.

The Principals Group, charged with establishing overall policy for the Coastal America Partnership, is the senior decision-making arm of Coastal America. The Group consists of senior policy officials, including Under or Assistant Secretaries, from the federal partner agencies. The Group meets quarterly to review progress and chart the course for future Coastal America actions.

The National Implementation Team (NIT), directly under the Principals Group, is composed of senior-level representatives from the headquarters of federal partner agencies. The NIT meets monthly to implement the policy directives of the Principals, as well as encourage collaboration among the partner agencies.

The Regional Implementation Teams (RITs) are the keystone of the Coastal America process. The RITs carry out the partnership mission by making on-the-ground projects happen. The RITs include senior staff of the federal partner agencies, along with state representatives, who identify projects, develop restoration strategies and craft site-specific coastal restoration strategies that generate the synergy for collaboration. The inclusion of personnel from various federal and state agencies provides a combination of resources and authorities to address coastal problems in a holistic and integrated fashion. The RITs are further charged to take a watershed approach to project implementation.

Local Project Implementation Teams are created to implement specific Coastal America projects. The teams consist of federal, state, local, nongovernmental and private-sector members.

This cooperative approach to project implementation promotes cost-effective, creative solutions and results that no single organization could accomplish alone. Working in partnership, Coastal America projects restore and protect hundreds of thousands of acres of wetlands, reduce pollutants entering coastal waterways and protect numerous species of marine life.



Senior officials from federal agencies in the Upper Mississippi/Great Lakes Region came together to support the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium through the Coastal America process.

The Coastal America Principals are extremely focused on wetlands restoration, protection and enhancement.

The Coastal America Partnership provides a mechanism to help each of our partner agencies achieve our coastal habitat goals.

Timothy R.E. Keeney,
Deputy Assistant
Secretary for Oceans
and Atmosphere,
Department of
Commerce

**Coastal America
Annual Meeting, Fort
Lauderdale, Florida,
May 27, 2004**

The Coastal America Principals

The Coastal America Principals engaged in a broad program of work during 2004 that touched on nearly all Partnership activities. Coastal America Partnership Chair James Connaughton, White House Council on Environmental Quality, convened three meetings of the Principals in Washington, D.C. The Principals discussed potential areas where the Partnership could enhance federal operations relevant to our oceans and coasts. A subgroup of Principals began to develop a budgetary overview that describes the expenditures of federal agencies on wetlands-related initiatives and projects.



Timothy Keeney, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, participated in the 2004 Coastal America Annual Meeting.



Don Schregardus, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Environment and Safety, presented a Partnership Award to a tidal wetland restoration team in Maryland.



John Turner, Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, met with students and teachers during the National Student Summit on Ocean Issues.

Several of the Principals participated in the first *National Student Summit on Ocean Issues* in January. The Principals met with student delegations from the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers and discussed ocean governance and management issues, as well as the work of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy.

In addition to their Washington, D.C. activities, many Principals also participated in Partnership events in the Coastal America regions. These events included the presentation of Partnership Awards, designation of new Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers and establishment of new chapters of the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership.

Four Principals attended the Coastal America Annual Meeting in Fort Lauderdale. The Principals offered insight into the Partnership's Strategic Assessment, as well as guidance for overall Partnership Activities.

TOOLS AND PROGRAMS OF THE COASTAL AMERICA PARTNERSHIP

The Coastal America Partnership utilizes a number of tools and programs to facilitate its mission. These include the *Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (CWRP)* and *International Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (ICWRP)*, the network of *Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers (CELCS)*, and the *Coastal America Partnership Awards* program.

The Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership



The CWRP originated in Massachusetts in 1999 under the leadership of The Gillette Company, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Within six months of its initiation, 17 corporations joined the Massachusetts CWRP and raised more than \$1 million in funding and services for coastal projects. In 2000, Coastal America expanded the CWRP as a national effort.

The CWRP is a way for environmentally responsible companies to reach out to their communities, beyond the boundaries of their own facilities. It is not a substitute for corporate compliance with federal permitting requirements. Instead, it allows private companies to make voluntary donations of funds or in-kind services to a non-profit organization. These funds or in-kind services are then used, at the company's direction, to help support coastal habitat restoration or public education projects that have been selected and endorsed by the Coastal America Regional Implementation Teams.



The Texas CWRP provided vital support to the San Jacinto Marsh Restoration and Interpretive Trail Project, which received a 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award.

President George W. Bush Highlights Wetlands at CWRP Project Site



President George W. Bush highlighted the importance of wetlands in a speech delivered on Earth Day, April 22, at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in Wells, Maine.

One of the major highlights of 2004 was President George W. Bush's speech on wetlands, delivered on April 22, 2004 at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in Wells, Maine. The President's speech highlighted wetland restoration projects at the Reserve, along with the Coastal America Partnership. The President announced a new national wetlands goal of "moving beyond a policy of no-net loss of wetlands to have an overall increase of wetlands in America each year." Over half of the attendees were Coastal America federal and state partners and CWRP partners from the New England region, as well as Reserve volunteers. President Bush commended corporations involved with the CWRP for their role in furthering wetland restoration activities.

The ceremony itself occurred at a CWRP project site. Maine CWRP and a number of other partners are supporting a community salt marsh restoration project at Drakes Island, which is shared by both the Wells Reserve and the adjacent Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge. The project will ultimately enhance 77 acres of salt marsh habitat in coastal Maine.

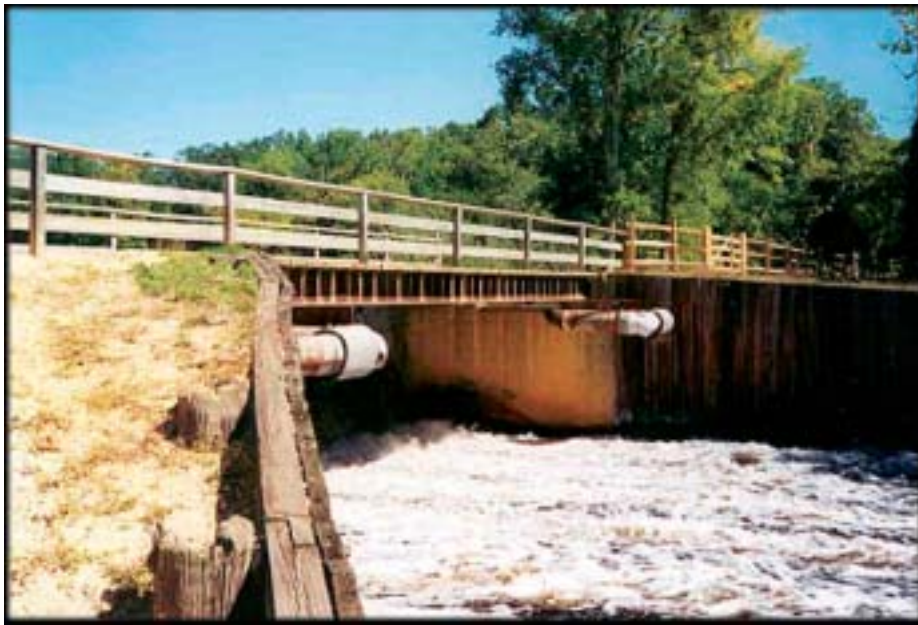
Community and corporate partners, along with the federal government, are working on Drakes Island marsh restoration — community and corporate partners. In other words, in order to make restoration work, it requires more than just government. It requires buy-in by corporate America.

Earth Day Address on Wetlands, President George W. Bush

Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, Wells, Maine, April 22, 2004

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Often, companies help their communities make the required local match for federal funds for community-based restoration projects. This makes for a win-win situation for the companies, the communities, and the federal government. All parties are able to maximize the environmental benefits of each dollar provided and better serve their communities and the environment.



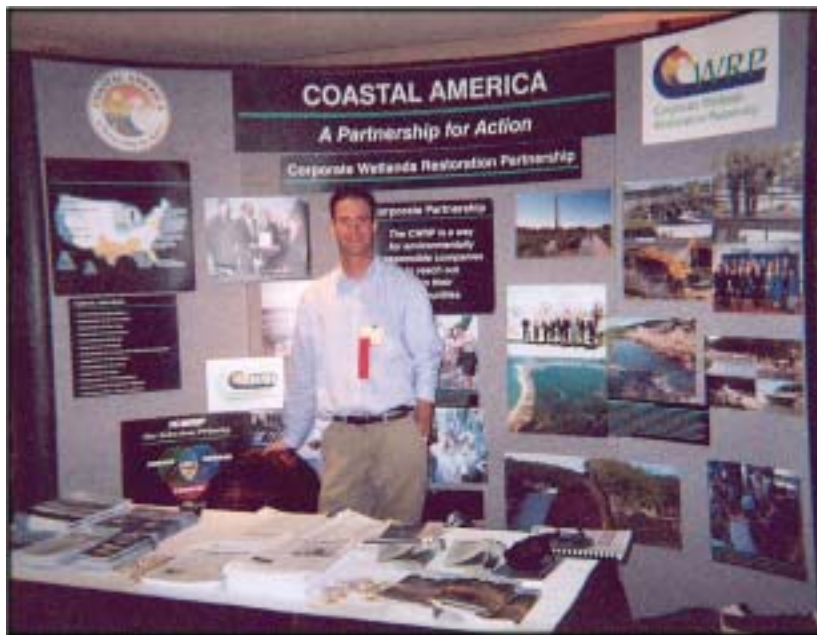
The New Jersey CWRP supported the installation of a fish ladder as part of the Batsto River Fishway Restoration Project.

The CWRP is structured in parallel to Coastal America, with a National Level Management Committee, Regional Advisory Councils and State Advisory Boards. Now in its fifth year of implementation, the CWRP has over 200 corporate partners and 100 non-federal partners, including environmental organizations, foundations, and state and local governments. Individual CWRP projects underway in 2004 are highlighted in the Regional Partnership Accomplishments section later in this document (see the Appendices for complete list of CWRP projects and partners).

CWRP Activities at the National Level

The National Level Management Committee, chaired by Duke Energy and vice-chaired by The Gillette Company, met three times in 2004. Discussion focused on the establishment of a more formal relationship between the CWRP and the Coastal America Foundation, the nonprofit organization that receives and disperses funding for the state CWRP chapters.

Federal and private sector participants presented and highlighted the CWRP at several national conferences this year, including Capitol Hill Oceans Week, the Second National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration, the Association of State Wetland Managers Symposium, the Wildlife Habitat Council's 16th Annual Symposium and other smaller meetings.



CWRP partners attend coastal restoration meetings throughout the country to extend the boundaries of the CWRP partnership.

Expanding the reach of the CWRP: The International Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

ICWRP is a remarkable model of how to best bring the expertise and resources of local communities, responsible companies, and the international conservation community together to protect some of our world's most valuable treasures. Together, the partners are accomplishing more than any one could do on its own.

**Michael Madnick,
Vice President
for Partnership
Development,
United Nations
Foundation**

**ICWRP Launch,
Mexico City,
Mexico,
October 26, 2004**



Building upon the tremendous success of the domestic CWRP, Coastal America joined forces with several partners to formally launch the International Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (ICWRP) in 2004. ICWRP is an innovative private-public global initiative to restore impaired yet ecologically important wetlands and other aquatic habitats around the world. ICWRP fosters real, on-the-ground progress through the promotion of projects designed to protect and restore our global wetlands and aquatic ecosystems.

The ICWRP model, first conceived in 2002, utilizes a two-pronged approach to address both small- and large-scale projects. Small-scale projects are accomplished through cooperation with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, while large-scale projects are facilitated by the United Nations Foundation through the World Heritage Program.

Vice-Admiral Conrad Lautenbacher, Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, signs the ICWRP Partnership Memorandum on behalf of the Coastal America Partners. Behind the Admiral, Lynne Hale signs the Memorandum on behalf of The Nature Conservancy. ▶



The ICWRP Partners participated in a kick-off ceremony for the Partnership and the Sian Ka'an project in Mexico City on October 26, 2004.

The founding partners of this new initiative, including The Gillette Company, The Nature Conservancy and the United Nations Foundation joined Coastal America partners for the formal launch of ICWRP as part of the *White Water to Blue Water Conference* in Miami on March 22, 2004. The partners also participated in a press event in Mexico City, Mexico on October 26, 2004, hosted by the U.S. Embassy, to formally introduce the first project to the Mexican public.

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ICWRP commenced work in 2004 through the funding of a large-scale pilot project at the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve in Quintana Roo, Mexico. Sian Ka'an is both a World Heritage Site and a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance that contains wetlands and aquatic habitats of vital ecological importance. The site is threatened by coastal development, unregulated tourism, and unsustainable farming and fishing practices. Through the ICWRP Partnership, The Nature Conservancy, The Gillette Company and the UN Foundation provided \$750,000 to support efforts to conserve freshwater, marine and coastal resources at the site. Project partners, working with *Amigos de Sian Ka'an* (a local environmental organization), are developing a conservation land-buyer program targeting the coastal areas of the Sian Ka'an reserve. Project partners will acquire a key tract of land, Pez Maya, that protects the only canal linking the coral reef to an extensive wetland system.

The ICWRP project at Sian Ka'an is preserving critical coastal habitats and ensuring protection of the freshwater system.



The shorebird habitat interpretive pavilion at Evangeline Beach, Nova Scotia, Canada. A partnership between Eastern Habitat Joint Ventures and Duke Energy facilitated the construction of the pavilion.

The CWRP model has also expanded to Canada. Eastern Habitat Joint Venture is working with a Duke Energy subsidiary, Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, to model the CWRP for Canadian application. Working within the framework of the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, Canadian CWRP has assisted in funding a shorebird habitat interpretive pavilion at Evangeline Beach. The pavilion provides visitors a safe shorebird viewing area and educates the public on the habitat's ecological diversity.

The Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers (CELC) Network

In the mid-1990's, discussions among the Coastal America partners on how to increase public awareness and understanding of coastal and marine issues led to a collaboration between Coastal America and marine learning institutions around the country. In 1996, Coastal America formalized the *Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center* network, comprised of a number of the nation's premier aquaria and marine learning institutions. Building on their role as public education facilities, the CELCs use the resources of the partnership to expand the educational opportunities they offer their communities. With the combined resources, the CELCs increase public awareness and understanding about coastal and ocean issues and implement community-based restoration projects.

There are currently 17 designated CELCs in 14 coastal states (see map below), with an additional CELC anticipated to enter the network in early 2005. The Administration's *Ocean Action Plan*, issued in December 2004, calls for the expansion of the CELC network. Coastal America federal agencies look forward to continued collaboration with our new and existing CELC partners.

Nationally, the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center Network touches more than 20 million people annually. Working together, the federal government and the CELCs reach more people and educate the public more effectively than either group could do alone.

R. Mack Gray,
Deputy Under
Secretary for Natural
Resources and
Environment,
U.S. Department
of Agriculture

**National Mississippi
River Museum
& Aquarium
Designation Ceremony,
Dubuque, Iowa,
June 25, 2004**

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers (CELCs)



The National Student Summit on Ocean Issues

Coastal America worked with 14 CELCs to create the first *National Student Summit on Ocean Issues*. Over 100 top high-school students, teachers, and marine educators from around the Nation participated in the Summit, January 14–16, in Washington, D.C. Summit participants also included representatives from the White House, the NOAA Science Center and other Coastal America Partners, the U.S. Ocean Commission, the National Geographic Society, and the U.S. House of Representatives. The Summit's purpose was to foster an ethic of stewardship amongst our future ocean leaders.

During their trip to Washington, D.C., students presented summaries of their regional ocean issues to over 60 science experts at the NOAA Science Center. Repeatedly, the students emphasized the sustainability of fisheries, marine resources, and coral reef ecosystems as major issues facing our Nation. After their regional presentations, the students prepared a national perspective of issues and recommendations. Students presented these national concerns to a panel of three U.S. Commissioners on Ocean Policy and Congressman Wayne Gilchrest at a National Geographic Society dinner. The Summit concluded with students presenting their personal *Commitments to Action* to six Coastal America Principals at a White House Ceremony.



Congressman Wayne Gilchrest, CEQ Chairman James L. Connaughton and U.S. Ocean Commissioners participated in the Student Summit.



Students, teachers, and marine educators traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the first National Student Summit on Ocean Issues.



Senior Administration officials listened to student presentations and offered insights into how our Nation manages its oceans and coasts.

Following the Summit, students, teachers, and CELC marine educators returned home where they shared their insights with people who can make a difference. Students have made presentations to Governors, mayors, school boards, environmental commissioners, Lions Club meetings, and public television and local talk shows.



Students listened intently to presentations from their peers before crafting their Commitments to Action.

I. The Coastal America Partnership

New CELC Network Partners

Coastal America welcomed two new aquaria to the CELC network in 2004. The National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium (NMRMA), designated as a CELC on June 25, is the first inland facility included in the CELC network. By partnering with Coastal America, the NMRMA expands its capacity to promote the interrelatedness of inland and coastal areas through both exhibits and educational curricula. The NMRMA is located on the Mississippi River in Dubuque, Iowa.



The National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium (NMRMA), located on the shores of the Mississippi River in Dubuque, Iowa, entered the CELC network on June 25, 2004.

Each of you know things about our coasts and oceans that many people do not know; but, it is not enough just to know — get involved; be leaders; talk to your elected leaders; become land-use planners; run for office.

**Wayne Gilchrest,
U.S. Congressman
(Maryland)**

**National Student
Summit on
Ocean Issues,
Washington, D.C.,
January 14–16, 2004**



The John G. Shedd Aquarium, located on the shores of Lake Michigan in Chicago, Illinois, entered the CELC network on October 28, 2004.

In addition to the new CELC on the Mississippi River, Coastal America partners in the Great Lakes Region designated their first CELC, the John G. Shedd Aquarium, on October 28. The Shedd Aquarium, located on the shore of Lake Michigan in Chicago, Illinois, is the oldest and largest indoor aquarium in the country. Its designation as a CELC provides an opportunity for education and outreach in support of the Great Lakes Executive Order and the recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy.

The Coastal America Principals also approved the designation of the 18th CELC, the North Carolina Aquariums, which will enter the CELC network in early 2005.

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CELC Network Activities at the National Level

The Coastal America Federal Partners engaged with the CELCs to create a strong education program during 2004. At the national level, the CELCs came together with a broad representation of Coastal America Partners to conduct the *National Student Summit on Ocean Issues*, held in Washington, D.C., January 14–16, 2004. The Summit was the culmination of a program that included 12 Student Ocean Conferences, sponsored by the National Geographic Society, held at the individual CELCs.

The Coastal America National Coordinating Office (NCO) led several new efforts to strengthen the network. The NCO led a discussion of educational directors from the CELCs at the National Marine Educators Association meeting in June. This discussion resulted in the incorporation of a speakers' program into the monthly CELC network calls. The NCO secured funding through NOAA's Coastal Services Center for four Marine Protected Area workshops at individual CELCs. Additionally, the NCO convened a meeting of CELC leadership at the 6th International Aquarium Congress in December, resulting in the creation of a network steering committee and several proposal ideas.



The Coastal America National Coordinating Office staff partnered with the Navy on Earth Day to teach students about ocean issues.



Executives from the CELCs participated in a CELC Roundtable Discussion at the 6th International Aquarium Congress in Monterey, California.

At the regional level, each Regional Implementation Team has identified a federal point of contact to assist in facilitating partnership activities. Several CELCs, such as the National Aquarium in Baltimore, were very engaged in regional and local environmental restoration projects. Coastal America is working with the CELC network to expand successes in community-based restoration by involving AmeriCorps volunteers. Individual activities of the CELCs are described in detail in the Regional Partnership Accomplishments section of this report.

2004 Coastal America Awards Program

In 1997 Coastal America established an Awards Program to recognize outstanding team efforts to restore and protect the coastal environment. Since then, the Coastal America Partners have presented Partnership, Spirit and Special Recognition Awards on an annual basis.

The *Partnership Award* recognizes outstanding partnership efforts or multi-agency projects that protect and restore coastal ecosystems. Teams nominated to receive this prestigious award are those whose efforts demonstrate an innovative or unique way of accomplishing environmental restoration and preservation and are exemplary of the Coastal America process of collaboration. Teams nominated to receive *Spirit Awards* are those whose efforts demonstrate the Coastal America spirit of teamwork. The *Special Recognition Award* recognizes outstanding nongovernmental organizations for their demonstrated leadership in protecting and restoring coastal resources.

In 2004, Coastal America recognized outstanding partnerships efforts including shovel-in-the-ground restoration projects, habitat conservation efforts, and education and outreach programs.

I believe the global aquarium community has an exciting role to play. . .to create and construct healthy oceans in the future.

**Julie Packard,
Executive Director,
Monterey Bay
Aquarium**

**6th International
Aquarium Congress,
Monterey, California,
December 5, 2004**

2004 Coastal America Awards Program Recipients

Partnership Awards

- Breaux Act Task Force, Louisiana (Aug. 18, 2004)
- Barn Island Wildlife Management Area Acquisition, Connecticut (Sep. 10, 2004)
- Skagit River Basin Group, Washington (Sep. 13, 2004)
- Embry Dam Removal, Virginia (Sep. 27, 2004)
- Webster Field Shoreline Stabilization, Maryland (Oct. 4, 2004)
- Sarasota Bay Artificial Reef Enhancement and Education Program, Florida (Oct. 28, 2004)
- South Carolina Oyster Restoration and Enhancement (SCORE), South Carolina (Nov. 19, 2004)
- Festival Park Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Protection Project, North Carolina (Nov. 22, 2004)
- Big Egg Marsh Restoration, New York (Dec. 1, 2004)
- San Jacinto National Monument Restoration, Texas (Dec. 9, 2004)
- Silver Salmon Creek Restoration Team, Alaska (Feb. 7, 2005)
- Bridge Creek Salt Marsh Restoration, Massachusetts (Spring 2005)

Spirit Awards

- Navy/Atlantic Wood Industries Joint Approach Response Action (JARA) Project and the Navy Environmental Restoration Team, Paradise Creek, Virginia (Oct. 22, 2004)

Special Recognition Award

- National Aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland (Oct. 5, 2004)

Highlights from Coastal America's 2004 Awards Program

Breaux Act Task Force, Louisiana



Partnership Award

The *Breaux Act Task Force* and its supporting committees and teams and partners are involved with engineering projects that have or will create, restore, or protect 139,910 acres (142 projects) of coastal wetlands.

Barn Island Wildlife Management Area Acquisition, Stonington, Connecticut



Partnership Award

A partnership of federal and state agencies and non-governmental organizations added 144 acres of private property to the *Barn Island Wildlife Management Area*.

Skagit River Basin Group, Washington



Partnership Award

James Connaughton, Chairman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, and Vice-Admiral Conrad Lautenbacher, NOAA Administrator, presented the *Skagit River Basin Group* with an award for their stewardship efforts in the Skagit basin.

Embry Dam Removal, Fredericksburg, Virginia



Partnership Award

Raymond DuBois, Undersecretary of Defense for Installations and Environment, and Benjamin Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Water, presented the *Embry Dam Removal Team* with an award for their work in removing the Embry Dam in Fredericksburg, Virginia, opening 1,357 miles of river habitat to anadromous fish species.

I. The Coastal America Partnership

Working through an ecosystem approach, the Festival Park project has restored an entire estuarine community including maritime forest, marsh, submerged aquatic vegetation, and oyster reef. The Festival Park team has opened new doors of cooperation among private, government and non-government partners.

Douglas W. Lamont,
Deputy Assistant
Secretary for the Army,
Project Planning
and Review

Coastal America Award
Ceremony, Ice Plant
Island, North Carolina,
November 22, 2004

Webster Field Shoreline Stabilization, Patuxent River, Maryland



Partnership Award

The U.S. Navy partnered with federal and state agencies and the National Aquarium in Baltimore to restore tidal wetland at its *Webster Field Annex* in Maryland.

Sarasota Bay Artificial Reef Enhancement and Education Program, Sarasota, Florida



Partnership Award

Benjamin Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for Water for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, presented an award to the *Sarasota Bay Artificial Reef Enhancement and Education Program* team for their work in building and deploying 191 artificial reef balls into northern Sarasota Bay.

South Carolina Oyster Restoration and Enhancement (SCORE), South Carolina



Partnership Award

The *South Carolina Oyster Restoration and Enhancement (SCORE) Program*, under the guidance of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, involved numerous partners working on oyster habitat restoration in coastal South Carolina.

Festival Park Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Protection Project, Ice Plant Island, North Carolina



Partnership Award

The *Festival Park Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Protection Project* restored 5 acres of maritime forest and shallow estuarine habitat, including marsh, submerged aquatic vegetation and oysters.

Big Egg Marsh Restoration, New York City, New York



Partnership Award

The *Big Egg Marsh Restoration Team* implemented a pilot salt marsh restoration project in 2003 at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge's Big Egg Marsh. Fran Mainella, Director of the National Park Service, presented the award to the team.

San Jacinto National Monument Restoration, San Jacinto, Texas



Photo by: Duke Energy and Ravi Arya

Partnership Award

Lynn Scarlett, Assistant Secretary of Interior for Policy, Management, and Budget, presented an award to the *San Jacinto National Monument Restoration Team*. The team restored 200 acres of tidal marsh habitat through the involvement of corporations, local, state and federal agencies, and nongovernmental organizations.

Silver Salmon Creek Restoration Team, Alaska



Partnership Award

The *Silver Salmon Creek Restoration Team* utilized innovative stream modeling and channel design techniques to restore fish passage to the Silver Salmon Creek.

The Bridge Creek Salt Marsh Restoration, Barnstable, Massachusetts



Partnership Award

The *Bridge Creek Salt Marsh Restoration Team* restored 40 acres of tidally restricted marsh through installation of a culvert under an active rail bed.

I. The Coastal America Partnership

The Coastal America Partnership Award shows that we are fulfilling our responsibility to reach beyond our programs to other agencies, states and local communities, and academia to manage our shared heritage in our National Parks. Restoration of the Big Egg Marsh is a triumph of partnership.

**Fran Mainella,
Director,
National Park Service**

**Coastal America
Award Ceremony,
Jamaica Bay,
New York,
December 1, 2004**

Navy/Atlantic Wood Industries Joint Approach Response Action (JARA) Project and the Navy Environmental Restoration Team, Paradise Creek, Virginia

Spirit Awards

Two projects undertaken by the Department of the Navy have earned a combined Spirit Award for 2004.



The *Navy/Atlantic Wood Industries Joint Approach Response Action (JARA)* team established and maintained a partnership to address cross boundary contamination between a Navy Installation Restoration site and a neighboring private property.



The *Navy Environmental Restoration Team/Paradise Creek* explored creative and innovative alternatives for removing hazardous substances (abrasive blast materials, contaminated soil and lead paint chips) from the New Gosport landfill on Paradise Creek.

National Aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland

Special Recognition Award



Timothy R.E. Keeney, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, presented a Special Recognition Award to the National Aquarium in Baltimore for its work in involving Baltimore schoolchildren in wetlands restoration activities through the *Schoolyard Spartina* program.

The Coastal America Strategic Assessment



Several Coastal America Principals attended the Partnership's Annual Meeting and shared their thoughts on the Strategic Assessment. Pictured (l-r) are Benjamin Grumbles (EPA), Don Schregardus (Department of the Navy) and Merlin Bartz (U.S. Department of Agriculture).

On October 30, 2003, the Coastal America Principals commissioned, through the Gulf of Mexico Regional Implementation Team, a strategic assessment of the Coastal America Partnership. The study was completed in time for discussion at the Partnership's Annual Meeting (May 24–27, 2004) in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Following the Annual Meeting, Bryon Griffith, co-chair of the Gulf of Mexico Regional Implementation Team, presented the results of the assessment to the Coastal America Principals at their June 14 meeting. The Principals agreed to take the findings under advisement and further discussed implementation of the assessment at their September 17 meeting.

The assessment determined that there is a unique strategic opportunity for the Coastal America partnership to significantly improve the leveraging and delivery of cooperative federal program assistance to coastal states and communities. The assessment recommends a 5-year focus (FY2006–10) on specific geographic priorities within each region as well as a specific set of priority themes that will most broadly engage the partnership (*i.e.*, habitat/wetlands conservation/restoration, non-point source pollution, nutrients, endangered species, and education and outreach).

In terms of partnership structure, the assessment recommends a modest increase in the partnership's human resource commitment (both federal and contractual employees). The assessment also recommends adoption of an annual request for project pre-proposals, modeled after the system used by the Gulf of Mexico Regional Implementation Team.

The Coastal America National Coordinating Office, throughout 2004, worked with the federal partners at the national and regional levels to begin implementation of the assessment's recommendations. The Coastal America Partnership will publish a detailed publication on the assessment process and findings in late 2005.

II. REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Regional Overview

Coastal America's nine Regional Implementation Teams (RITs) are composed of key field-based managers from each of the partnership agencies. As the primary operating units for interagency consultation and action, the RITs identify regional issues, develop strategies, and select and prioritize projects. The RITs also serve to coordinate efforts across geographic and political borders. In short, they communicate, build relationships, synthesize information and broker resources to more effectively implement coastal projects.

The RITs focus on site-specific projects that are representative of broader environmental problems in each region. Each RIT has developed strategies appropriate to the participating agencies and stakeholders of the region. These strategies guide the approach and the work of the RIT. Within each strategic plan, the regional team sets priorities based on the needs of the region.

In developing project strategies, regional teams utilize various Coastal America tools and programs. Corporate donations provided through the CWRP partnership offer private-sector support to projects that otherwise may not be undertaken. Education and outreach efforts of the federal partners are bolstered through close interaction with the network of CELC aquaria and marine science institutions. The RITs collaborate closely with the military agencies on a variety of restoration projects and partnerships.

Hundreds of projects have been undertaken since the creation of Coastal America in 1992. Some are now complete and providing new ecological benefit or restored productivity to local ecosystems. Others are currently in the planning stages.

The following regional progress reports illustrate the diversity of projects undertaken and the tangible results from taking a collaborative approach to resource management and conservation.

The Coastal America Strategic Assessment lays out a path for the participating agencies to rejuvenate their partnership using fundamental business principles. A strengthened partnership will enable the agencies to complete many more on-the-ground projects collectively than they could have otherwise. Enhancing the capacity of the regional teams means that agencies will be able to stretch their limited resources further.

Benjamin H. Grumbles,
Assistant Administrator,
Office of Water,
Environmental
Protection Agency

Coastal America
Annual Meeting,
Fort Lauderdale,
May 27, 2004



Northeast

The Northeast Region

- Maine
- New Hampshire
- Massachusetts
- Rhode Island
- Connecticut

Northeast Regional Implementation Team

Throughout 2004, the Northeast Regional Implementation Team (NERIT) facilitated aquatic habitat restoration and education projects. From the Connecticut coast to the Canadian border, team members completed a number of outstanding projects and new partnership efforts.

The Team focused on several priority areas during 2004, including:

- Habitat restoration, including rivers and streams (riparian habitat, riffle-pool complex, dam removal), wetlands, and eelgrass beds.
- Aquatic, endangered and threatened species recovery (including anadromous fish); and
- Increasing biodiversity of habitats.

Ninigret Pond Habitat Restoration Project

NERIT partner agencies facilitated the *Ninigret Pond Habitat Restoration Project* in Charlestown, Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have worked together on the South Coast Habitat Restoration Project since 1997. The Ninigret Pond component of this project is restoring 40 acres of eelgrass habitat to Ninigret Pond by dredging the flood tidal shoals in the pond to an optimum depth for eelgrass growth. Eelgrass provides a habitat that is essential for the lifecycles of several important fish species. It also contributes to the health and productivity of the coastal ecosystem by filtering harmful nutrients and contributing to the food web. This project, restoring the first of several adjacent ponds, is the largest eelgrass restoration project ever undertaken in the U.S.



U.S. Senator Jack Reed of Rhode Island, Coastal America Principal Timothy Keeney, NOAA, and other project partners break ground at the Ninigret Pond Habitat Restoration Project in Charleston, Rhode Island.

II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

Oak Isl and Salt Marsh Restoration Project

The NERIT, under the leadership of EPA and the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Wetlands Restoration Program, completed work on the *Oak Island Salt Marsh Restoration* project in 2004. A new culvert, installed under an active commuter rail corridor, has improved drainage and provides tidal flow restoration. The project team also installed a self-regulating tidegate at Rumney Marsh in Revere, Massachusetts. This project will provide controlled tidal flow to approximately 30 acres of salt marsh that has not experienced tidal action since 1910. The restoration of tidal salt water flows has already improved creek habitat for estuarine organisms and salt marsh plants and will help to control the invasive *Phragmites* vegetation which took over this wetland. Further restoration efforts are planned for 2005.



The Oak Island Salt Marsh Restoration project restored tidal flow to 30 acres of the salt marsh, which has not experienced tidal action since 1910.

The Cape Cod Water Resources Project

Under the leadership of the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the NERIT participated in planning an extensive restoration project on Cape Cod to address shellfish bed closures caused by stormwater run-off and restore degraded saltmarshes and anadromous fish runs. NRCS will be the lead technical assistance agency working with a partnership comprised of the Cape Cod Conservation District, Barnstable County Commissioners and other federal, state and local agencies, as well as all Barnstable County towns.

Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Maine Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

The Maine CWRP continued to work with the NERIT federal and state agencies to develop and fund coastal protection and restoration projects. Over 20 corporate partners are engaged in Maine CWRP, as well as several nongovernmental partners.

New Hampshire Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership



The New Hampshire CWRP donated funding to the Bellamy River Restoration Project, involving the removal of Dam #5 in Dover, New Hampshire.

New Hampshire CWRP members celebrated their first project at an event on November 9, in Dover, New Hampshire. The *Bellamy River Restoration Project* involved the removal of the ruins of a head-of-tide dam that obstructed the passage of important migratory fishes, including rainbow smelt and river herring. Project partners included New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, the New Hampshire Coastal Program, the NOAA Restoration Center, and the Coastal Conservation Association. The New Hampshire CWRP donated funding that enabled the project to proceed on schedule. The project event drew participation from a number of federal and state agencies, as well as members of the New Hampshire CWRP.

The restoration of Ninigret Pond offers us all a rare environmental opportunity — a chance not just to prevent the destruction of natural habitat, but to roll back the clock and restore what has been lost. We need to continue our coordinated and ambitious federal, state and private partnership to protect this priceless treasure of nature.

**Jack Reed,
U.S. Senator
(Rhode Island)**

**Groundbreaking
Ceremony,
Charleston,
Rhode Island,
October 27, 2004**

Massachusetts Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership



The Island Road Salt Marsh Project, supported by Massachusetts CWRP and other partners, opened tidal flow to 20 acres of salt marsh at Island Road.

The Massachusetts CWRP expanded its partnership to include 42 companies in 2004. Funding and in-kind services from Massachusetts CWRP partners supported activities related to restoration of important migratory fish passages, school-based education on aquatic habitat, citizen monitoring of wetland restoration sites, invasive species monitoring, construction services and the purchase of new culverts. Massachusetts CWRP teamed up with the Town of Essex, the Massachusetts Wetlands Restoration Program, the Natural Resources Conservation Services, and Ducks Unlimited (through a NOAA Partnership grant) to complete the Island Road Salt Marsh Project in 2004. The partners replaced a culvert, opening tidal flow to 20 acres of salt marsh at Island Road.

The Massachusetts CWRP sponsored a special Seminar on Wetlands and Aquatic Habitat Restoration on December 10, 2004 at the new Campus Center, UMASS Boston. The seminar provided an opportunity for corporations, conservation organizations, and faculty and students to learn about the collaborative efforts to restore wetlands and aquatic habitats in the state, and the opportunities to participate.

Rhode Isl and Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Since its establishment in the Fall of 2001, Rhode Island CWRP has raised \$140,000, including in-kind services. These corporate donations have leveraged the investment of more than \$6,300,000 in federal matching funds to the Ocean State. Rhode Island CWRP projects have been completed in Lincoln, Providence and Newport and are now underway in Barrington, Portsmouth and Cranston.

The Rhode Island CWRP provided critical technical support to the *Gooseneck Cove Restoration Project* in Newport, Rhode Island. Several man-made structures exist along Gooseneck Cove, including a failing concrete dam and numerous under-road culverts that limit the flow of ocean water into the cove. This has led to the degradation of both water quality and salt marsh habitat in the cove. The Rhode Island CWRP provided a feasibility assessment of various restoration options, allowing federal partners (NOAA and the Natural Resources Conservation Service) to proceed with the most effective restoration plan.



The Rhode Island CWRP provided critical technical support to the Gooseneck Cove Restoration Project in Newport, Rhode Island.

II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers

The New England Aquarium

The New England Aquarium opened its *Amazing Jellies* exhibit in April. The exhibit, funded by the National Science Foundation, focuses on jellies as indicators of human impacts on the oceans. In November, the New England Aquarium hosted its fourth *Student Ocean Summit*, made possible by the support and participation of the Lowell Institute, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, a wide range of experts and stakeholders, and teachers and



The New England Aquarium hosted its fourth Student Ocean Summit, providing an opportunity for students to discuss the management of whales in the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

students from throughout Massachusetts. The Summit engaged young people in a debate regarding ocean conservation issues by providing them with the opportunity to see the issues from the perspectives of different stakeholders. The Summit specifically focused on the management of whales in the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration



Children learned about estuaries as part of the National Estuaries Day Celebration hosted by the Mystic Aquarium, in cooperation with the Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

The Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration partnered with the Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve to host their 3rd annual *National Estuaries Day Celebration* on September 25, 2004. Several local marine organizations set up booths and display materials, interacted with the public, and presented children's activities relating to the importance of local estuaries. Participating organizations included Save The Bay (Rhode Island), the Connecticut Department of Marine Fisheries, NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center, the U.S. Coast Guard Sea Partners, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Connecticut Sea Grant. Over 2,800 visitors attended the event.

The Mystic Aquarium collaborated with NOAA's Coastal Services Center to host an *Understanding Marine Protected Areas Workshop*, attended by 17 local fishermen, Aquarium members, environmentalists and members of the concerned public.

Since its inception in 1999, the Massachusetts CWRP has supported 45 environmental restoration and protection projects, leveraging over \$3.5 million in support for these efforts. The corporate community is happy to help in any way we can.

**George Olson,
The Gillette Company
and Chairman,
Massachusetts CWRP**

**Seminar on Wetlands
and Aquatic Habitat
Restoration, Boston,
Massachusetts,
December 10, 2004**

Mid-Atlantic

The Mid-Atlantic Region

- New York
- New Jersey
- Delaware
- Maryland
- Virginia

Mid-Atlantic Regional Implementation Team

During 2004, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Implementation Team (MARIT) made significant progress in several key areas, including restoring regional ecosystems, developing the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership in Mid-Atlantic states, and conducting team meetings to support and integrate the MARIT's member agencies projects and efforts. The 2004 workplan focused on a number of priority issues, including:

- Aquatic, endangered and threatened species recovery (including anadromous fish)
- Aquatic species nuisance control
- Coastal population growth/sustainable development
- Eutrophication
- Fisheries
- Habitat Restoration, including rivers and streams, seagrasses and submerged aquatic vegetation, and wetlands
- Pollution
- Public Health
- Education and Outreach

The Embry Dam Removal Project

Located in Fredericksburg, Virginia, the Embry Dam was the only man-made impediment to fish passage on the main-stem Rappahannock River. Under leadership from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a host of federal, state and local agencies worked together to plan and permit the dam removal. Following the dredging of 300,000 cubic yards of sediment from behind the dam, the Army and Air Force worked jointly to use explosives to notch out a 100-foot section of the dam, allowing for fish migration in the Spring of 2004. On a regional scale, this project is a major contributor to the Chesapeake 2000 Agreement fish passage goal of opening 1,357 miles of currently blocked river habitat.



Army and Air Force personnel used explosives to demolish a 100-foot section of the Embry dam, providing a valuable training opportunity for our soldiers.



The Big Egg Marsh Project, located at Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge in New York City, continues to evaluate a new method of sediment transfer that allows growth of marsh vegetation.

The Big Egg Marsh Project

The MARIT, under leadership of the National Park Service, continued to collaborate on the *Big Egg Marsh Project* at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge's Big Egg Marsh in New York City. The project evaluated a new method of sediment transfer and placement used to increase marsh elevations by a layering process that allows continued growth of marsh vegetation through a thin layer of sediment. The project initiated in response to the extensive salt marsh losses and associated degradation in Jamaica Bay. Jamaica Bay's protected salt marsh islands have halved in aerial extent since 1924, when 2,300 acres existed. The marsh islands have experienced an accelerated loss from 26 acres per year in the 1970s to the current 44 acres per year.

II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

New York Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

The New York CWRP utilized 2004 as a planning year. Niagara Mohawk, a National Grid Company, became the co-lead for New York, joining environmental engineering and consulting firm Lawler, Matusky & Skelly to lead CWRP efforts. Plans for 2005 include establishing planning committees, developing bylaws, recruiting companies and providing project support.

New Jersey Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

The New Jersey CWRP progressed markedly in 2004. Corporate participants met several times to discuss projects, which include the *Batsto River Fish Ladder Project*, installation of oil spill anchoring points, and several horseshoe crab and shorebird protection projects. New Jersey CWRP members also discussed upcoming projects for 2005. New Jersey CWRP has also been very active in assisting neighboring states, such as Delaware and New York, in the establishment of their CWRP Chapters.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection presented the New Jersey CWRP Chapter with an *Environmental Excellence Award for Healthy Ecosystems* at a ceremony on November 16, 2004. New Jersey CWRP was also recognized for their efforts to support the State's horseshoe crab and shorebird program.



On behalf of the New Jersey CWRP, John Balleto, Senior Environmental Consultant for PSE&G (right), accepts the Environmental Excellence Award from New Jersey DEP Commissioner Brad Campbell.

Delaware Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership



EPA Administrator Mike Leavitt (second from right) tours a potential corporate-sponsored project site at the kickoff of the Delaware Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership on May 20, 2004.

EPA Administrator Mike Leavitt joined the State of Delaware to launch the Delaware CWRP on May 20, 2004. A number of dignitaries and representatives from federal and state agencies participated in the launch ceremony, which was well-attended by corporations and environmental organizations. Delaware CWRP is being led by Conectiv.

Following an initial series of organizational meetings over the summer, the Delaware Chapter adopted its first project, designed to restore nesting habitat for the Northern Diamond-backed Terrapin in Delaware Seashore State Park. Delaware CWRP members are also reviewing a project that will construct a wetland to serve as a permanent outdoor classroom for the students at a local school in New Castle County, Delaware.

As corporate leaders in the first state we should set the bar and take environmental stewardship seriously. Business support for the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership will enhance the effectiveness of restoration programs across our state by maximizing our local investments with matching government funds.

**Bill Spence, President,
Conectiv Energy**

**Launch of the
Delaware CWRP,
Wilmington, Delaware,
May 20, 2004**

2004 Coastal America Progress Report

Virginia Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

In Virginia, Smithfield Foods became the corporate lead for CWRP. The law firm of Hunton & Williams served as *pro bono* legal counsel to the Virginia Manufacturers Association Outreach Group, which has agreed to assist in the formation of the Virginia CWRP Chapter. The formal kickoff of Virginia CWRP is scheduled for early 2005.

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers

The New York Aquarium

The New York Aquarium, collaborating with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Hudson River Foundation, launched its *Teen Conservation Program* during the summer of 2004. The partnership trained 205 eager teens to conduct exhibit interpretation and operate the Aquarium touch-tank. Concurrently, 50 docents conducted fieldwork in a degraded salt marsh in Coney Island. This research will continue in 2005 through a grant from the EPA Region 2, supporting the Aquarium's *Project Creek*, with research support from N.Y. Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Group.

In October, the Aquarium hosted a Marine Protected Areas workshop sponsored by NOAA for neighborhood stakeholders, consisting of educators, regulators, boaters, divers, college students and community leaders.



Docents from the New York Aquarium conducted fieldwork as part of the Aquarium's "Teen Conservation Program."

The National Aquarium in Baltimore



The National Aquarium in Baltimore conducted its Schoolyard Spartina project which enabled schoolchildren to participate in wetlands restoration projects around the Chesapeake Bay.

The National Aquarium in Baltimore continued an incredibly strong portfolio of community-based conservation and restoration projects during 2004. Areas of focus for the year included the *Chesapeake Bay Initiative*, the *Fort McHenry Wetlands Restoration*, the *Barren Island Marshland Restoration*, a thin-layering restoration project at *Blackwater Marsh*, restoration of the *Webster Field Annex* of the Naval Air Station on the Patuxent River and the Aquarium's *Schoolyard Spartina* project. The Aquarium's in-house conservation team, or ACT! (Aquarium Conservation Team), provided the volunteers necessary to conduct much of the restoration work.

Partnerships are a key component of nearly all of the Aquarium's restoration projects. In 2004, the Aquarium collaborated with many Coastal America federal agencies, including the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Park Service, the Navy and the Department of Defense, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey. The National Aquarium in Baltimore also hosted the Mid-Atlantic Regional Implementation Team's meetings during 2004.

II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

Through the Schoolyard Spartina partnership, we extend our educational activities past our doors and out into the communities around the Chesapeake Bay. The National Aquarium in Baltimore is proud to work with schools, environmental organizations and the state and federal government to protect and restore our wetlands.

**Dave Pittenger,
Executive Director,
National Aquarium
in Baltimore**

**Coastal America
Award Ceremony,
Baltimore, Maryland,
October 5, 2004**

Southeast

The Southeast Region

- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Georgia
- Florida
- Puerto Rico



Southeast Regional Implementation Team

During 2004, the Southeast Regional Implementation Team focused on a number of priority issues, including:

- Eutrophication — nutrients
- Habitat Restoration
 - Beaches/dunes
 - Corals
 - Mangrove forests
 - Rivers/streams
 - Seagrasses and submerged aquatic vegetation
 - Upland areas/coastal forests
 - Wetlands
- Pollution

2004 Coastal America Annual Meeting

SERIT Partners spent a great deal of time pulling together the Coastal America Annual Meeting, held during the last week in May in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Administration officials, federal agency representatives, and members of the CELC network and corporate partnership traveled from around the country to discuss and advance partnership issues. Topics of discussion throughout the week included the Strategic Assessment, the Corporate Partnership, the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center Network, and the Coastal America Awards Program. The SERIT team arranged several field excursions during the meeting, including a tour of the Munyon Island and Peanut Island restoration sites and Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. The International Game Fishing Association, a Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center, hosted an evening reception for the meeting participants.



Coastal America Partners, with hard-hats on for safety, tour the restoration project underway at Peanut Island, Florida.



Coastal America Annual Meeting participants visited the habitat restoration project at Birch State Park, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

2004 Coastal America Progress Report

Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Georgia Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership



The Georgia CWRP sponsored an event to eradicate the invasive privet weed at the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area.

Georgia CWRP, under the leadership of Oldcastle, Inc., CH2M Hill, and ENSR, is working with the National Park Service on a *Natural Systems Enhancement Project* at the Johnson Ferry Unit of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area. The project's goals are to rehabilitate the wetlands, streams, and terrestrial habitats, as well as protect cultural resources and enhance educational and recreational opportunities within the 47-acre site. The Georgia CWRP also sponsored a volunteer event to rid the Recreation Area of the invasive privet weed.

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers

The South Carolina Aquarium

The South Carolina Aquarium, with the support of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, received a \$150,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to enhance the Aquarium's sea turtle rehabilitation program. The grant will significantly upgrade the life support and medical equipment used in the hospital and provide funding for exhibit changes and educational programs to promote the conservation of sea turtles.

The Aquarium continues to partner with NOAA to provide professional development opportunities for teachers, as well as collaborate with the Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary to upgrade exhibits and programs related to National Marine Sanctuaries and rocky reef environments.



Photo by: Barbara Bergwerf



The South Carolina Aquarium, through collaboration with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, maintains a sea turtle rehabilitation program.

II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

The International Game Fish Association Fishing Hall of Fame and Museum



At a reception during their Annual Meeting, Coastal America Partners recognized IGFA Education Director Dawn Miller and three outstanding students for their follow-on work to the National Student Summit on Ocean Issues. Anthony Moore, Senior Advisor for EPA's Office of Water, IGFA President Robert Kramer and Coastal America Director Virginia Tippie participated in the ceremony.

Students participating from the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) Fishing Hall of Fame and Museum in Southeastern Florida founded the volunteer group known as the Regional Ocean Conservation Club (ROCC). Their goal is to start ROCCs in coastal and inland regions throughout the country. Each high school team is headed by an environmentally concerned teacher and will consist of a base of student volunteers working on conservation projects, such as beach cleanups.

The North Carolina Aquariums

On September 17, the Coastal America Principals voted unanimously to designate the network of North Carolina Aquariums as a CELC. The North Carolina Aquariums, located in three coastal areas, are the first network of facilities to be included in the CELC Partnership. A local subset of the Southeast Regional Implementation Team will support the Aquariums. The designation ceremony is scheduled for early 2005.



The North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher, one of three North Carolina Aquariums facilities that will enter the CELC network in early 2005.

IGFA's follow-on work to the National Student Summit on Ocean Issues is impressive. Through your development of the Regional Ocean Conservation Club concept, students and teachers are working alongside a range of partners to protect and conserve our coastal resources.

**Anthony Moore,
Senior Policy Advisor,
EPA Office of Water**

**IGFA Reception, Fort
Lauderdale, Florida,
May 27, 2004**

Gulf of Mexico

The Gulf of Mexico Region

- Florida
- Alabama
- Mississippi
- Louisiana
- Texas



Gulf of Mexico Regional Implementation Team

The Gulf of Mexico Regional Implementation Team (GMRIT) is uniquely administered through collaboration with the broad federal, state, local and private partnership of the Gulf of Mexico Program (GMP). During 2004, the GMRIT focused on a number of priority issues, including:

- Aquatic, endangered and threatened species recovery (including anadromous fish)
- Aquatic nuisance species control
- Coastal population growth/sustainable development
- Education and outreach
- Eutrophication
- Fisheries
- Habitat restoration
- Pollution
- Public health
- Watershed management

Harmful Algal Blooms Observing System



The Harmful Algal Blooms Observing System (HABSOS) detects and forecasts harmful algal blooms in the Gulf of Mexico. HABSOS exists through an unprecedented level of collaboration among government, research, and academic partners.

The Harmful Algal Blooms Observing System (HABSOS) is the Gulf of Mexico module of the U.S. Coastal Global Ocean Observing System. Federal and state government agencies, coastal laboratories, and academic institutions are collaborating on a regional scale to detect, forecast and predict harmful algal bloom (HAB) events and their effect on people. This effort supports public health, natural resource and environmental agencies in their efforts to manage public resources, protect public health, and disseminate information to the public on risks and actions in response to HAB events. HABSOS also provides data and information to benefit a number of other coastal activities around the Gulf of Mexico, including marine operations, forecasting of natural hazards, ecosystem monitoring and public outreach.

NOAA's Community-Based Restoration Program

The Gulf of Mexico Program/GMRIT promotes ecological restoration, preservation and conservation through community stewardship and collaborative partnerships. This cooperative conservation effort between NOAA, the Gulf of Mexico Foundation and the Gulf of Mexico Program was first established in 2001. The partnership supports restoration efforts that benefit the coastal habitats of the five Gulf States, specifically those areas that have been designated as Gulf Ecological Management Sites. These Community-based Restoration projects restore a variety of habitats such as salt marshes, seagrass beds, oyster reefs, coral reefs, mangrove forests, shellfish beds, and freshwater spawning and rearing habitats in streams and rivers. Over the past four years, the partnership has resulted in the support and leveraging of 26 projects for a total of \$1,189,365.



A cooperative partnership between the Gulf of Mexico Program/GMRIT, the Gulf of Mexico Foundation and NOAA is restoring coastal habitats in five Gulf states.

II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

The Nature Conservancy's Gulf of Mexico Initiative

The Nature Conservancy and the Gulf of Mexico Program/GMRIT have long recognized that Conservation work needs to happen at different spatial scales (locally, regionally, and globally). Because of this, and in response to the Nature Conservancy's *Conservation by Design* approach, the Gulf of Mexico Program initiated and supports The Nature Conservancy's *Gulf of Mexico Initiative* (GOMI). The overall objective of the GOMI is to identify and define in a collaborative way the best contributions and efforts to increase restoration and conservation efforts for the Gulf Region. At the local level, the GOMI has identified seven priority sites around the Gulf of Mexico to direct support towards restoration, conservation and protection. At the regional scale, the GOMI focuses more closely on the issues that face the overall health of the Gulf of Mexico and will develop and support Gulf-wide actions.



Galveston Bay is a priority site under the Gulf of Mexico Program/GMRIT and The Nature Conservancy partnership.

Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Louisiana Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

The LA CWRP launched in 2004 under the leadership of Commercial Properties Development Corporation and C-K Associates. In their first action, the Chapter announced its support for the *Penny Rhodes Island Restoration* project in Venice, LA. The project, sponsored by the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana and the NOAA Restoration Center, is intended to instill stewardship and leverage local community resources towards the reestablishment of coastal habitat through the creation of terraces and the enhancement of shoreline and existing crevasses. This project is also being supported by the NOAA Community-based Restoration Program.

Texas Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

The Texas CWRP Chapter, under the leadership of Duke Energy Gas Transmission and ENSR, established three committees this year to focus on projects, membership, and education and outreach. The Texas CWRP adopted bylaws and assisted neighboring Gulf Coast states in the development of new CWRP Chapters. Texas CWRP partners also celebrated the San Jacinto National Monument Restoration Project at a Partnership Award event, keynoted by P. Lynn Scarlett, Assistant Secretary of Interior for Policy, Management and Budget.

Most people understandably think of San Jacinto as an important place in Texas history, but it is also a vital natural area. By restoring the marsh and creating trails and interpretive facilities, we'll have a richer experience for our visitors connecting natural and cultural history.

**Robert L. Cook,
Executive Director,
Texas Parks and
Wildlife Department**

**Partnership Award
Ceremony, San Jacinto
Monument, Texas,
December 9, 2004**

2004 Coastal America Progress Report

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers

Dauphin Island Sea Lab

Working with Coastal America Partners, the Dauphin Island Sea Lab received a grant for a preliminary restoration project on the *Isle aux Herbs*, a barrier island located in the Mississippi Sound. The Sea Lab will work with both the State of Alabama Lands Division and the Army Corps of Engineers on this effort. Additionally, as a result of the National Student Summit, Dauphin Island's student delegation has organized a club of five high schools that are raising funds to plant sea oats in public-held beach areas. The student delegation briefed Alabama Congressman Jo Bonner and his staff on the vital importance of ocean issues on February 20, 2004.



Students and Dauphin Island Sea Lab Director Dr. John Dindo brief Alabama Congressman Jo Bonner following the National Student Summit on Ocean Issues.

The Florida Aquarium



Through a federal grant, the Florida Aquarium conducted a watershed education program for middle school-level home-school students.

The Florida Aquarium received a Leadership grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services to conduct a comprehensive watershed education program for middle school level home-school participants. The Aquarium collaborated with the Lowry Park Zoo and the Florida Parent Educators Association (FPEA) to allow for hands-on classes, field trips and overnight experiences that have been conducted at no cost to home-school families.

In March, the Florida Aquarium hosted ESTMEE Week (Excellence in Science, Technology, Mathematics, and Engineering Education) in collaboration with NOAA. Staff from the NOAA Weather Service, NOAA Aircraft Operations Center (Hurricane Hunters), and NOAA Fisheries Service displayed booths throughout the Aquarium to share information with visitors. The Florida Aquarium also collaborated with several organizations to host the annual National Marine Educators Association Conference in July.

The Texas State Aquarium

Throughout 2004, the Texas State Aquarium (TSA) conducted a number of partnership activities with the Coastal America federal agencies. On June 8, the Aquarium and visitors celebrated *World Ocean Day*, in collaboration with NOAA's National Weather Service and the U.S. Navy. The Aquarium furthered its ongoing partnership with NOAA by hosting a Marine Protected Areas workshop on August 21. On October 16–17, the U.S. Coast Guard conducted an outreach event at the TSA, allowing the public to gain a better understanding of the Coast Guard and its mission. TSA also distributed informational materials from several federal partners, including the Natural Resource Conservation Service, NOAA and EPA, throughout the year.

In November, TSA completed *Sea Turtles in the New Century*, a two-year project serving teachers in South Texas and Mexico. Through a series of workshops, teachers received educational materials to increase sea turtle awareness and conservation. The project was funded by the Gulf of Mexico Program and Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. Partners included the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Gladys Porter Zoo, and Sea Turtle, Inc.



Teachers from South Texas and Mexico learned about sea turtle conservation issues through the Texas State Aquarium's "Sea Turtles in the New Century" project.

II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

Today's groundbreaking for the Bolsa Chica wetlands restoration project demonstrates how partnerships build bridges — both literally and symbolically. It is an example of the kind of environmental progress that can be accomplished when federal, state and private parties work together.

**P. Lynn Scarlett,
Assistant Secretary
for Policy,
Management and
Budget, Department
of the Interior**

**Bolsa Chica
Groundbreaking
Ceremony, Huntington
Beach, California,
October 6, 2004**

Southwest

The Southwest Region

- California



Southwest Regional Implementation Team

During 2004, the Southwest Regional Implementation Team worked on several core issues, including:

- Strategic assessment of regional team capacity
- Education and outreach
- Promotion of wetlands habitat restoration

The SWRIT also identified a number of priority issues for the Southwest Region. These include:

- Aquatic, endangered and threatened species recovery (including anadromous fish)
- Aquatic nuisance species control
- Coastal population growth/sustainable development
- Eutrophication
- Fisheries
- Targets for habitat restoration
 - Beaches/dunes
 - Rivers/streams
 - Seagrasses and submerged aquatic vegetation
 - Wetlands
- Pollution
- Public health

Bolsa Chica Lowlands Restoration Project

On Wednesday, October 6, 2004, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the *Bolsa Chica Lowlands Restoration Project*. Many local, state and federal dignitaries attended, including California Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman and Coastal America Principal P. Lynn Scarlett, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget of the Department of the Interior.



The Bolsa Chica Lowlands Restoration Project will restore 540 acres of former wetlands, create nesting areas for birds, and construct a new inlet to the Pacific Ocean.

The Bolsa Chica Project will result in the restoration of 540 acres of former wetlands. Full tidal influence will be returned to 367 acres with muted tide restored to another 138 acres. The project also includes the creation of 3 nesting areas and the construction of a new inlet to the Pacific Ocean with a bridge for Pacific Coast Highway. The Project is one of many projects being sponsored (in part) by the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, which is endorsed by the SWRIT.

2004 Coastal America Progress Report

Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

California Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

The California CWRP sponsored an exhibit at the 2004 Headwaters To Oceans (H2O) Conference in Long Beach, CA. The CA CWRP has also agreed to support the *Bair Island Oyster Reef Project* off Central San Francisco Bay. The project is an expansion of an earlier effort and includes the placement of shell material in the Bay to construct oyster reef structures. The shell material will be placed in the water in spring of 2005, just in time for oyster larvae release and settlement.

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers

Aquarium of the Pacific

Throughout 2004, the Aquarium of the Pacific facilitated a number of Coastal America Partnership meetings and events. The Aquarium formed an official partnership with NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program to provide public education on the Sanctuary Program, including a marine protected area public panel held at the Aquarium in November. The Aquarium called upon the expertise of federal partners from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest, who served as expert reviewers for fact sheets posted on the Aquarium's web site. The federal partners also provided information on various wildlife that has been depicted in a mural at the entrance of the Aquarium. In March, Aquarium staff worked alongside Coastal America partners at the third annual *Least Tern Habitat Restoration Project* at the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station.



Volunteers from the Aquarium of the Pacific worked alongside federal partners in the Least Tern Habitat Restoration Project at the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station.

Monterey Bay Aquarium

The Monterey Bay Aquarium hosted the *6th International Aquarium Congress* from December 5–10. The meeting focused on working together to achieve effective strategies to protect our oceans and promote conservation. In conjunction with the Congress, executives from 14 CELCs participated in a roundtable discussion on maximizing the effectiveness of the CELC network. The CELC executives agreed to create a steering committee that will help guide the network in terms of policy decisions and future events.



II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

The Aquarium of the Pacific believes in the power of partnerships in educating our diverse nation on the importance of our oceans and coasts. Our partnership with Coastal America allows us to join forces with many other agencies and organizations. This enables us to provide the latest science to our 1.2 million visitors and offer engaging opportunities for our community to conserve our marine resources.

**Jerry Schubel,
President and CEO,
Aquarium of the Pacific**

**Least Tern Nesting
Habitat Restoration
Event, Long Beach,
California**



Northwest

The Northwest Region

- Idaho
- Oregon
- Washington

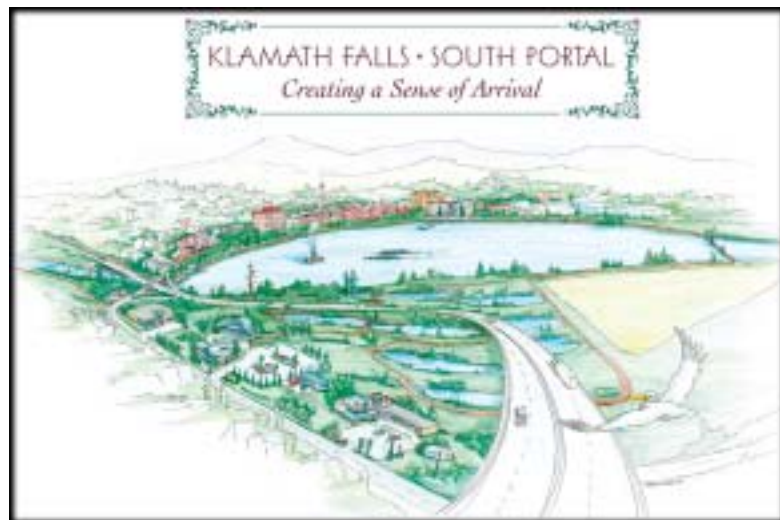
Northwest Regional Implementation Team

During 2004, the Northwest Regional Implementation Team focused on a number of priority issues, including:

- Aquatic, endangered and threatened species recovery (including anadromous fish)
- Coastal population growth/sustainable development
- Education and outreach
- Eutrophication
- Fisheries
- Pollution
- Public health
- Habitat restoration
 - Rivers/streams
 - Seagrasses and submerged aquatic vegetation
 - Wetlands

Klamath Basin Project

The NWRIT is collaborating with a host of federal, state, and local partners on the Klamath Basin Project at Lake Ewauna in Northwest Oregon. The project partnership is restoring portions of the Lake Ewauna shoreline and associated wetlands and constructing user-trails and other interpretive features. The NWRIT is working with the stakeholders involved to ascertain project needs and assist in securing adequate resources to implement the project. To date, the NWRIT has linked the project applicants with appropriate federal agencies, facilitated a visit by the National Park Service *Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance* (RTCA) program that resulted in submission of an RTCA technical assistance grant, and began searching for funding to help move this project along.



An artist's rendition of the Klamath Basin project at Lake Ewauna, Oregon. The NWRIT is collaborating with a host of partners on the project.

2004 Coastal America Progress Report

Derelict Fishing Nets Removal Project

Derelict fishing nets pose a serious threat to divers, safe navigation and environmental resources. In September 2004, James L. Connaughton, Chairman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, and Vice Admiral Conrad Lautenbacher (ret.), Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA, reviewed net removal operations during a field visit to Puget Sound, WA. Based on this meeting, NWRIT federal partners are developing a project to remove derelict fishing nets. Scheduled to begin in 2005, the project will utilize the Department of Defense Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program to train 60 Navy divers to remove the derelict nets. NOAA and the Army Corps of Engineers are poised to contribute ship time to this effort, and the NOAA Dive Training Center is being offered as a location to conduct the still-water component of the training. This project follows earlier work by the Northwest Straits Commission and State of Washington Department of Natural Resources to address this priority issue in the Northwest.



James L. Connaughton (r), Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, discussed prospects for Navy assistance with derelict fishing gear removal efforts in the Northwest with Master Chief Boy Kayona and Navy Diver Geno Jarling.

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers



Children learned about marine life during the festivities at Hatfield Marine Science Center's third annual SeaFest celebration on June 19, 2005.

Hatfield Marine Science Center

The Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC) Marine Education Program coordinated the development of the summer 2004 *OceanQuest* program, focusing on ocean exploration research conducted by NOAA. Student interns received training in presentation skills, based on this and other research conducted through NOAA's Ocean Exploration Program. HMSC also collaborated with NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserves and EPA's National Estuary Program, as well as the North Carolina NERR, to celebrate *National Estuary Day* on September 24–25.

HMSC opened its doors for the third annual *SeaFest* on June 19th. *SeaFest* offers the local community a chance to learn about marine science and interact with the Hatfield CELC and its partner agencies. Coastal America partners involved in the event included the NOAA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

The Seattle Aquarium

In 2004, the Seattle Aquarium conducted a record-setting 22,000 interpretive talks on seven Puget Sound beaches during the sixth annual "Beach Naturalist" program. Aquarium staff trained 130 adult volunteers with 24 hours of Pacific Northwest coastal ecology, conservation and interpretation prior to conducting the talks. In addition, the Beach Naturalist staff reached 1,300 students and over 50 teachers during the school component of the program entitled *Explore the Beach*. A number of state agencies and environmental organizations participated in the program.

The Seattle Aquarium also piloted a *Citizen Science* program during 2004. The program provides field conservation opportunities for high school students and adults, with emphasis on marine invertebrates and physical beach characteristics. Following the pilot program, the Aquarium received a grant to launch a 10-year version of the program, targeting seven nearby beaches.



The Seattle Aquarium collaborated with a number of state agencies and environmental organizations to conduct its Beach Naturalist program.

II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

Alaska

The Alaska Region

- Alaska

Alaska Regional Implementation Team

During 2004, the Alaska Regional Implementation Team (AKRIT) completed several restoration projects and embarked upon a new slate of projects for the upcoming year. Regional priority issues include:

- Aquatic, endangered and threatened species recovery (including anadromous fish)

- Aquatic nuisance species control
- Education and outreach
- Fisheries
- Pollution
- Habitat restoration
 - Rivers/streams
 - Seagrasses and submerged aquatic vegetation
 - Wetlands

Silver Salmon Creek Restoration Project

On the Kenai Peninsula's Silver Salmon Creek, a partnership of a dozen federal, state, local, tribal, and non-governmental entities banded together to design, fund and construct one of the largest fish passage/stream channel restoration projects ever undertaken in the state. The project removed a total barrier to spawning chinook and coho salmon that resulted from flood events that had released thousands of yards of road fill into the stream, obliterating more than 500 feet of stream channel. Adult salmon returning from the sea now have unrestricted access to more than 8 miles of spawning habitats, and juvenile salmonids can move with the seasons to rearing waters throughout the drainage. This project relied heavily upon heavy equipment support from the Alaska CWRP member company NC Machinery.



Silver Salmon Creek, located on Alaska's Kenai Peninsula, before restoration.



Silver Salmon Creek after completion of restoration project, which opened 8 miles of spawning habitat for salmon.

The Silver Salmon Creek project demonstrates how quickly and effectively Alaskans from the public and private sectors will join together to maintain our priceless salmon habitats. This project serves as a model for other challenging stream restoration projects across the state.

**Rowan Gould,
Regional Director
for Alaska, U.S. Fish
& Wildlife Service**

**Partnership Award
Ceremony, Alaska
February 7, 2005**

Moose Creek Fish Passage Project

On Moose Creek, in the Matanuska Valley, AKRIT agencies are heavily involved in design of an exciting fish passage restoration project, to be constructed in 2005. Railroad construction nearly a century ago redirected Moose Creek, the traditional fishing grounds of the Chickaloon Tribe, over an impassible 12 foot waterfall, ending spawning and rearing of up to four species of Pacific salmon. With designs and funds in place, work will start in 2005 to place more than one-half mile of stream back in its original channel, now forested with mature trees. The project will return salmon to nearly 25 miles of historic habitat.



The Moose Creek fish passage project, located in Alaska's Matanuska Valley, is scheduled for construction in 2005.

Eklutna River Watershed Management Project

Efforts to restore the Eklutna River, just north of Anchorage, are finally bearing fruit. This project, in planning stages by several AKRIT agencies and the Native Village of Eklutna for several years, focuses on restoring this heavily degraded drainage basin. With key technical assistance from the Natural Resource Conservation Service, a watershed council is now active in the drainage. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued its Draft Eklutna Watershed Management Report in 2004, setting the stage for Corps participation and funding for major restoration activities. Also during 2004, with EPA support, cranes removed more than 50,000 pounds of debris from a major vehicle dump in the creek's remote canyon, reducing the threat of contamination to this salmon stream and to downstream Cook Inlet.

Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Alaska Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Alaska CWRP member company NC Machinery provided substantial support in the form of heavy machinery for the Silver Salmon Creek Restoration project. Alaska CWRP also expects to support the Moose Creek Fish Passage project, scheduled for construction in 2005.

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers



Captive Harbor Seal 881-1701

The Alaska SeaLife Center

The Alaska SeaLife Center continues to work with endangered and threatened species, including Steller sea lions, spectacled and Steller's eiders, harbor seals, and northern sea otters. Coastal America further strengthens the Center's partnerships with federal agencies like the National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service. Several projects focus on relationships between fish populations and marine mammal feeding patterns, in an attempt to evaluate whether changes in food sources may be contributing to the decline of marine mammal populations.

The Alaska SeaLife Center conducted research into seal feeding patterns that are changing due to environmental factors.

Partnering with the Coastal America federal agencies offers the Alaska SeaLife Center a unique opportunity to strengthen education and outreach, along with our marine research efforts. We are excited that the CELC partnership is an important component of the Ocean Action Plan and look forward to continued collaboration with the CELC network.

**Tylan Schrock,
Executive Director,
Alaska SeaLife Center**



Pacific Islands

The Pacific Islands Region

- Hawaii
- American Samoa
- Guam
- Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands
- Micronesia
- Palau
- Marshall Islands

PACIFIC ISLANDS REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

During 2004, the Pacific Islands Regional Implementation Team focused on several priority issues, including:

- Aquatic nuisance species control
- Coastal population growth/sustainable development
- Education and outreach
- Habitat restoration
 - Beaches/dunes
 - Corals
 - Mangrove forests
 - Rivers/streams
 - Seagrasses and submerged aquatic vegetation
 - Wetlands
- Pollution
- Public health

RIDGES TO REEF PROJECT



The Ridges to Reef project team, under the leadership of the Hanalei Watershed Hui, is addressing coastal water quality issues through a watershed-based approach from inland areas. . .



. . .to the reefs in Hanalei Bay.

The Hanalei Watershed Hui, a community based non-profit organization, working under the Hawaiian concept of the ahupua'a, is striving to improve the waters of the coastal areas within Hanalei Bay on the north shore of the island of Kauai. This *Ridges to Reef* project is fostering studies from the upper reaches of the Halele'a State Forest Reserve, through the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge, the urban areas of Hanalei town, and out onto the reefs of Hanalei Bay. Researchers are identifying sources of pollutants, including sediment, nutrients, and bacteria. Several mitigation projects are also underway.

Ridges to Reef funding partners include the USDA Forest Service through the American Heritage Rivers Initiative, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Targeted Watershed Initiative, and the U.S. Coral Reef Initiative. Other collaborators include the U.S. Geological Survey, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, NOAA, the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources and the University of Hawaii.

2004 Coastal America Progress Report

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers

The Waikiki Aquarium



The Waikiki Aquarium has been engaged in continuing alien algae cleanups in conjunction with the Nature Conservancy, the University of Hawaii–Manoa Botany Department, the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative, and hundreds of volunteers. Cleanups removed over 65 tons of invasive algae from Waikiki coral reefs. During the summer, the Aquarium hosted the *Invasion of the Reef Snatchers*, an educational day on invasive species for the public and sponsored by the Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative. The Aquarium works with a variety of agencies to help protect and conserve Hawaii’s coral reefs.

The Waikiki Aquarium engaged the public in its efforts to remove invasive algae from Waikiki coral reefs.



II. Regional Partnership Accomplishments

Upper Mississippi/ Great Lakes

The Upper Mississippi/Great Lakes Region

- Pennsylvania
- Ohio
- Indiana
- Illinois
- Iowa
- Missouri
- Wisconsin
- Minnesota
- Michigan
- New York

Upper Mississippi/ Great Lakes Focus Team

Members of the Upper Mississippi River/Great Lakes Focus Team developed a series of priority issues for the region, including:

- Aquatic nuisance species control
- Coastal population growth/sustainable development
- Education and outreach
- Habitat restoration, focusing on wetlands
- Pollution
- Public health

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers

National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium

The CELC network welcomed its first inland partner, the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium (NMRMA), in a designation ceremony on June 25, 2005. Coastal America Principal R. Mack Gray, Deputy Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, presided over the designation event.

The NMRMA is the first facility in our Nation's heartland to be included in the CELC network. An Upper Mississippi River focus team of Coastal America federal partners supports the NMRMA. The focus team and staff from the museum have met regularly to determine a framework for museum/federal collaboration. The NMRMA, in collaboration with Coastal America, is planning a student-teacher workshop on the role of our Nation's heartland in protecting our oceans.



Bruce McKeeman (l), National Park Service, participated along with nine other federal agencies in the designation of the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium (NMRMA) as a CELC. Mr. McKeeman presented his agency's commitment to NMRMA Executive Director Jerry Enzler (c) and NMRMA President Jeff Bertsch (r).

We are incredibly pleased to participate in this prestigious network of aquariums and museums across the country. The federal partnership provides valuable resources to our efforts to educate and inform the public about the history and ecological importance of the Mississippi River region and its vital connection and impact on the Gulf Coast.

**Jerry Enzler,
Executive Director,
National Mississippi
River Museum &
Aquarium**

**NMRMA Designation
Ceremony,
Dubuque, Iowa,
June 25, 2004**

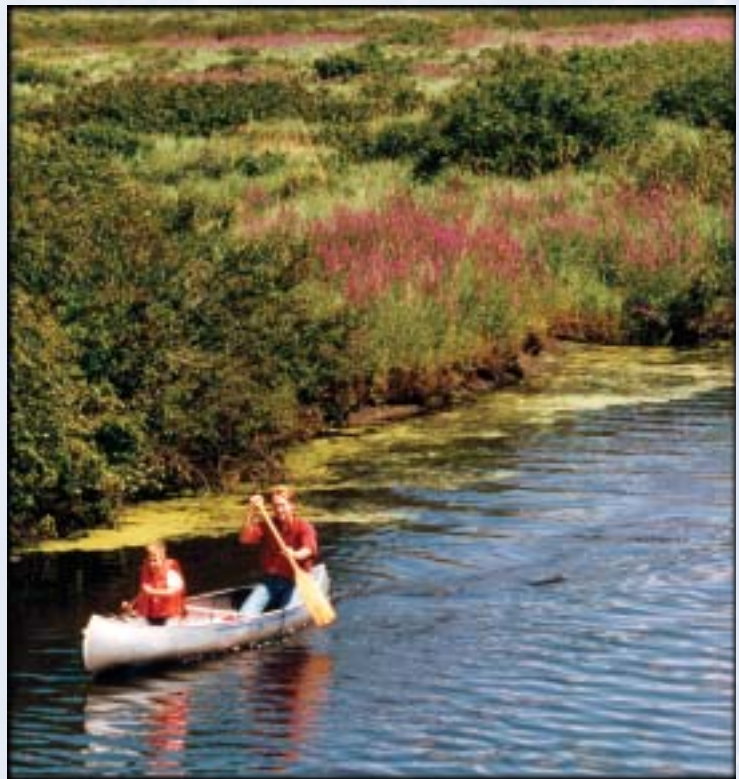
The John G. Shedd Aquarium

The John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, Illinois entered the CELC partnership at a designation ceremony on October 28, 2004. James Connaughton, Chairman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, presided over the designation ceremony. Representatives from federal agencies made a series of short- and long-term commitments to the Shedd Aquarium. Shedd's Chief Executive Officer Ted Beattie, also a member of the U.S. Ocean Commission, signed the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Aquarium.

The Shedd Aquarium is the first CELC on the Great Lakes. A special focus team of federal partners, led by EPA Region 5, is supporting the Shedd Aquarium. The focus team coordinates their work with the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force.



James Connaughton, Chairman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, presented the CELC plaque to Ted Beattie, U.S. Ocean Commissioner and CEO of the John G. Shedd Aquarium, to welcome Shedd to the CELC network.



III. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Our Nation's ocean and coastal areas are vital components of our environment and our shared national heritage. From our coastal beaches to rivers in the heartland, wetlands and other aquatic areas provide a wealth of ecological, economic, and aesthetic benefits to our Nation's citizens. By working together to conserve and restore these resources, as well as educate the public about the aquatic world, Coastal America partners are implementing more coastal projects and reaching greater numbers of people than any single agency or organization could accomplish alone.

The Coastal America structure mirrors closely many of the recommendations of the federal U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the private Pew Oceans Commission. The Coastal America Regional Teams work across geographic and political boundaries,



following the growing call for regional, ecosystem-based management. As the Administration implements the Ocean Action Plan, Coastal America partners stand ready to support the national effort to more effectively manage our marine and coastal resources.

The President's Ocean Action Plan contains a series of legislative, administrative and regional actions that we will immediately undertake to more effectively manage our oceans and coastal areas. By working in partnership, there is much that we can do to sustain our Nation's vital resources for future generations.

**James L. Connaughton,
Chairman, White House Council on Environmental Quality and Chair, Coastal America Partnership**

Release of U.S. Ocean Action Plan, Washington, D.C., December 17, 2004

2004 Coastal America Progress Report

Coastal America is a broad, comprehensive partnership. We engage the private sector, state and local agencies, and nongovernmental organizations in project efforts through the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership. Through the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center network, we reach out to communities and increase public awareness of ocean and coastal issues. Under the direction of the President's Ocean Action Plan, we are now looking at creative ways to expand and strengthen this Learning Center network.



In addition to working in harmony with new national policy directions, Coastal America Partners are also looking internally to maximize the effectiveness of the partnership process. Through the implementation of the 2004 Strategic Assessment, we are enhancing our operating structure and creating new opportunities for collaborative environmental projects.



The future for the Coastal America Partnership is boundless. Our partners look forward to the continued facilitation of on-the-ground protection, restoration and education projects that engage multiple agencies, local communities and private interests. We invite you to become involved in our efforts to restore and protect our Nation's coastal environment.



Appendix I:

Regional Implementation Team Points of Contact

Northeast

Bill Hubbard

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New England District (Concord, MA)
Email: william.a.hubbard@usace.army.mil

Mid-Atlantic

Mario DelVicario

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2 (New York, NY)
Email: delvicario.mario@epa.gov

John S. Wright

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
North Atlantic Division (Brooklyn, NY)
Email: john.s.wright@usace.army.mil

Southeast

Wesley “Bo” Crum

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4 (Atlanta, GA)
Email: crum.bo@epa.gov

Gulf of Mexico

Bob Bosenberg

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District (New Orleans, LA)
Email: bosenberg.bob@epa.gov
Email: robert.h.bosenberg@usace.army.mil

Bryon Griffith

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Gulf of Mexico Program
(Stennis Space Center, MS)
Email: griffith.bryon@epa.gov

Southwest

Paul Michel

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9 (San Francisco, CA)
Email: michel.paul@epa.gov

Patrick Rutten

NOAA Restoration Center
Email: patrick.rutten@noaa.gov

Northwest

Megan Callahan Grant

NOAA Restoration Center (Portland, OR)
Email: megan.callahan-grant@noaa.gov

Mark A. Brown

Bureau of Land Management (Oregon)
Email: mark_brown@or.blm.gov

Alaska

Mike Roy

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Alaska Regional Office (Anchorage, AK)
Email: michael_roy@fws.gov

Pacific Islands

Mark Chandler

U.S. Department of Housing and
Urban Development
Email: mark_a._chandler@hud.gov

Upper Mississippi Focus Area

William Franz

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5 (Chicago, IL)
Email: Franz.william@epa.gov

Great Lakes Focus Area

Judy Beck

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5 (Chicago, IL)
Email: beck.judy@epa.gov

Appendix II:

Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers (CELCs)

Alaska SeaLife Center

P.O. Box 1329
Seward, AK 99664
907-224-6300
www.alaskasealife.org

Aquarium of the Pacific

320 Golden Shore Drive, Suite 150
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-3100
www.aquariumofpacific.org

Dauphin Island Sea Lab

101 Bienville Boulevard
Dauphin Island, AL 36528
334-861-2141
www.disl.org

The Florida Aquarium

701 Channelside Aquarium
Tampa, FL 33602
813-273-4000
www.flaquarium.org

Hatfield Marine Science Center

2030 South Marine Science Drive
Newport, OR 97365-5296
541-867-0100
www.hmsc.orst.edu/education

IGFA Fishing Hall of Fame and Museum

300 Gulf Stream Way
Dania Beach, FL 33004
954-927-2628
www.igfa.org

Monterey Bay Aquarium

886 Cannery Row
Monterey, CA 93940-1085
831-648-4800
www.mbayaq.org

Mystic Aquarium

55 Coogan Boulevard
Mystic, CT 06355-1997
860-572-5955
www.mysticaquarium.org

National Aquarium in Baltimore

Pier 3, 501 East Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21202-3194
410-576-3800
www.aqua.org

National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium

Third Street Ice Harbor
Dubuque, IA 52004-0266
563-557-9545
www.mississippirivermuseum.com

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf
Boston, MA 02110-3399
617-973-5200
www.neaq.org

New York Aquarium

Boardwalk at West 8th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11224
718-265-3400
www.wcs.org

North Carolina Aquariums

Roanoke Island, Pine Knoll Shores,
and Fort Fisher, NC
800-832-3474
www.ncaquariums.com

The Seattle Aquarium

1483 Alaskan Way
Seattle, WA 98101-2059
206-386-4300
www.seattleaquarium.org

John G. Shedd Aquarium

1200 South Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605
312-939-2438
www.shedd.org

South Carolina Aquarium

100 Aquarium Wharf
Charleston, SC 29413-9001
843-720-1990
www.scaquarium.org

Texas State Aquarium

2710 North Shoreline
Corpus Christi, TX 78402
361-881-1200
www.texasstateaquarium.org

Waikiki Aquarium

University of Hawaii
2777 Kalakaua Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96815
808-923-9741
www.waquarium.org

Appendix III:

Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership List of Participating Companies

National Level Management Committee

Duke Energy – <i>National Corporate Chair</i>	Battelle
The Gillette Company – <i>Vice-Chair & Secretary</i>	ENSR International
National Association of Manufacturers – <i>National Sponsor</i>	FMC Corporation
JEM Environmental Management, LLC – <i>Founder</i>	Restore America’s Estuaries

State Corporate Members *(Listed Alphabetically)*

ABR, Inc. – AK	Consumers Water Company – NJ
Albert D. Huddleston (Hyperion Resources) – TX	Curtis, Thaxter, Stevens, Broder & Microleau – ME
Alpha Analytical – MA	Daylor Consulting Group – MA
Alton Engineering – MA	Devine Tarbell & Associates – ME
Anheuser-Busch Co., Inc. – NJ	Digital Geographic Technologies – MA
Aqua New Jersey, Inc – NJ	DKB & Associates – NJ
Apache Ecological Services – TX	Dominion – MA
Applied Science Associates – RI	The DOW Chemical Company – CA
Arch Chemicals – RI	Duke Energy – MA, NJ
Association of Washington Businesses – WA	Duke Energy – Gas Transmission – TX
Astra Zeneca – DE	Duracell – CT
Bangor Hydro-Electric – ME	Earth Tech – MA
Battelle – MA & RI	EA Engineering, Science and Technology, Inc. – RI, CT
Bay Colony Railroad – MA	Eastern Topographies – MA
Beals & Thomas – MA	ECAP – MA
Beau Rivage – MS	ENSR International – GA, MA, NJ, TX
Boehringer Ingelheim – CT	Epsilon Associates – MA
BPEXploration – AK	ERM – DE
Bristol Myers Squibb Company – NJ	ERM Northeast – MA
Bronson Communications – ME	ERM Group Foundation Inc. – MA
BSC Group – MA	ESS Group, Inc. – RI & MA
Callaway Golf – CA	Exxon Mobil Refining & Supply – NJ
Capaccio Environmental Engineering – MA	First Energy (JCP&L) – NJ
Cape Cod Cooperative Bank – MA	Foley Hoag LLP – MA
Casco Bay Energy Company, LLC – ME	FPL Energy Seabrook Station – NH
Charter Environmental – MA	General Electric Company and Foundation – MA
CH2M Hill – GA, MA	Genzyme Corporation – MA
C-K Associates – LA	The Gillette Company – MA, ICWRP
Cianbro Corp. – ME	Goodwin Procter LLP – MA
Clayton Industries – NJ	Goulston & Storrs – MA
Clean Harbors – MA	H.A. Gray and Pape – TX
Clipper City Survey – MA	HDR Alaska – AK
Col-East – MA	Hoffman-LaRoche Inc – NJ
Colonial Pipeline – GA	Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. – TX
Commercial Properties Development Corporation – LA	Horsley Witten Group – MA
ConEd – NY	HRP – CT
Conectiv Energy – DE	Hunton & Williams – NJ, VA
ConocoPhillips – TX	

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ICF Consulting – MA
Infineum USA L.P. – NJ
Invensys/The Foxboro Company – MA
J.F. Mitchell Company – ME
Jacques Whitford – CT, MA, ME, NH
Jay Cashman, Inc. – MA
Judith Nitsch Engineering – MA
Keyspan Energy – NH
KeySpan Foundation – MA
Kilpatrick Stockton LLP – GA
Kleinschmidt Associates – ME
Kulick & Associates – MS
LandAir – GA
Lawler, Matusky & Skelly Engineers, LLP
– NY & NJ
LGL – AK
Louis Berger Group – MA, NJ
Loureiro Engineering Associates, Inc. – CT
Maine Yankee – ME
Marin Environmental – CT
Mannington Mills, Inc. – NJ
Marine Solutions – MS
Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline – ME
Massachusetts Electric Company – MA
McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton – NH
Merck — Manufacturing Division – NJ
Metals Recycling – RI
Metcalf & Eddy – MA
Milone and MacBroom – CT
MKM Group, LLC – NJ
Narragansett Electric Company – RI
National Association of Industrial & Office
Properties – NJ
NC Machinery – AK
New England Development – MA
New Jersey Business & Industry
Association – NJ
New Jersey Chamber of Commerce – NJ
New Jersey Natural Gas – NJ
Niagara Mohawk, A National Grid
Company – NY
NiSource/Bay State Gas – MA
Normandeau Associates – MA, ME & NH
Northeast Utilities – CT & MA
Northwest Strategies – AK
NSTAR – MA
Oasis Environmental – AK
Oldcastle, Inc. – GA
Oldcastle Glass – CA
O’Neil Griffin Bodi – NH
Osram Sylvania – NH
Panhandle Energy Companies – TX
Perkins, Townsend & Shay – ME
Pfizer – CT
PG&E National Energy Group – MA
PHI Services Co. (Conectiv) – NJ
Phillips 66 – AK
PNGTS Operating Co., LLC – ME
Polaroid Corporation – MA
Port Authority of NY/NJ – NY & NJ
PPL Services Corporation, Maine, LLC – ME
Premcor Refining Group, Inc. – DE
Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG)
– NY, NJ, DE
Public Service New Hampshire – NH
Pulte Homes – NJ
Raytheon Corporation – MA
Robinson & Cole – CT
S.A. Sudbay Company – ME
Schering-Plough Corp. – NJ
Sidley, Austin, Brown & Wood – NJ
Sikorsky – CT
Shiner Moseley & Associates – TX
Smithfield Foods – VA
South Jersey Industries – NJ
S.W. Cole Engineering, Inc. – ME
Stanley Works – CT
Stephen J. Doyle & Associates – MA
Thales – AK
TRC Environmental Corporation – ME
Udelhoven Oilfield System Services, Inc. – AK
URS Corporation – AK, TX
Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. – MA & NH
Verizon – ME & NJ
Verrill & Dana – ME
VMA Outreach – VA
Voss Signs – NY
Warwick & Associates – MA
Weston and Sampson Engineering – MA
Wheelerlaborator Saugus – MA

Non-Profit Members

Anchorage Waterways Council – AK
Antioch College – NH
Associated Industries of Massachusetts – MA
Association of Massachusetts Wetlands
Scientists – MA
Boston Natural Areas Fund – MA
Brown University – RI
CACIWC – CT
Charles River Watershed Association – MA
City of Crantson – RI
City of Warwick – RI
Connecticut College – CT
Connecticut Fund for the Environment – CT
Connecticut River Watershed Council
– MA & CT
The Conservation Foundation – NJ
Conservation Law Foundation – MA
Delaware River Basin Commission – NJ
Delaware State Chamber of Commerce – DE
Ducks Unlimited – CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, TX
Environmental Business Council of
New England – MA
Environmental League of Massachusetts – MA
Friends of Hall’s Pond – MA
Galveston Bay Estuaries Program – TX
Galveston Bay Foundation – TX
Greater Boston Real Estate Board – MA
Institute for Marine & Coastal Studies – NJ

Appendix III: CWRP List of Participating Companies

Ipswich River Watershed Association – MA
The Jersey Shore Partnership – NJ
Little Boar’s Head Village District – NH
Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission – ME
Massachusetts Assn. of Conservation
Commissions – MA
Massachusetts Audubon Society – MA
Merrimack River Watershed Council – MA
Nashua River Watershed Association – MA
Natural Resources Council of Maine – ME
Neponset River Watershed Association – MA
New England Aquarium – MA
New Jersey Audubon Society – NJ
New Jersey Marine Consortium – NJ
Parker River Clean Water Association – MA
Partnership for the Delaware Estuary – NJ, DE
Pawtuxet River Authority – RI
Rhode Island Sea Grant – RI
Rivers Alliance of Connecticut – CT
Roger Williams University – RI
Rutgers Institute for Marine & Coastal
Sciences – NJ
Saugus River Watershed Council – MA
Save the Harbor/Save the Bay – MA
Save the Bay – RI
Save the Sound – CT
Second Nature – MA
SuAsCo Watershed Coalition – MA
SuAsCo Watershed Community Council – MA
Sudbury Valley Trustees – MA
Taunton River Watershed Alliance – MA
The Nature Conservancy – MA, NH, NJ, TX
The Trustees of Reservations – MA
Town of Barrington – RI
Town of Lincoln – RI
Town of Portsmouth – RI
Woonasquatucket River Watershed
Council – RI
United Nations Foundation – ICWRP
University of Connecticut – Marine
Sciences Department – CT
University of Massachusetts — Urban
Harbors Institute – MA
University of Rhode Island – RI

Restore America’s Estuaries Members

American Littoral Society (NJ) – RAE
Chesapeake Bay Foundation (MD & VA) – RAE
Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (LA)
– RAE
Conservation Law Foundation (ME, MA)
– RAE
Galveston Bay Foundation (TX) – RAE
North Carolina Coastal Federation (NC) – RAE
People for Puget Sound (WA) – RAE
Save the Bay (CA) – RAE
Save the Bay (RI) – RAE
Save the Sound (NY, CT) – RAE
Tampa Bay Watch (FL) – RAE
Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council (Great Lakes)
– RAE Affiliate

State Governments

CT Department of Environmental Protection
DE Department of Natural Resources and
Environmental Conservation
MA Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
MA Highway Department
ME Department of Environmental Protection
ME Office of State Planning
NH Department of Environmental Services
NH Office of State Planning
NH Department of Fish & Game
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
NY Department of Environmental Conservation
RI Coastal Resources Management Council
RI Department of Environmental Management
RI Department of Transportation
RI Narragansett Bay Estuary Program
TX Commission on Environmental Quality
TX General Land Office
TX Parks & Wildlife
TX Water Development Board

International CWRP Partners

The Gillette Company
United Nations Foundation
UNESCO World Heritage Center
The Nature Conservancy
Restore America’s Estuaries
Ramsar Secretariat
Coastal America Foundation
Amigos de Sian Ka’an

Appendix IV:

Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership Master Project List

National

Inaugural National Conference on Coastal
& Estuarine Habitat Restoration*
Second National Conference on Coastal
& Estuarine Habitat Restoration 2004
Capitol Hill Ocean Week 2003*
Capitol Hill Ocean Week 2004*
National Student Ocean Conference —
January 2004*
Wildlife Habitat Council's Restoring
Greenspace Conference — June 2004*
Wildlife Habitat Council Annual
Symposium — November 2004*

International — Mexico

Sian Ka'an Biosphere Protection Project

Alaska

Alaska Wetland Restoration Atlas
Chester Creek Restoration Project
Gulkana River Fish Viewing Platform
(on the Richardson Highway)*
Silver Salmon Creek Restoration Project
(Kenai)*

California

Bair Island Oyster Reef Project
(San Francisco Bay)

Connecticut

Barn Island Wildlife Management Area
(Stonington)*
Ed Bills Pond Fish Ladder (Lyme)*
Jordan Millpond Dam Fish Ladder
(Waterford)*
Lynde Point Tidal Wetlands Restoration
Project (Old Saybrook)*
Pond Lily Dam Fish Ladder (New Haven)*
Survey of Restoration Sites in
Connecticut*

Delaware

Old Inlet Terrapin Habitat Enhancement
Project
Christ the Teacher Catholic School
Outdoor Classroom

Georgia

Johnson Ferry Component of
Chattahoochee River NRA — Invasive
Species Removal — Volunteer Project*
Johnson Ferry Watershed Restoration
Projects

Louisiana

Penny Rhodes Island Restoration (Venice)

Maine

Cascade Brook
Coopers Mill Dam Fish Passage Design
(Whitefield)
Cundy's Harbor Tidal Flow Restoration
Project (Harpwell)*
Dingley Island Tidal Flow Restoration
Project Feasibility Study*
Drakes Island Restoration (Wells)
East Machias Dam Removal and Shoreline
Stabilization Project (East Machias)*
Education Project Aboard the OSV
Anderson 2002*
Friends of Maine Seabird Islands
Restoration Project
Gardiner Paperboard Dam Removal
(Gardiner)
Guilford Dam Removal on Sebasticook
River (Newport)
Habitat Restoration Workshop
Highland Lake Dam Fishway & Stream
Channel Renovation (Westbrook)
Maine Citizen Scientist Marsh Monitors
Pemaquid Salt Marsh Restoration (Bristol)

* Denotes completed projects

Appendix IV: CWRP Master Project List

Scarborough Marsh Wildlife Management Area — Seavey Landing Phase (Scarborough)
Scarborough Marsh Invasive Species Plan
Sebasticook Lake Fishway
Sennebec Dam Removal, Union (St. George River at outlet of Sennebec Pond)
Smelt Hill Dam Removal (Falmouth)*
Weskeag Saltmarsh Restoration (South Thomaston)
Wheeler Refuge Tidal Flow Restoration (York)

Massachusetts

Anadromous Fish habitat Education and Monitoring (coastal MA)
Assabet River Wetlands Restoration Plan (Maynard)*
Ballard Street (Rumney Marsh) (Saugus)
Bass Creek (Yarmouth)
Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary (Saugus)*
Boat Meadow Creek Salt Marsh Restoration (Cape Cod)*
Bridge Creek (Barnstable — Cape Cod Bay) Phase 1* and Phase 2*
Central St. Fishway Repair on Parker River (Byfield)*
Charles River Fishways
Citizen Volunteer Training for Monitoring at Salt Marshes (Cape Cod)
Coonamessett Salt Marsh Restoration (Falmouth)
Cordingly Dam (Newton) Fish Ladder Restoration
Cow Yard (Dartmouth)*
Eastern Point (Gloucester)*
Education Project Aboard the OSV Anderson 2002*
Education Project Aboard the OSV Anderson 2003*
Education Projects by Middle and Secondary Schools (Essex and Cape Cod)
Great marsh Plan for Wetlands Restoration (North Shore)
Green Harbor River salt Marsh Restoration (Marshfield)
Herring River Salt Marsh Restoration (Wellfleet — Cape Cod)
Island Creek Fishway Feasibility Study (Duxbury)
Island Road Saltmarsh (Essex)*
Mallard Road Saltmarsh (Quincy)

Manhan Dam Fish Passage (Easthampton)
Mary Chase Marsh (Eastham)*
Mattapoisett Neck, Mattapoisett (Buzzards Bay)
Mill Creek, Chelsea (Boston Harbor)
Mill River Salt Marsh Restoration (Gloucester)
Namskaket Marsh (Brewster and Orleans — Cape Cod Bay)
Narragansett Bay/Mt. Hope Bay Shores Watershed Wetlands Restoration Plan*
Neponset Salt Marsh Restoration Project — Phases I and 1-A (Boston)
North Pool Salt Marsh Restoration at the Parker Refuge (Newburyport)
Oak Island Marsh (Revere)
Old Town Hill (Newbury)*
Park Street Extension (Saugus)
Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Project and Monitoring* (ongoing)
Quivett Creek, Dennis and Brewster (Cape Cod)
Sagamore Marsh Restoration Project (Cape Cod) (PDF)*
Salt Marsh Restoration Research Symposium*
Sesuit Creek (Dennis)
Smelt Monitoring (Salem)*
Soil Sulfide Research at Sagamore Marsh
South Cape Beach Salt Marsh (Mashpee–Cape Cod)
State Game Farm (Sandwich)*
Third Herring Brook Fishway (Hanover)
Thompson Island Salt Marsh (Boston Harbor)
Town Brook/Pilgrim Trail River Restoration/Dam Removal (Plymouth)*
Town Brook/Jenny Grist Mill Fish Passage (Plymouth)
Wings Neck Road, Bourne (Bourne–Cape Cod)*
World's End (Damde Meddowes) (Hingham — Boston Harbor)*
Yokum Creek Dam Removal (Beckett)

New Hampshire

Bellamy River Restoration — Dam #5 Removal (Dover)*
Printing of Gulf of Maine Habitat Restoration Strategy*
Great Bog Management, Restoration and Protection Plan (Portsmouth, NH)

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New Jersey

Batsto River Fish Ladder (Burlington County)
Nantuxent Cove Boom Anchor Program (Miscellaneous sites)
Horseshoe Crab Program Support

Rhode Island

Lonsdale Marsh/Drive-In Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project (Lincoln)*
Pawtuxet River Fish Run Restoration (Cranston and Warwick)
Walker's Farm Salt Marsh Restoration Project (Barrington)
Gooseneck Cove Salt Marsh Restoration (Newport)
Fields Point Wetland Creation (Providence)
Town Pond Salt Marsh Restoration Project (Portsmouth)

Texas

San Jacinto Monument — Interpretive Trail (Houston)
San Jacinto Monument — Volunteer Day 2003 (Houston)*
Oyster Gardening and Reef Construction Project (Galveston Bay)*



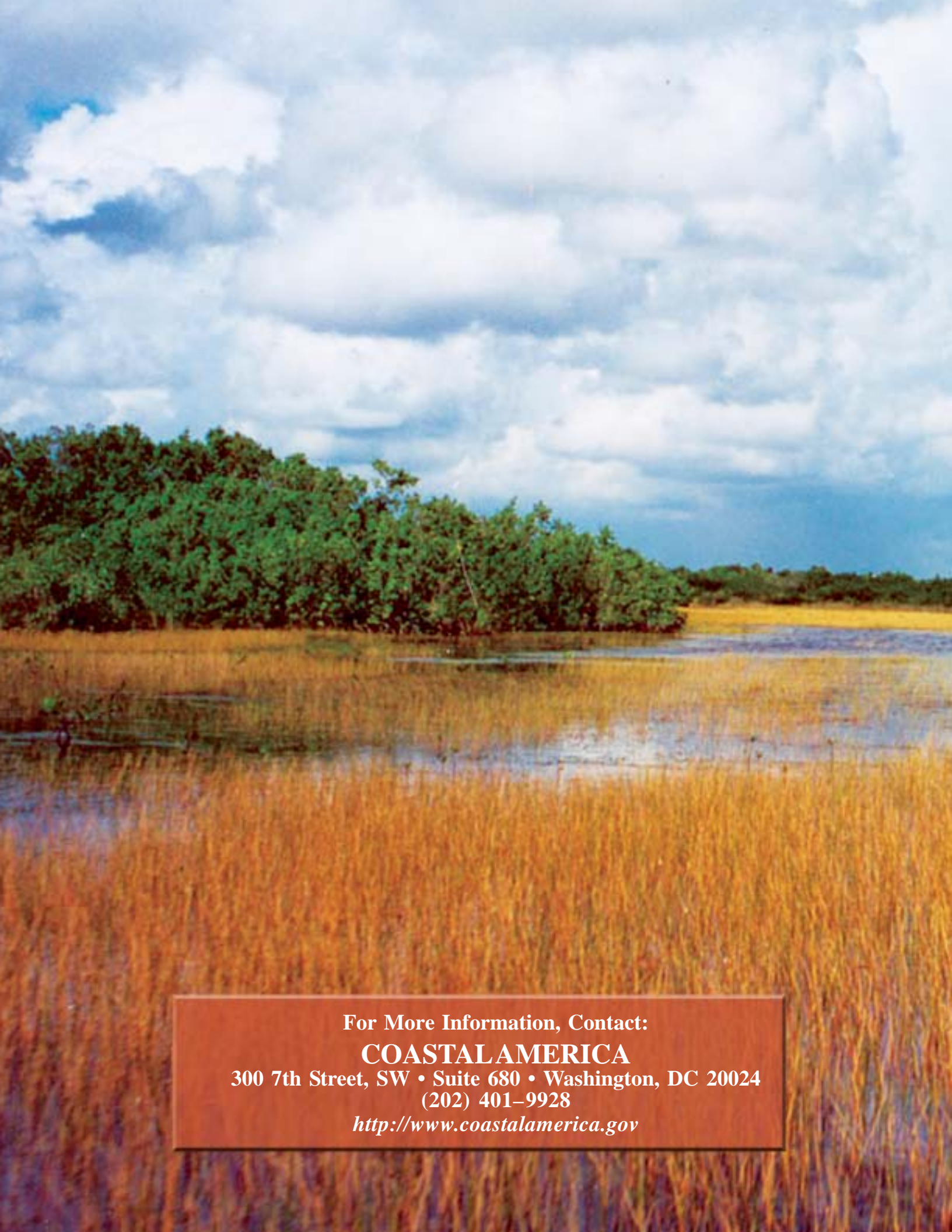
How can you become involved in the Coastal America Partnership?

Coastal America is about bringing together people from a variety of organizations — from federal agencies, state and local governments, nongovernmental organizations, and industry. Because problems are often broad in scope, the Coastal America Partnership includes people with backgrounds as varied as their affiliations — scientists, policy makers, economists, legal experts, educators and others.

The Coastal America partners and the partnership process can help you achieve your environmental goals. The Partnership is all about placing tools and resources into your hands to accomplish environmental protection, conservation, restoration and education projects.

To become involved, visit the Coastal America Website (www.coastalamerica.gov) or contact either the Coastal America National Coordinating Office (202) 401-9928 or the regional federal partners (listed on page 45) near you.

Become involved...contact us!



For More Information, Contact:

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<http://www.coastalamerica.gov>