



NATIONAL
ESTUARINE
RESEARCH
RESERVE
SYSTEM



NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE SYSTEM

Overview of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System

Southeast Regional
Coastal Program and National Estuarine Research Reserve Meeting
November 8, 2010



Overview

- Geographic Representation
- Partnership
- Direction for 2011-2016
- National Programs
- Other Programs





NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE SYSTEM



State-Federal Partnership

- State
 - Land ownership and management
 - Staff
 - Program implementation
- Federal
 - Funding (70%)
 - National coordination
 - Technical assistance



Strategic Direction 2011-2016

- Topics
 - Climate Change
 - Habitat Protection
 - Water Quality
- Goal areas
 - Protected Places
 - Science
 - Literacy



National Programs

- System-wide Monitoring Program
- Coastal Training Program
- Graduate Research Fellowship Program



System-Wide Monitoring Program

Abiotic Monitoring

- Water quality
- Weather parameters

Biological Monitoring

- Biodiversity
- Habitat and population characteristics

Watershed and Land Use Change



Coastal Training Program

- Enhance the capacity to use scientific information for decision-making
- Increase networking and collaboration among coastal decision-makers



Graduate Research Fellows

- Non-point source pollution
- Habitat restoration
- Biodiversity and the effects of invasive species
- Sustaining estuarine ecosystems
- Socioeconomic applicable to ecosystem management



NERRS Science Collaborative

- Enhances the capacity of Reserves to assist local communities with science-based solutions to coastal management challenges using a collaborative process
- Competitive funding for research, transfer of science and collaborative practices, TIDES master's degree track, stormwater assessment
- Cooperative Agreement with University of New Hampshire 2009-2014



K-12 Estuarine Education Program

- Estuaries 101 Curriculum
- Market analyses and needs assessments
- Teachers on the Estuary (TOTE) Workshops
- Learn more at estuaries.gov and nerrs.noaa.gov



Sentinel Sites

- Monitor and understand the impacts of climate change, specifically sea level change, on coastal ecosystems and inform decisions at Reserves and in surrounding communities
 - Develop adaptation plans for individual Reserves and habitats
 - Assist local communities in evaluating climate change risks and provide training in adaptation strategies
 - Inform successful restoration projects that adapt as sea level changes



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