### APNEP Terrestrial Resources Monitoring Workshop

Develop a monitoring strategy for Terrestrial Resource metrics within the APNEP region

Regional ecosystem test module

Metric-specific monitoring proposals



#### **APNEP Background**

- APNEP staff adopt indicators/metrics in December 2007
- Plan in 2008-2009 to develop an integrated monitoring strategy for those indicators
- In concert with APNEP revising its Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan (CCMP) in 2009



"Living Aquatic Resources" goal first, monitoring design development address LAR indicators first

#### Terrestrial Resources Monitoring Workshop Invitees

- APNEP
- NC-DCM
- NC-DFR
- NC-DLR
- NC-DPR
- NC-EEP
- NC-DOT
- NC-WRC

- ACE
- **EPA**
- **FS**
- FWS
- NPS
- NRCS
- USGS
- STAC



#### **Ecosystem-Based Management**

Tenet: EBM improves natural resource management by forging more effective political connections among humans, nature, science, and government.\*

 Alternative terminology: Landscape-Based Management



\*Cortner & Moote. 1999. The Politics of Ecosystem Management. Page 1.

### Information to Evaluate Natural Resource Policy

- Evaluation of the impact of conservation policy intervention lags other policy fields
- Paucity of data on the response of the species to which the intervention is targeted
- Poor understanding of the cost effectiveness of the relevant policy instruments
- Reduced opportunities for policy improvement



Exposure of policy to criticism

#### **APNEP Accepts Challenge?**

- How can today's operational systems for monitoring and reporting on environmental and social conditions be integrated or extended to provide more useful guidance for efforts to navigate a transition toward sustainability?
- How can today's relatively independent activities of research planning, monitoring, assessment, and decision support be better integrated into systems for adaptive management and societal learning?



Source: Kates et al. 2000. Sustainability science. Science 292(5517):641-642.

#### APNEP Ecosystem Assessment

- Who will contribute?
  - APNEP federal, state, local partners
- What will the assessment contain?
  - Timely technical information within a decision support system to help answer seven policybased questions: magnitude, extent, trend, cause, source, risk, and solutions



When is the target date for the DSS?
 ASAP! Last assessment was 1991

#### APNEP Ecosystem Assessment

- Where are the areas to be assessed?
  - Region and sub-regions
- Why will the assessment be developed?
  - To support the APNEP-CCMP, NC-CHPP, NC/VA basinwide planning
  - To evaluate restoration success, APNEP must have a reliable pre-restoration baseline for ecosystem condition
- How will the assessment be constructed?



Plan and implement a regional ecosystem assessment infrastructure. The "engine" of this infrastructure would be a long-term ambient monitoring program.

## Spatial Assessment Continuum

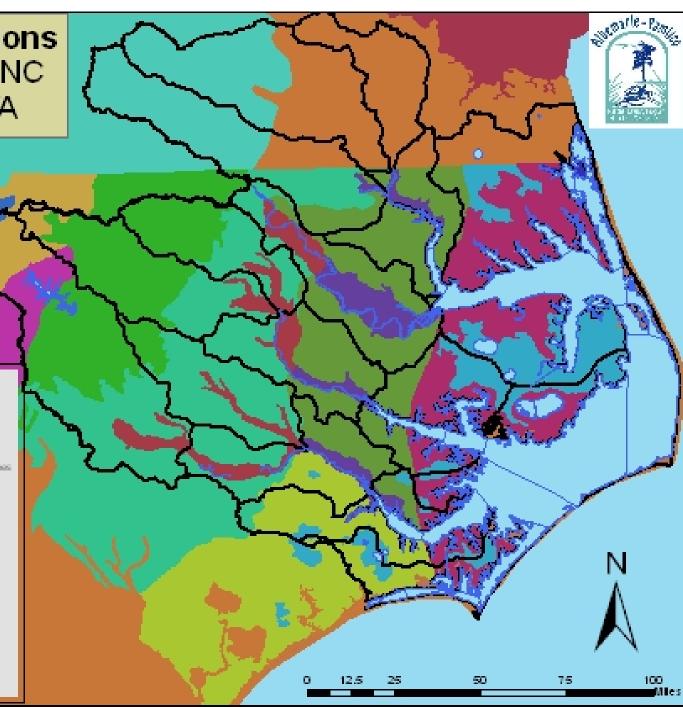
- Global
- Sub Global: North America
- Regional: South Atlantic Large Marine Ecosystem
- Basin: APES
- Watershed
- Local



#### APNEP Ecoregions EPA Level IV in NC and TNC in VA

#### Legend

BPAINC Econ egionis Girol ina Flatwoods Carolina Slate Balt Geolinian Barrier Islands and Coastal Marshes Chesapeake-Pamilico Lowlands and Tidial Marshes Mid -Atlan tic Flatwood s Md-Atlantic Floodplains and Low Terraces Northern Outer Piedmont Rolling Coastal Plain. Southeastern Floodolains and Low Terraces Southerin Outer Piedmont Swamps and Peatlands Fiarsic Basins Virginian Barrier Islands and Coastal Marshes TNC Econogians Chesapeake Bay Lowlands Mid-Atlantic Coastal Plaim Piedmont -Sub-Basins.



#### **Temporal Assessment Continuum**

Century
Decade
Annual
Monthly
Daily



#### Governance Assessment Continuum

#### Global

- National
- Regional: North Carolina and Virginia
- State
- County

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Municipalities

#### **Ecosystem Science**

Tenet: Integrated and comprehensive nature of ecosystem science is critical to ecosystem management at the landscape scale.



Cortner & Moote. 1999. The Politics of Ecosystem Management. Page 25.

#### EPA Indicator Development for Estuaries

- Program Planning
- Conceptual Model Development
- Indicator Specification
- Monitoring Program Development
- Implementation
- Reassessment



Human Dimensions

### Regional Ecosystem Model







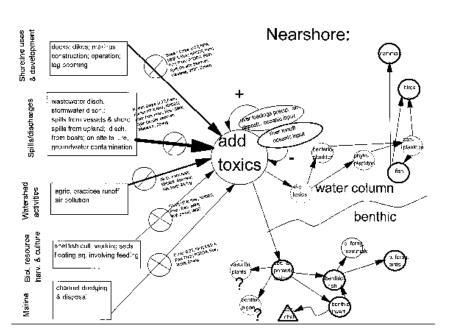
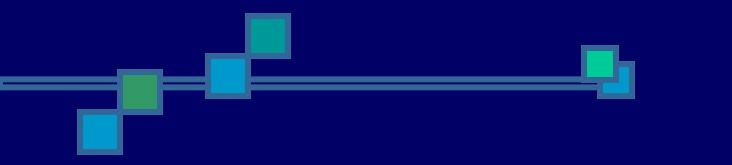


Figure 3. Stresser-based concepted sub-madel for toxics in the nearshore environment Weighting of line around ecosystem component circles indicates amount d monitoring data available







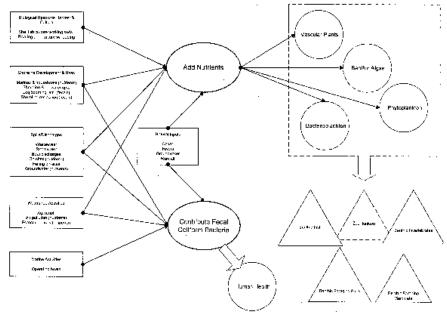


Figure 6. Conceptual model of nutrient and pathogen stresses in Puget Sound.





#### **APNEP Indicator Definition**

"A numerical value derived from actual measurements of a pressure, state or ambient condition, exposure, ecological condition, or measure of human health or wellbeing over a specified geographic domain, whose trends over time represent or draw attention to underlying trends in the condition of the environment in the A-P region."



#### **APNEP Indicator Criteria**

- Utilization: Address a key process or property, and answers (or makes an important contribution toward answering) an important question about conditions in the A-P region
- Objectivity: Developed and presented in an accurate, clear, complete, and unbiased manner
- Integrity: Underlying data should be characterized by sound collection methodologies and data management systems adequate to protect its integrity, and to comply with quality assurance procedures
- Availability: Data should be available and timely, or will likely be available in the future, to maintain the indicator's utility
- Representation: Trends should accurately represent the underlying trends in the target population
- Clarity: The indicator should be clearly defined and reproducible. The specific data used and the specific assumptions, analytical methods, and statistical procedures employed are clearly stated



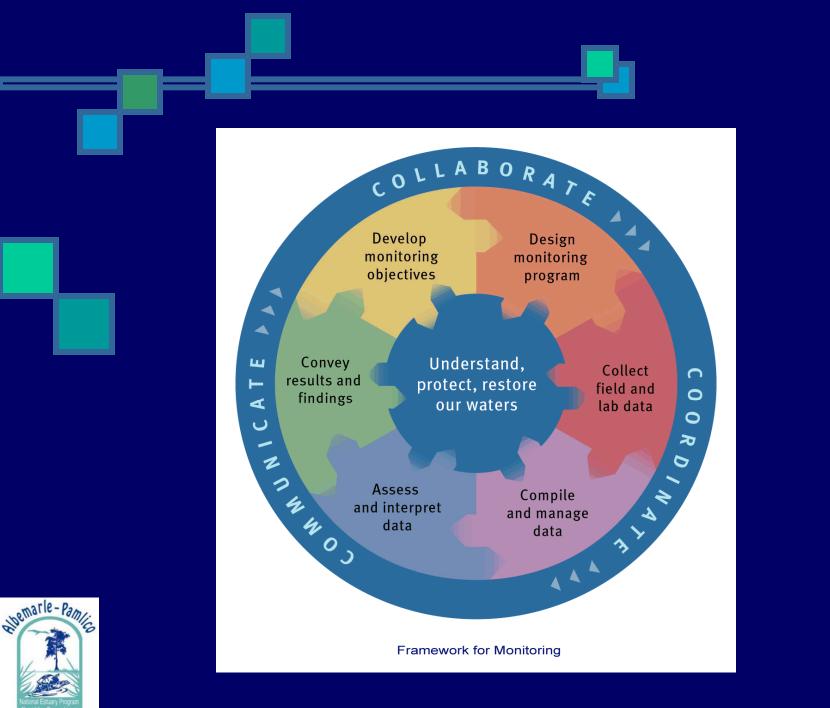
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		A-P INDICATORS: LINKS TO REGIONAL ECOSYSTEM MODEL					
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Module	Category	Dimension	Indicator	CCMP Indicator	STAC Indicator	ASC Indicator	ACE-INC Indicator
1: Human Population							
	Regional Population				Demographic Structure		
		Human Presence	Total population in basin		Human Presence		
		Human Urban					
			Total urban population		Human Presence		
		Population by demographic class			Demographic Structure		
		Localized population change			Human Presence		
		Human waste production					
2: Human Needs							
	Food						
	Water						
		Drinking water uses					
		Water supply infrastructure					
	Fiber						
		Housing			Housing Price & Affordability		
	Fuel	_					
		Energy supply infrastructure					
	Health						
	Economy						
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## APNEP Objectives-Metrics Hierarchy

Modules
Categories
Dimensions
Metrics







#### NEP Monitoring Plan Outline

- Define monitoring objectives & performance criteria
- Identify testable hypotheses
- Specify monitoring variables, including sampling locations, monitoring frequency, field and laboratory methods and QA/QC procedures
- Specify data management system and statistical tests to analyze the monitoring data
- Describe the expected performance of the initial sampling design
- Provide a timetable for analyzing data and assessing program performance



#### Initial APNEP Indicator-Metric Proposal

- Monitoring objective
- Measurable goals
- Data quality objectives
- Data analysis, statistical methods and hypothesis
- Data Source



#### APNEP Indicator-Metric Proposal

#### Introduction

- Monitoring objective under present sampling program
- Existing program costs
- Monitoring objectives under enhanced sampling program
- Estimated enhancement costs
- Measurable goal
- Data quality objectives under present sampling program
- Data quality objectives under enhanced sampling program
- Data analysis, statistical methods and hypothesis
- Data Sources
- Reference(s)
- Contact Person



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## A-P Ambient Monitoring Program

Precise goals and specific measures for monitoring policy effectiveness should be designed and tested at the time that a policy is implemented

Status Quo: APNEP 2000 monitoring survey update



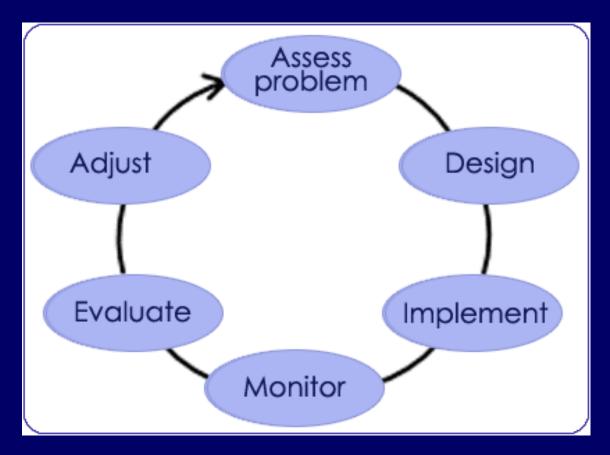
## Monitoring Integration Continuum

- Independence: Knowledge of partners monitoring strategies
- Cooperation: Taking advantage of common geography, timing
- Collaboration: Opportunities to leverage partners' monitoring networks



Integration: Working toward a common set of regional ecosystem objectives

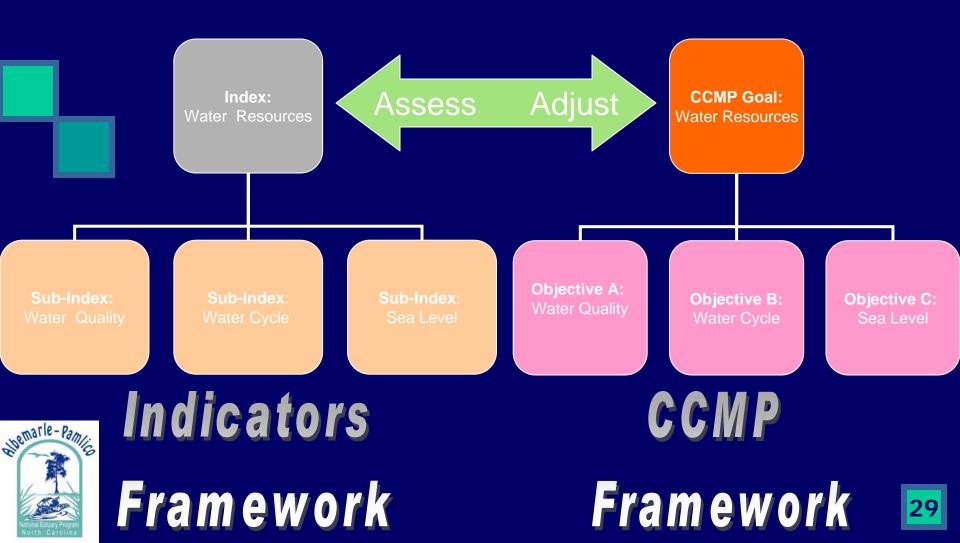
#### APNEP CCMP 2009: A New Paradigm of *Adaptive* Ecosystem Management





Source: Department of the Interior at www.doi.gov/.../AdaptiveManagement/whatis.html

#### An Integrated Framework



## **Regional Ecosystem Services**

- Provisioning (e.g., food, water, timber, fiber)
- Regulating (climate, floods, disease, wastes)
- Cultural (recreational, aesthetic, spiritual)
- Supporting (e.g., soil formation, photosynthesis, nutrient cycling)



#### DSS Construction Phase I

- Initial Objective: An integrated GIS environmental database portal
- IT Objective: Spatially-enabled content management system
  - First compilation: NC-DENR- and VA-DEQ/DCR/DFG/DF- sponsored environmental data
  - Second compilation: environmental databases from other North Carolina and Virginia agencies
  - Third compilation: federal, university (non-DENR funded), local databases



# DSS = Digital Basin (Landscape)

- Ecosystem State
  - Land Cover
  - Material Balance
  - Atmospheric
  - Water Quality
  - Living Aquatic Resources
  - Wetlands
  - Terrestrial
  - Species Introductions & Removals

Human Dimensions

#### Management Actions

Uncertainty

