

# *Phragmites australis* Mapping and Removal



**North Carolina Coastal Reserve and NERR**

A photograph of a field of tall, green grass, likely a marsh or wetland area. The grass is dense and reaches up to the top of the frame. In the background, there are trees and a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the grass.

**Michele Droszcz**

**Kyle Hall**

**Heather Allen**

**Patty Perrino**

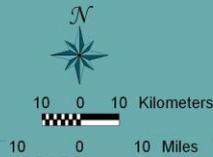
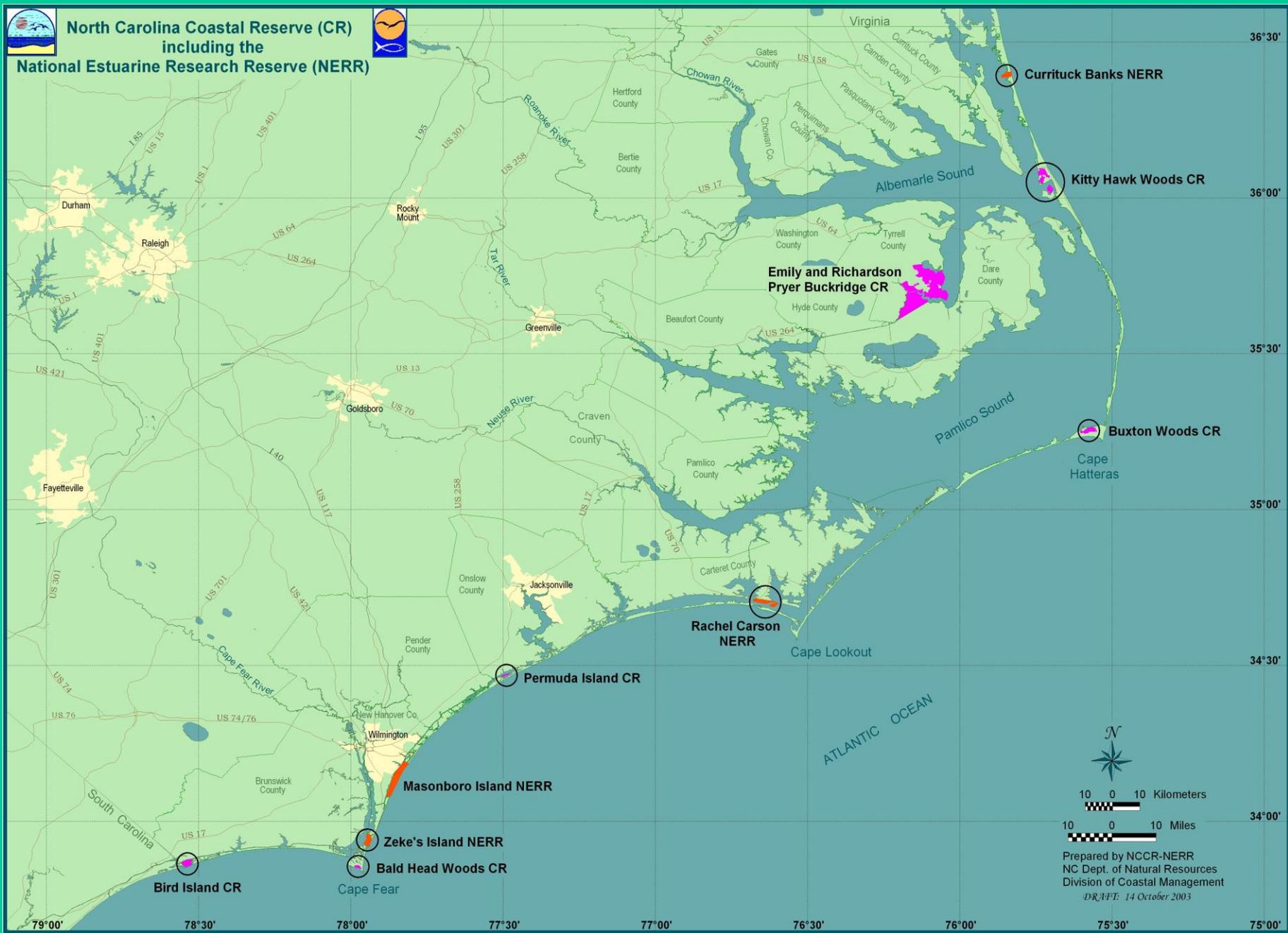
**John Howkins**

**Funded by APNEP**

**Assistance from ECSU**



**North Carolina Coastal Reserve (CR)  
including the  
National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR)**



Prepared by NCCR-NERR  
NC Dept. of Natural Resources  
Division of Coastal Management  
DATE: 14 October 2003

# Currituck Banks National Estuarine Research Reserve



0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Miles

-  Boardwalk
-  Maritime Forest Hiking Trail
-  Fire Break / Hunting Access
-  Reserve Boundary



Kitty Hawk Woods  
North Carolina Coastal Reserve

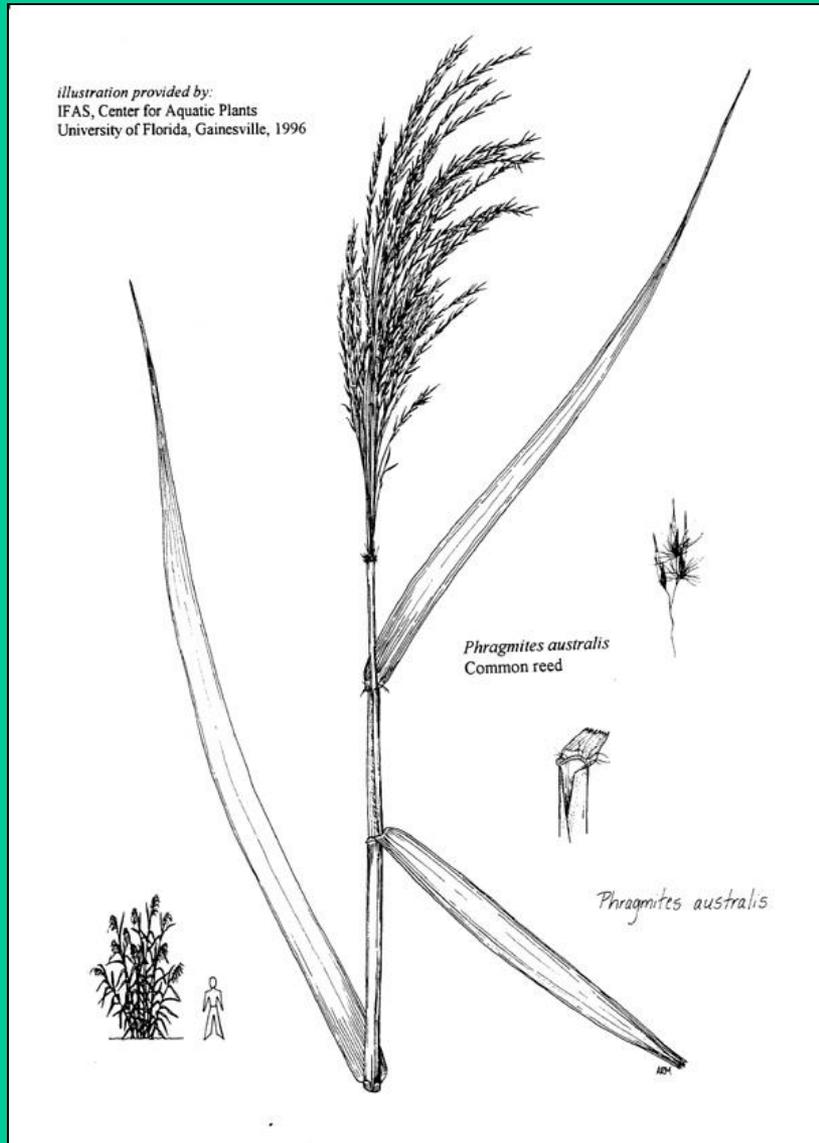
- Hiking Trail
- Access Point



Image Date: 03 January 1998  
Prepared by NCCR-NERR  
DR/NFE 06 October 2003

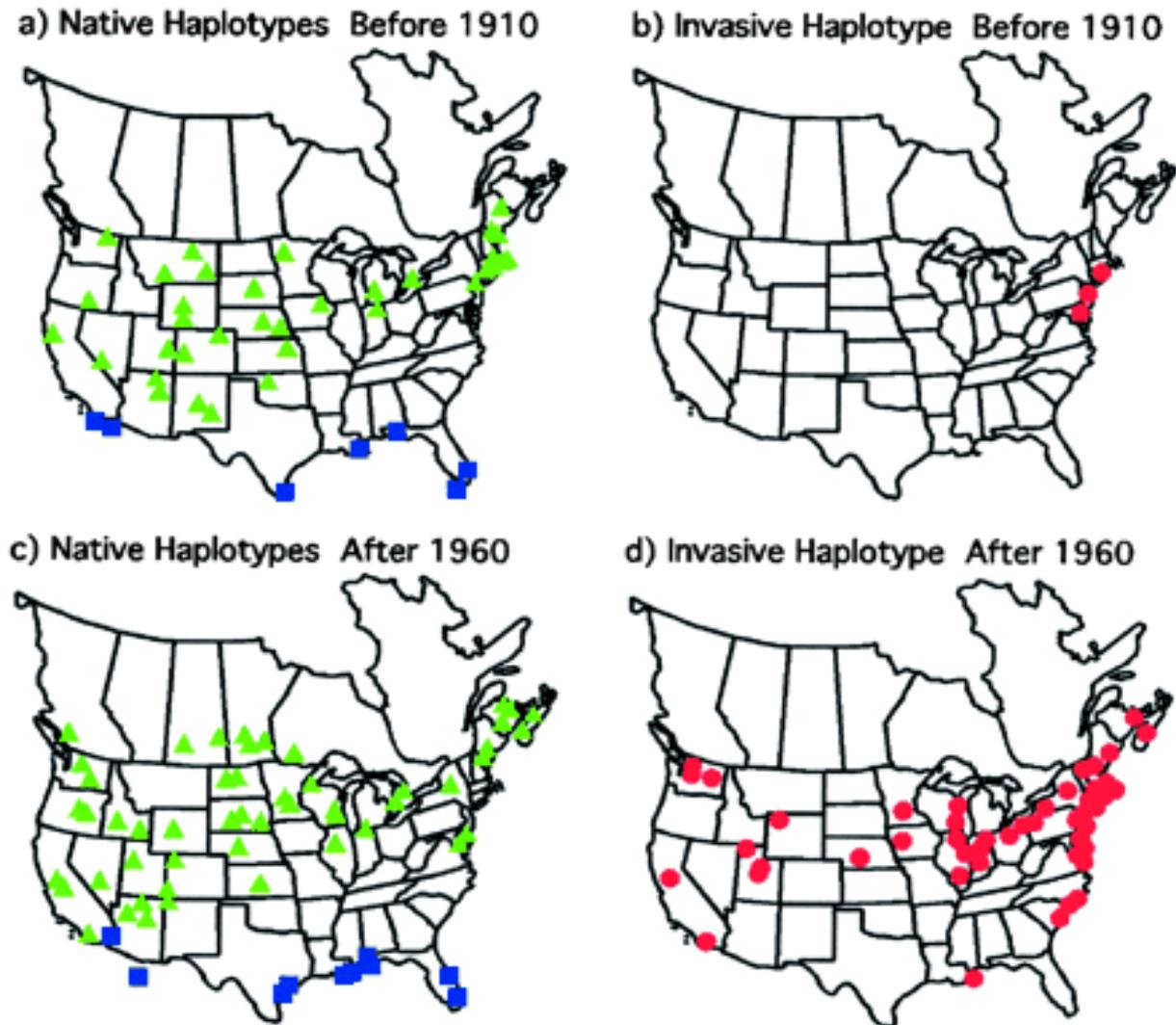


# Native and non-native *Phragmites*



Alexander Krings  
Curator  
Department of Botany  
North Carolina State University

Native  
widespread  
pre1910;  
decline in  
diversity since  
then

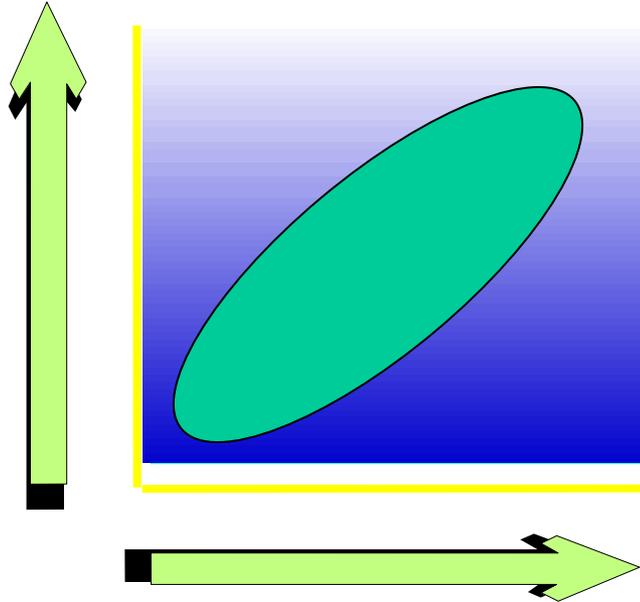


**Fig. 2.** Distribution of *Phragmites* haplotypes in North America. Green triangles represent the 11 native haplotypes, blue squares represent haplotype I, and red circles represent the invasive haplotype M. (a and b) The distribution of haplotypes in the 62 herbarium samples collected before 1910. (c and d) The distribution of haplotypes in 195 samples collected after 1960.

# Hydrologic and Chemical Control of *Phragmites* in Tidal Wetlands

## Growth Response:

Biomass  
Flowering  
Height  
Density  
Range



## Environmental Gradient:

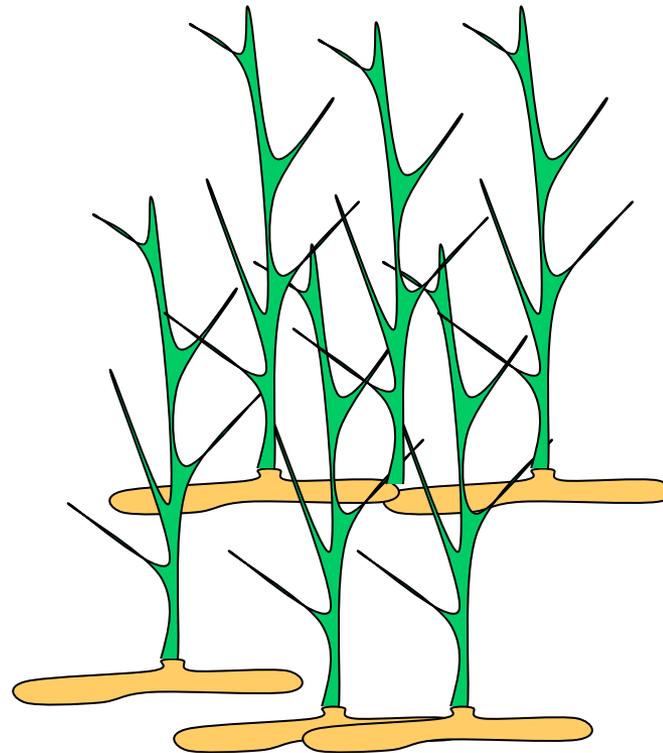
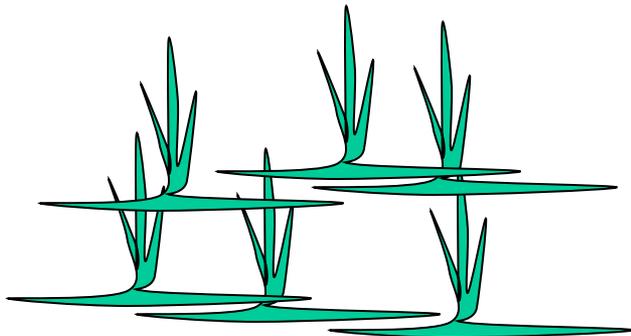
Exposure Time	Debris Accumulation
Depth to Water Table	Human Disturbance
Marsh Elevation	Nutrient Availability
Fresh:Salt Water	

**R.M. Chambers**

**College of William and Mary/VIMS**

# Ecological Role of *Phragmites australis* in Our Mid-Atlantic Wetlands

**Dr. Jim Perry**  
**Virginia Institute of Marine Science**

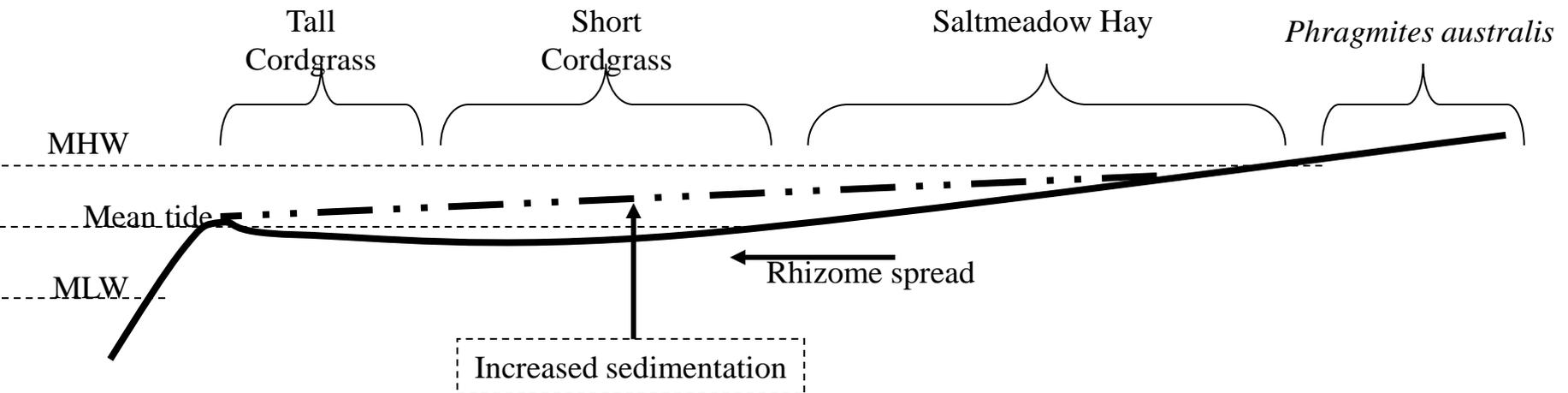


Biomass *P. australis* 2 or 3 X *S. alterniflora* (Meyerson et al. 1999 and others)

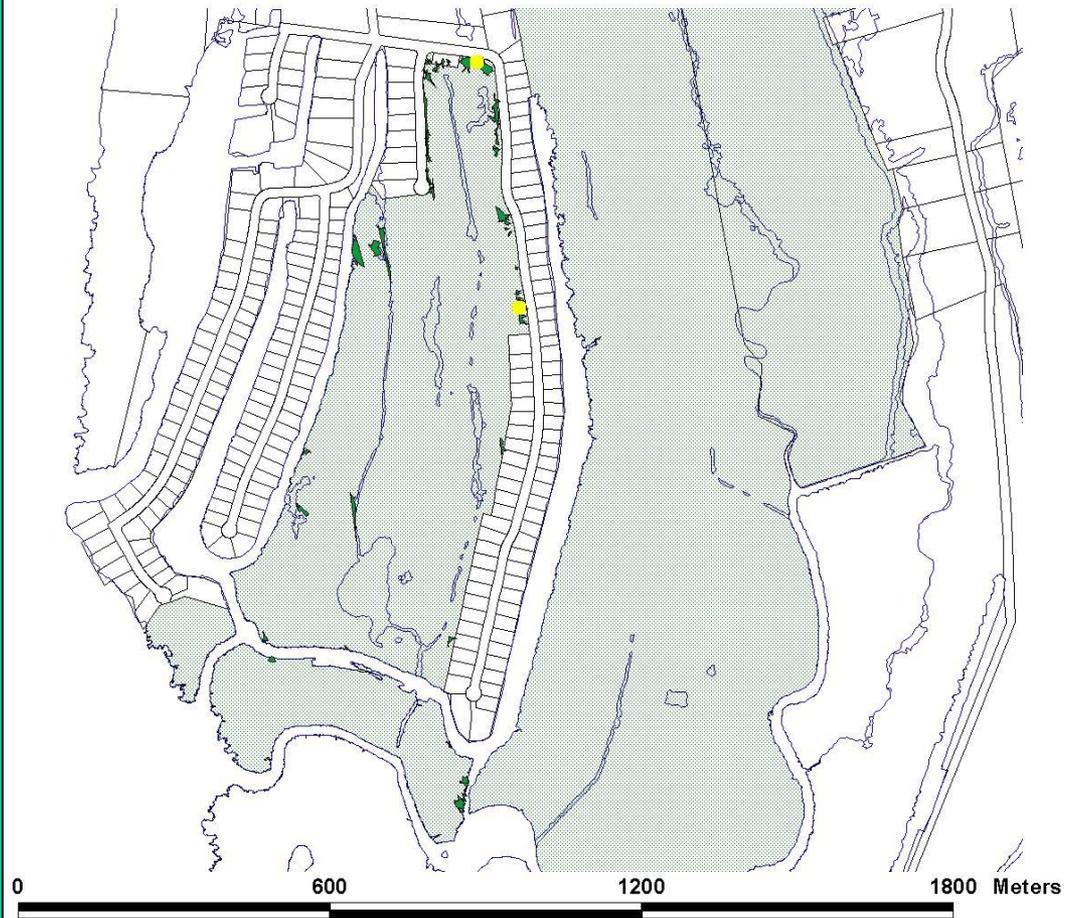
Stored carbon *P. australis* > *S. patens* (Windham 2001)

Sedimentation of *P. australis* = *S. cynosuroides* (Ld210, Cs131)

Species diversity of *P. australis* > *S. cynosuroides*



# Phragmites Coverage in Kitty Hawk Landing



- Phragmites Plots
- Phragmites Full Coverage 2003
- Shoreline
- ▨ Reserve Boundaries
- Kitty Hawk Parcels





<i>Phragmites a.</i>	45%
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	55%
<i>Baccharis spp</i>	<1%
<i>Spartina patens</i>	<1%
<i>Polygonum spp.</i>	<1%
<i>Hydrocotyle</i>	<1%

## SINGLE CUT

<i>Phragmites a.</i>	40%
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	60%
<i>Royal Fern</i>	1%
<i>Marsh Fern</i>	1%
<i>Polygonum spp.</i>	<1%

# BURN



<i>Phragmites a.</i>	40%
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	60%
<i>Spartina patens</i>	<5%
<i>Hydrocotyle spp</i>	<1%
<i>Polygonum spp</i>	<1%

<i>Phragmites a.</i>	30%
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	70%
<i>Spartina patens</i>	<2%
<i>Hydrocotyle spp</i>	<1%
<i>Polygonum spp</i>	<5%

# MASH



<i>Phragmites a.</i>	<b>35%</b>
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	<b>55%</b>
<i>Spartina patens</i>	<b>10%</b>

<i>Phragmites a.</i>	<b>10%</b>
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	<b>25%</b>
<i>Spartina patens</i>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Open water (no vegetation)</b>	<b>60%</b>

# MULTIPLE CUT



<i>Phragmites a.</i>	<b>25%</b>
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	<b>65%</b>
<i>Spartina patens</i>	<b>10%</b>

<i>Phragmites a.</i>	<b>&lt;5%</b> (37 shoots)
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	<b>70%</b>
<i>Spartina patens</i>	<b>5%</b>
<i>Hydrocotyle</i>	<b>&lt;5%</b>
<i>Scirpus americanus</i>	<b>&lt;5%</b>
<i>A. subulatus</i>	<b>10%</b>
<i>Polygonum spp.</i>	<b>10%</b>
<i>Mikanea scandens</i>	<b>5%</b>
<i>Distichlis spicata</i>	<b>&lt;5%</b>



<i>Phragmites a.</i>	95%
<i>Spartina patens</i>	5%

**COVER**

<i>Mikanea scandens</i>	
<i>Pluchea spp</i>	
<i>Spartina patens</i>	
<i>Galium spp.</i>	
<i>Cyperus spp.</i>	
<i>Ranunculus spp.</i>	
<i>Oxypolis filiformis</i>	
<b>Open Water</b>	<b>98%</b>



<i>Phragmites a.</i>	90%
<i>Baccharis spp</i>	10%

**SPRAY**

<i>Phragmites a.</i>	1% (10 shoots)
<i>Baccharis spp</i>	1%
<i>Pluchea spp</i>	1%
<i>Galium spp.</i>	1%
<i>Cyperus spp.</i>	1%
<i>Ranunculus spp.</i>	1%
<i>Oxypolis filiformis</i>	1%



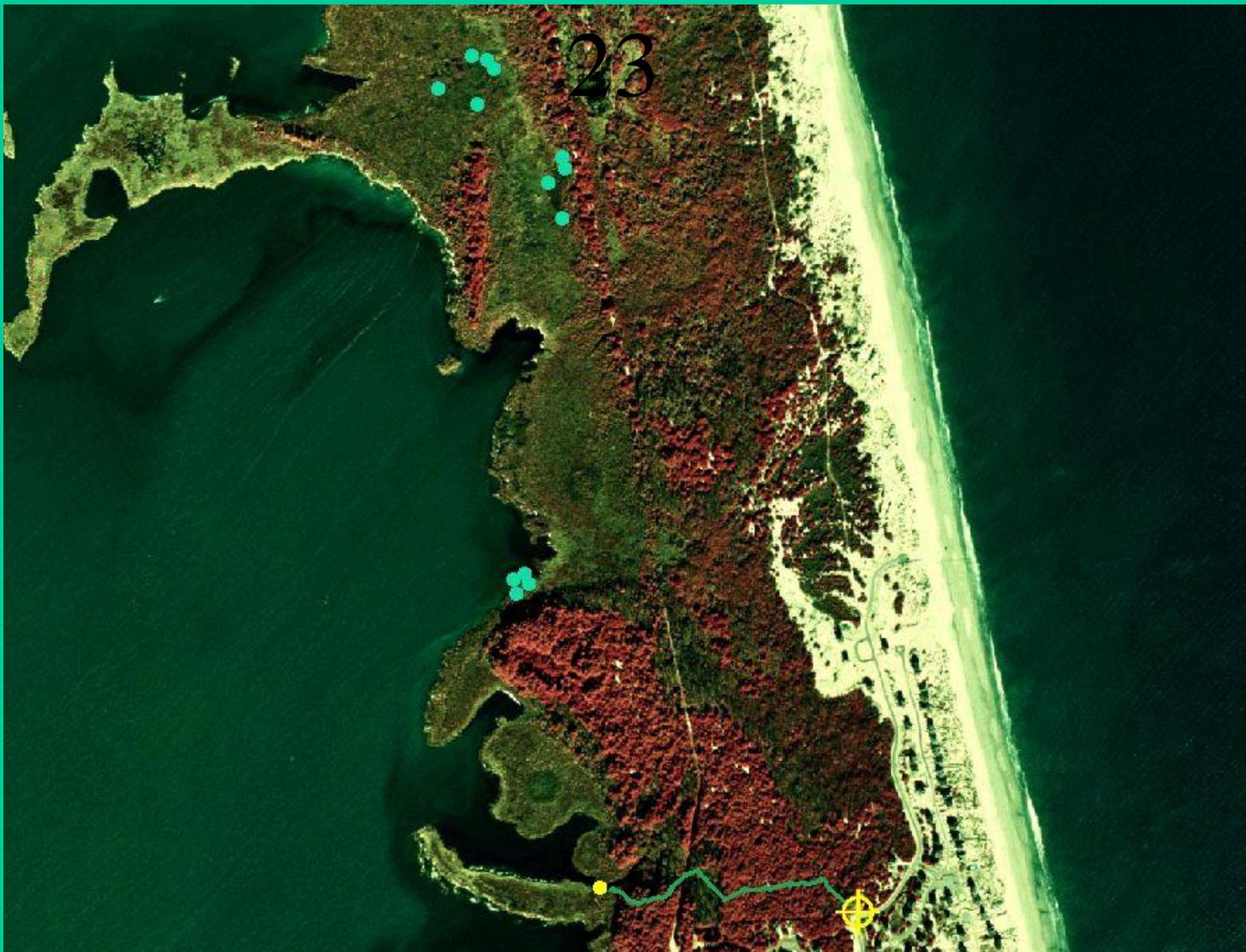
# Mapping

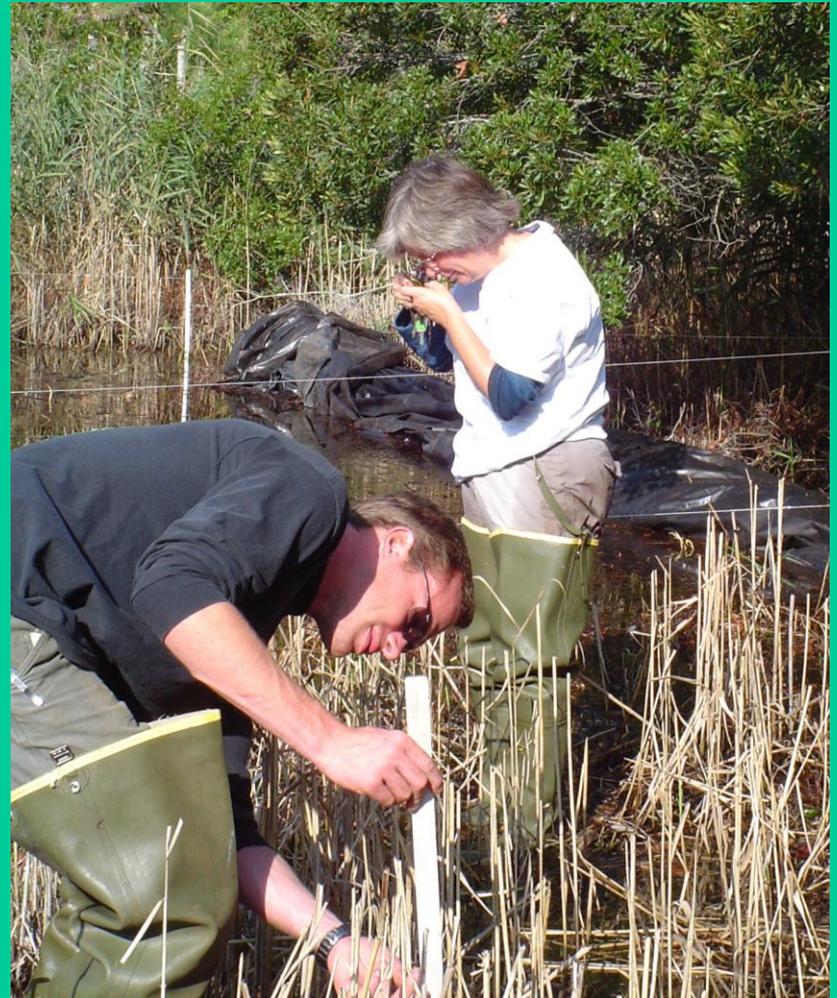


# *Phragmites a.* Plots over 2003 Natural Color Aerial Photographs



*Phragmites a.* Plots over 1998 Color Infrared





**What Next?**

