

## **Coastal and Marine Restoration: Benefits for Humans and Habitats**









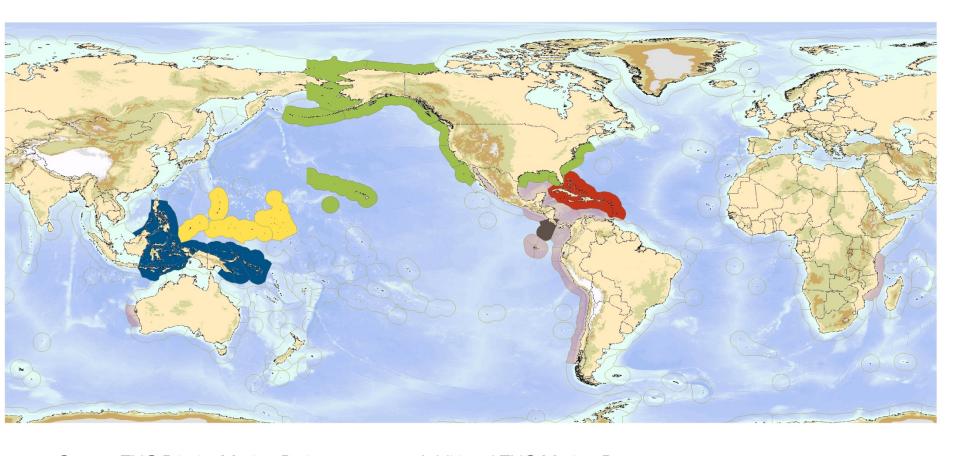


Implementation of these Recovery Act-funded projects would not be possible without the dedicated effort of TNC's project staff and support staff, scientific research institutions agency collaborators and particularly private industry partners.





### Current TNC Geographic Priorities for Marine Conservation



Current TNC Priority Marine Projects



U.S. Coasts and Oceans



Costa Rica



Caribbean



Pacific Islands



Coral Triangle

#### Additional TNC Marine Programs



Mexico Mosaics, Western Caribbean, Eastern Tropical Pacific,

Humboldt Current, Mozambique, Western Australia



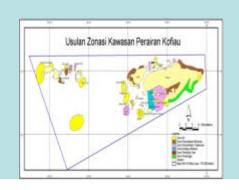


#### **Global Marine Priorities**

#### Sustainable Fisheries Ecosystem-based Adaptation Integrated Management







RESTORATION



Marine Debris Removal Oyster Reef Restoration

Living Shoreline Restoration Invasive Species Removal Fish Passage



## Global Habitat Loss is Significant

#### Coral Reefs – 90% threatened

(Burke et al. 2011)

### Marshes and Mangroves – 50% loss

(Burke et al. 2001; Valiela and Bowen 2001; Zedler and Kercher 2005)

## Oyster Reefs – 85% loss

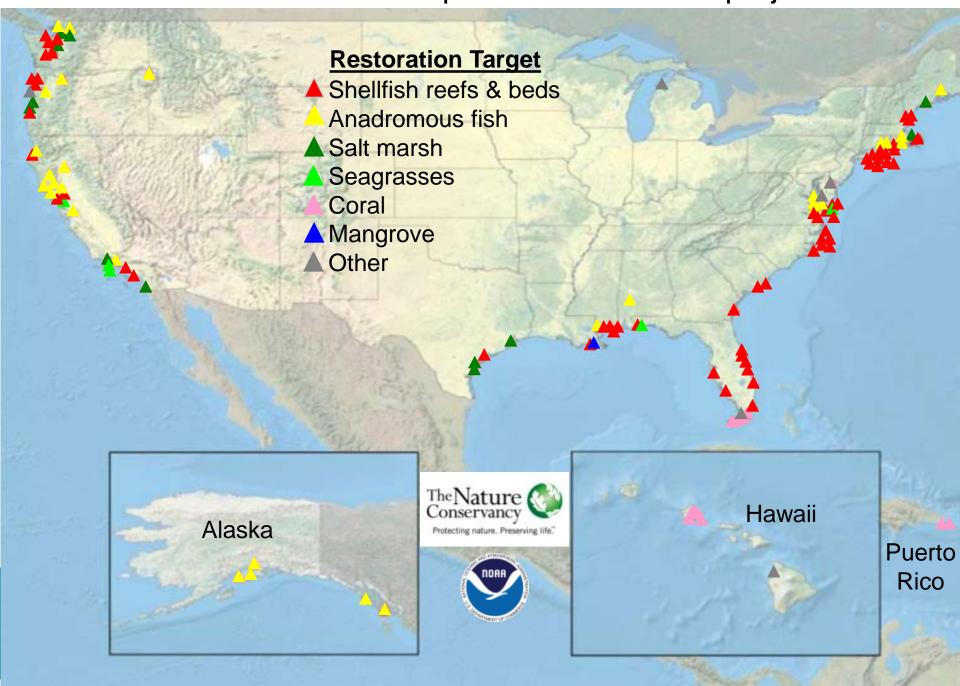
(Beck et al. 2011)

Rivers - < 3% rivers free flowing

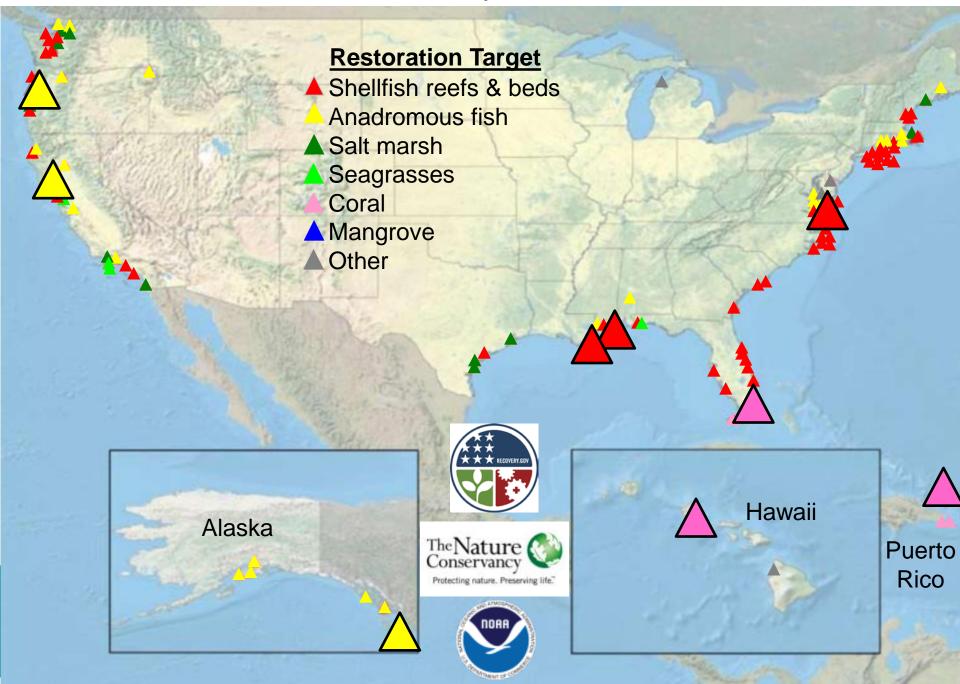
(Postel and Richter 2003)



#### TNC-NOAA Partnership 2001 – 2011: 124 projects



#### 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act





#### SE Alaska – Salmon Habitat Restoration



Goals: Improve salmon habitat to restore fisheries to historic levels to meet the needs of local residents and others.

460 acres of seagrass estuary and 65 miles of stream habitat

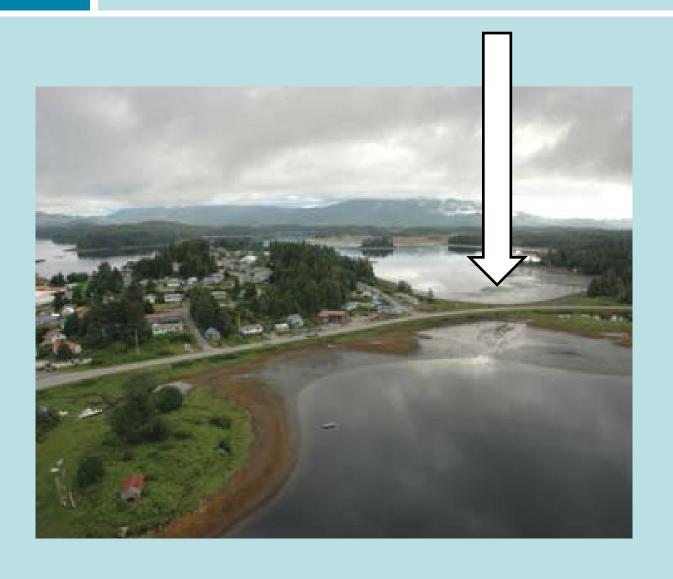
Jobs: 20 jobs and an estimated 10,800 hours







## The Problem: Reduced Connectivity





## The Solution: Hydrologic Reconnection







# Unexpected Results: Fish Passage Already?







# Lasting Solutions: Locals are Pushing for More Habitat Restoration





Alabama Breakwater and Estuary

Restoration

Goals: Restore and enhance shoreline habitat with a long-term goal of boosting the economy of coastal Alabama

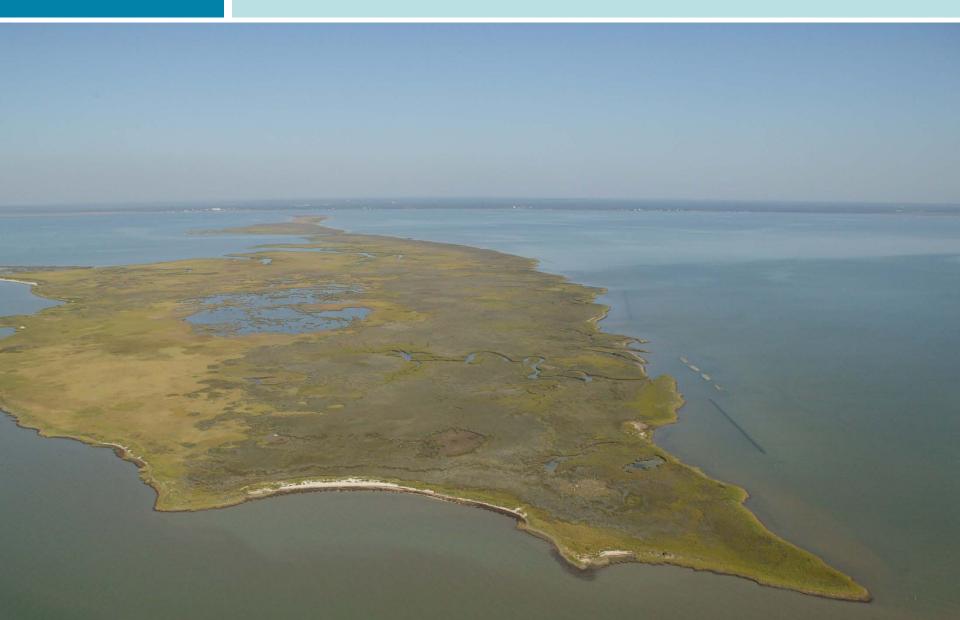
1.5 miles submerged breakwater, 3 acres oyster reef, and 30 acres seagrass beds over 10,000 feet of shoreline.

Jobs: 35 to 40 new jobs





### The Problems: Alabama





## Solutions: Oyster Reefs Act as Natural Wave Breaks





# Unexpected Results: Community Ownership





## Lasting Solutions: Restoration at Scale



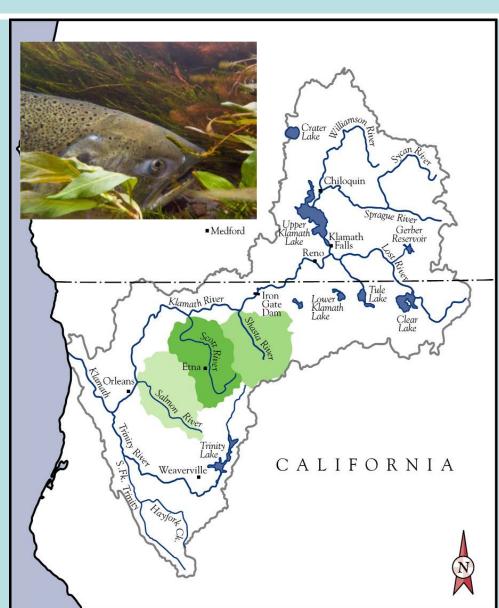


## CA – Big Springs Creek Shasta River habitat restoration

Goals: Restore degraded salmon habitat and demonstrating agricultural practices that benefit both people and fish.

Jobs: 54 jobs and 18,741 labor hours of employment







#### Problem: Loss of CA Salmon Habitat

### Irrigation return



Large irrigation diversions



#### Cattle in streams and creeks





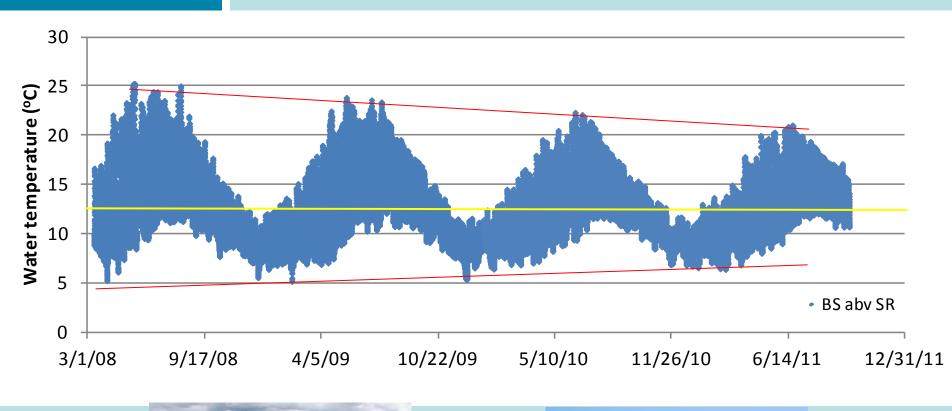


# Solution: Restoration and Changes in Ranch Management





## Unexpected Results: Quick Recovery









## Lasting Solutions: Demonstrating Compatibility Between Humans and Nature



....salmon populations in the Shasta River on an upward trend

....ecological needs for water balanced with agricultural needs for water

....land and water management that benefit both nature and humans and provide lasting protection for this remarkable place



## FI/USVI Coral Recovery and Restoration

Goals: Out plant 30,000 individual healthy corals to help recover endangered species

Jobs: 60 jobs totaling 118,759 labor hours

#### **Habitat Restoration:**

Produce threatened staghorn and elkhorn coral nurseries and transplanting the new colonies to an estimated **35 reef sites** in Florida and the U.S. Virgin Islands.





#### Local Problem: Decline in Corals



Ocean acidification

Destructive fishing

Pollution

Coastal development

Rising sea temperatures

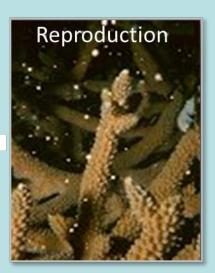


#### Nurseries as a Tool for Restoration













## The Solution





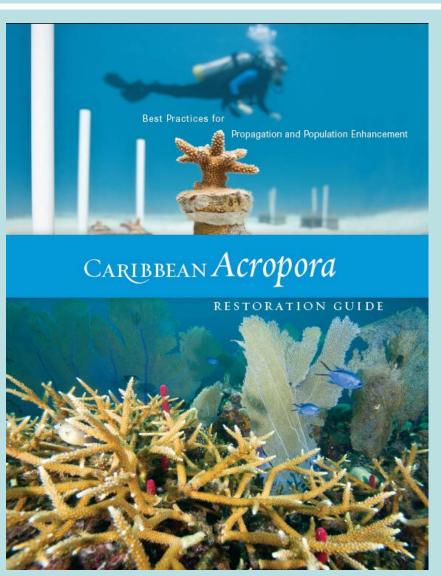






## Lasting Solutions: New Techniques Spread Globally







### Hawaii Maunalua Bay Reef Restoration

**Goals:** removing approximately 22 acres of invasive algae while building community capacity for coral reef protection.

**Jobs**: 75 jobs, 100,000 labor hours plus 7,000 hours of community service.





## The Problem: Extensive invasive algae covers shallow reef





# Solution: Removed 3 million pounds and cleared 27 acres of invasive alien algae





## Unexpected Results: Learned that Visible Success Makes a Difference



Malama Maunalua, the TNC community partner:

Established multiple new community sites

Engaged 12 schools and 3,000 volunteers for 10,000 hours

Received 501(c)(3) status

Created fisheries working group

Working with UH, NOAA, USACE on watershed inputs





### Lasting Results: Recovery of Native Species



"We are not just restoring an ecosystem, but a community. The project has become a symbol of hope for Maunalua."



# Louisiana Oyster Reef Breakwater and Marsh Restoration – Living Shoreline

Goals: To construct 3.4 miles of oyster reefs as living shoreline shoreline to protect 350 acres of existing marsh.

**Jobs:** 57 jobs and 61,982 hours of employment.









### **VA Seaside Bays Restoration**

Goals: **Twenty-four acres** oyster reefs at 12 sites and **262 acres of seagrass** planted. Test the reintroduction of Bay Scallops

Jobs: 57 jobs with 59,927 labor

hours









### Regional Problems and Solutions

Loss of Eelgrass and Scallop Fishery Collect / broadcast eelgrass seeds Deploy caged scallops





Commercial extinction of oysters Create new reefs via shell plants



#### Results and Lessons Learned

#### Created 2 more acres of reef than goal



Scallops already reproducing and settling in restored meadows





#### The Problem: Conflict Over Land Use



- Declining salmon need estuary habitat to recover.
- Local conflicts between farms and fish kept estuary habitat restoration from occurring.









## The Solution: Levee Setback and Tide Gate Alterations

- Proof-of-concept project created estuary habitat for salmon and flood storage and improved infrastructure for farms.
- "Multiple benefits" built relationships.









#### The Solution: Included Jobs





## Lasting Outcomes: Multiple Benefit Projects

Exporting multiple benefits approach throughout Puget Sound and beyond.





### Regional Problems and Solutions



Declining salmon need estuary habitat to recover.

Local conflicts between farms and fish kept estuary habitat restoration from occurring.

Proof-of-concept project created estuary habitat for salmon and flood storage and improved infrastructure for farms.







## Unexpected Outcomes: Created Win-Win Situation to Success



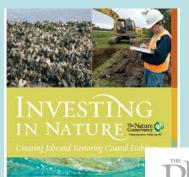
New initiative between fish and farms groups is scoping large-scale estuary restoration projects with benefits for farms.

Inclusive process and co-equal goals improved relationships between previous adversaries.





## Getting Restoration to Scale: What is TNC's role?



#### Communication





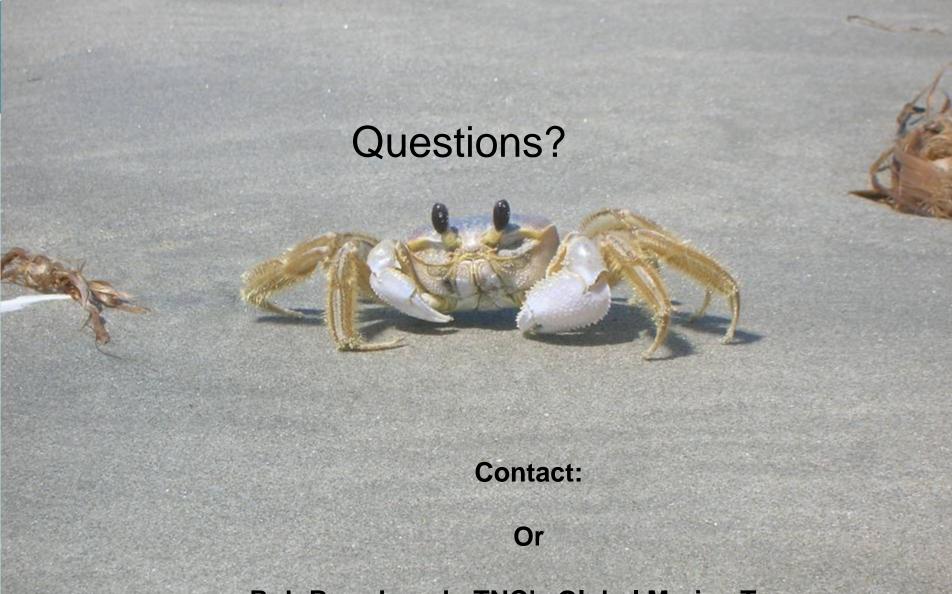
Innovation



**Partnership** 



Leverage



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