

### ***Portfolio Assembly and Results***

During the multi-state portfolio assembly meeting, team members reviewed their recommended portfolio examples and made final decisions regarding examples to be coded definitely “Yes” for inclusion in the portfolio. The spatial distribution of the preliminary “Yes” and “Maybe examples” was reviewed on large scale maps and additional information on the overlap of the size 1 examples with other portfolio recommended species and ecosystems in NAC (salt marshes, beaches, wetlands, forest patches, species elements etc.) was available. Final portfolio decisions were guided by the goal to select the most viable watershed examples in a spatial configuration that met spatial distribution goals for representation of the types across ecological drainage units. During portfolio assembly we also made an effort to represent size 1 directly ocean connected types across the coastal patterns of large bays, small bays, lack of bays/strait shore, and salt-ponds into which size 1 rivers empty along the coast. This sub-type of direct ocean connectivity had not previously been assessed.

The resultant final 349 watersheds selected for the portfolio represented 21% of all watersheds and 25% of all direct-to-ocean connected examples (Table 26). The 349 watersheds represented more than 10% of each of the 9 types and represented more than 20% of examples in 5 of the 9 types. We set a goal for representing size 1 coastal-tidal watershed occurrences at a minimum of 180 occurrences (20 occurrences x 9 types, with distribution of the total 180 to reflect proportion of total population in that type). Review of the selected watersheds indicated that the number of “Yes” occurrences exceeded the numeric goal for all nine types when considering the set of size 1 coastal-tidal watersheds across the ecoregion (Table 27). The direct-to-ocean examples made up a high percentage of the portfolio occurrences, with the ocean portfolio examples alone exceeding the ecoregional goal by type for 5 of the 9 types.

Table 26. NAC Ecoregion Goal Summary. “Y” indicates a critical stream selected for the portfolio

NAC Ecoregion Portfolio Summary for Occurrences (Watersheds) of Coastal Size 1 Streams as of 3/23/2006									
Note Numbers do NOT include portfolio additions by MA and NYLI that were not 1:100,000 r3 based watersheds and lines									
Classification Types			All Size 1 Coastal				Direct Ocean		
class	% Tidal	Watershed Size	total occurrences	M	Y	180 occurrence numeric goal	total occurrences	M	Y
1	1: < 25%	1: < 2 sq.mi.	223	18	34	24	75	6	7
2		2. 2<10 sq.mi.	198	22	42	21	69	6	19
3		3. 10<30 sq.mi.	153	12	44	16	39	2	15
4	2: 25<75%	1: < 2 sq.mi.	145	10	25	16	78	8	12
5		2. 2<10 sq.mi.	133	14	26	14	75	9	17
6		3. 10<30 sq.mi.	73	3	25	8	40	2	17
7	3: 75+%	1: < 2 sq.mi.	556	15	93	60	331	8	66
8		2. 2<10 sq.mi.	166	11	49	18	105	8	44
9		3. 10<30 sq.mi.	27	2	11	3	19	1	9
Grand Total			1674	107	349	180	831	50	206

When the 180 occurrence numeric goal was distributed proportionally across EDU and by the 9 types within EDU, distribution goals were met in all EDUs except for the Lower Delaware and Delaware Bay Coastal EDU (Table 26). In states where distribution goals were exceeded, portfolio occurrences may be further prioritized by the state chapters. Please see Appendices for the detailed EDU distributions and side panels next to each EDU table explaining the results in that EDU.

### ***Condition and Conservation Status of the Portfolio***

Assessment of the current condition and conservation status of the portfolio reveals the portfolio tidal creeks suffer from the impacts of human activities. Dam and road/stream crossing fragmentation is pervasive with 74% of portfolio occurrences having a dam or road crossing within the tidal section of the watershed and 81% having a dam or road crossing within the watershed. Although NAC is a very developed ecoregion, the watershed and buffer land use within portfolio watersheds appears within the top two land use ranking categories in 68% of portfolio examples. 32% of watersheds have more severe impacts from impervious surfaces, agriculture, or riparian buffer conversion and 32% of portfolio size 1 coastal watersheds also have mapped point sources within their watershed. Conservation status within the portfolio watersheds ranges from 0-100%, with 17% of portfolio watersheds having 50%+ or more of the watershed in conservation land status and 47% of portfolio watersheds having very little or <10% conservation land. Please see Appendices for more information and graphs detailing the distributions of the above variables across the portfolio by stratification type and EDU.