



2021 Coastal Habitat Protection Plan Amendment: Implementation Progress



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NC Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting | Anne Deaton, Division Marine Fisheries | August 18, 2022



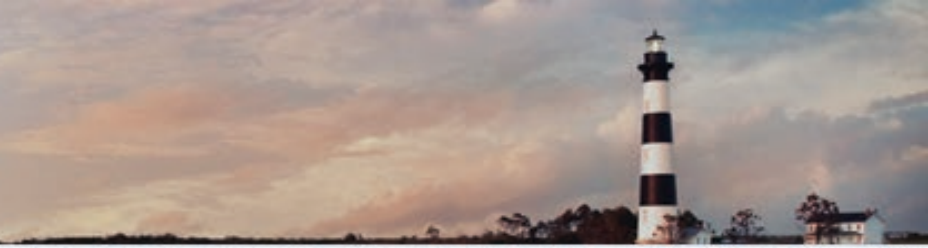
Coastal Habitat Protection Plan

Origin

- Mandated by Fisheries Reform Act (G.S. 143B-279.8)
- Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to draft the plan
- Environmental Management (EMC), Coastal Resources (CRC), and Marine Fisheries (MFC) commissions must approve and implement plan recommendations

Purpose

- *Long-term enhancement of coastal fisheries by addressing habitat and water quality needs of fishery species*



2021 CHPP Priority Issues



SAV Protection
and Restoration
through Water
Quality
Improvements



**Wetland
Protection**
and
Enhancement
with Nature-
Based Solutions



**Environmental
Rule
Compliance**
to Protect
Habitat



**Wastewater
Infrastructure**
Solutions for
Water Quality
Improvement



**Habitat
Monitoring** to
Assess
Status and
Regulatory
Effectiveness

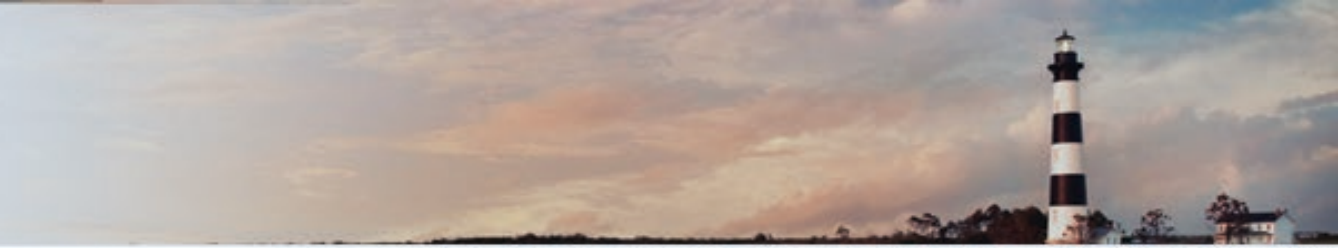
CHPP Implementation Kickoff Meeting June 2022

Purpose

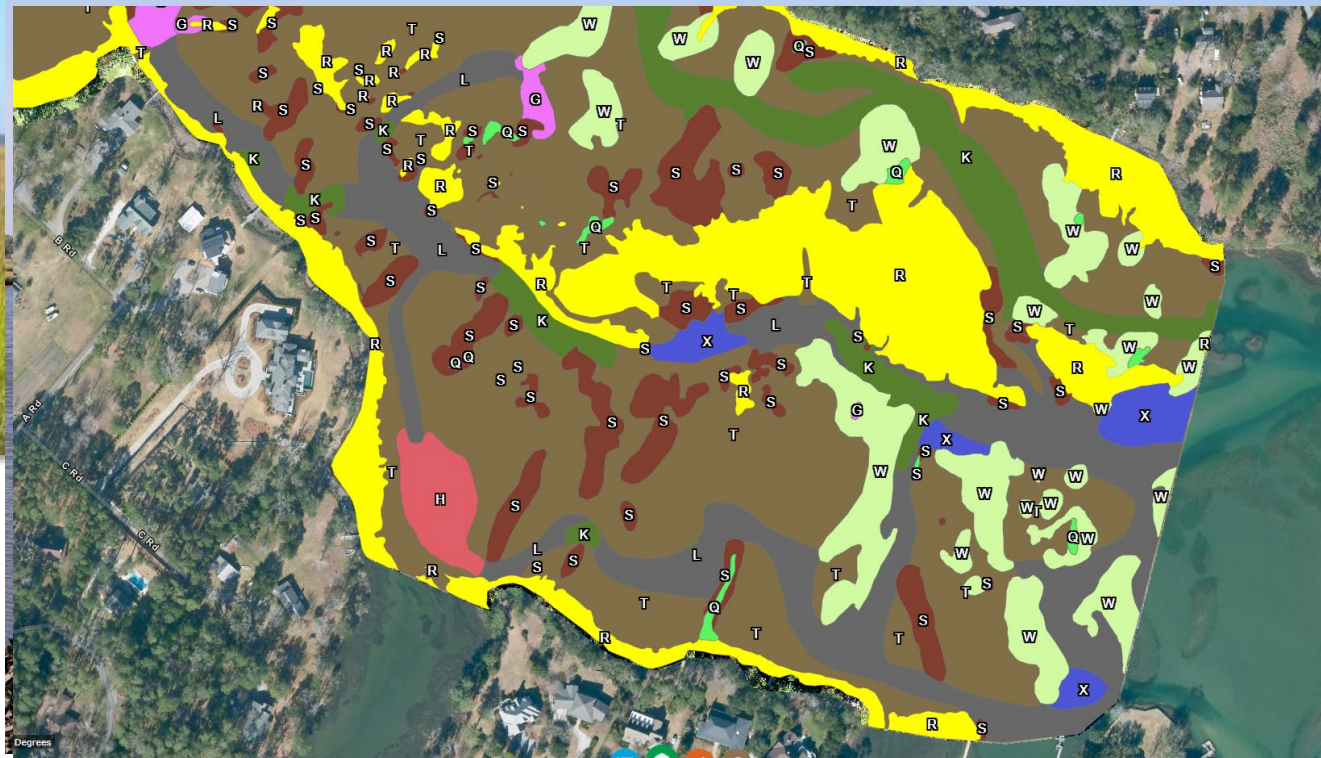
- Overview – why, what, how
- Roles and responsibilities in CHPP implementation
- Value to other Department and Division goals
- Build support and cooperation



Habitat Assessments

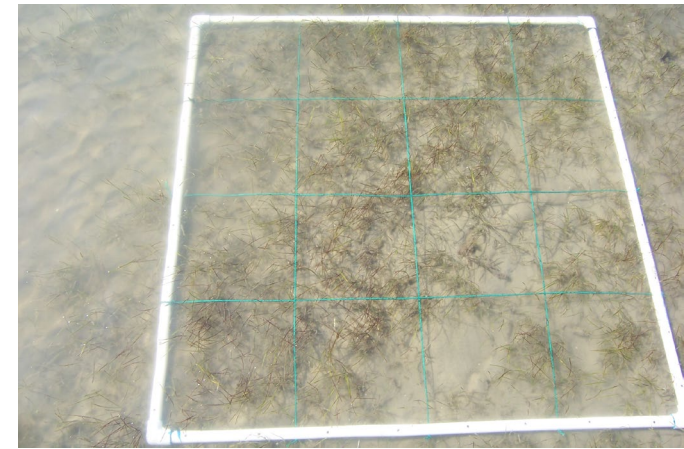


Intertidal Shellfish Mapping



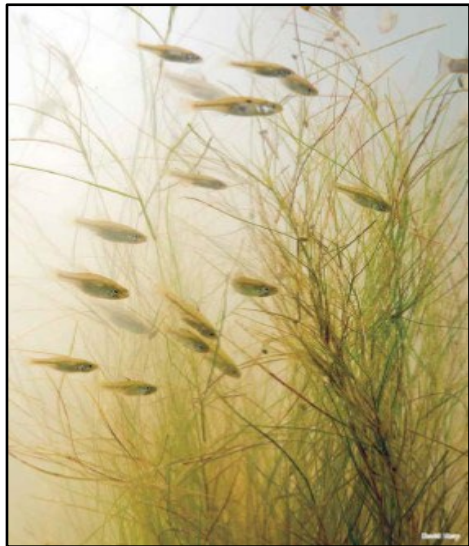
Wetland Mapping

SAV Recommended Actions



Monitor SAV
and Water
Quality

Implement
Protective
Water Quality
Measures
(regulatory)

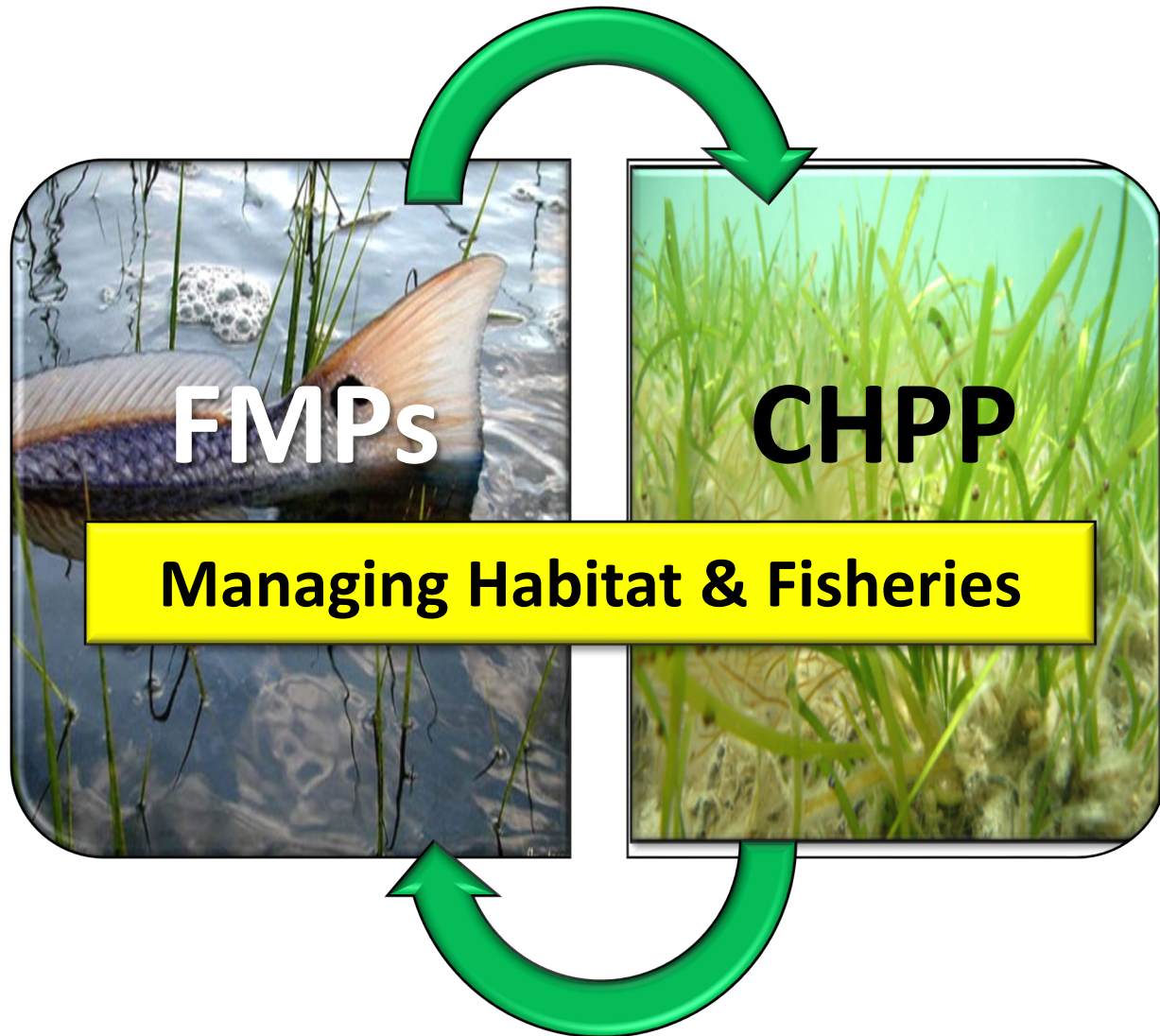


Implement
Protective Water
Quality Measures
(non-regulatory)

Identify
Pollutant
Sources



CHPP & FMP Synergies



- Direct relationship between **fish habitat and fish populations**
- **Holistic** approach for managing habitat and fisheries
- **Habitat loss and degradation** can make a stock more susceptible to decline.

Form Public Private Partnership

Recommended Action

By 2022, DEQ will support forming a public/private partnership to **engage** a diverse group of **stakeholders** to assist in implementing and securing decision-maker support and funding for measures in this 2021 CHPP Amendment that protect and restore **water quality**.



NC COASTAL WATER QUALITY SUMMIT: STAKEHOLDERS DRIVING SOLUTIONS

Convening stakeholders and decision-makers to identify and organize around voluntary actions that protect and restore coastal water quality

Collaboration on Resilience Planning

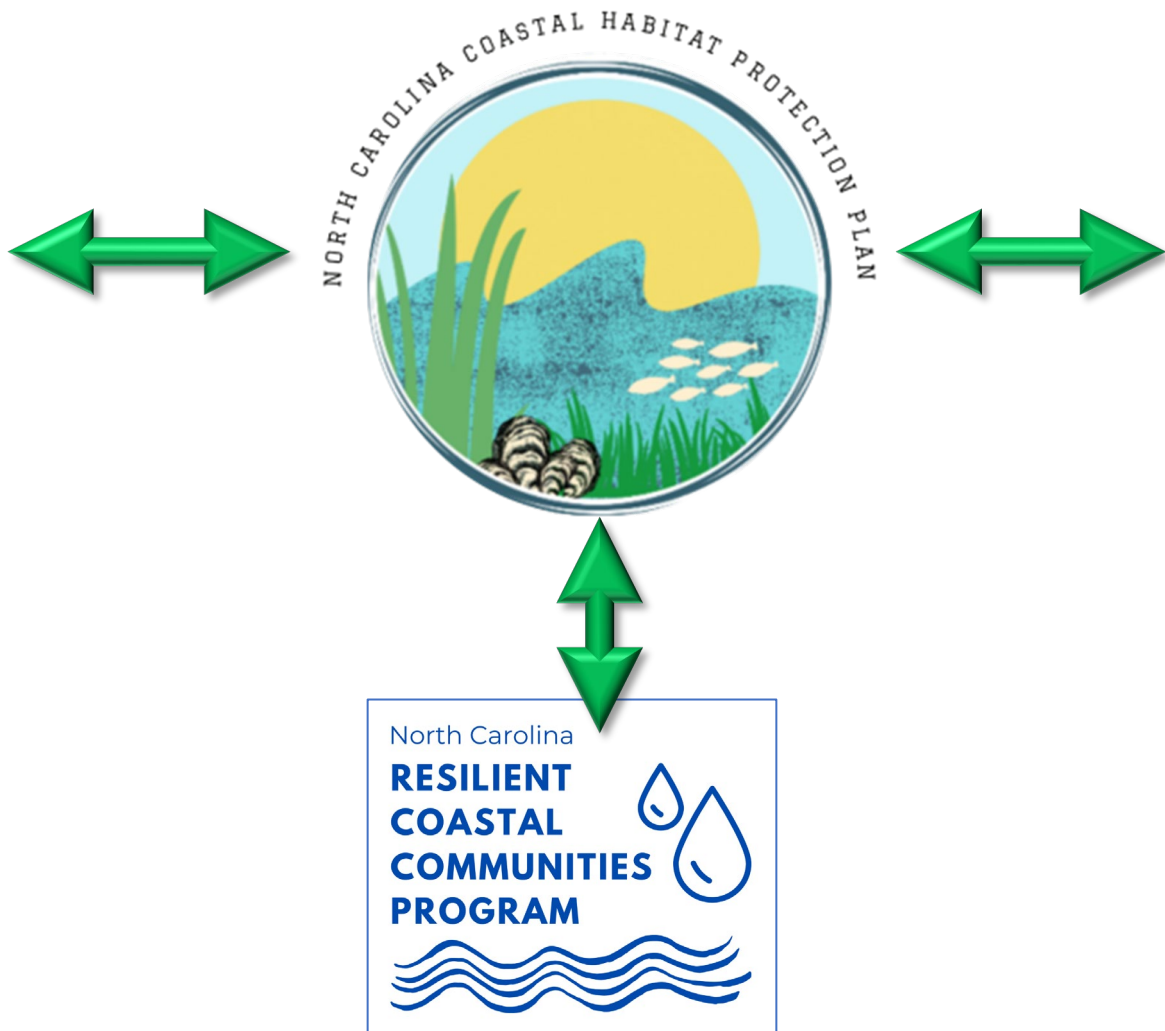


North Carolina

Climate Risk Assessment and Resilience Plan

Impacts, Vulnerability, Risks, and Preliminary Actions

A Comprehensive Strategy for Reducing North Carolina's Vulnerability to Climate Change



North Carolina Natural and Working Lands Action Plan

June 2020

Turnhall Creek, Educational State Forest in Bladen County. (Photo courtesy of North Carolina Forest Service)

North Carolina

RESILIENT COASTAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



QUESTIONS?



CHPP Information:

<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries/habitat-information/coastal-habitat-protection-plan>

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