

# Seaside Oyster Restoration Stakeholder Involvement



**2012 Virginia Coastal Partners Workshop  
Engaging Stakeholders in Coastal Management  
December 5 & 6, 2012**

# GOAL: RESTORE and MAINTAIN FUNCTIONAL OYSTER REEFS



# Recent History > Increase in Scale



**COASTAL RESTORATION**  
*at work*

*VIRGINIA SEASIDE BAYS RESTORATION*

*NATIVE OYSTERS, SEAGRASS, AND BAY SCALLOPS*

*THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009*  
 COASTAL RESTORATION AT WORK ❖ CREATING JOBS FOR AMERICA ❖ RESTORING HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE

**2 to 3 acres / year  
 pre-ARRA**

**Total 29 acres 2002 to 2009**

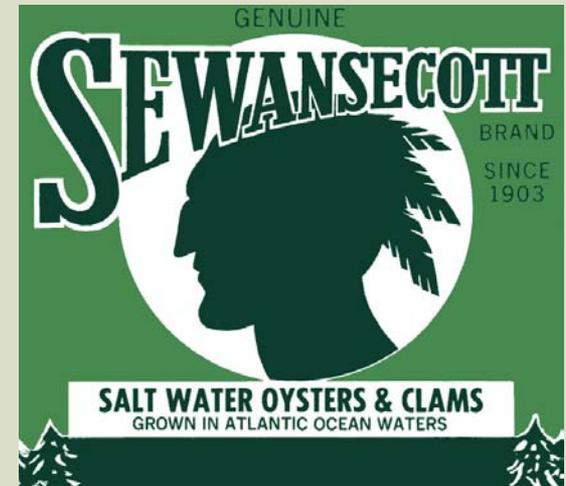


**22 acres / 18 months  
 Total of 52 acres of reef  
 restored to date!**



## Seed Oyster Transplant Trial

In 2005, H.M. Terry Co. in Willis Wharf donated 5000 bushels of seed oysters from their beds in the Machipongo River. The value of the seed was used as match for funds to transplant the seed oysters to 2 reefs in Hog Island bay near Nipping Rock.

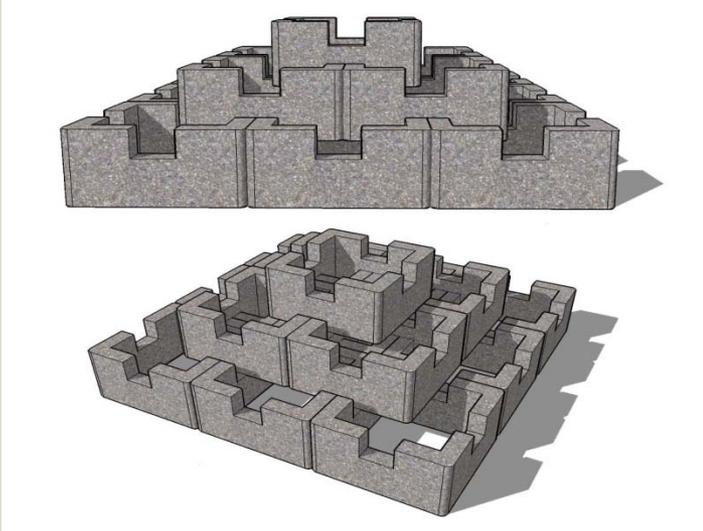


# Reef Ball Project – 2005

## Tandem Friends School & Allied Concrete



# Oyster Castles – Allied Concrete Inc.



# Volunteer Engagement



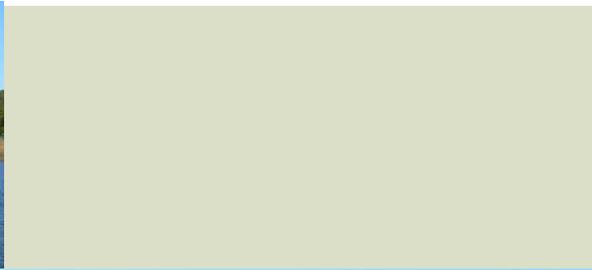
**Oyster castles utilized to:**

- Revitalize dead reefs
- Evaluation tool
- Living shorelines

# Deployment By Volunteers

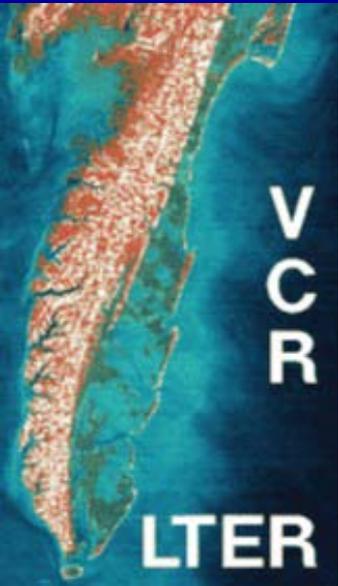


# Living Shorelines & Volunteers





# Oyster Research and Volunteers



## Ecosystem Services Provided by Oyster Reefs



- Fluid circulation, sediment uptake and metabolism
- Marsh shoreline buffering
- Denitrification of sediments

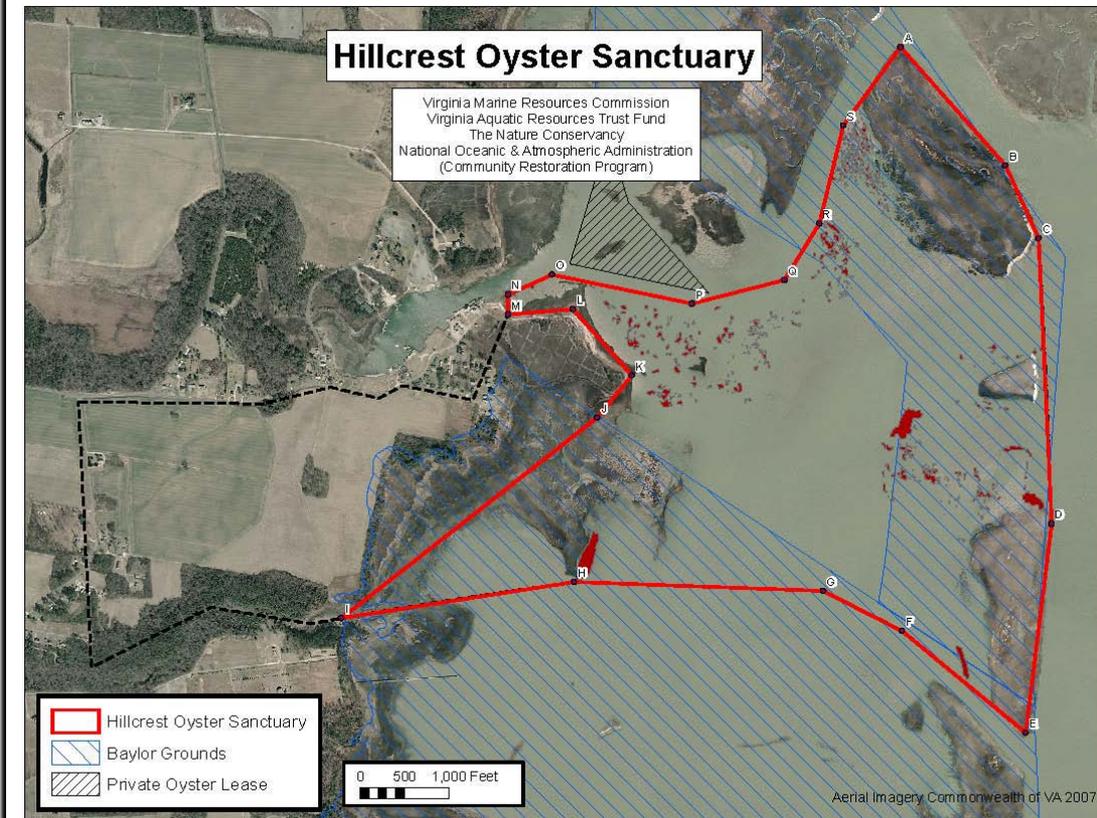
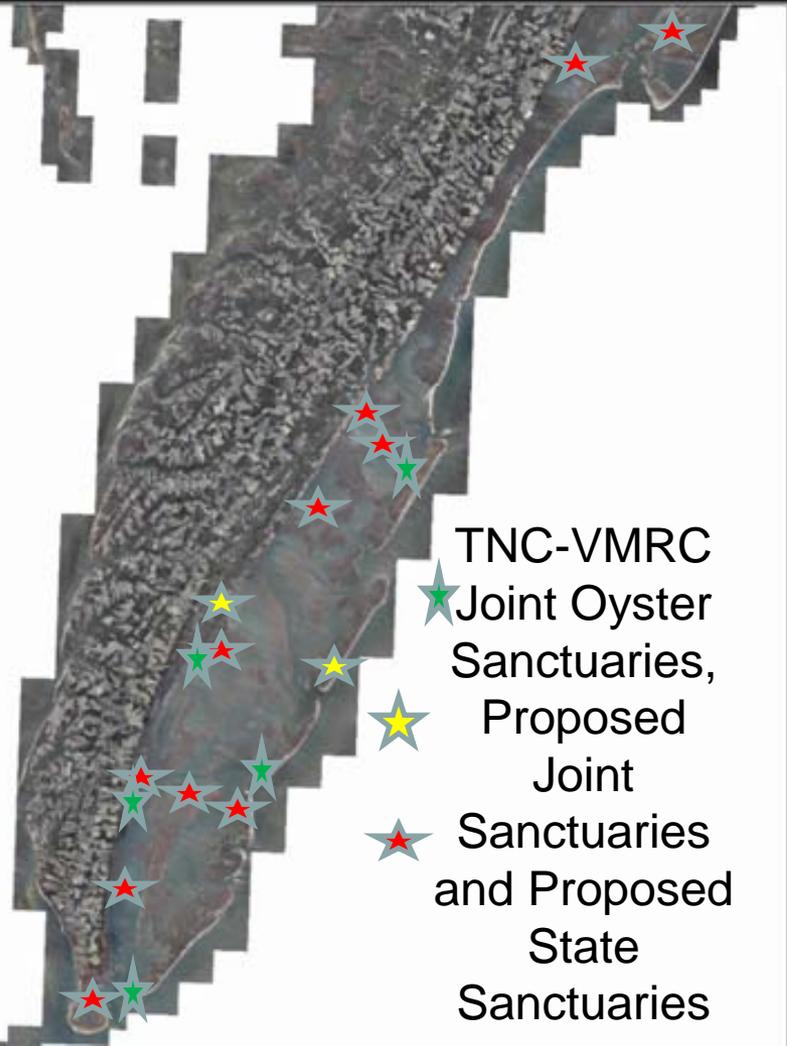


# Oyster Research and Volunteers



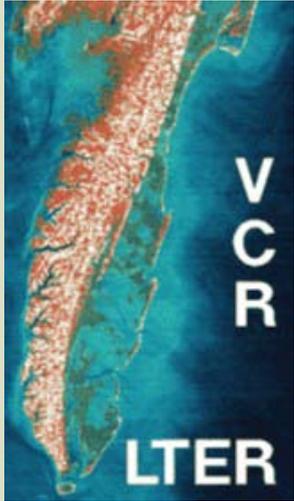
# Poachers and Oyster Sanctuaries

## 2009 MOU



# School Oyster Gardening

## Oyster Reef Keepers of VA – Laurie Sorabella



# School Oyster Gardening



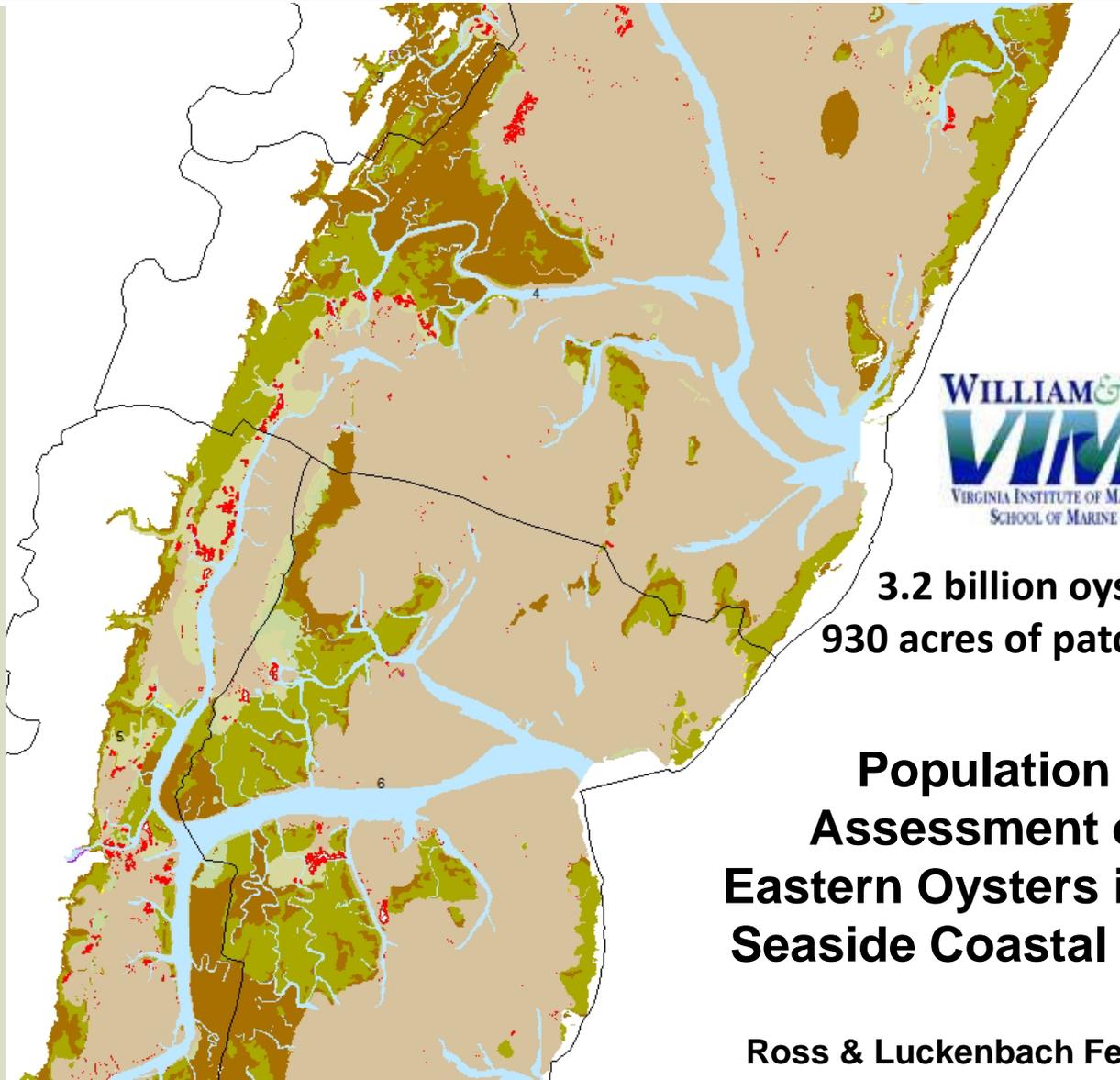
# School Oyster Gardening



# School Oyster Gardening



# What's the future hold?

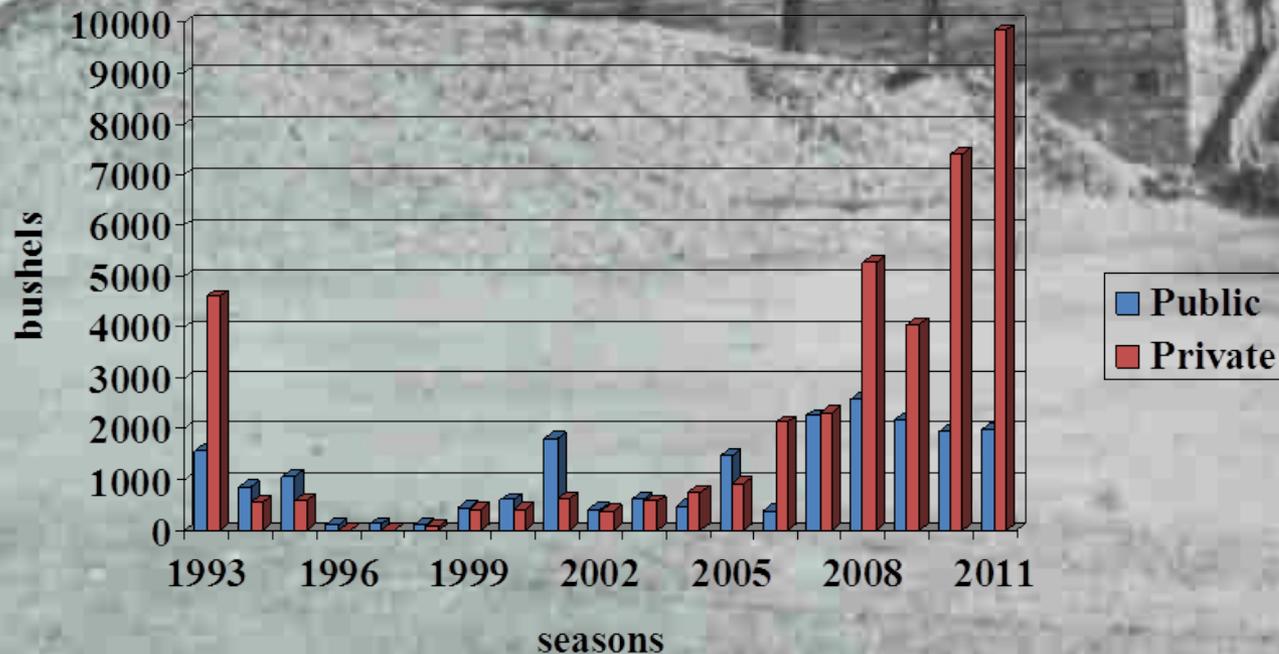


**3.2 billion oysters**  
**930 acres of patch reefs**

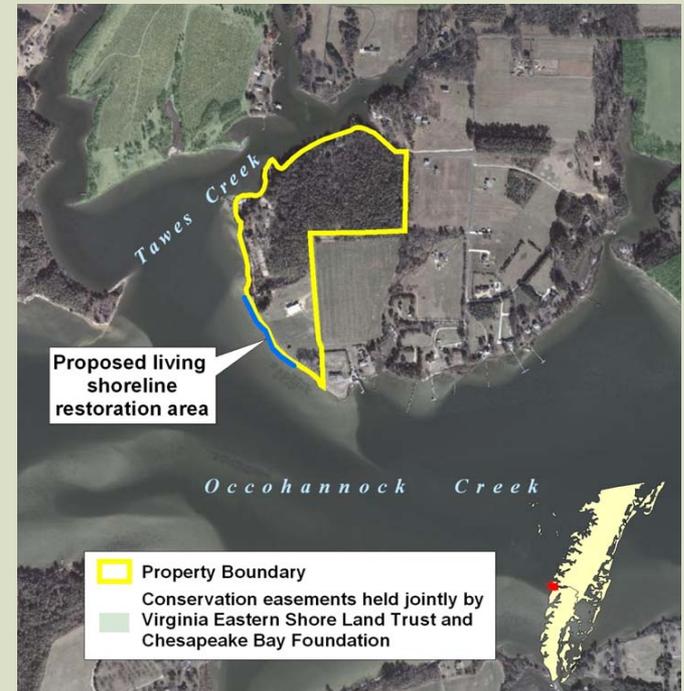
## **Population Assessment of Eastern Oysters in the Seaside Coastal Bays**

Ross & Luckenbach Feb.2009

## Oyster Aquaculture is taking off!



## Camp Occohannock Living Shoreline Project



**Nature-based Solutions**  
**Bayside, smaller scale, oyster castles,**  
**volunteers**

# Questions

