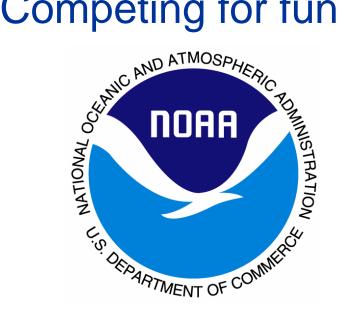


- Funding Opportunities
- Oyster Restoration in Southeast
  - Competing for funding



NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE



### Community-based Restoration Program



- Creates partnerships with local constituencies
- Fosters community support through hands-on citizen involvement in restoration projects
- Instills stewardship and a conservation ethic
- Leverages technical expertise and funds



### National and Regional Partnerships





























**Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment** 















Florida Partners:

Florida DEP National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

USFWS Florida Gulf Coast University

University of South Florida U of Central Florida

Tampa Bay Watch Gulf of Mexico Foundation

Restore America's Estuaries The Nature Conservancy

#### Restoration Center Technical Staff

#### **Identify Potential Projects**

Conduct Site Visits Encourage Partnerships Review Proposals

#### **Provide Technical Assistance**

Aid in Project Design Aid in Project Implementation Aid in Proposal Development

#### **Track Project**

Participate in Field Work Conduct Site Visits Review Reports Maintain Database

**Typical Project Proponents:** 

Academics &

Non-profits &

Local Municipalities &

State Resource Managers



PARTNERSHIPS & Community (Volunteer) Support



Typical Project Timeline:
12-24 Months

Photo Credit: Tampa
Bay Watch



Pinellas



### Restoration and Stewardship



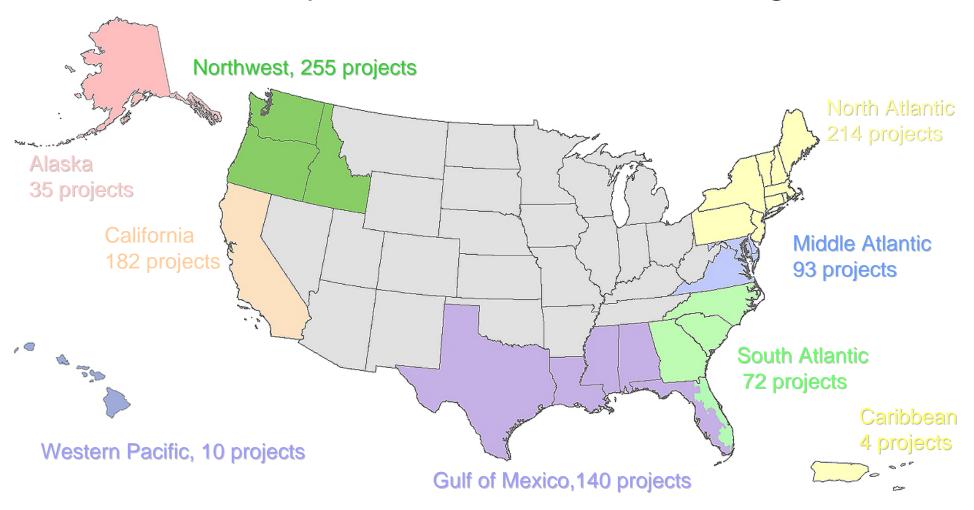
- Over 1,000 projects funded since 1996
- 100,000 volunteers contributed over 630,000 hours



- 24,000 acres of productive habitat restored
- 120 stream blockages; 900 miles of stream opened for fish passage



### Community-based Restoration Program





### Community-based Restoration Program



### **Habitat Types Restored**

Salt marshes

Seagrass Beds

Mangroves

**Stream Corridors** 

Kelp Forests

**Coral Reefs** 

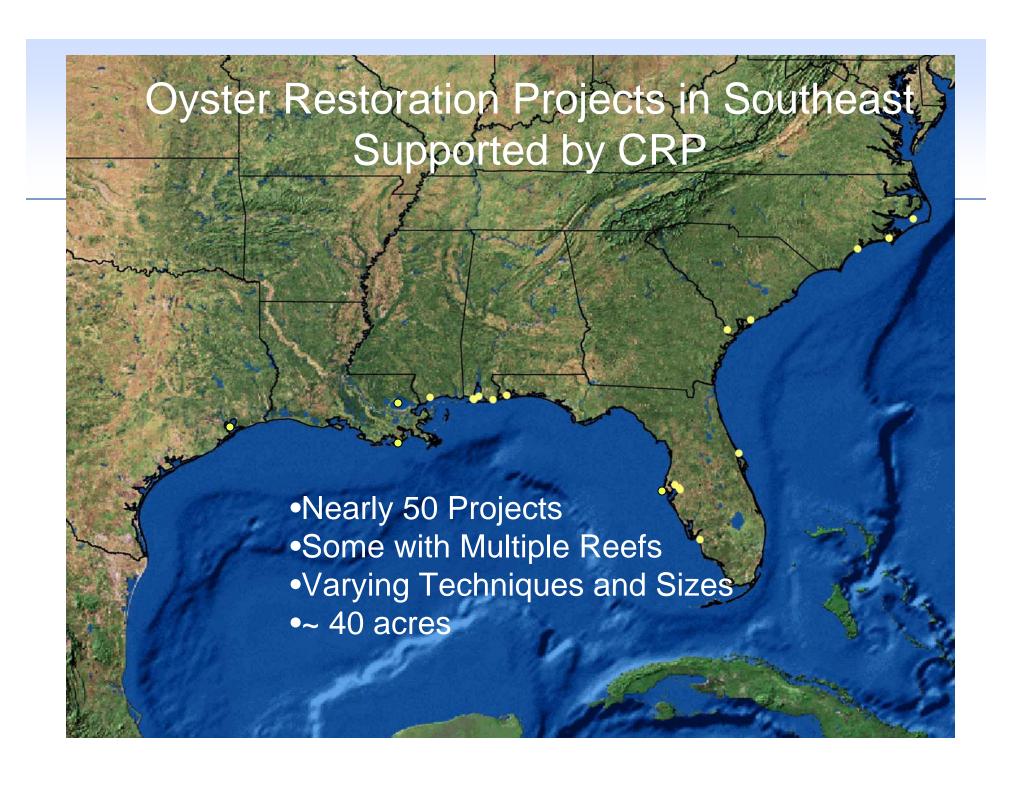
**Dunes/Beaches** 



Oyster Reefs!!!









Bagging Shell:











Georgia

South Carolina

Florida

### Large Scale Restoration





Alabama Mississippi Louisiana



# **Florida**

- •22 Projects
- •Generally Small Scale
- •Total > 5 acres

Size	Methods	Location	Goals
Range fro	Shell bagging; Oyster gardening; Rubble; Reef balls; Vexar mats; Loose shell	Intertidal And Subtidal	Improve water quality; Decrease shoreline erosion; Education; Provide Fishery habitat



# **Florida**



Practitioners	Monitoring
Non-Profits State Agencies Academics Federal Agencies	Water quality (Temp, Salinity, DO); Spat set, Survival, Growth; Shell migration; Shoreline erosion; Wildlife utilization (i.e. birds); Benthic invert and Finfish utilization

# Requests for Proposals

- Direct funding through NOAA (annually)
- Subawards through our Partners (NOAA funding administered by partners)
  - •7-8 RFP's released yearly for Florida projects

### **Proposal Evaluation Criteria**

Importance and Applicability	(20%)
Technical and Scientific Merit	(30%)
Qualifications of Applicant	(10%)
Project Costs	(20%)
Outreach, Education and Community Involvement	(20%)

### Importance and Applicability (20%)

- Potential to restore habitat for NOAA trust resources
- Considered in context of local environment
- Tangible results related to NOAA performance metrics
- Regional/Local priority identified in planning documents

### Technical and Scientific Merit (30%)

- Describe restoration objective for NEPA
- •Realistic implementation plan with monitoring 24 months
- Technical soundness and ability to achieve goals
- Evaluation of success monitoring plan
- Protection of project into the future
- Self-sustaining or adequate maintenance schedule

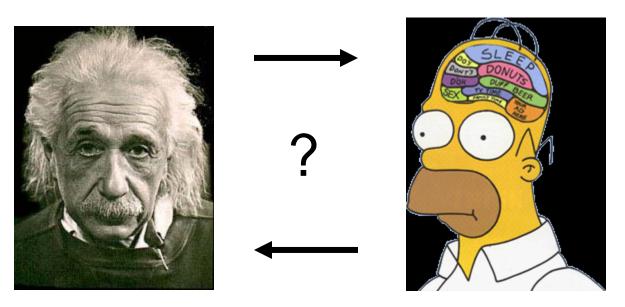
#### **Qualifications of Applicant**

(10%)

 Project applicants/partners with appropriate technical expertise

Project applicant/partners with necessary management

capabilities



#### **Project Costs**

(20%)

Realistic Budget; Justified; Detailed

•Cost effective – most funds toward on the ground costs

•Leverage federal funding – 1:1 Match

Demonstrate need for NOAA funding



#### Outreach, Education and Community Involvement (20%)

- Encourage stewardship, volunteerism, hands-on opportunity
- Public outreach; Information dissemination
- Demonstrated community support through partnerships

•Show of support from partners, state, congressional reps.

(letters of support)

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