NJ Restoration Tool Organization Suite (ResTOrS)

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2025 COASTAL ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

NJ Restoration Tool Organization Suite (ResTOrS)

A diverse coalition of state agency, non-governmental organization and academic partners has been collaborating on the development of a Coastal Ecological Restoration and Adaptation Plan (CERAP) for New Jersey's coastal marshes, estuaries and back-bays. To support this effort, this same coalition has been building the **NJ Restoration Tool Organization Suite (NJResTOrS)** to provide a more seamless integration of web-based decision support tools so that users can work directly from project scoping through evaluation. The NResTOrS work flow proceeds from the statewide perspective of the CERAP tool to a landscape scale evaluation of the marsh landscape with the Marsh Explorer and Living Shorelines Explorer tools to more detailed site level assessment and guidance provided by the Wetlands Assessment Tool for Condition & Health (WATCH) and the Living Shoreline Feasibility Model (LSFM).

NJResTOrS is one component of a larger strategy to equip coastal municipal planners and nonprofit partners with the resources to plan, coordinate and implement coastal restoration projects that support community resilience, ecosystem health and carbon sequestration.

NJResTOrS: Project partners

njrestors.rutgers.edu



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Center for Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis

School of Environmental and Biological Sciences



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Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
Environmental Analysis & Communications Group























NJ Restoration Tool Organization Suite (ResTOrS) Work Flow

1.Where to Work?

2. Issue Identification

3. Restoration Approach

Explorer

3a. Living Shoreline

Coastal Ecological Restoration and Adaptation Planning (CERAP) Explorer Includes nominated sites catalog

1. Marsh Explorer - Marsh condition metrics along with CERAP Issues of Concern 2. WATCH -Marsh condition assessment relative to

sediment

based on high-level physical conditions vertical and horizontal position, biology, 3c. Feasibility Model hydrology, soils, and Team building and

installation logistics

3b. Marsh Futures Mapper (in development)

> **Explore different** coastal marsh future



Climate Change



Home / Resources / Coastal Ecological Restoration and Adaptation Planning Tool

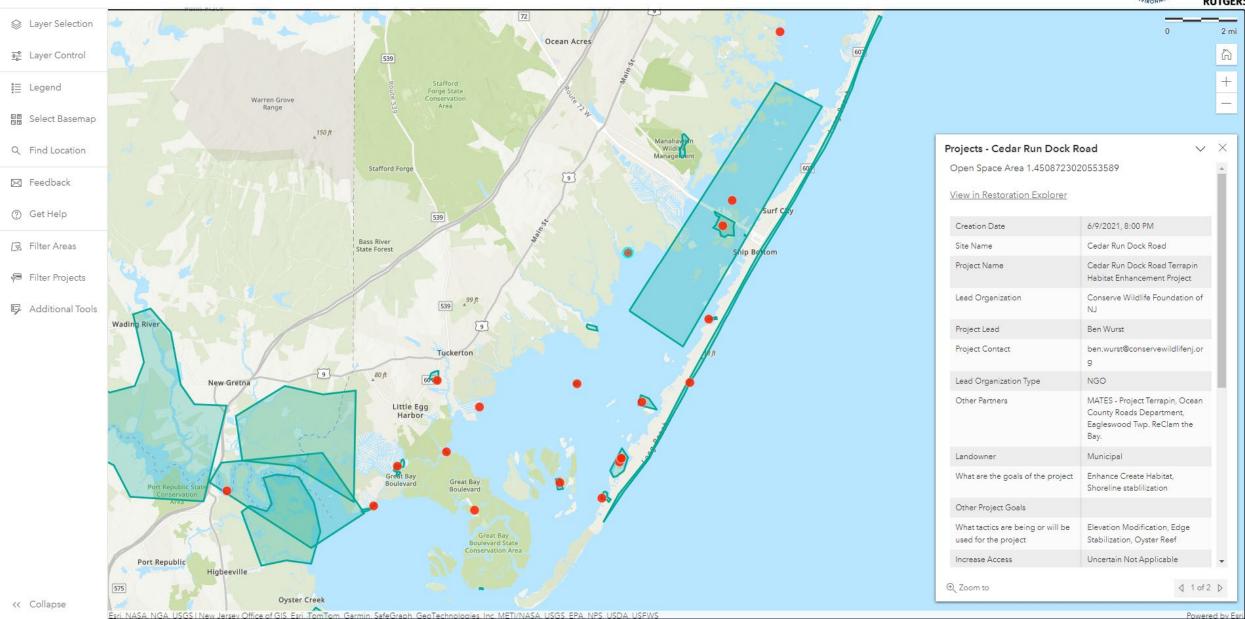
Coastal Ecological Restoration and Adaptation Planning Tool

Coastal Ecological Restoration and Adaptation Planning (CERAP) Explorer

njrestors.rutgers.edu/nj-cerap/



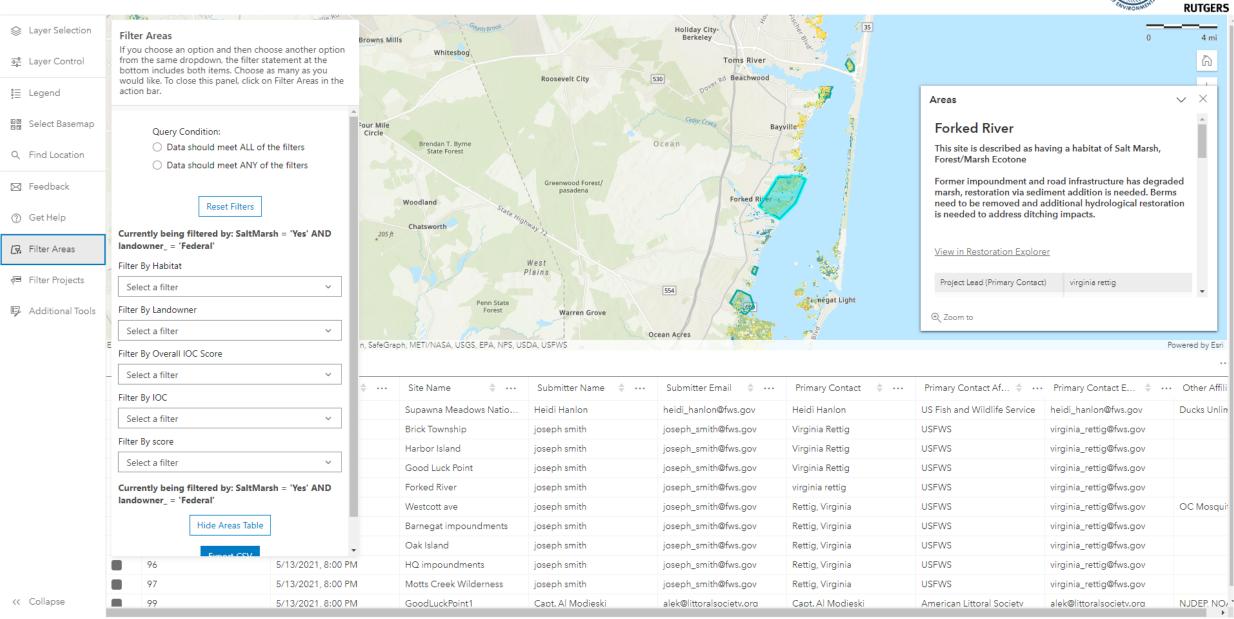




Coastal Ecological Restoration and Adaptation Planning (CERAP) Explorer



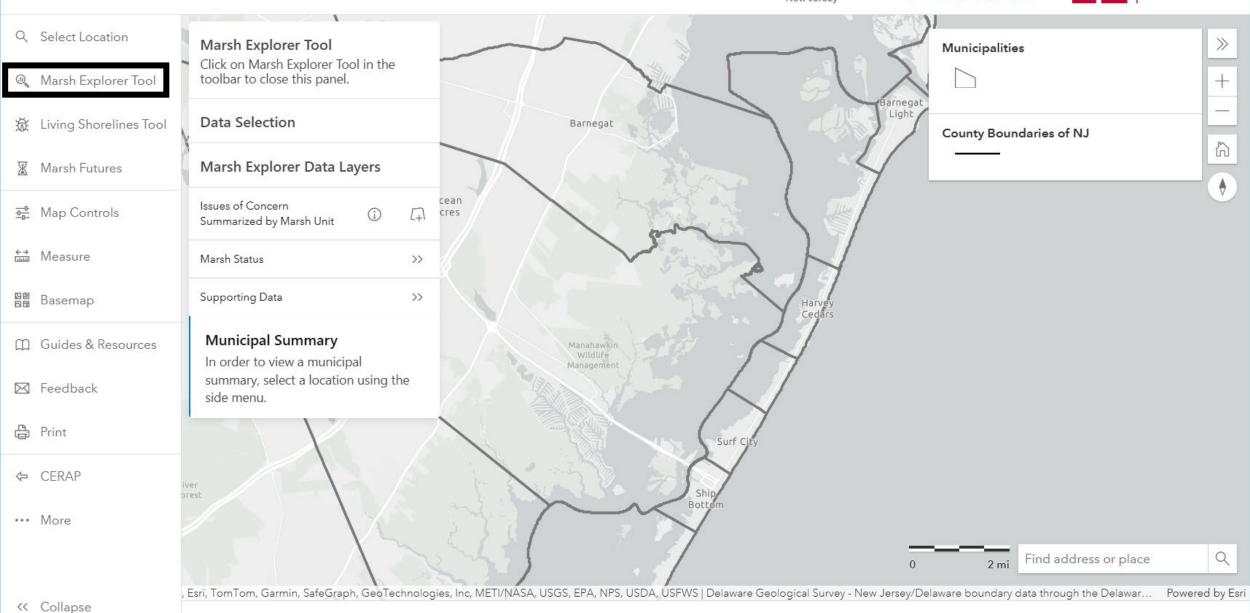










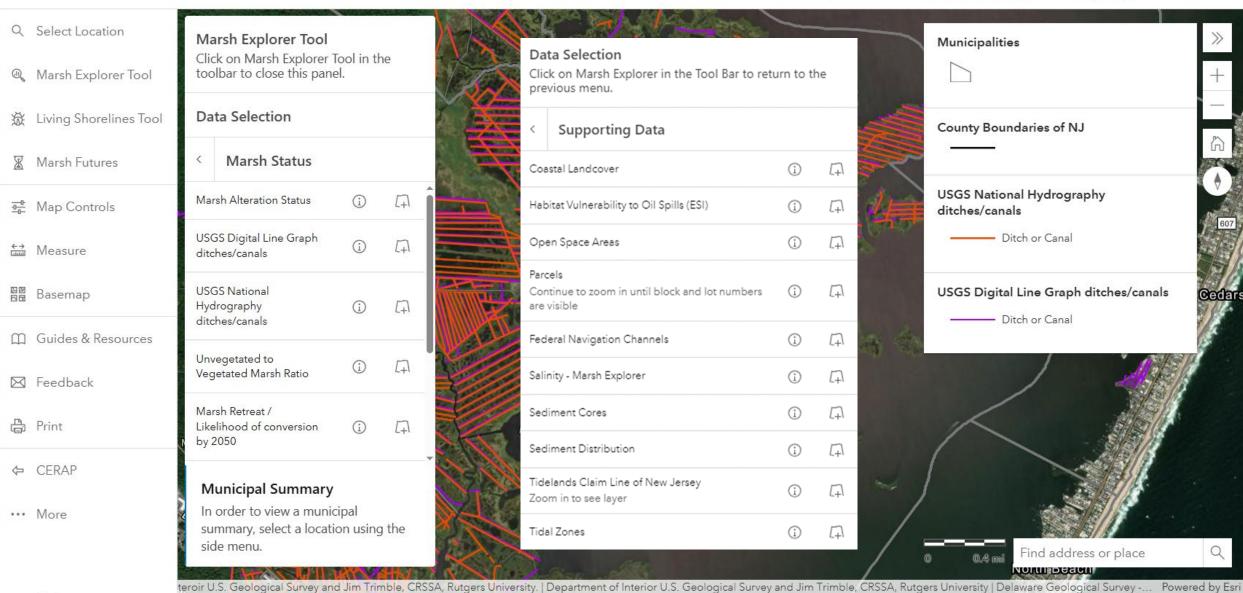


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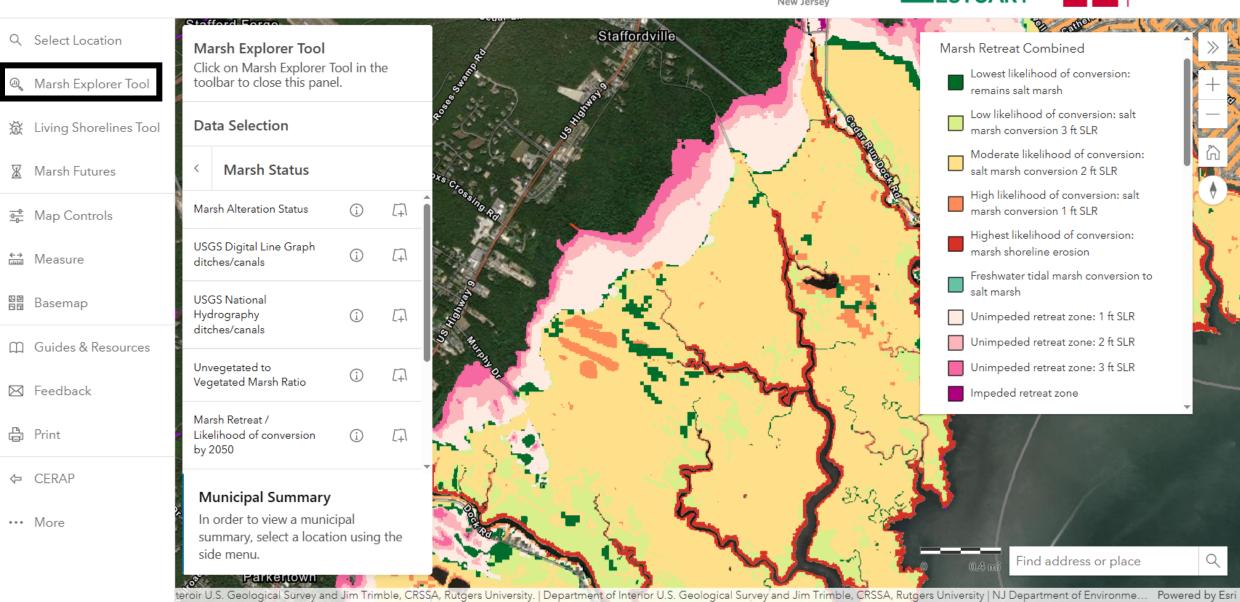












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Q. Select Location (9) Marsh Explorer Tool ☆ Living Shorelines Tool ▼ Marsh Futures ₩ Map Controls ## Measure Bill Basemap □ Feedback Print ⇒ PDE WATCH ⇒ Living Shorelines Feasibility Model

Data Selection Click on Marsh Explorer in the Tool Bar to return to the previous menu. Marsh Status Marsh Alteration Status (i) \Box USGS Digital Line Graph ditches/canals (1) USGS National Hydrography ditches/canals (i) Unvegetated to Vegetated Marsh Ratio ① Marsh Retreat/ Likelihood of conversion by (i) 2050 Tidal Restriction (i) Carbon Sequestration Potential (I) Marsh Edge Erosion (i) Likelihood of Erosion by 2050 (1)

Marsh Retreat/ Likelihood of conversion by 2050



Map Service

To project future marsh change under projected sea level rise (SLR), a marsh change data product provided by the NOAA Office for Coastal Management that was developed for the US Digital Coast Sea Level Rise Viewer (https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/slr.html) was employed. The NOAA marsh change product, based on Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM), identifies coastal marsh areas (includes estuarine and brackish marsh areas dominated by Spartina alterniflora, Spartina patens and Phragmites australis) that may be vulnerable for conversion to either non-vegetated or open water. The NOAA implementation employs a "modified bathtub" approach that incorporates local and regional tidal variation of mean higher high water (MHHW). Marsh areas that are predicted to be submerged below Mean Tide Level are classed as converting to tidal flats (i.e., non-vegetated mud/peat/sand unconsolidated shore and/or tidal flat). When the marsh elevation dips below the Mean Low Water threshold, the marsh is classed as converting to open water. Further upstream along tidal rivers and creeks existing tidal brackish/freshwater marsh may convert to salt marsh when submerged below MHHW.

ArcGIS REST Services Directory

Login | Get Token

Home > services > Environment > MarshRetreat (MapServer)

Help | API Reference

Environment/MarshRetreat (MapServer)

View In: ArcGIS JavaScript ArcGIS Online Map Viewer ArcGIS Earth ArcMap ArcGIS Explorer

View Footprint In: ArcGIS Online Map Viewer

Service Description: To project future marsh change under projected sea level rise (SLR), a marsh change data product provided by the NOAA Office for Coastal Management that was developed for the US Digital Coast Sea Level Rise Viewer (https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/slr.html) was employed. The NOAA marsh change product, based on Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM), Identifies coastal marsh areas (includes estuarine and brackish marsh areas dominated by Spartina alterniflora. Spartina patens and Phragmites australis) that may be vulnerable for conversion to either non-vegetated or open water. The NOAA implementation employs a "modified bathtub" approach that incorporates local and regional tidal variation of mean higher high water (MHHW). Marsh areas that are predicted to be submerged below Mean Tide Level are classed as converting to tidal flats (i.e., non-vegetated mud/peat/sand unconsolidated shore and/or tidal flat). When the marsh elevation dips below the Mean Low Water threshold, the marsh is classed as converting to open water. Further upstream along tidal rivers and creeks existing tidal brackish/freshwater marsh may convert to salt marsh when submerged below MHHW.

Based on the consensus sea level rise (SLR) estimates determined for New Jersey of 1', 2' and 3' of SLR at 2050 were used. A "moderate" vertical accretion rate of 4mm yr⁻¹ (i.e., 4mm yr⁻¹ over a 50yr time frame from 2000 to 2050) was chosen based on best available information as to present rates of marsh accretion over the broader MidAtlantic region. As the NOAA-predicted marsh change product does not explicitly model marsh shoreline edge erosion, estimated past shoreline erosion rates to project future shoreline location. Shoreline erosion rates were determined by comparing the shoreline position changes between a baseline year during the 1970s and a contemporary year in the 2010s. The baseline shoreline was defined by the 1977 New Jersey Tidelands Claimed line. This composite future marsh change data product was developed by the Rutgers University Center for Remote Sensing in 2020.

Map Name: Lavers

Legend

All Layers and Tables

Dynamic Legend

Dynamic All Layers

Layers:

- Marsh Retreat Combined (0)
- . Marsh Retreat SLR 3 ft (1)
- Marsh Retreat SLR 2 ft (2) • Marsh Retreat SLR 1 ft (3)
- Tidal Marsh (4)

Description:

Copyright Text:

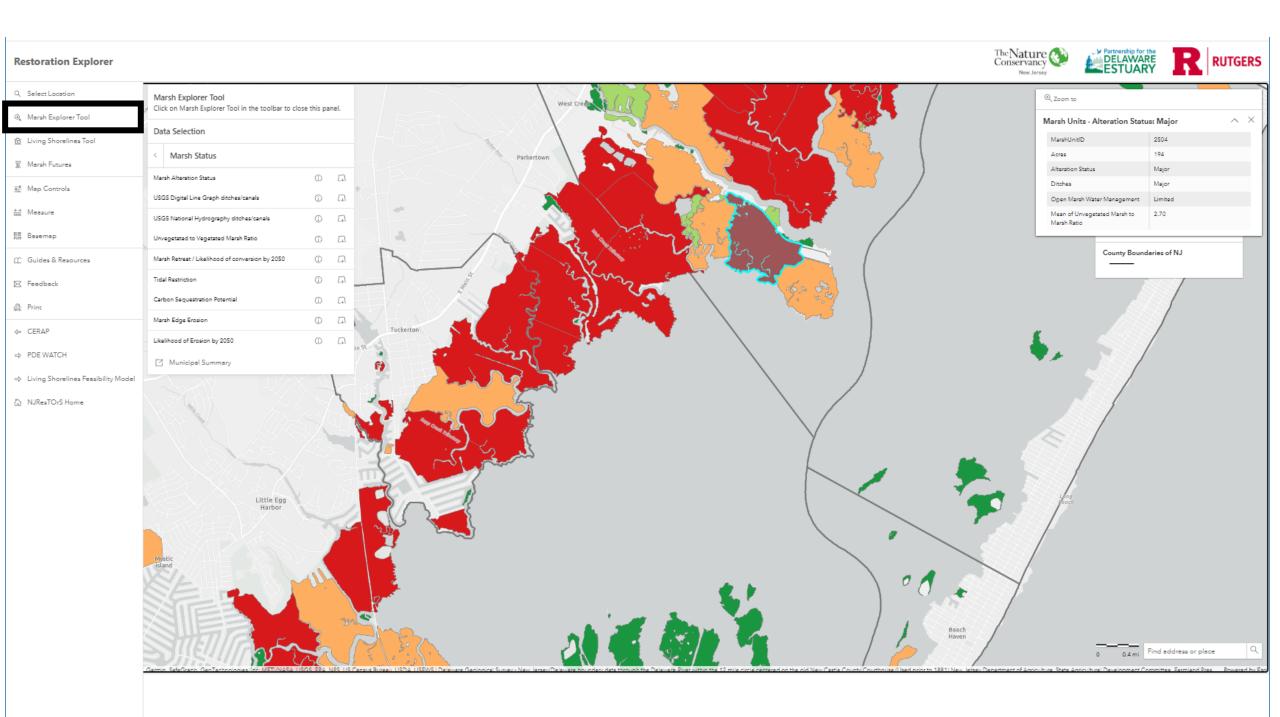
Spatial Reference: 102100 (3857)

Single Fused Map Cache: false

Initial Extent:

XMin: -8513700.248755192 YMin: 4825612.860754434 XMax: -8124631.991712938 YMax: 5084048.503007956 Spatial Reference: 102100 (3857)

Full Extent:





Guides & Resources

区 User Guide 2.0

Marsh Futures User Guide

D User Guide 1.0 (old site)

Living Shorelines Methods

Marsh Explorer Methods

Community Resource Guide

Bay Islands

Route 9 S W Main St

2015 Living Shoreline Engineering Guidelines

2022 Living Shoreline Engineering Guidelines

Tuckerton

CERAP Data Sources



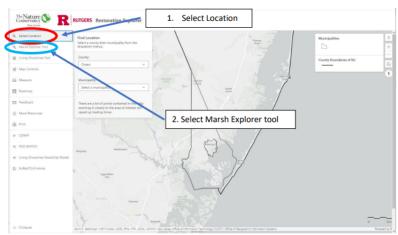
⇒ Living Shorelines Fessibility Model

⇒ PDE WATCH

NJResTOrS Home



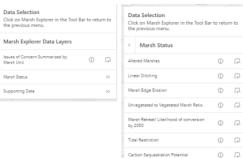
When you enter the Restoration Explorer application, the first thing one should do is to Select the Location: Select the county then municipality from the dropdown menus. The boundary for the selected municipality should appear in the map window. Next select the Marsh Explorer Tool.



The user can also select to display a wide variety of mapped data sets related to coastal marsh status. In the Data Selection box, click on the >> to access the list of map layers. Click on the Add Layer icon to display the layer in the map display window. One can open multiple layers at the same time.

Marsh Explorer Data Layers

Marsh Status



Supporting Data

the previous menu.						
Supporting Data						
Coastal Landcover	(1)	[a				
Habitat Vulnerability to Oil Spills (ESI)	(1)	[]				
Open Space Areas	(1)	[+				
Federal Navigation Channels	0	[]				
Salinity - Marsh Explorer	0	G.				
Sediment Cores	(1)	[+				
Sediment Distribution	(1)	[+				
Tidal Zones	(1)					

Marsh Alteration Status Alteration Status Absent Limited Partial Municipalities County Boundaries of NJ

Find address or place

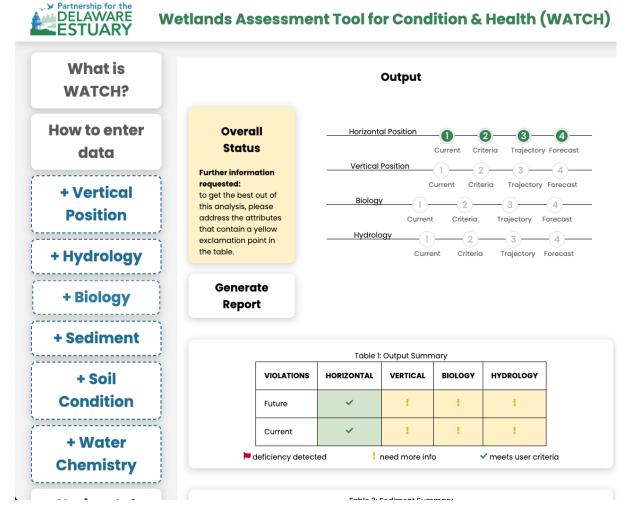
0.3 mi

The Nature Conservancy

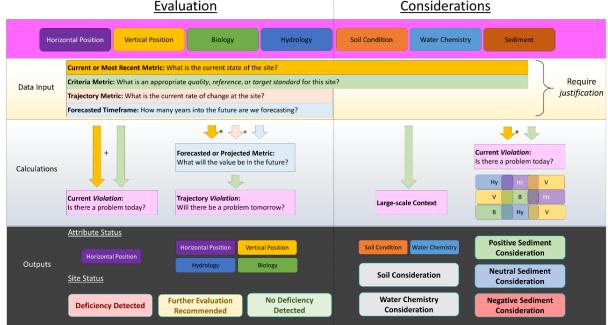
v Jersey Office of GIS, Ear, Tom Tom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc. METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Cersus Bureau, USDA, USFW3| Delaware Boundary data through the Delaware River within the 12 mile circle centered on the old New Castle County

① [7

Issues Identification – WATCH



WATCH enables onsite data to be used to evaluate current condition and trajectory of wetland. WATCH utilizes a hierarchical structure to guide the user.



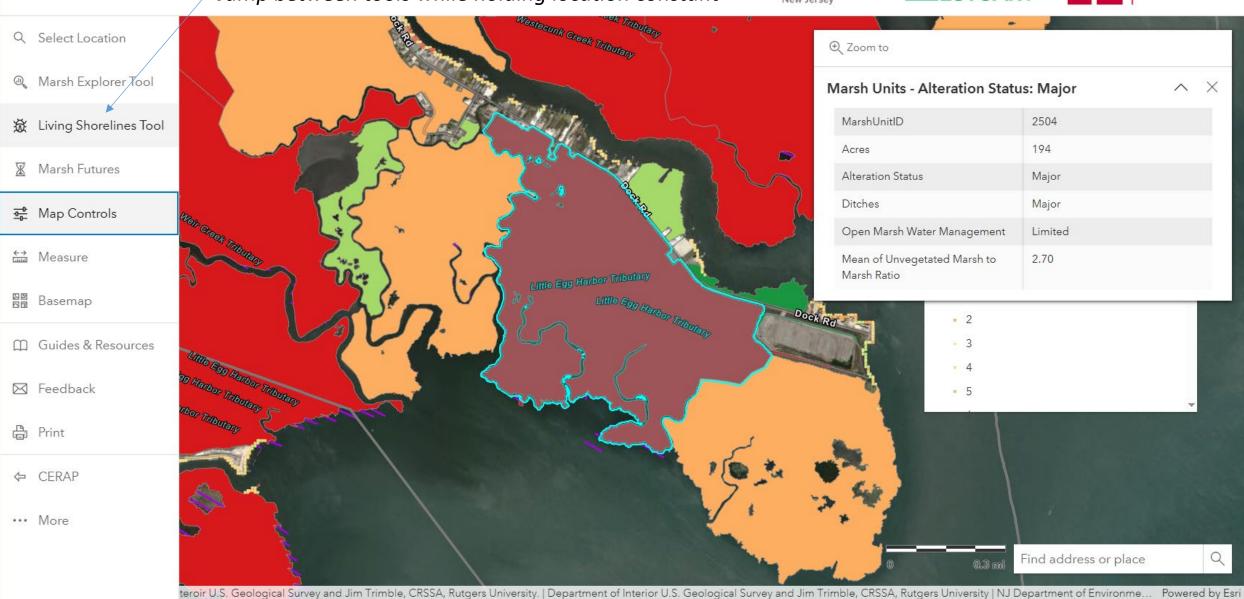
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Jump between tools while holding location constant





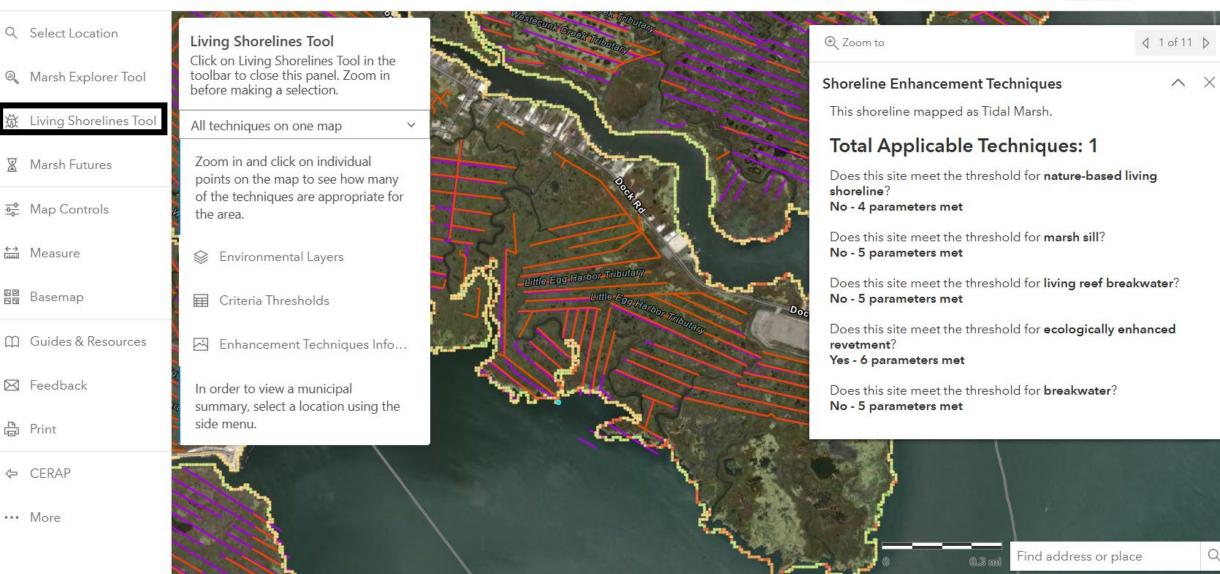












teroir U.S. Geological Survey and Jim Trimble, CRSSA, Rutgers University. | Department of Interior U.S. Geological Survey and Jim Trimble, CRSSA, Rutgers University | Delaware Geological Survey -... Powered by Esri

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Shoreline Enhancement Techniques

Click on the topics below to learn more about each technique.

Nature-based Living Shoreline Living Reef Breakwater

Marsh Sill

Breakwater

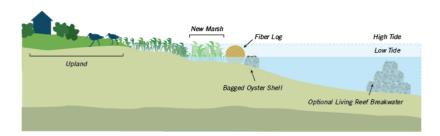
Coastal Ice Cover

Ecologically Enhanced Revetment

Beach Restoration

Nature-based Living Shoreline

Nature-based living shorelines are best in low-energy areas. "Biological enhancements," like biodegradable fiber logs (which also provide habitat for ribbed mussels) or Christmas trees, are placed along the tidal marsh edge to provide a contained area for sediment to accumulate and marsh vegetation to grow. In more moderate energy areas, it might be possible to use a hybrid approach that pairs nature-based living shorelines with living reef breakwaters.



Criteria Thresholds

Tidal Range

Click on the topics below to learn more about each engineering criterion.

Shoreline Change

Wave Height Shoreline Slope

Thresholds	Nature-based Living Shoreline	Living Reef Breakwater	Marsh Sill	Breakwater	Ecologically Enhanced Revetment	Beach Restoration
0-2.0 ft	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.1-4.0 ft	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.1-6.0 ft	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
>6.0 ft	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

Download PDF

Back to map

Living Shoreline Snapshot

Stafford Township, Ocean County

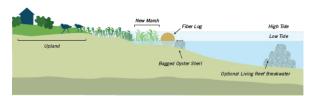
What is a living shoreline?

A living shoreline is a nature-based alternative to bulkheads to address coastal erosion by providing for the protection, restoration or enhancement of these habitats. As indicated by NJDEP, this is accomplished through the strategic placement of plants, stone, sand, or other structural and organic materials. Natural living shorelines include natural vegetation, submerged aquatic vegetation, fill, and biodegradable organic materials (see graphic below). Hybrid living shorelines incorporate natural vegetation, submerged aquatic vegetation, fill, biodegradable organic materials, and low-profile rock structures such as segmented sills, stone containment, and living breakwaters seeded with native shellfish. Structural living shorelines include, but are not limited to, revetments, break-waters, and groins. Additional information on different types of living shorelines can be found on the NJDEP webpage. (PDE) https://www.nj.gov/dep/cmp/docs/living-shorelines-enjneering-guidelines-final.pdf)

DISCLAIMER. Living shoreline projects have a variety of ecological and engineering requirements and can often be mixed and match to tailor projects designs to local conditions. It is important to consult with ecologists and engineers to determine the specific design requirements for any proposed project. It is also important to consult with federal, state and local officials regarding permitting requirements. Resources are listed below.

Nature-Based Living Shoreline

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Nearshore Slope

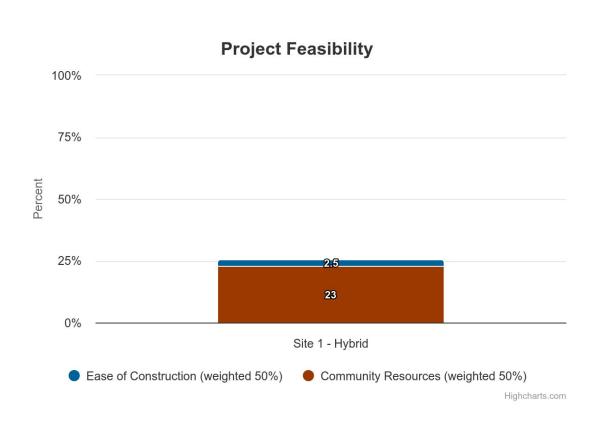
Salinity



Living Shorelines Feasibility Model

Living Shorelines Feasibility Model calculates how achievable a project is based on a series of metrics. Metrics are measured via desktop analysis, field data collection or personal communications.

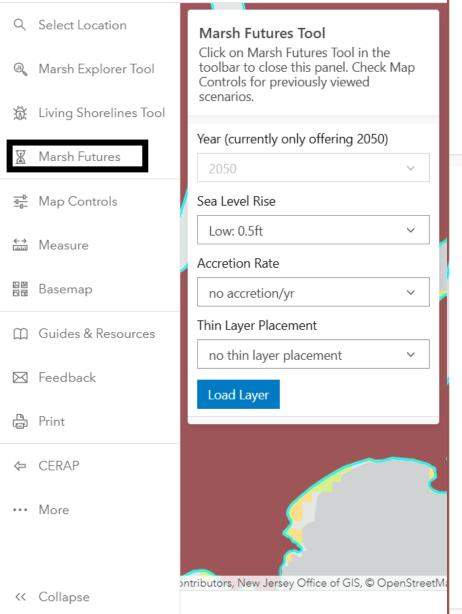












Marsh Futures Tool

Click on Marsh Futures Tool in the toolbar to close this panel. Check Map Controls for previously viewed scenarios.

Year (currently only offering 2050)

2050 ~

Sea Level Rise

Low: 0.5ft

Accretion Rate

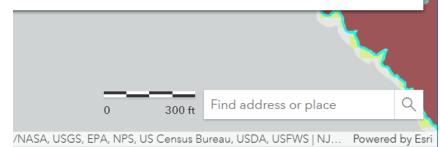
no accretion/yr

Thin Layer Placement

no thin layer placement ~

Load Layer

⊕ Zoom to Marsh Units - Alteration Status: Major X MarshUnitID 13812 245 Acres Alteration Status Major Ditches Major Open Marsh Water Management Absent Mean of Unvegetated Marsh to 6.2 Marsh Ratio Percent Regularly Flooded Marsh 79.9 Percent Irregularly Flooded 8.0 Marsh Percent Transitional Salt Marsh 2.80 Percent Tidal Fresh Marsh 0.00 Percent Tidal Flat 0.00







SLAMM: Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model

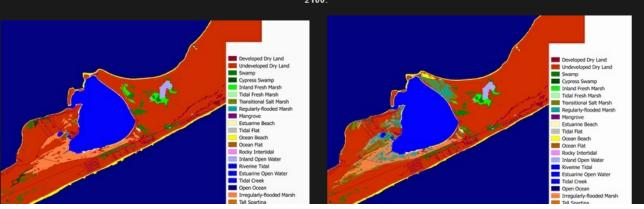
NOTE: WARREN PINNACLE CONSULTING, INC IS NO LONGER IN BUSINESS. THE MODELS AND DATA HERE WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH CALENDAR YEAR 2025 AT WHICH POINT ALL MODELS WILL BE FOUND ON GITHUB. THANKS!

The Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM) simulates the dominant processes involved in wetland conversions and shoreline modifications during long-term sea level rise. Map distributions of wetlands are predicted under conditions of accelerated sea level rise, and results are summarized in tabular and graphical form. The newest versions of SLAMM include a Roads module to investigate the inundation frequency of road infrastructure and a stochastic uncertainty analysis module for assessing the effects of input data uncertainty on model predictions. The uncertainty analysis module can be used to produce confidence intervals for model predictions and likelihood maps.

- Current and Recent Projects
- Developing Marsh Conservation Plans
- Interactive Marsh-Fate Viewer for New York State
- Detail: Dynamic Marsh Management Tool
- Detail: Roads and Infrastructure Simulations
- Download Latest SLAMM Versions and Documents
- SLAMM Forum for updates, technical questions, feedback.
- Versions of SLAMM
- SLAMM Bibliography
- SLAMM Uncertainty Modeling

Sample SLAMM output for Montauk, NY (project funded by NYSERDA)

Left panel shows the initial wetland conditions, the right panel presents the wetlands predicted by SLAMM at 2055 under a scenario of 1m of sea-level rise by 2100.







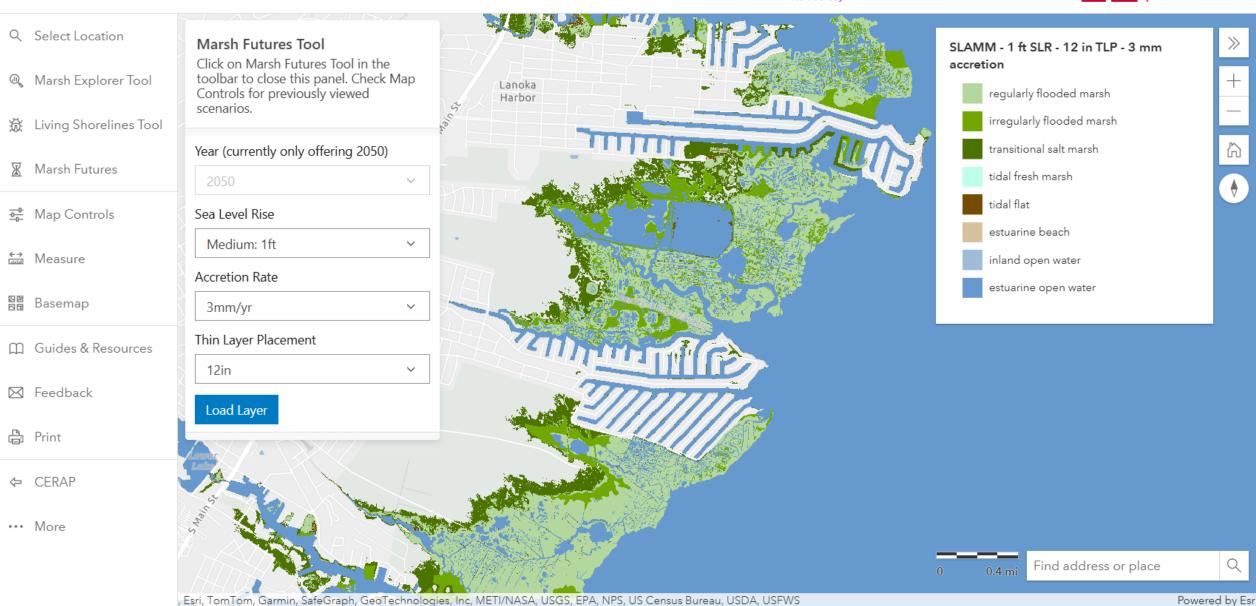












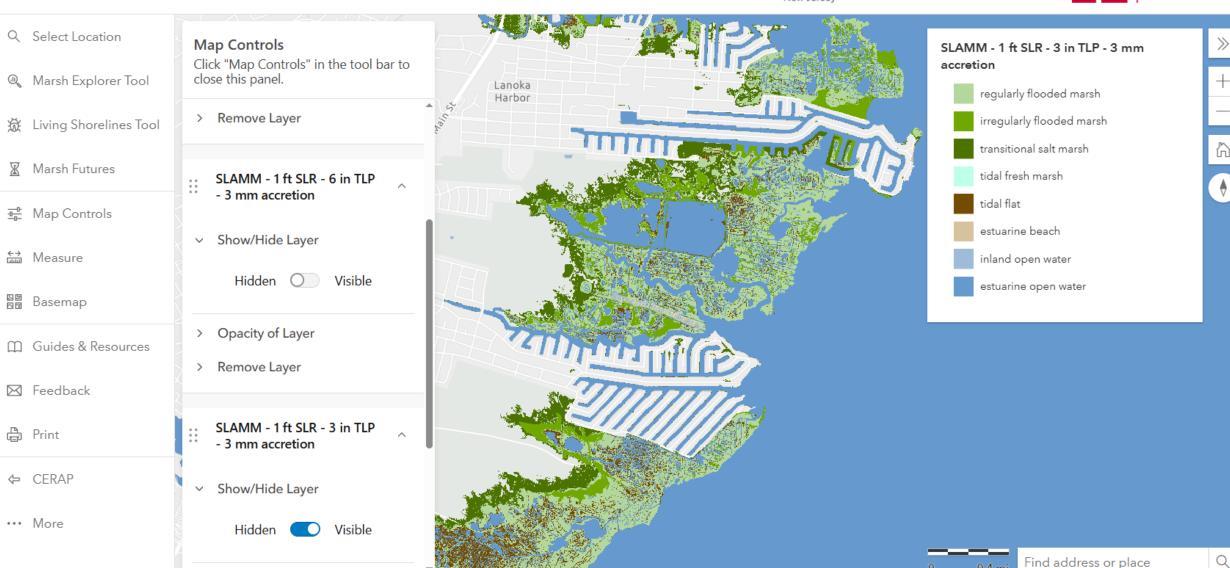
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Marsh Explorer Tool

☆ Living Shorelines Tool

▼ Marsh Futures

↔ Measure

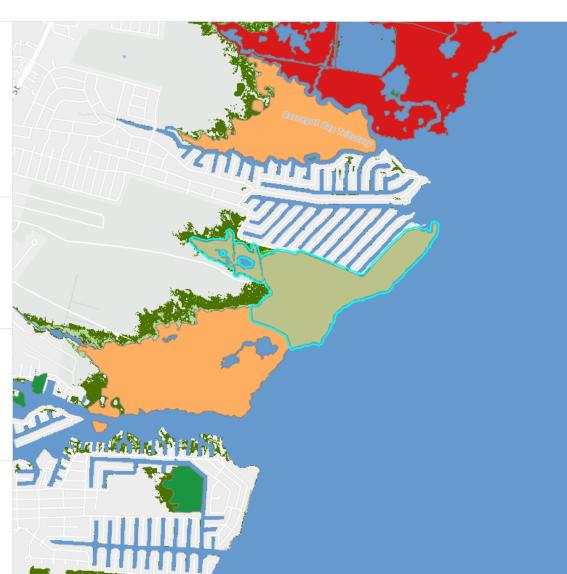
Basemap

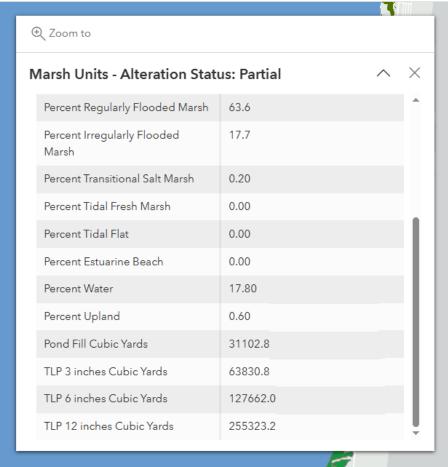
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NJ Restoration Tool Organization Suite (ResTOrS)

Funding for NJResTOrS was provided by the NJDEP/NOAA CZM, The Nature Conservancy and National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (subcontract through PDE 414-01).

Special shout out to Drs. LeeAnn Haaf and Josh Moody for their contributions.

Check it out @ njrestors.rutgers.edu