

New York State Soil & Water Conservation Committee
10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235 -- Telephone (518) 457-3738
State Committee Meeting
10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY

1581 NY-88, Newark, NY
January 19, 2016

Meeting at a Glance:

- The proposed EPF budget has been raised to \$300 million, and includes increases to a number of SWCD programs!
- Districts involved or interested in culvert studies should look into the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative.
- NY CAFO permits are being updated, and the public comment period is open now.

Present:

Voting Members: D. Stein (Newark location), Chair; C. Colby (Newark location); J. Dickinson (Albany location)

Others, Albany location: B. Steinmuller, Assistant Director; C. Frasier, B. Bzduch, G. Spitzer, T. Clark, J. Clifford, L. Lyons-Swift, SWCC; J. Lendrum, D. Ashline, DEC; S. Lorraine, CDEA; T. Sweeney, DAM; S. Wojtowicz, DOS; L. Williams, NY Farm Bureau.

Others, Newark location: G. Kist, NRCS; V. DiGiacomo, SWCC; B. Claypoole, CCE; PJ Emerick, CDEA.

Call to Order

D. Stein called the meeting to order.

This meeting was the first using videoconferencing technology. There were a few glitches, resulting in the meeting occurring in two locations only (Albany and Newark), rather than the planned four. The technological capacity should only improve from here, and the State Committee hopes it allows more Districts to become involved in the meetings.

Review/Approval of Minutes

C. Colby moved to approve the December 2015 minutes; seconded by J. Dickinson. Motion passed; carried.

Correspondence and Budget Update

CDEA sent an official letter to the State Committee regarding a Conservation Leadership Institute planned for late July. The goal of the Leadership Institute is to enhance leadership and management skills among thirty or so Soil and Water Conservation District employees. CDEA was seeking financial support from the State Committee. The State Committee supports the program and is looking into possible funding streams.

Governor Cuomo unveiled his Executive Budget for SFY 2016-2017. It is the proposed budget only—the legislature will pass the final version by April 1. However, there are a number of items that may be of interest to Soil and Water Conservation Districts and local farmers:

Overall appropriations for the 2016-17 EPF are proposed to be increased by \$123 million, from \$177 million in 2015-16 to \$300 million in 2016-17. A new account is also being proposed: **"Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Account."** This new "account" contains increased funding for a new round of the Climate Resilient Farming Program.

Appropriations of interest to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts include:

- \$20 million for Farmland Protection, an increase of \$5 million
- \$19 million for Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects, an increase of \$4.8 million
- \$9 million for Soil and Water Conservation Districts, an increase of \$3.725 million; (What this means is the state nearly doubled its aid or support to all Districts. When all of these funds are distributed in accordance with the law and regulation, each District has the opportunity to earn **approximately \$150,000, up roughly \$75,000 over last year's program level.**)
- \$10 million for Invasive Species, an increase of \$4.15 million
- \$15 million for Oceans and Great Lakes Initiative, an increase of \$8.95 million
- \$1.979 million for Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Protection Alliance
- \$1.5 million for Agricultural Waste Management
- \$2.5 million for the new Climate Resilient Farms Program
- \$20 million for Water Quality Improvement Program, an increase of \$12 million

There was an extended conversation about potential opportunities for Districts, especially with regard to the District Aid budget line (proposed to increase to \$9 million). If all Districts maximize their Part A and B funds, Part C under a \$9 million appropriation scenario would be more than \$84,000, bringing total District Aid to more than \$150,000 per district for the 2017 calendar year.

Discussion ensued as to whether this is the best possible distribution among Parts A, B, and C, given this unprecedented level of proposed support. While some Districts might benefit from more Part A funding to support operations and salaries, Part C can be used to support programs, not just discrete projects (as long as the time dedicated to the Part C funds are not also being counted under Part A). Since Part C is linked to performance measures rather than match, it allows smaller Districts to earn more funds.

The \$15 million dedicated to Ecosystem Based Management funds also represents a substantial increase, and the State Committee is looking forward to working on EBM projects and proposals.

The Governor also announced a [New York Certified program](#) (look for "*Certify New York State Foods*," more than halfway down the page) program that may incorporate AEM as a measure of farmer dedication to environmental management. More details on this as the program is developed.

All of this new funding proposed through the EPF helps the Districts meet their mission by supporting their operations including technical staff support, providing them new opportunities to participate in competitive grant programs to help municipalities and residents, and increase farmer participation in AEM, AgNPS, and Climate Resilient Farming.

Agricultural Non-Point Source Program, B. Bzduch

Program Review

State Committee staff have been working with Districts to complete projects and close out contracts. Letters have been sent to Districts regarding expired contracts. There are now 191 active contracts, 93 of which will expire before January 1, 2017. There are also 40 contracts pending from Round 21, including 3

which should be executed soon, 31 in review, and 8 waiting for the completed plan of work. A breakdown of contract status by funding year is below:



Amendments for State Committee Consideration

Region 1

Monroe County SWCD – Oatka Creek Watershed Ag. Nutrient Reduction Project – Round 18 – C701075

Start Date: 7/24/2012 Current End Date: 5/25/2016

Request: Time Extension to 5/25/2017

Reason: Operational, personal issues, weather issues, and/or delays with soliciting bids/obtaining contractors have delayed projects for 3 farms in the grant. Two of the three remaining projects are scheduled to begin construction in spring 2016 and the third project is currently under construction. Overall, 17 of the 20 BMPs funded under this project have been completed. All of the remaining landowners have recommitted to completing their projects within the 1 year extension time frame.

Note: Victor DiGiacomo, Region 1 AEA, supports this time extension.

Previous Amendments: Change in BMPs

J. Dickinson motioned to approve the amendment, seconded by C. Colby. Motion passed; carried.

Round 22 Update

The RFP materials have been completed and are awaiting review from counsel. The RFP will be posted to the Department website and to SharePoint, and will be submitted through SharePoint.

The anticipated due date (subject to change) is April 1, 2016.

North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative, J. Thiel – NYS DEC

Poorly designed, aging, and/or poorly placed culverts are often a risk to both infrastructure and aquatic ecosystems. There have been local efforts to address the problems, but they have used different assessment standards and databases, and have not had the scale to incorporate statewide goals or become publically available.



The North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC) aims to address these issues by using a standardized method and comprehensive database, across 44 governmental and not-for-profit entities in 15 states in the Northeast. The goal is to start by assessing culverts for aquatic connectivity and flood risks (“floods and fish friendly”), rank and prioritize the culverts, link the assessment data to funding, and then replace structures.

The standardized methodology includes a hierarchy of roles for data collection and quality assurance. **Becoming a “Lead Observer” (data collector) involves a 4 hour online course and two days in the field** shadowing someone with a high level of experience. To advance to the L1 Coordinator level, which can review and approve data, a Lead Observer must be nominated by someone with L2 status and complete a short online segment.

The NAACC website (<https://streamcontinuity.org>) includes information about the project, a public [database](#) of assessed culverts, information on [climate change and stream crossings](#), and other resources.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts involved in culvert assessments, or interested in getting involved with them, can reach out to J. Theil (who has L2 status) for more information: josh.thiel@dec.ny.gov. Many Conservation Districts, including Dutchess and Rockland, have already been involved.

J. Dickinson motioned to support the NAACC protocol and encourage Soil and Water Conservation Districts to become involved in the process, seconded by C. Colby. Motion passed; carried.

Four Way Partnership Memorandum of Agreement, G. Kist

On the recommendation of the national NRCS office, the New York State NRCS, NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee, NY Association of Conservation Districts, and Conservation District Employees Association are recommitting to their four way partnership through a formal memorandum of agreement (MOA).

There will be a formal signing ceremony for the MOA at the Water Quality Symposium.

C. Colby motioned to approve the MOA, seconded by J. Dickinson. Motion passed; carried.

Municipal Subcommittee Report, C. Frasier

The Municipal Subcommittee meeting occurred on Jan 13, in Albany.

The NAACC presentation occurred at the Municipal Subcommittee meeting as well. It was well received and many districts are already involved with it. The biggest concern expressed was whether local governments would resist assessing their culverts due to liability concerns.

There was also a discussion regarding the 4 hour Sediment and Erosion Control course that Districts present:

- The course has been updated. It is now available on the SharePoint site, under Engineering— please review it before February 5 and provide comments to Dave Gasper.
- There will be a training for the new course at the Water Quality Symposium. All instructors must attend to maintain their certification. (Instructors who cannot attend will have to attend a training with the new course to renew their certification.)
- All instructors must teach at least one course each year in order to maintain their certification.
- **All instructors must be District employees. A “travel list” will be created, starting at the WQS, so that everyone is aware of which instructors are willing to travel to underserved regions in the state.**

The Blue Book update will be made available soon.

There is funding available, from a variety of places, for ESI trainings.

CAFO Permit Changes, J. Lendrum

The CAFO permits must be updated this year. CAFO farms which discharge are required to have Clean **Water Act permits; CAFO farms which don't** discharge (up to a 100 year storm) are required to have ECL permits.

There are a number of changes to both permits that may impact farmers. Please see the attached PowerPoint presentation for details.

The public comment period is open until February 7, and permits will go into effect July 1, 2016. (Current permits will remain effective until replaced.)

Note: S. Latessa, who has been working on this, is currently taking parental leave, so direct comments to Jackie Lendrum (jacqueline.Lendrum@dec.ny.gov; 518-402-8165) and Doug Ashline (douglas.ashline@dec.ny.gov; 518-402-8247).

Staffing Update, B. Steinmuller

The Division is hiring an Agency Program Aide to assist Judy with the contracting process. Melissa Carriero **will begin by the end of January. She will be working on all of the Division's contracts, including** Farmland Protection as well as AgNPS, AEM, and CRF. We look forward to having her join the SWCC team!

Partnership Updates

DOS, S. Wojtowicz

The Local Waterfront Revitalization grants were announced, with \$17 million awarded. There were also 6 grants awarded for watershed planning and implementation. There will be an Upper Hudson watershed meeting soon.

Farm Bureau, L. Williams

The Farm Bureau is pleased about the increased EPF and other initiatives in the budget, and will be working to make sure it is maintained through the legislative process.

The Farm Bureau has also been working with the DEC on the CAFO permits, and may be providing comments.

State Committee, G. Spitzer

Climate Resilient Farming is looking forward to Round 2 in 2016-2017. Round 1 applications currently being reviewed. Lists for each track will be generated and approved at the next State Committee meeting.

NRCS, G. Kist

NRCS has a number of programs at various points in the application cycle, including \$13M for EQIP and \$1.3M (plus \$800,000 from the EPA) for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The RCPP award announcement should be the week of February 8.

NRCS has been steadily trying to fill positions in regional offices. There are currently 16 full time vacancies, 6 contract jobs, 15 SUNY interns, and 6 Pathways positions open.

CDEA, PJ Emerick

Water Quality Symposium registration is out! There is an additional course available Tuesday morning, an introduction on how to handle the increasing concerns with manure storage and neighbor complaints. Bill Cooke, of Citizens Campaign for the Environment, will provide a discussion on how to effectively handle these issues in the media and with neighbors and environmental groups.

CCE, B. Claypoole

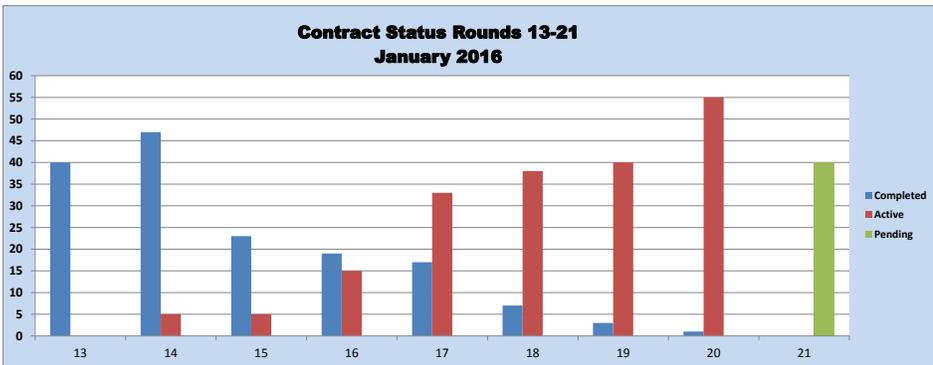
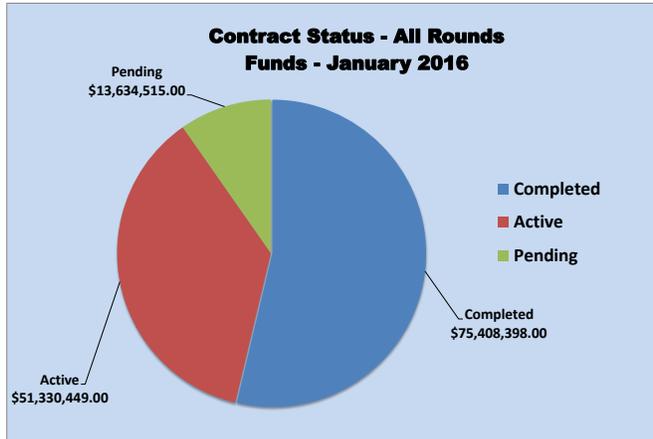
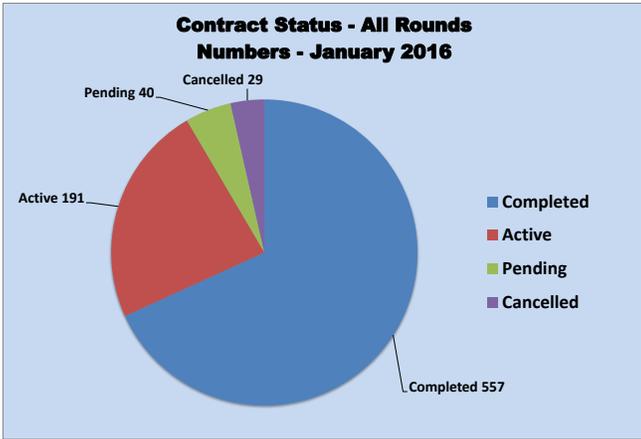
The Ag Society meeting went very well. The meeting was focused on Climate Change, and there was an atmosphere of practicality and sharing experiences. The panels were all very well received. Cornell has done lots of important research on climate change, climate science and impacts to agriculture in NYS.

NYACD, C. Colby

NYACD has a new executive director, Amber Mae Paice. They are planning to participate in legislative days to support the EPF later this spring. The SWCC welcomed Amber to the conservation partnership.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 17, at the Water Quality Symposium. It will involve a ceremonial signing of the four way partnership MOA.

January 19, 2016 SWCC Meeting, Albany, NY



Round	Total Of Contract Amount	Active	Active Funding	Cancelled	Cancelled Funding	Completed	Completed Funding	Pending	Pending Funding
13	\$7,614,514.69	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	40	\$7,557,564.69	0	\$0.00
14	\$11,671,274.80	5	\$2,082,287.82	2	\$0.00	47	\$9,449,451.98	0	\$0.00
15	\$6,726,184.93	5	\$1,630,212.95	1	\$0.00	23	\$5,095,971.98	0	\$0.00
16	\$8,286,711.07	15	\$4,458,345.15	3	\$0.00	19	\$3,828,365.92	0	\$0.00
17	\$11,098,845.05	33	\$8,893,602.75	1	\$0.00	17	\$2,133,856.30	0	\$0.00
18	\$11,583,686.78	38	\$8,926,112.45	0	\$0.00	7	\$2,657,574.33	0	\$0.00
19	\$12,627,193.99	40	\$11,817,433.05	2	\$0.00	3	\$786,039.13	0	\$0.00
20	\$13,687,745.11	55	\$13,522,455.11	0	\$0.00	1	\$165,290.00	0	\$0.00
21	\$13,634,515.46	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	40	\$13,634,515.46
Totals	\$96,930,671.88	191	\$51,330,449.28	11	\$0.00	157	\$31,674,114.33	40	\$13,634,515.46

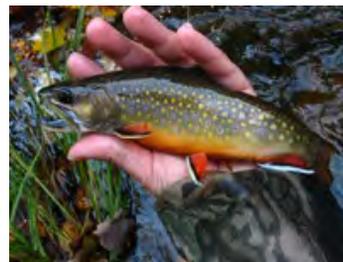


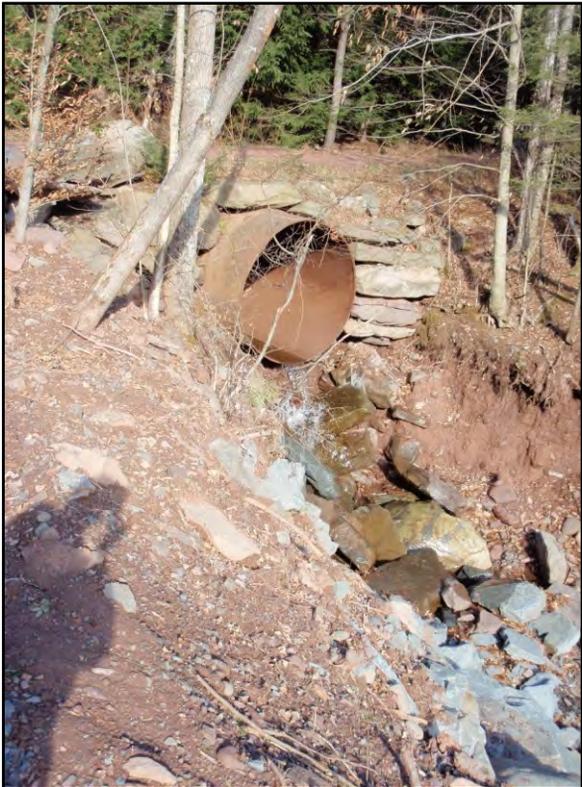
Adopting a Statewide Culvert Assessment Database in NYS

- Aquatic barriers “...sit unneeded, unused, undermaintained—a growing ecological and fiscal liability” National Forest System Legacy Roads and Trails program 2013



2013/10/09

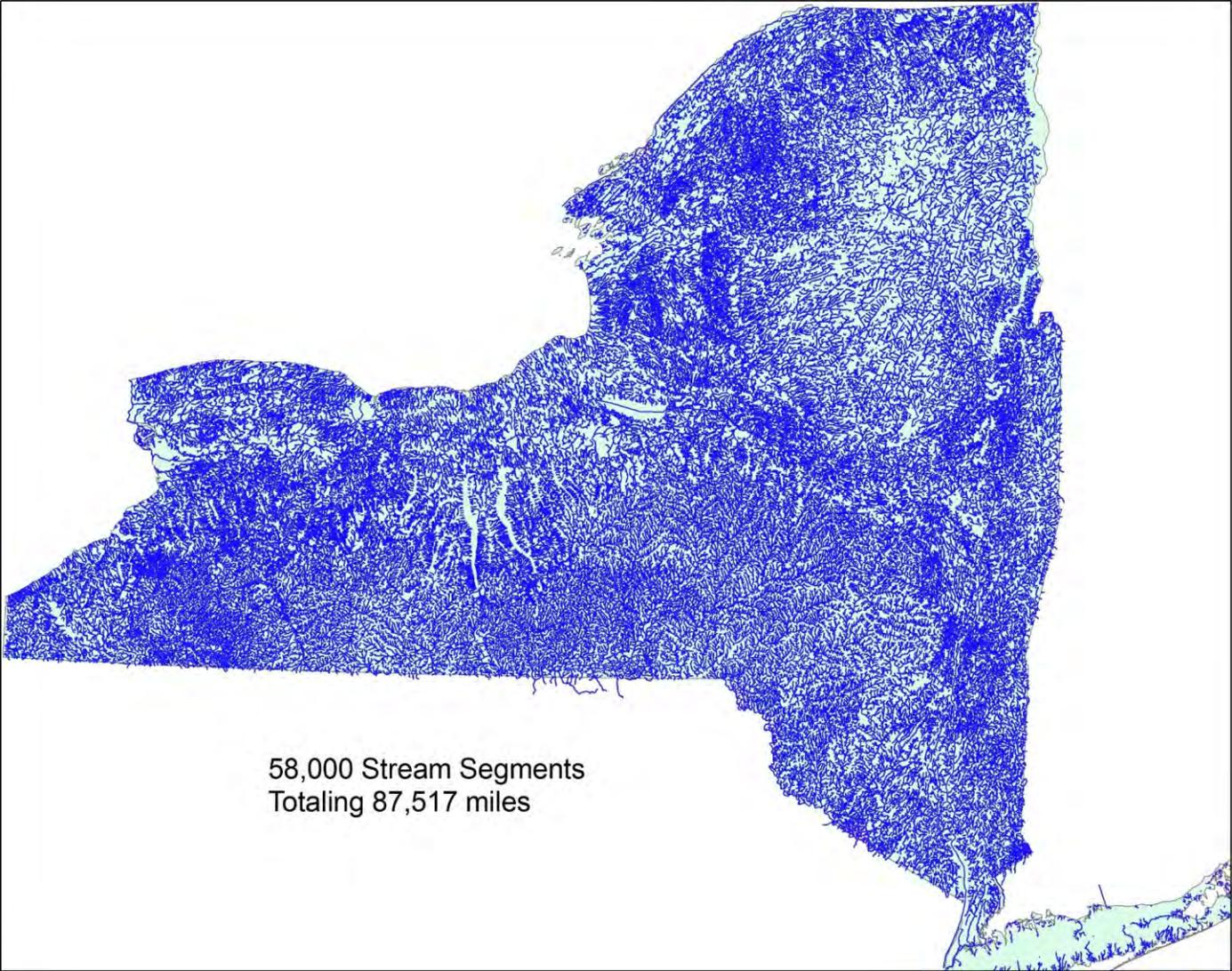




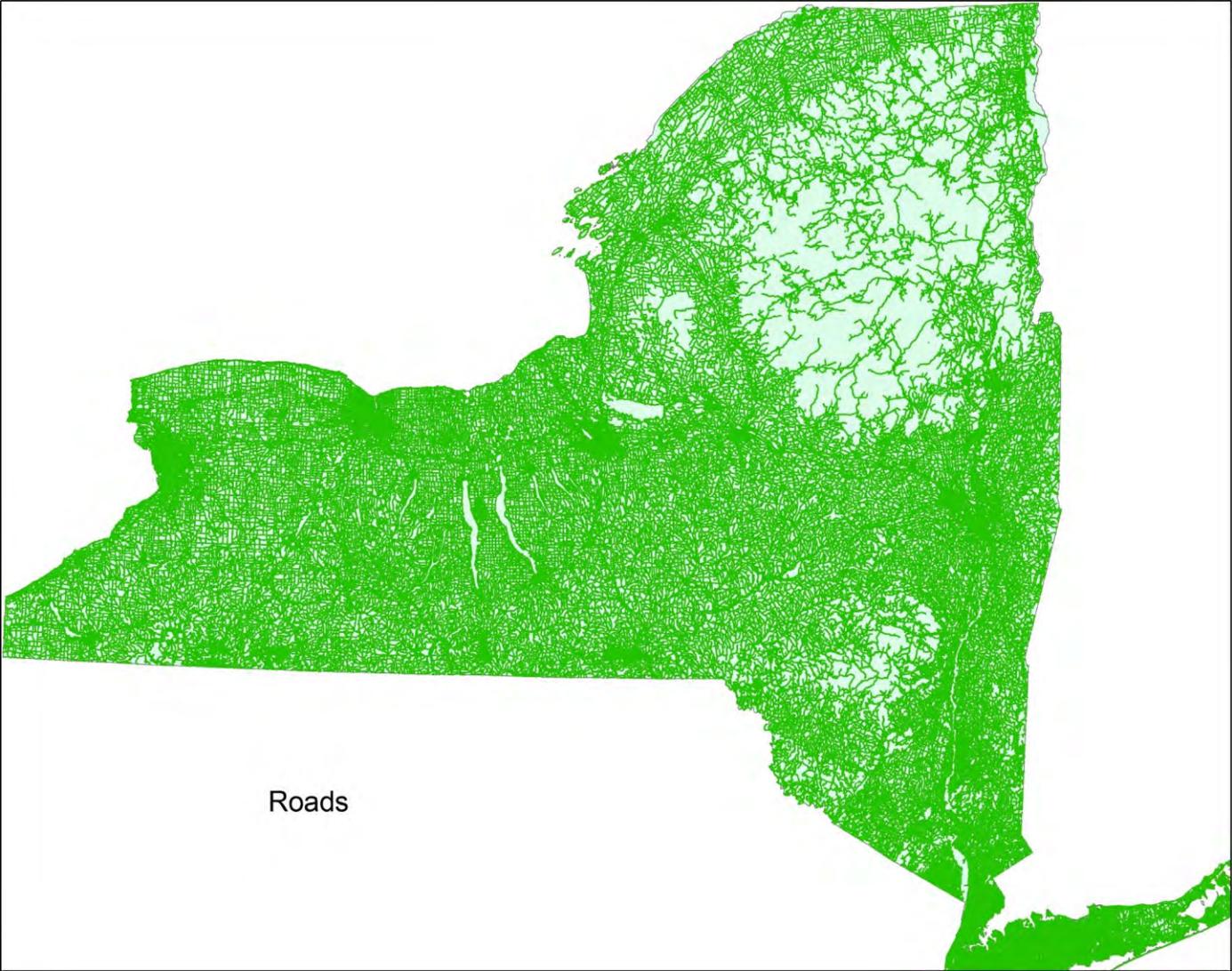




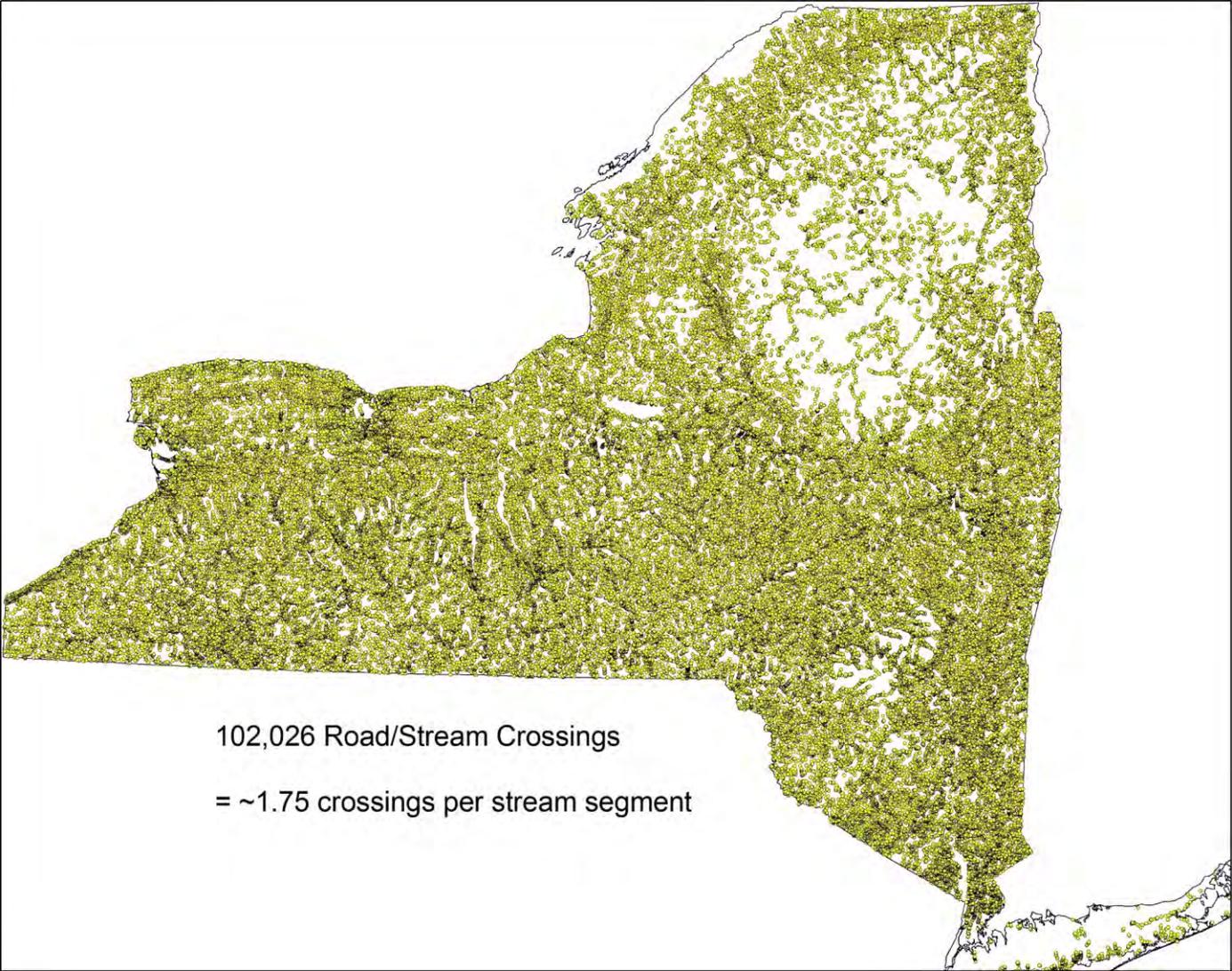
Road stream crossings present risks to infrastructure,
property and safety



58,000 Stream Segments
Totaling 87,517 miles



Roads



102,026 Road/Stream Crossings

= ~1.75 crossings per stream segment



and Economic Assessment Transportation Infrastructure Plain Basin, New York



Submitted by New York State Department of Transportation in partnership with
The Nature Conservancy - January 2013

Submitted to Federal Highway Administration -
Pilot Projects: Climate Change and Extreme Weather Vulnerability
Assessments and Adaptation Options Analysis

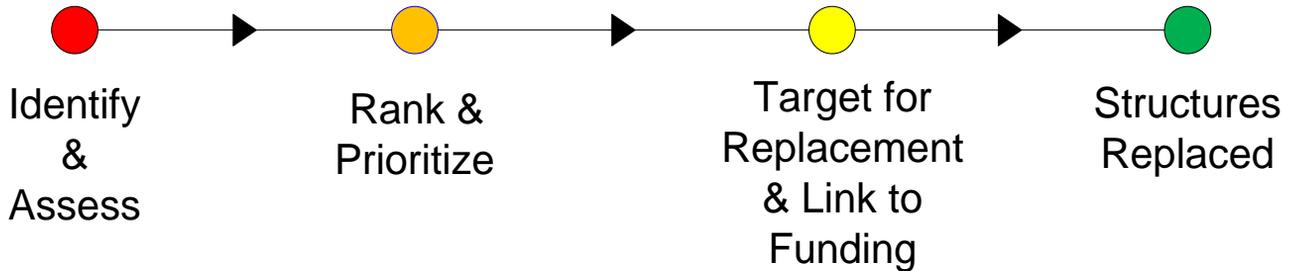
Problem

- Disconnected studies and databases of road/stream crossings
- Dissimilar assessment standards, no consistency
- No central source of information
- Not all publically available
- Not effective for programmatic or statewide goals
- Need hydrologic and resiliency planning components

Solution

Use a consolidated and comprehensive database and methodology for assessing road/stream crossings





**Road/Stream Crossings Good for
“Fish & Flooding”**

Boundary of
the North Atlantic LCC

North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative

\$\$\$

NA LCC funded project
to standardize road/stream
crossing assessments for
**passability, capacity
& condition**





North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative

44 confirmed participants from:

- Federal agencies: NOAA, USFWS, USFS
- Environment / F&W agencies: CT, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, VA
- DOTs: MA, MD, ME, NH, NY, VT
- Conservation groups: TU, TNC, American Rivers
- Regional groups/engineers
- 15 different states

NAACC Project
completed June, 2015



Cornell University

1. Field survey protocol
2. Scoring systems (passability scoring, critical linkages)
3. Data collection (digital & paper) and database
4. Training on use of protocol, data QA/QC
5. Prioritizing regions for field surveys
6. Capacity modeling (Cornell add-on)



Streamcontinuity.org

← → ↻ https://streamcontinuity.org

Apps Port pool cars www.streamcontinui... NAACC Search Page DEC In-Site: News a... File Transfer Service All QGIS Installer no... GeoWepp stream gis Dell » Other bookmark

North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative



North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative

The North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC) is a network of individuals from universities, conservation organizations, and state and federal natural resource and transportation departments focused on improving [aquatic connectivity](#) across a thirteen-state region, from Maine to West Virginia.

The NAACC has developed common [protocols](#) and [training](#) for assessing road-stream crossings (culverts and bridges) and developed a regional [database](#) for this field data. The information collected will be used to identify high priority bridges and culverts for upgrade and replacement.

The NAACC will support planning and decision making by providing information about where restoration projects are likely to bring the greatest improvements in aquatic connectivity. The NAACC has created a [subwatershed prioritization map](#) to help focus survey efforts in the project area, as well as a [customizable prioritization tool](#) for use with ArcGIS Desktop.

NEW CONTENT: NAACC partners have compiled resources, tools, and best practices from organizations around the country covering a wide range of topics related to addressing aquatic connectivity. Explore the [Climate-Friendly Stream Crossings Toolkit](#).



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THE COLLEGE OF
NATURAL
SCIENCES

NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY

Department of
Environmental
Conservation



STREAM CROSSING SURVEY

NAACC_WindowsFieldForm-v0.1

Stream Crossing Data

Add coordinator to list (name, ID): _____

Coordinator: _____

Search for town(case sensitive, hit tab): _____

Stream: _____

GPS Coordinates (decimal degrees, lat, lon): _____

Location Description: _____

Crossing Type: _____

Crossing Comments: _____

Flow Condition: _____

Tidal Site: _____

Road Fill Height (ft) (Top of culvert to road surface; Bridge = 0): _____

Bankfull Width (optional): _____

Constriction: _____

Add Photos (click green boxes below)

Inlet Outlet Upstream Downstream Other1 Other2 Other3

State (Please select state before proceeding): _____

Date observed (mm/dd/yy): _____

Add observer to list (name, ID): _____

Lead Observer: _____

Town/County: _____

Road Type: _____

Material: _____

C) Substrate/Water Width _____

Height _____

Water Surface: _____

Stream Bottom: _____

C) Substrate/Water Width _____

Slope Confidence: _____

ate Type (pick one): _____

ing Dry Other

atches Stream: _____

assage: _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Record it on the form for Inlet and Outlet Shape. As shown in the diagrams; for dry culverts without substrate, C = 0. For dry culverts, D = 0. Type 7 Structures. Dimensions for each additional culvert. Light measurements (B) are taken from the grate or just the inside bottom surface of the rows show measuring to substrate).



Online Crossings Database



North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative

[Search Crossings](#) [Login](#)

Location (choose multiple towns, watersheds):

New York [1486]

All NY Cities/Towns or Counties

Adams [0]

Addison [0]

Afton [0]

All NY streams

All NY Watersheds

Ausable River

Black

Bronx

Personnel:

Any Observer

Any Coordinator

Other:

Survey ID:

Crossing Code:

All Evaluations

25 per page

Choose Data Sets (choose multiple):

NAACC (after 6/1/2015)

UMass Stream Continuity Project (through 8/31/2015)

Dates:

Last updated from ...

Last updated until ...

Date observed from ...

Date observed until ...

Export: [Shapefile NAACC](#) - [Excel Simple NAACC](#) - [Excel Comprehensive NAACC](#)

Showing 1485 Records , 25 per page.

[Previous \[50\]](#) [Next \[1410\]](#)

Survey ID	Crossing Code	Date Observed	Last Updated	Town	Stream	Road	Evaluation	Culvert
20121	xy4114795674951828	2015/07/15	2016/01/01	Ramapo NY	Unnamed	Fairway Oval	Coming soon...	0
20122	xy41150569174049881	2015/07/15	2016/01/01	Ramapo NY	Unnamed	New Hempstead	Coming soon...	0
20123	xy41150910274049032	2015/07/15	2016/01/01	Ramapo NY	Unnamed	Sandy Brook Dr	Coming soon...	1
20124	xy41158697740600849	2015/07/15	2016/01/01	Ramapo NY	Unnamed	Pennington Way	Coming soon...	0
20125	xy42318926873716160	2015/07/21	2016/01/01	Kinderhook NY	Unnamed	Stookport Rd	Coming soon...	1
20210	xy4517780673844410	2015/08/27	2016/01/01	Livingston NY	unnamed	Station Road	Coming soon...	1
20218	xy45180120739503077	2015/08/27	2016/01/01	Livingston NY	unnamed	IG	Coming soon...	1
20219	xy42172874738470338	2015/08/27	2016/01/01	Livingston NY	unnamed	White Birch Rd.	Coming soon...	2
20220	xy4216829173846729	2015/09/27	2016/01/01	Livingston NY	Hein Kill	Wire Road	Coming soon...	1

[←](#) [→](#) [C](#) [https://63.134.242.172/cdb2/naacc_display_crossing.cfm?naaccCrossId=20218](#)

[☆](#) [☰](#)

[Apps](#) [Port pool cars](#) [www.streamcontinual...](#) [NAACC Search Page](#) [DEC In-Site: News a...](#) [File Transfer Service](#) [All QGIS Installer no...](#) [GeoWepp stream gis](#) [Dell](#) [»](#) [Other bookmarks](#)



North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative

[Search Crossings](#) [Login](#)

Data checked and accurate by Andrew, Meyer on 09-18-2015

NAACC Data Set:
Crossing Code: xy4218012073850377
AOP Coarse Screen: No AOP
Aquatic Passability Score: 0.58



Crossing Data:

Coordinator: Andrew Meyer
Lead Observer: Tracey Testo
Date observed in field: 06-27-2015
Observer Phone: 518-622-9820
Stream/River: unnamed
Town/County: Livingston, NY
Location: none
GPS: Lat: 42.18017 , Long: -73.85015
GPS to crossing distance (meters): 19.5

Crossing Code: xy4218012073850377
First entered: 07-27-2015
Last updated: 01-01-2016
Observer Email: tet35@cornell.edu
Road: 9G
Road Type: Paved

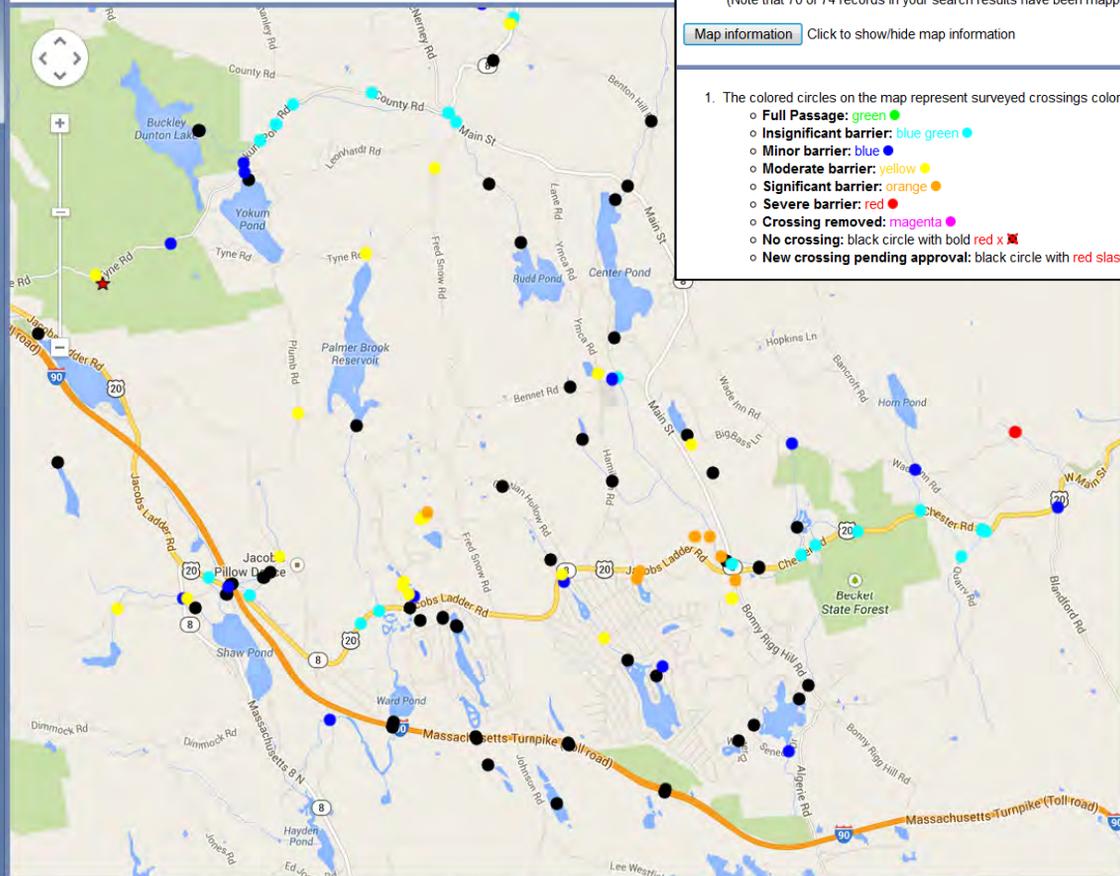
NHD-HUC8 Watershed: Middle Hudson
Flow condition: Typical low-flow

Welcome to our new search results map page!

(Note that 70 of 74 records in your search results have been mapped. Only records having valid xy crossing codes or GPS information can be mapped.)

Map information

Click to show/hide map information



Welcome to our new search results map page!

(Note that 70 of 74 records in your search results have been mapped. Only records having valid xy cross

Map information

Click to show/hide map information

1. The colored circles on the map represent surveyed crossings color coded as follows:

- Full Passage: green ●
- Insignificant barrier: blue green ●
- Minor barrier: blue ●
- Moderate barrier: yellow ●
- Significant barrier: orange ●
- Severe barrier: red ●
- Crossing removed: magenta ●
- No crossing: black circle with bold red x ●
- New crossing pending approval: black circle with red slash ●

Roles within NAACC

Lead Observers

Collect data

Match survey locations to xycodes

Enter data into database

L1 Coordinators

Local coordinators who oversee and organize observers

Collect data

Review & approve records

L2 Coordinators

Regional coordinators who oversee surveys across a fairly large geographic area (state, large watershed)

L3 Coordinators

Central coordinators who maintain key components of the NAACC, including field protocols, an online database, and scoring systems

River and Stream Continuity Project Road-Stream Crossing Inventory

Crossing Aquatic Passage Scoring Sheet

Scoring Table

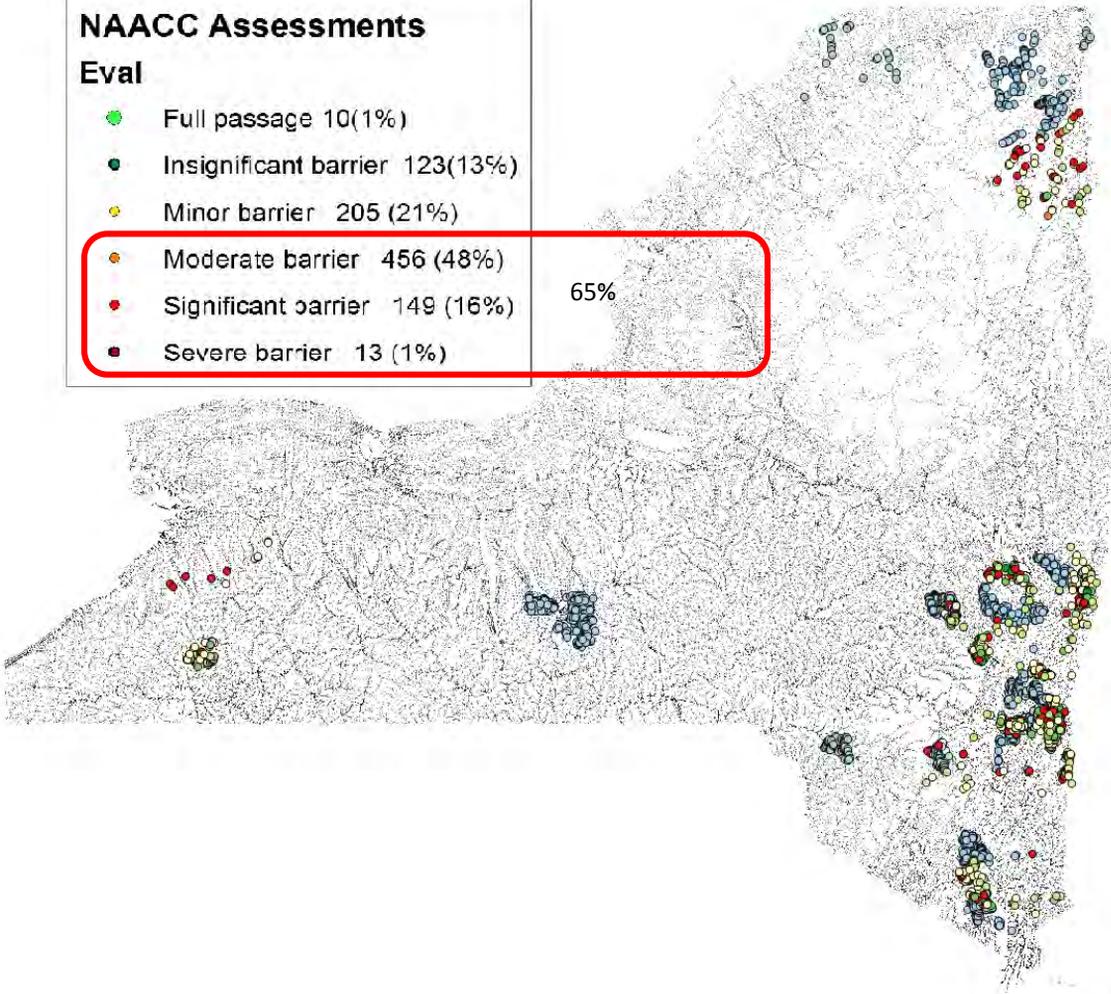
Parameter	Score	Weight	Weighted score
Outlet drop	X	0.149	=
Physical barriers	X	0.107	=
Water velocity	X	0.104	=
Water depth	X	0.098	=
Inlet drop	X	0.093	=
Crossing span	X	0.089	=
Crossing substrate	X	0.084	=
Crossing embedment	X	0.083	=
Openness	X	0.061	=
Scour pool	X	0.058	=
Tailwater armoring	X	0.041	=
Height	X	0.033	=
Crossing Score (Column total)			

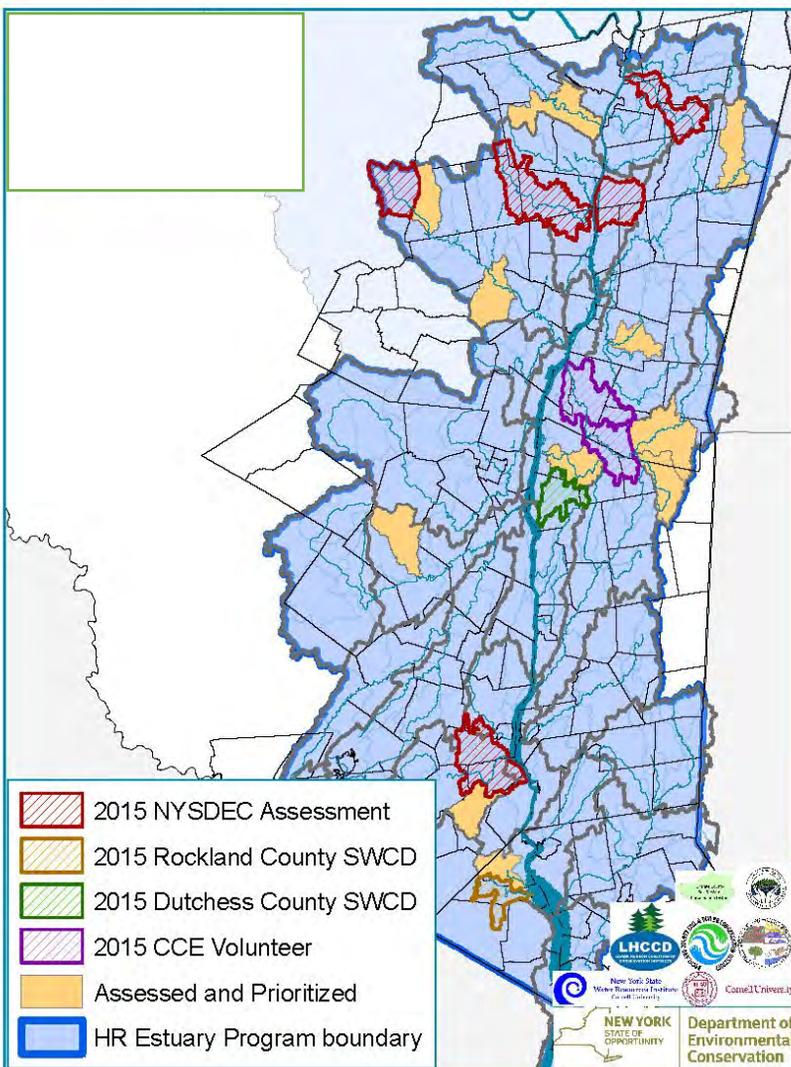
NAACC Assessments

Eval

- Full passage 10 (1%)
- Insignificant barrier 123 (13%)
- Minor barrier 205 (21%)
- Moderate barrier 456 (48%)
- Significant barrier 149 (16%)
- Severe barrier 13 (1%)

65%





HUC12 Comprehensive Surveys for Towns

Culverts Prioritized for Capacity and Passability

Shekomeko and Punch Brook Subwatersheds, Dutchess and Columbia counties, NY

Capacity *Largest return period that a culvert can pass*

- ≤2 years
- 5-10 years
- 25-50 years
- 100 years
- 200-500 years

Passability *Barrier to aquatic organisms*

- Insignificant
- Minor
- Moderate
- Significant
- Severe

Only Passability Evaluated

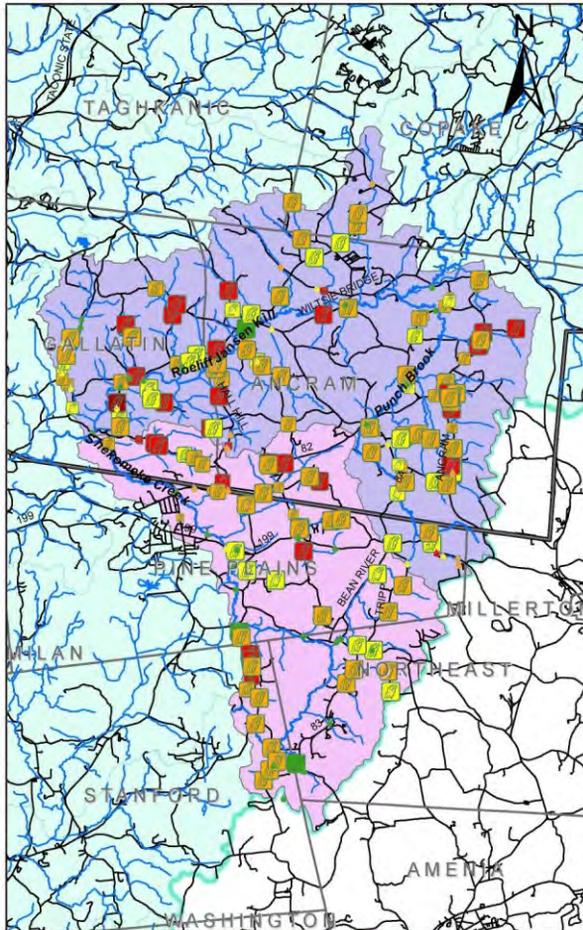
- Insignificant
- Minor
- Moderate
- Significant

- Road
- Stream
- Punch Brook Subwatershed
- Shekomeko Subwatershed
- Hudson River Estuary Watershed
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary

Cornell hydrologists modeled the maximum return period that each culvert could accommodate. Displayed here is the largest return period that each culvert could successfully pass without spilling over the road.

Culvert Passability is ranked by the Stream Continuity Project, which uses a scoring algorithm that evaluates the ease of passage for aquatic and riparian organisms through the culvert.

Some culverts were not modeled for their capacity; those are displayed as Only Passability Evaluated



Capacity

*Largest return period
that a culvert can pass*

-  ≤2 years
-  5-10 years
-  25-50 years
-  100 years
-  200-500 years

Passability

*Barrier to aquatic
organisms*

-  Insignificant
-  Minor
-  Moderate
-  Significant
-  Severe

Only Passability Evaluated

-  Insignificant
-  Minor
-  Moderate
-  Significant

— Road

— Stream

 Punch Brook Subwatershed

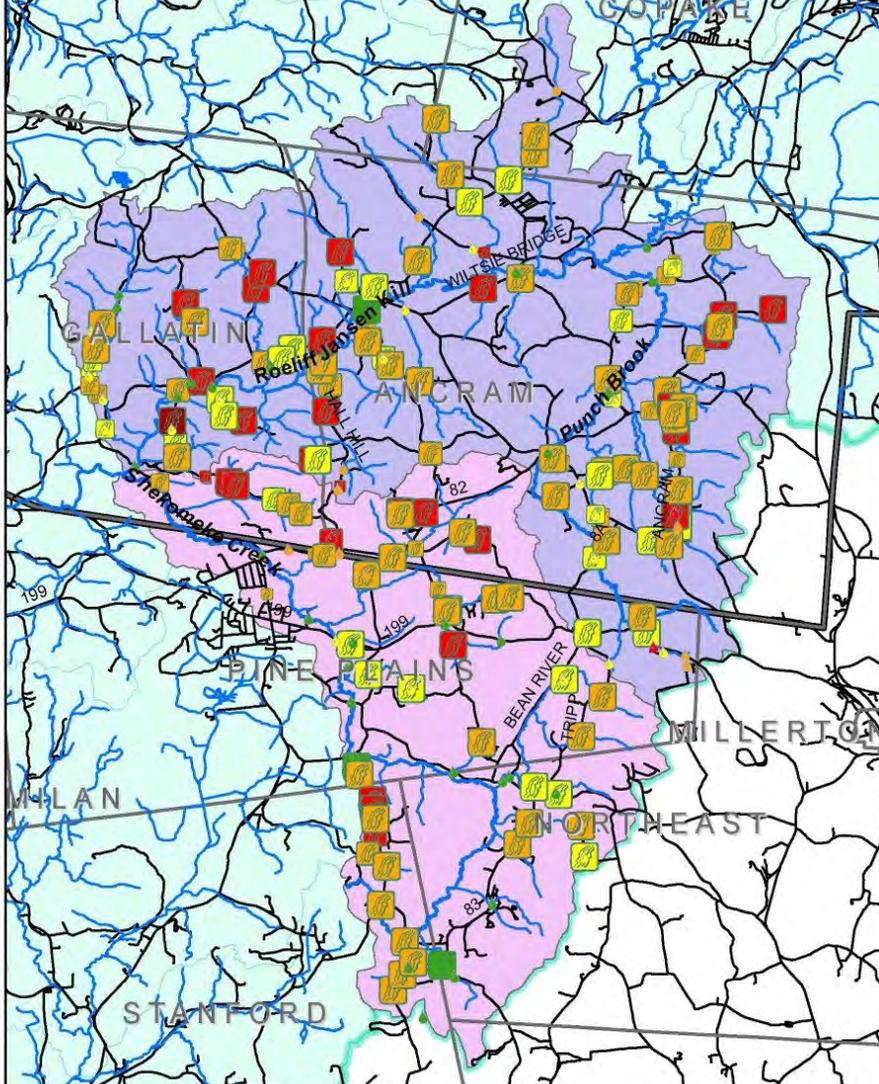
 Shekomeko Subwatershed

 Hudson River Estuary Watershed

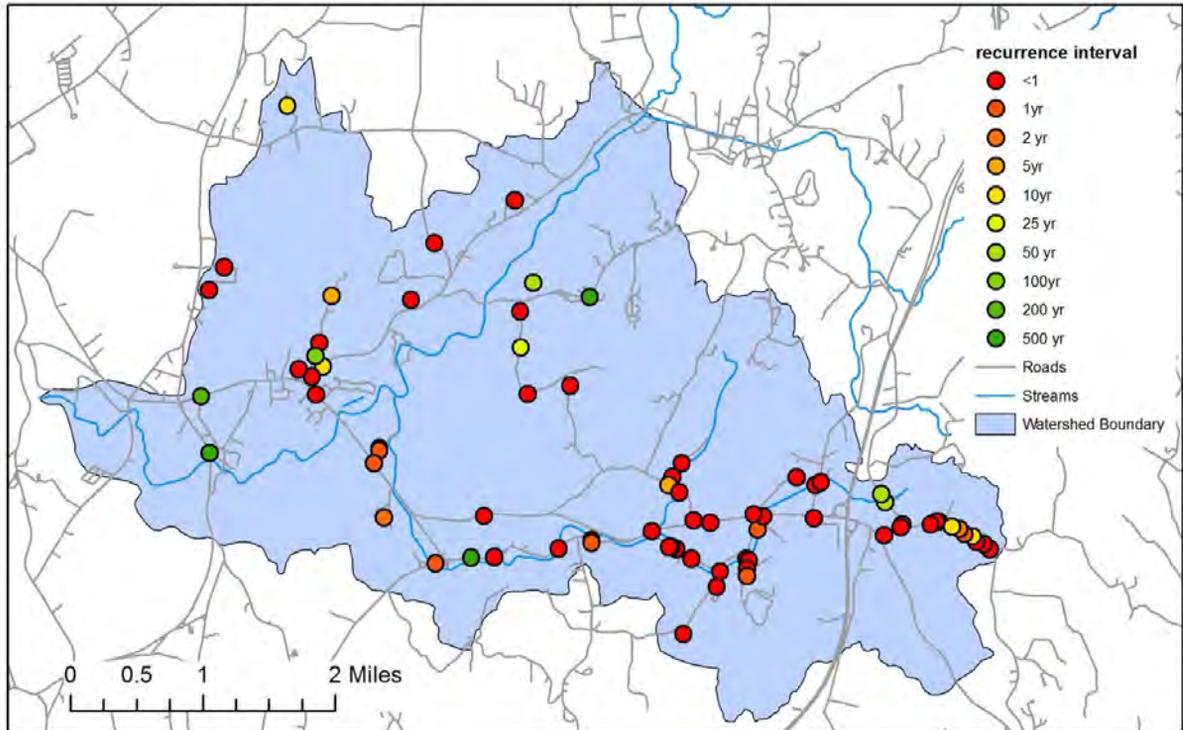
 Town Boundary

 County Boundary

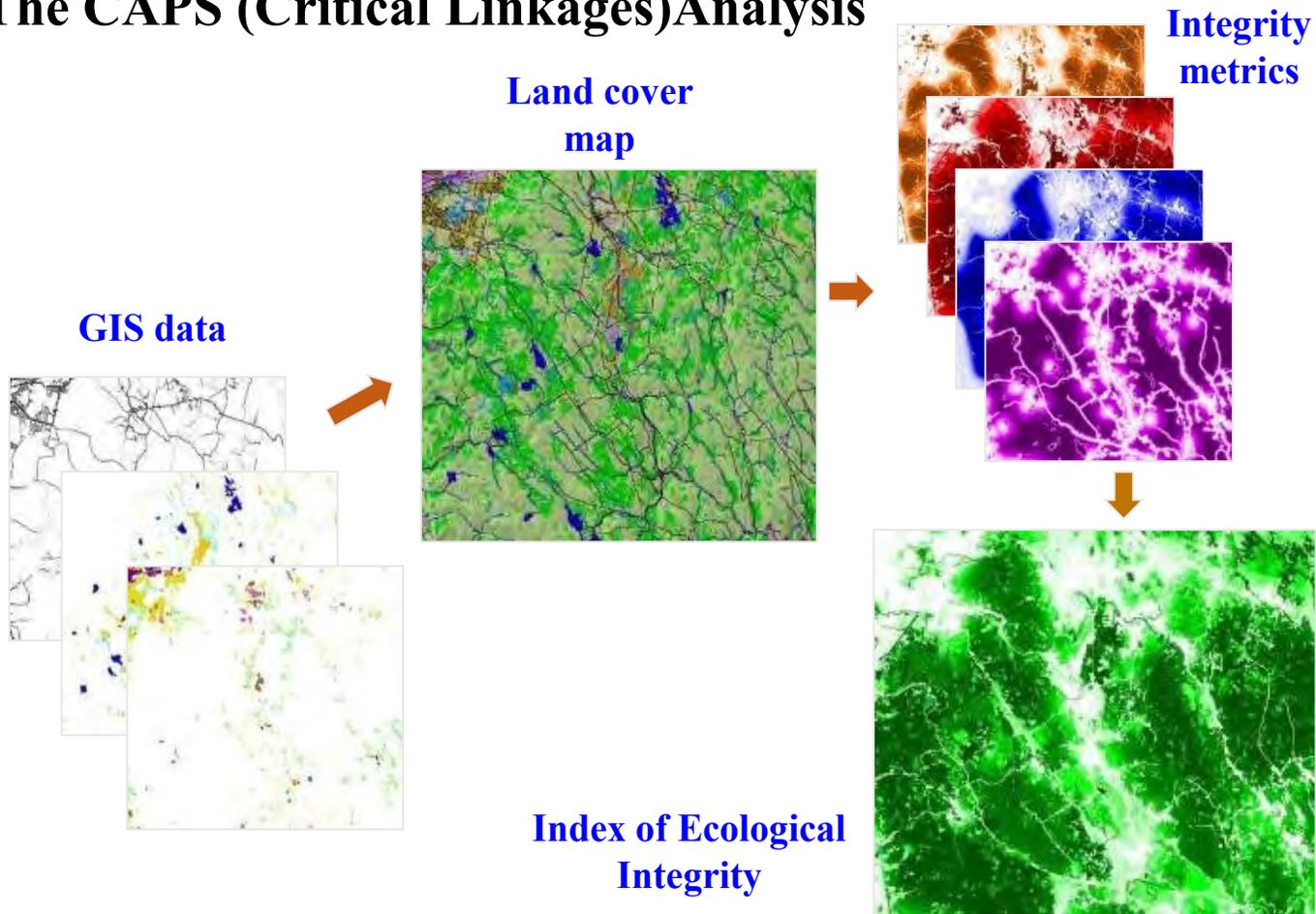
Cornell hydrologists modeled the maximum return period that each culvert could accommodate. Displayed here is the largest return period that each culvert could successfully

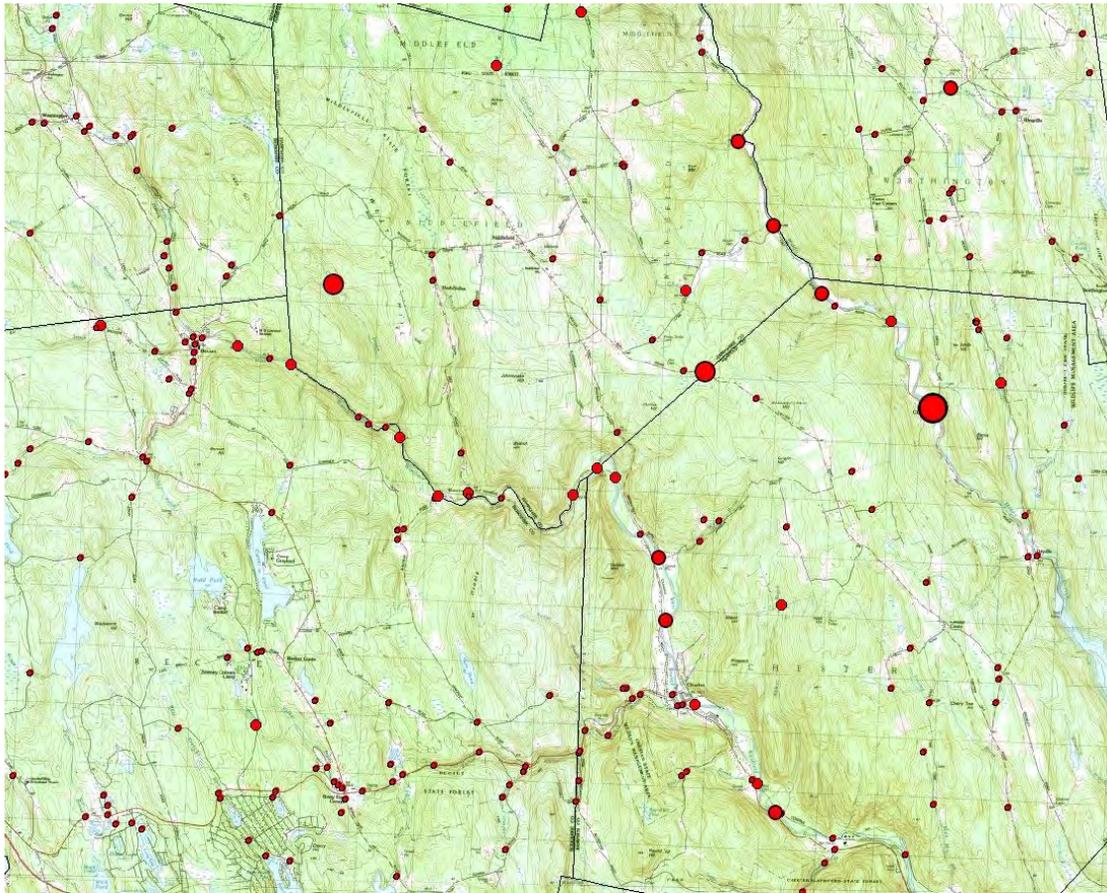


With 2013 rainfall/runoff

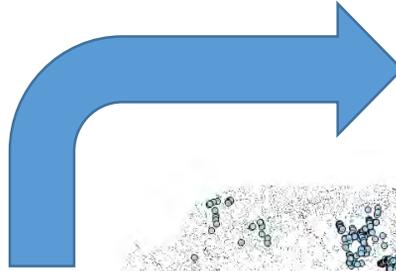


The CAPS (Critical Linkages) Analysis





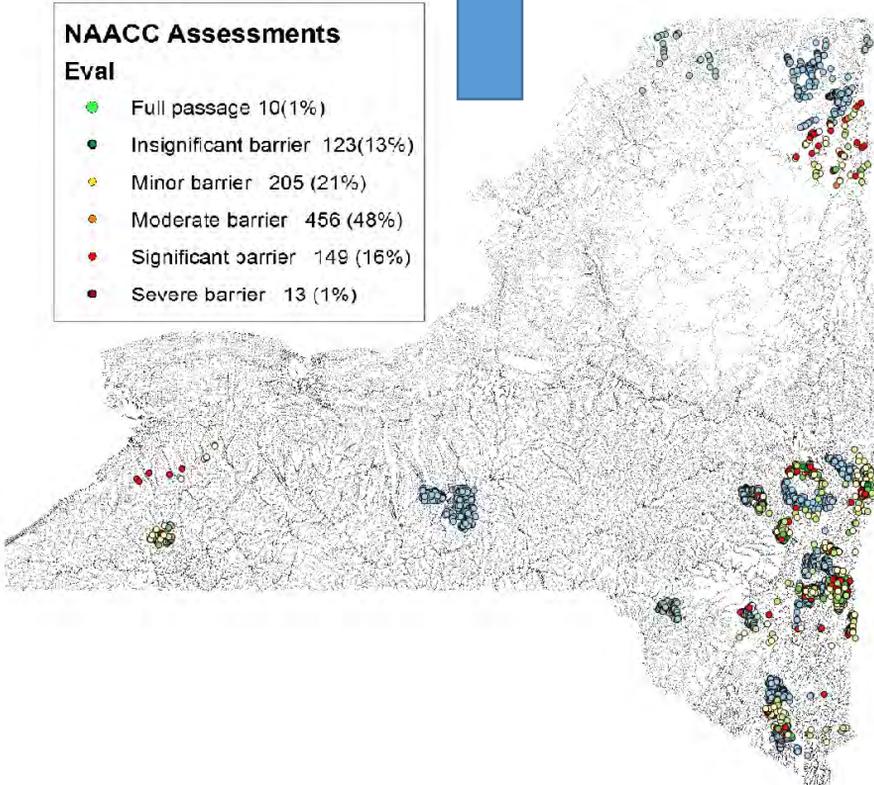
Applications and Next Steps.....



NAACC Assessments

Eval

- Full passage 10 (1%)
- Insignificant barrier 123 (13%)
- Minor barrier 205 (21%)
- Moderate barrier 456 (48%)
- Significant barrier 149 (16%)
- Severe barrier 13 (1%)



- Statewide coordination
- Populate NAACC Database
- Identify and Prioritize
- Replacement/Restoration Projects
- Target for funding/scoring (WQIP, SWG, GLRI, EBTJV +++)
- ~~Can~~ Convince others to participate



Thank You

Joshua Thiel

NYS DEC

Stream Protection Program Manager

625 Broadway, 5th Floor

Albany, NY 12123

josh.thiel@dec.ny.gov

518-402-8978



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DRAFT CAFO General Permits 2016

State Committee Meeting

XX, 2015

BWRM

Permit Organization

- Matches Format/Order of other General Permits
- Logical plan development
- Clearer language
- Removed unnecessary language
- Permits contain largely identical requirements



Proposed Changes seen in both permits

- Acquisition of existing operation
 - New permits allow 24 months to get fully implemented at the new operation
- Non-Contact Cooling Water discharges authorized by Permits
- Listed NRCS Standards vs. Umbrella NY 312 Standard
- Contractor Certification Statement
 - Included primarily for custom applicators
- Maximum single application rate
 - 20,000 gallons/acre max single application rate



Waste Transfer Systems

- Existing Permanent Systems: PE evaluation needed for...
 - Pressurized systems
 - Gravity (Op or Cl) within 100' flow path of surface water.
- Systems manned while in operation
- Valves/shut-offs checked annually



Planner On-Site CNMP Review:

- The planner* must conduct and o/o must maintain record of an annual on-site review with facility manure applicator staff.
- 1x/permit term, planner-led presentation/discussion of Cornell webinar unless 2 staff from Lgs and 1 staff from Med has attended a DEC Manure Applicator Training



Winter Spreading/Adverse Weather Applications

- Application CANNOT be made on saturated soils (frozen or fluid)
- CNMP must include a description of storage availability in order to avoid applications on saturated soils.
- In addition, the CNMP must:
 - a. include specific winter application procedures consistent with the Cornell Guidelines and NRCS NY 590
 - b. identify specific fields to be reserved for adverse weather applications.

Increased groundwater protection section to call-out specific features that must be identified in the plan and applications restricted within their vicinity.



Proposed Changes in ECL

- “No Discharge” means...
 - The CNMP must include Wet Weather Standard Operating Procedures that are determined by the planner for all BMPs necessary to meet the permit limitations and conditions.
- Removal of ANMP requirement



Proposed Changes in CWA

Addition of ANMP

- Template included in Permit
- Submitted with NOI and then by March 31st of each year
- Needed in order to meet Waterkeeper decision



Public Participation

- Post a Notice of Availability in the ENB of all NOIs and Initial ANMPs submitted AND any significantly changed ANMPs through the permit cycle
- 30 day comment period
- Significantly changed = implementing a practice not in accordance with NRCS standards



Permit Status/Next Steps

- Permits posted December 23rd
- Public Comment Period – 45 days (Feb 7th)
- Final Permit issuance – Early Spring?
- Effective date of permits – July 1st, 2016



CONTACTS

Sara Latessa

- sara.latessa@dec.ny.gov
- 518-402-8279

Jackie Lendrum

- jacqueline.Lendrum@dec.ny.gov
- 518-402-8165

Doug Ashline

- douglas.ashline@dec.ny.gov
- 518-402-8247

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MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE NEW YORK STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE, NEW YORK ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AND THE

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is made and entered into by and between New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee (State Committee), New York Association of Conservation Districts (NYACD), New York State Conservation District Employees Association (NYSCDEA), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), hereinafter referred to as “the Parties.”

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOA is to encourage strong partnerships, as well as to strengthen cooperation among the Parties that result in coordinated interagency delivery of conservation assistance to private landowners and others to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the New York natural resources. The Parties share a long-term commitment to the Federal/State/local Government conservation delivery system to help private landowners, communities, and others conserve natural resources across the Nation. This system supports local level and private landowner decision making and advocacy for conservation planning that will result in sound solutions that are practical and economical, and lead to wise use and management of natural resources. This mutual goal is to provide locally-led natural resource conservation that addresses local, State, national and Tribal priorities while optimizing efficiency and effectiveness. As a partnership, we will put quality first, enable people to make sound conservation decisions, demonstrate professionalism and dedication, and strive for continuous improvement.

II. BACKGROUND

The Parties recognize the importance of natural resources, sound resource conservation development, and the wise use and management of these natural resources. In addition, the Parties recognize the importance of working collaboratively, under their individual authorities, for the conservation, protection, and enhancement of soil, water, and related natural resources. The Parties further recognize that our State's resources are finite and under increasing pressure from a variety of impacts. Soil, water, air, plants, animals, humans, and energy are all addressed under the programs, initiatives, and partnership efforts of the Parties.

Examples of activities the Parties will address include, and are not limited to:

- A. Continuing to support the delivery of excellent and innovative service;
- B. Strengthening and modernizing conservation delivery to optimize efficiency and effectiveness;
- C. Broadening our outreach to existing and new customers and partners;
- D. Supporting science based decision making as close to the resource issue/opportunity as possible;
- E. Encouraging a voluntary approach as a the primary means of accomplishing conservation goals; and
- F. Using sound approaches to strengthen each Party and its role in the delivery of natural resources conservation across the State.

Collaborating to Meet Customer Needs

The Parties recognize that the owners and managers of farmland, forestland, and other lands are key customers for our programs and activities. Increased coordination and collaboration is essential so that we can provide effective and efficient assistance to a changing customer/owner base. The Parties believe that a strong partnership among them will make it possible to be more effective and efficient in assisting decision makers, thereby increasing agricultural production and profitability, while improving natural resource benefits.

III. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This MOA commits the Parties to increase cooperation within New York State to ensure coordinated, efficient, and effective delivery of conservation assistance. The actions taken under this MOA are expected to enable the Parties to accomplish their individual and collective conservation missions and goals in a strategic approach with greater efficiency.

The Parties recognize the unique and complementary role that each Party brings to the partnership:

- The New York Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. provides leadership in the wise use of soil, water, and related natural resources. This direction is provided through programs that support member Soil and Water Conservation Districts' scientific and marketing/outreach programs and that encourage networking and building alliances with outside groups that have related interests.
- The New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee is composed of voting and advisory members who represent a wide range of agricultural, environmental and other interests. The broad range of interests represented on the Committee allows it to carry out its work through a network of partnerships between state, federal and local agencies, as well as citizen interests and the private sector. The mission of the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee is to advance comprehensive natural resources management through the support of local Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
- The Association operates with by laws and policies. The purposes for which the Association formed were for the mutual advancement of the interests of members to consider and deal with common problems, and to strengthen local districts by providing assistance and information to local boards and employees. To that end, the Association has focused resources on creating and fostering opportunities for employee networking, professional development, and district outreach and promotion.
- USDA-NRCS draws on a long history of helping people help the land. NRCS works in close partnerships with farmers, local and State Governments, and other Federal agencies to maintain healthy and productive working landscapes. NRCS is a source of interdisciplinary technical expertise for natural resource conservation and provides this assistance to landowners and communities in every county in New York.

The Parties will work to address conservation priorities through joint and individual actions. The agency contacts listed or their designees will meet at least annually to review performance under this MOA, and provide recommendations as appropriate.

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION CONTACTS

NYACD: Amber May Paice, Executive Director

State Committee: Michael J. Latham, Executive Director

NYSCDEA: Patrick J. Emerick, President

USDA-NRCS: Gregory A. Kist, State Conservationist

IV. AUTHORITIES

This MOA is entered into in accordance with the following laws and organization policy:

- A. The Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, Public Law 103-354, 7 U.S. C. 6901-7014.
- B. Secretary’s Memorandum 1010-1, Reorganization of the Department of Agriculture, dated October 20, 1994.
- C. Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, Public Law 74-461, 16 U.S.C. 590, as amended (16 U.S.C. 590a, et seq.).
- D. Section 1242(d) of the Food Security Act of 1985, 16 USC 3842(d).
- E. New York State Soil and Water Conservation District Law Annotated Book 52B
- F. Partner NYACD and NYSCDEA by-laws listed, etc.

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. This MOA takes effect upon the signatures of the Parties and remains in effect for 5 years from the date of execution. In the event of termination by one of the parties, the other parties will continue the MOA between them.
- B. This MOA is not intended to, and does not create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by any party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.
- C. This MOA does not affect or modify existing regulations or agency responsibilities and authorities. It specifically does not commit agency activities beyond the scope of its mission and authorities under its organic statutes.
- D. State Committee, NYACD, NYSCDEA, USDA-NRCS and their respective officials will handle their own activities and utilize their own resources, including expenditures of their own funds, in pursuing the purposes of this MOA. Each party will carry out its separate activities in a coordinated and mutually beneficial manner.
- E. Nothing in this MOA shall obligate State Committee, NYACD, NYSCDEA, USDA-NRCS to expend or transfer funds. Specific work projects or activities that involve the transfer of funds, services, or property among the various agencies and offices of the Parties will require execution of separate agreements, and be contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Such activities must be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This MOA does not provide such authority. Negotiation, execution, and administration of each such agreement must comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.
- F. Any information furnished to USDA-NRCS under this agreement is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).
- G. All activities and programs conducted under this MOA shall be in compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions contained in Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-250); and other nondiscrimination statutes; namely, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, and the Age

Discrimination Act of 1975. Also, they will be in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture (7 CFR 15.3, subpart A), which provide that no person in the United State shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination from USDA or any agency thereof.

H. All activities conducted under this MOA shall be in compliance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D.

VI. APPROVAL

The undersigned parties hereby agree to the terms and conditions specified above.

President
New York Association of Conservation Districts

Date

President
New York State Conservation District Employee
Association

Date

New York State Soil and Water Conservation
Committee

Date

State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Date