



Vision for Advancing Science of Stream Restoration

Sara Winnike McMillan, PhD, PE & Carmen Agouridis, PhD, PE, MPP, MBA

August 3, 2022

State Awards \$4.6M for Ecological Restoration and Climate Change Projects

11:37AM / Friday, July 15, 2022

[Print Story](#) | [Email Story](#)

Sections

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

BOS
three

MARYLAND

Maryland, behind in cleaning up Chesapeake, beefs up restoration efforts

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: A Transformational Opportunity for Habitats

July 29, 2022

Historic climate resilience funding for NOAA, made possible by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, will improve habitat restoration, coastal resilience, and weather forecasting infrastructure.

← ADVERTISE WITH US GET UP DC CONTESTS ENVIRONMENT WASHINGTON COM

ENVIRONMENT

Hundreds of trees cut down in Virginia, Maryland for controversial stream restoration projects

— Cities are reducing runoff to the Chesapeake by rebuilding suburban streams and residents are concerned about why woods have to be leveled.

River revival: UW-La Crosse Plum Creek restoration a win-win for conservation efforts, experiential learning

Posted on July 29, 2022



Community Day Offers Activities to Celebrate and Learn How to Protect Marsh Creek in Howard



Citizen brings up concern for Peak Creek pollution

Mon, 08/01/2022 - 10:03

Posted in: NEWS

POLICY ARTICLE

International principles and standards for the practice of ecological restoration. Second edition

George D. Gann^{1,2}, Tein McDonald³, Bethanie Walder², James Aronson⁴, Cara R. Nelson^{5,6}, Justin Jonson^{7,8}, James G. Hallett^{2,9}, Cristina Eisenberg¹⁰, Manuel R. Guariguata¹¹, Junguo Liu^{12,13}, Fangyuan Hua^{14,15}, Cristian Echeverría¹⁶, Emily Gonzales¹⁷, Nancy Shaw¹⁸, Kris Decler¹⁹, Kingsley W. Dixon²⁰

UN DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION



OPINION ARTICLE


Ten people-centered rules for socially sustainable ecosystem restoration

Marlène Elias^{1,2}, Matt Kandel³, Stephanie Mansourian⁴, Ruth Meinen-Dick⁵, Mary Crossland⁶, Deepa Joshi⁷, Juliet Kariuki⁸, Lynn C. Lee⁹, Pamela McElwee¹⁰, Amrita Sen^{11,12}, Emily Sigman¹³, Ruchika Singh¹⁴, Emily M. Adamczyk¹⁵, Thomas Addoah¹⁶, Genevieve Agaba³, Rahinatu S. Alare¹⁷, Will Anderson¹⁸, Indika Arulingam⁷, SGiids Kung Vanessa Bellis¹⁹, Regina Birner⁸, Sanjiv De Silva⁷, Mark Dubois²⁰, Marie Duraisami¹⁴, Mike Featherstone²¹, Bryce Gallant^{7,22}, Arunima Hakhu^{7,22}, Robyn Irvine⁹, Esther Kiura⁶, Christine Magaju⁶, Cynthia McDougall²³, Gwiisihlgaa Daniel McNeill¹⁹, Harini Nagendra²⁴, Tran Huu Nghi²⁵, Daniel K. Okamoto²⁶, Ana Maria Paez Valencia⁶, Tim Pagella²⁷, Ondine Pontier²⁸, Miranda Post⁹, Gary W. Saunders²⁹, Kate Schreckenber³⁰, Karishma Shelar³¹, Fergus Sinclair^{6,27}, Rajendra S. Gautam³², Nathan B. Spindel²⁶, Hita Unnikrishnan^{12,33}, Gulxa taa'a gaagii ng.aang Nadine Wilson⁹, Leigh Winowiecki⁶

Ten golden rules for reforestation to optimize carbon sequestration, biodiversity recovery and livelihood benefits


Alice Di Sacco¹ | Kate A. Hardwick¹ | David Blakesley^{2,3} | Pedro H. S. Brancalion⁴ | Elinor Breman¹ | Loic Cecilio Rebola^{1,5} | Susan Chomba⁶ | Kingsley Dixon^{7,8} | Stephen Elliott⁹ | Godfrey Ruyonga¹⁰ | Kirsty Shaw¹¹ | Paul Smith¹¹ | Rhian J. Smith¹ | Alexandre Antonelli^{1,12,13}

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Environmental Science and Policy

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envsci



Core principles for successfully implementing and upscaling Nature-based Solutions

Emmanuelle Cohen-Shacham^{a,b,c}, Angela Andrade^{a,c}, James Dalton^d, Nigel Dudley^{e,f}, Mike Jones^{a,b}, Chetan Kumar^d, Stewart Maginnis^d, Simone Maynard^{a,h}, Cara R. Nelson^{a,i}, Fabrice G. Renaud^{a,j}, Rebecca Welling^d, Gretchen Walters^{d,k,l}

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Global Environmental Change

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/gloenvcha



The political ecology playbook for ecosystem restoration: Principles for effective, equitable, and transformative landscapes

Tracey Osborne^{a,*}, Samara Brock^b, Robin Chazdon^{c,d}, Susan Chomba^e, Eva Garen^b, Victoria Gutierrez^f, Rebecca Lave^g, Manon Lefevre^b, Juanita Sundberg^h

PLAN & MEASURE IMPACT

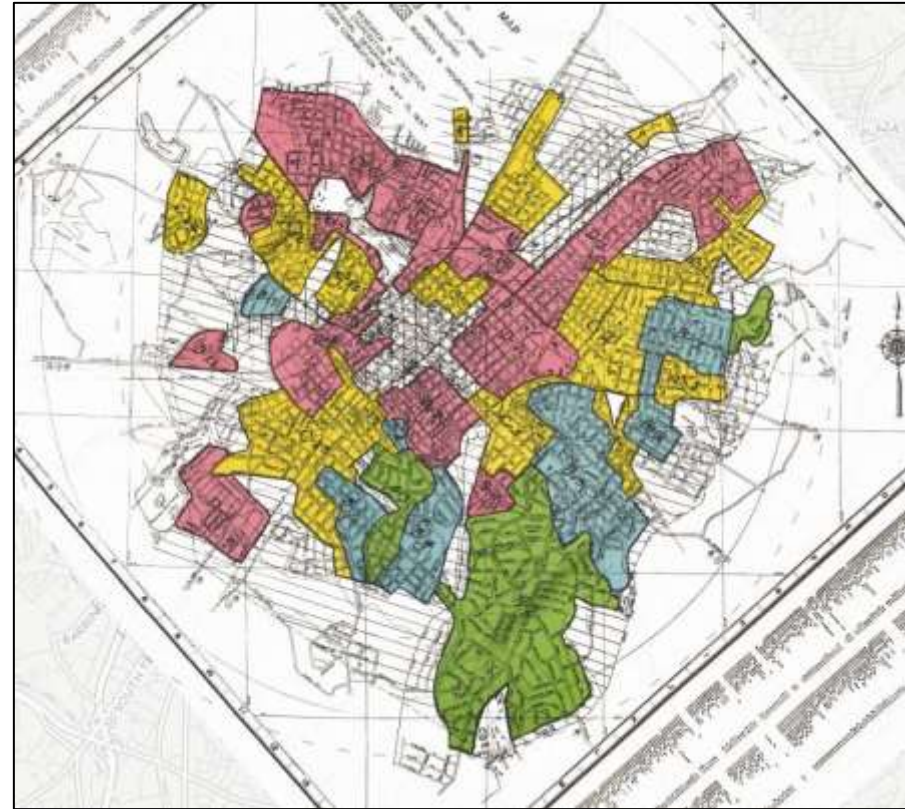
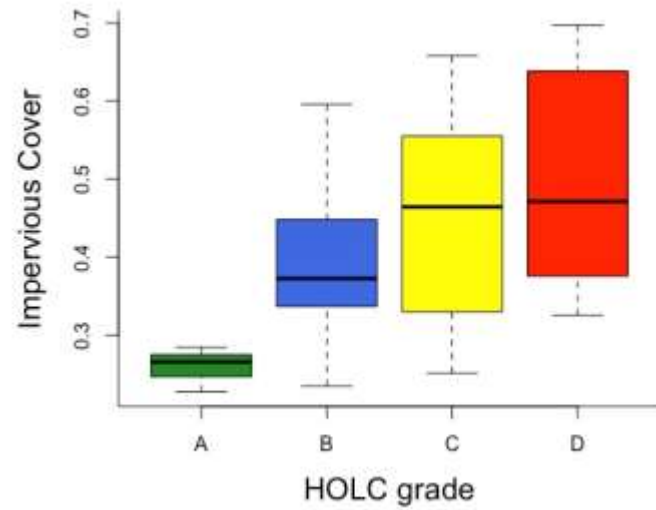
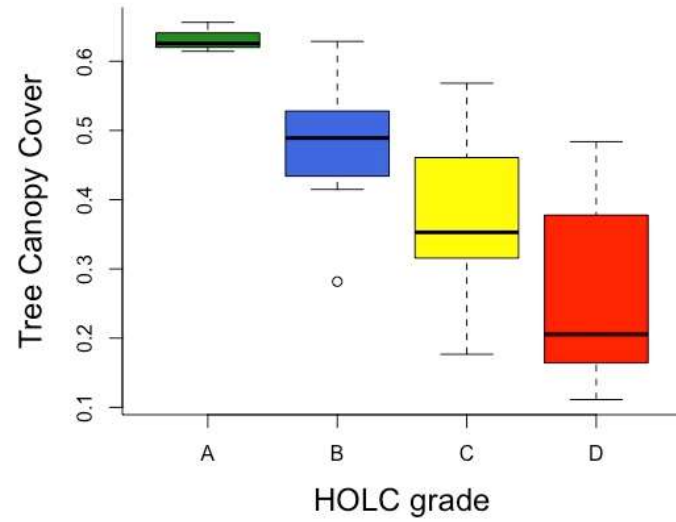
DESIGN FOR RESILIENCE

ENGAGE & EDUCATE



Plan & measure impact

Charlotte, NC: Impacts of Redlining Still Felt Today

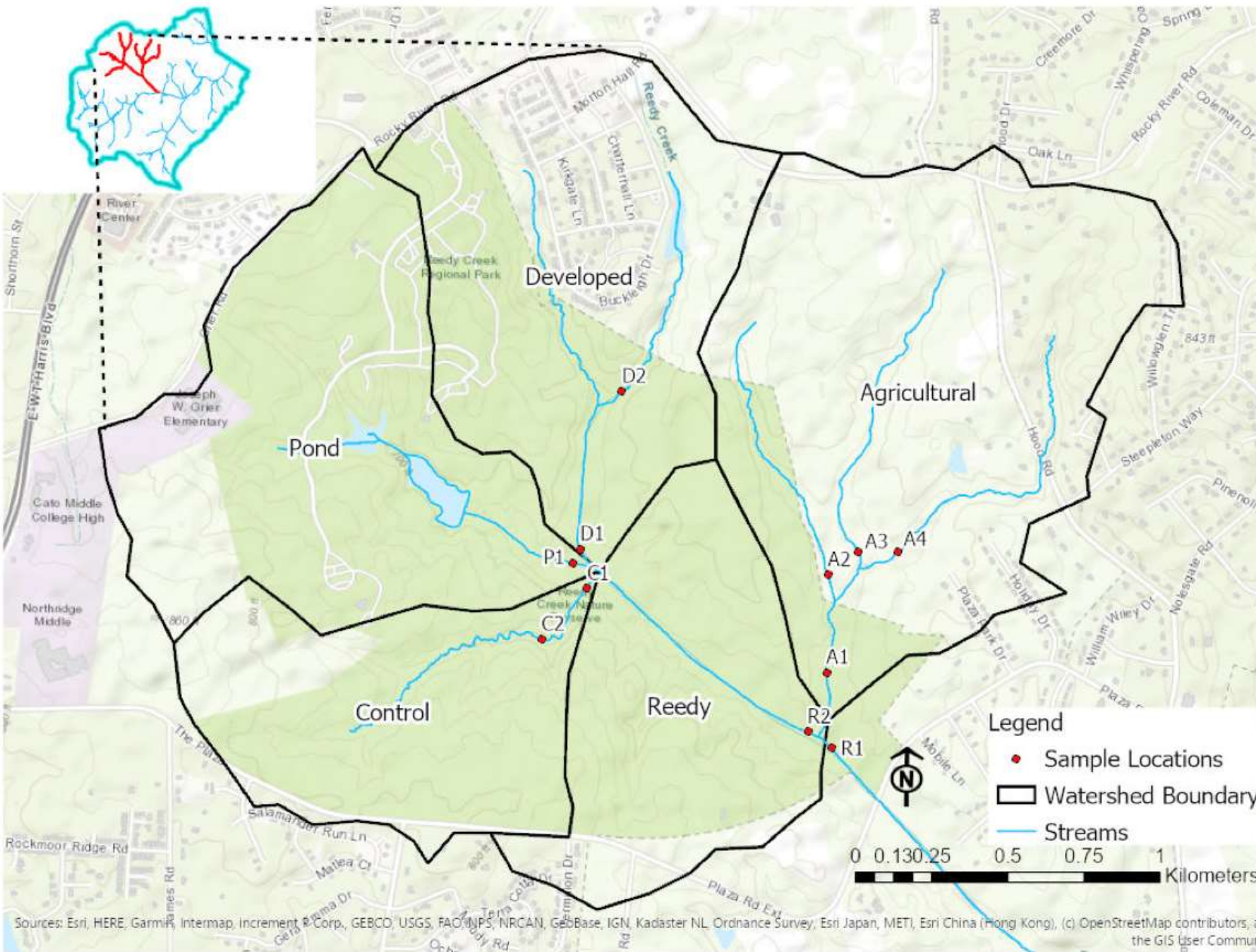


Reedy Creek – Charlotte NC

Partnership between
government, universities, and
private companies.

Investment in understanding
through data-driven,
research-back projects

Multi-year monitoring
of hydrology, water quality,
and ecology before, during
and after restoration



BUCKLEIGH BRANCH



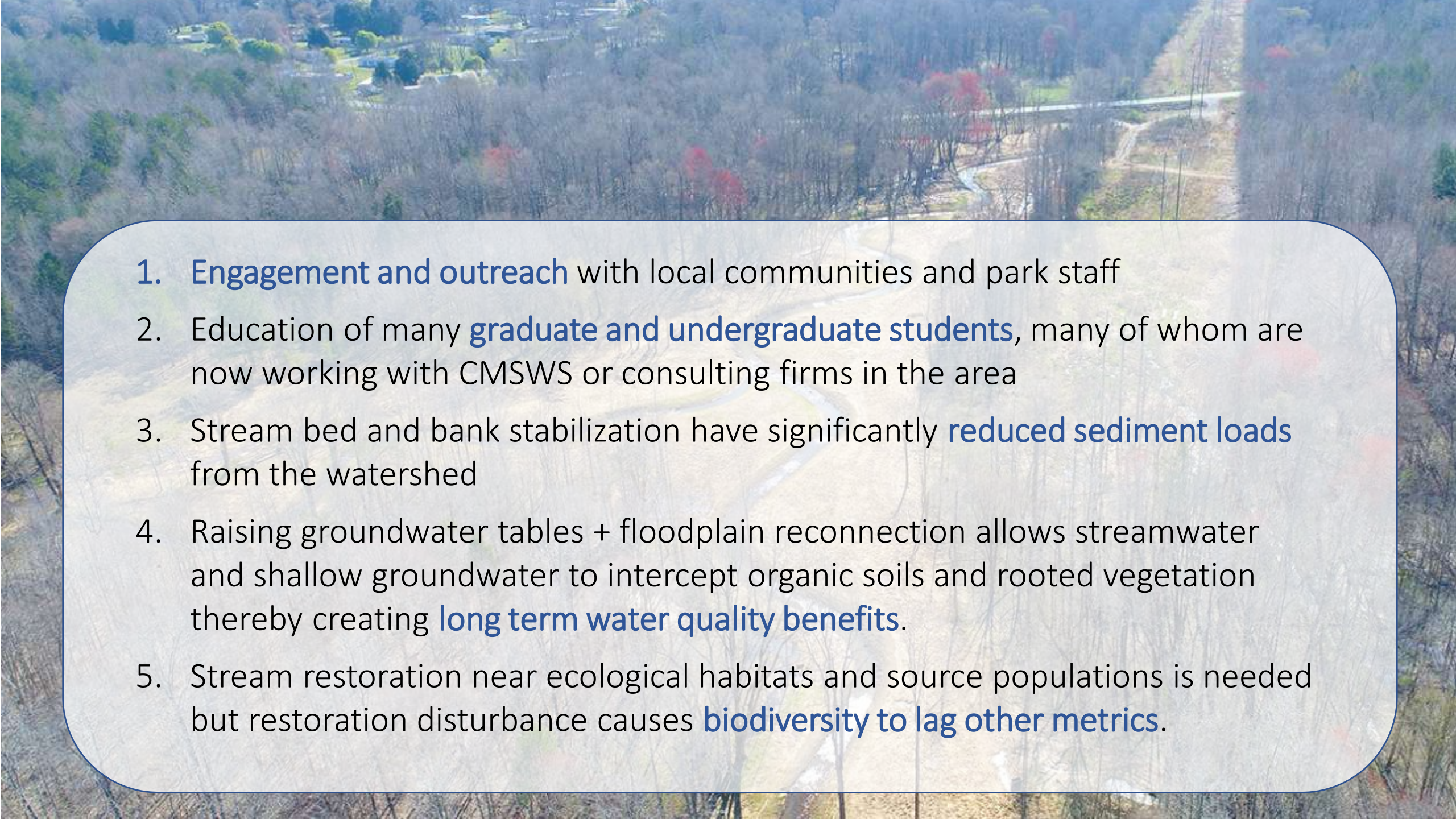
BEFORE
CONSTRUCTION



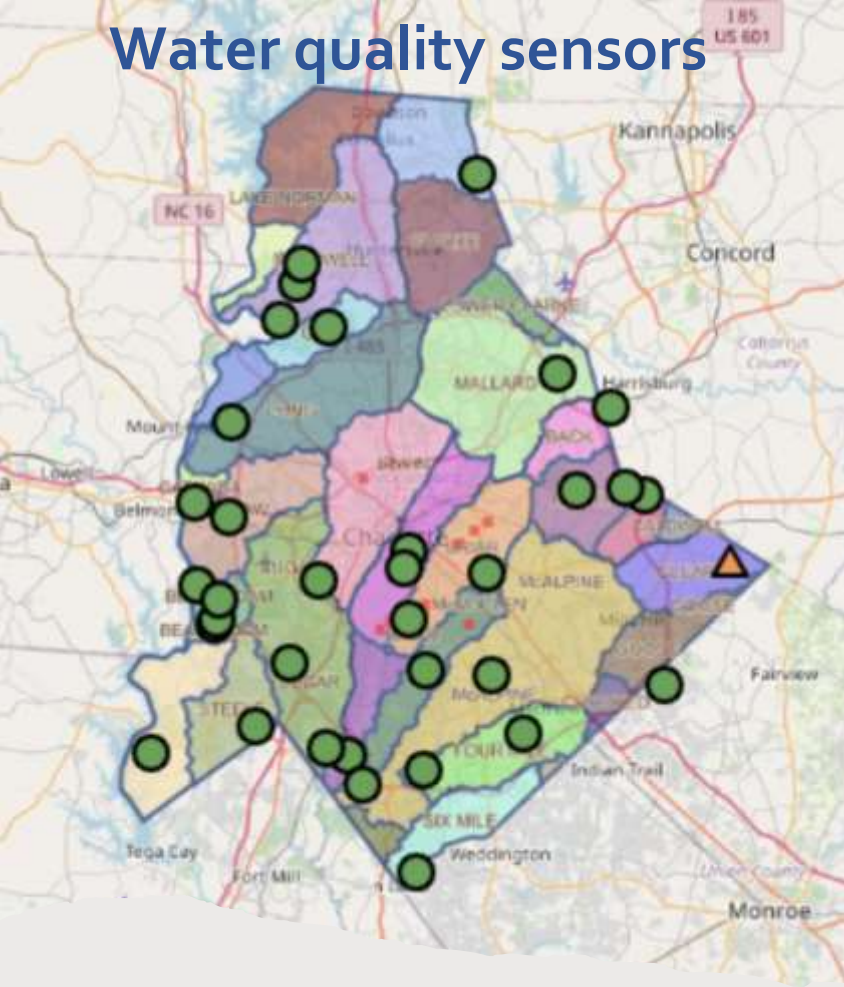
AFTER
CONSTRUCTION



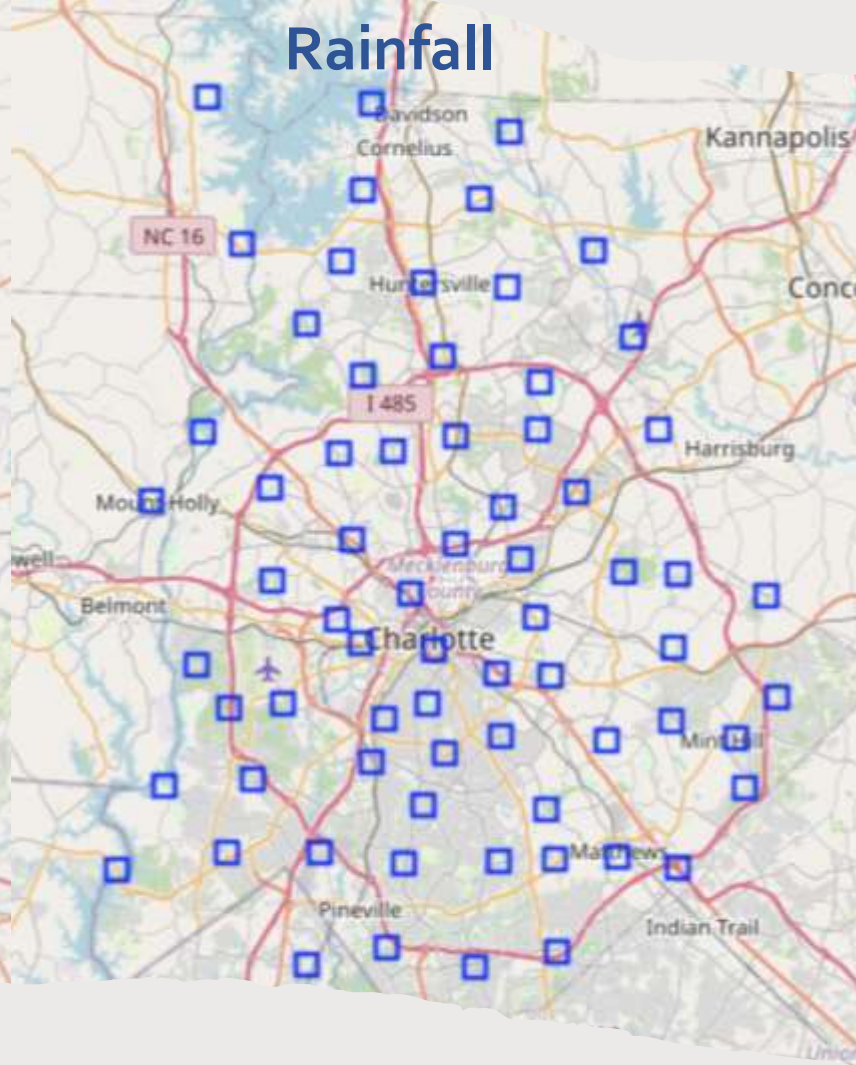
BUCKLEIGH BRANCH

- 
- An aerial photograph showing a stream restoration project in a wooded area. The stream is visible, winding through the landscape, with some areas appearing to be newly restored or under construction. The surrounding area is densely wooded with trees in various shades of green and brown, suggesting a natural, somewhat rugged environment. The stream flows from the upper right towards the lower left of the frame.
1. **Engagement and outreach** with local communities and park staff
 2. Education of many **graduate and undergraduate students**, many of whom are now working with CMSWS or consulting firms in the area
 3. Stream bed and bank stabilization have significantly **reduced sediment loads** from the watershed
 4. Raising groundwater tables + floodplain reconnection allows streamwater and shallow groundwater to intercept organic soils and rooted vegetation thereby creating **long term water quality benefits**.
 5. Stream restoration near ecological habitats and source populations is needed but restoration disturbance causes **biodiversity to lag other metrics**.

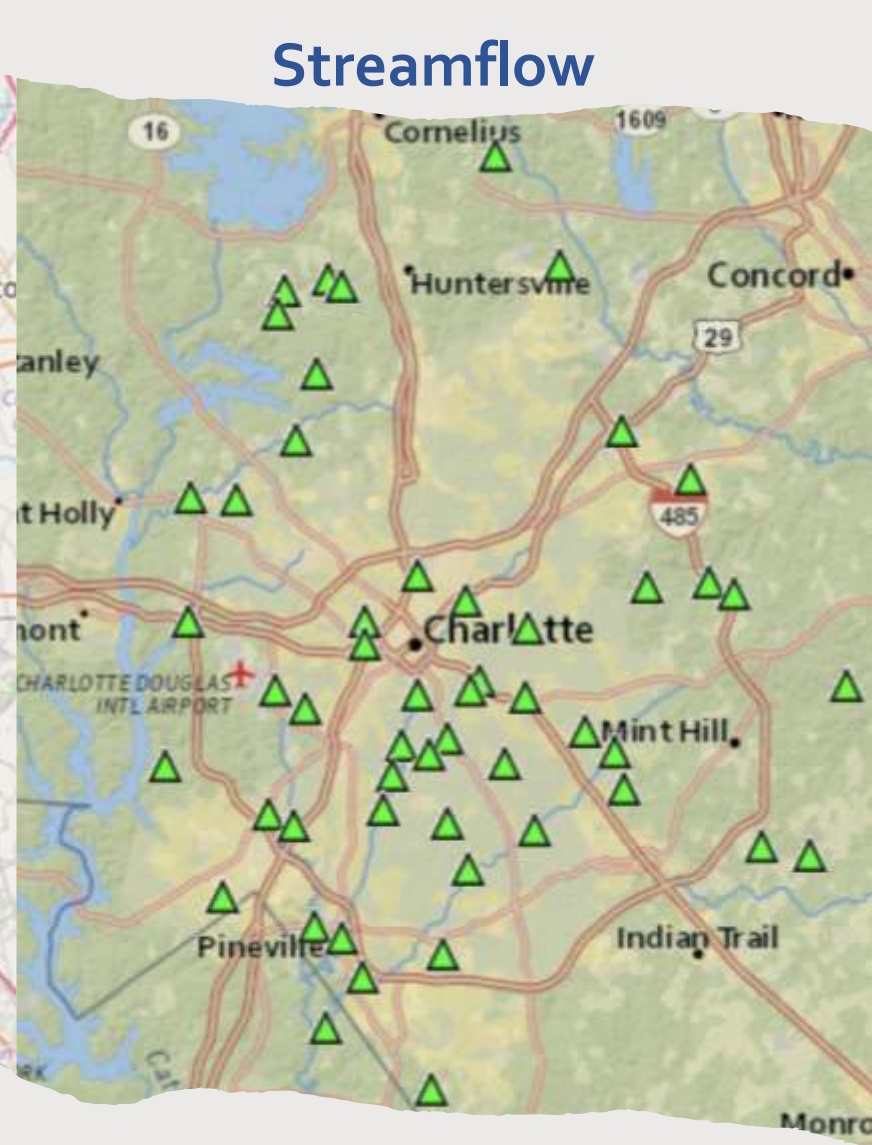
Water quality sensors



Rainfall

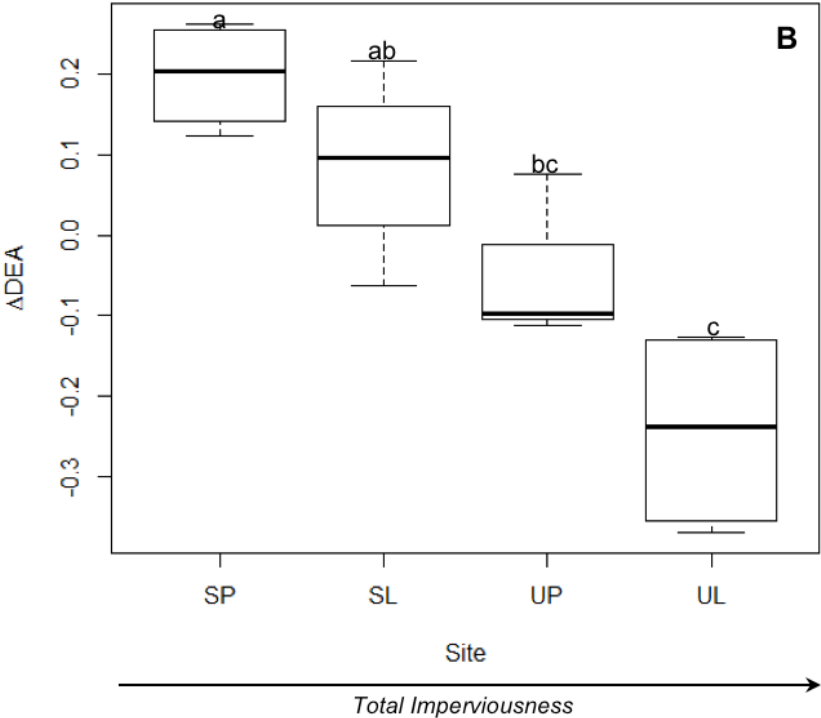
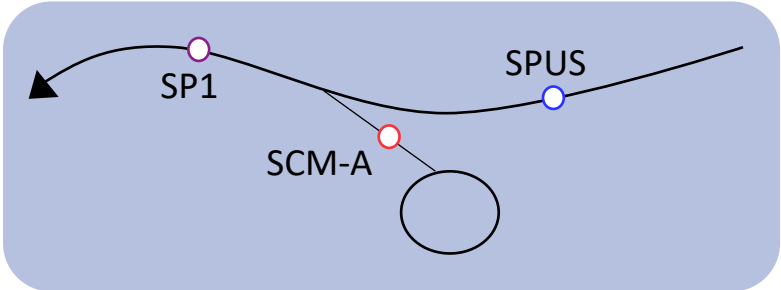
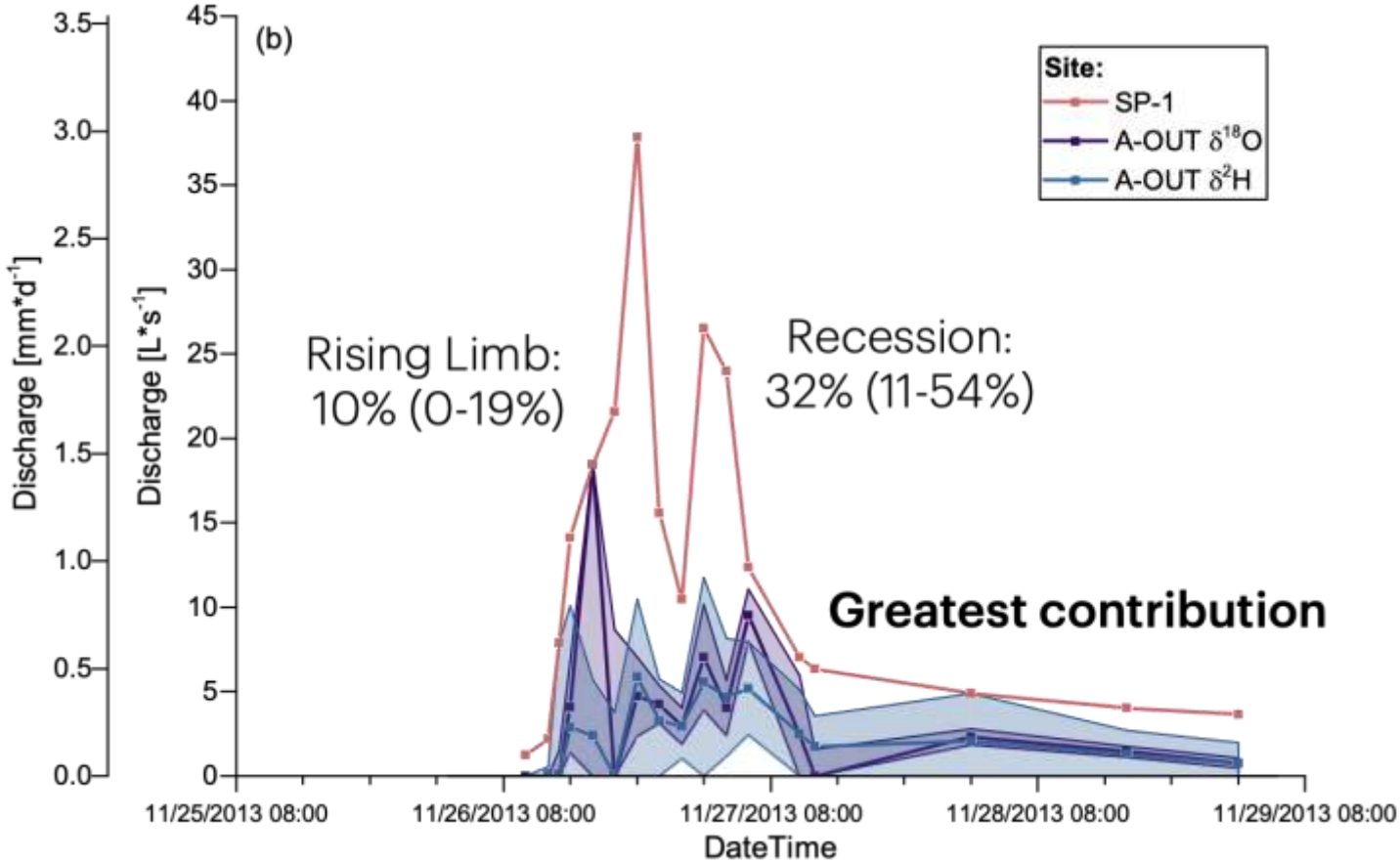


Streamflow



Investments in long-term monitoring data

Cumulative effects of nature-based solutions

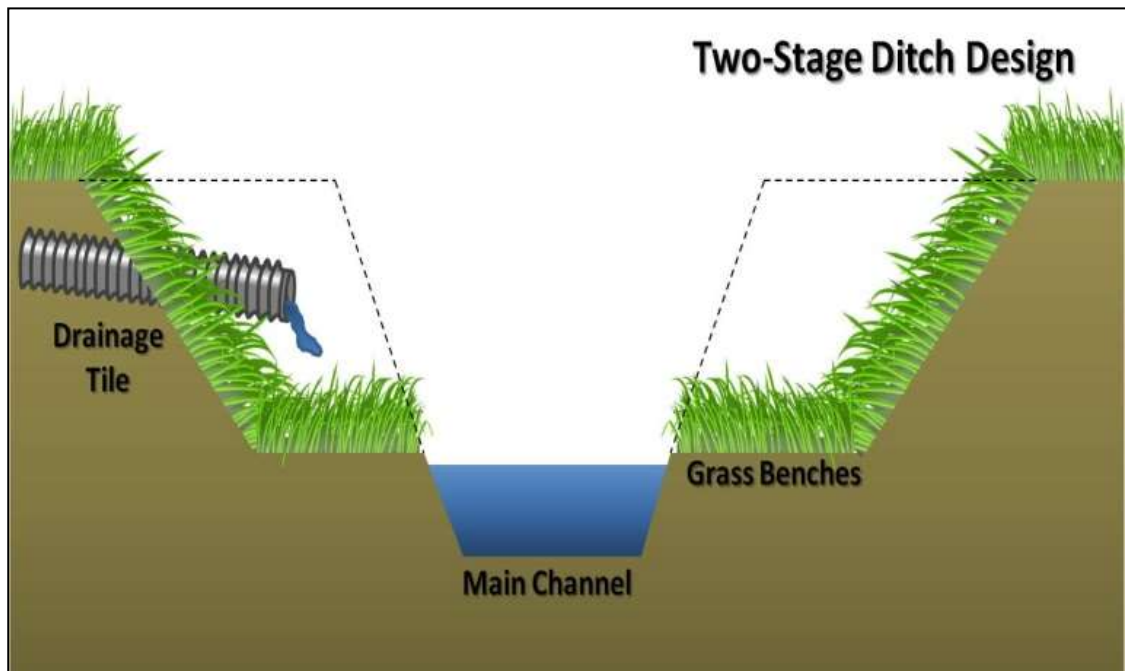
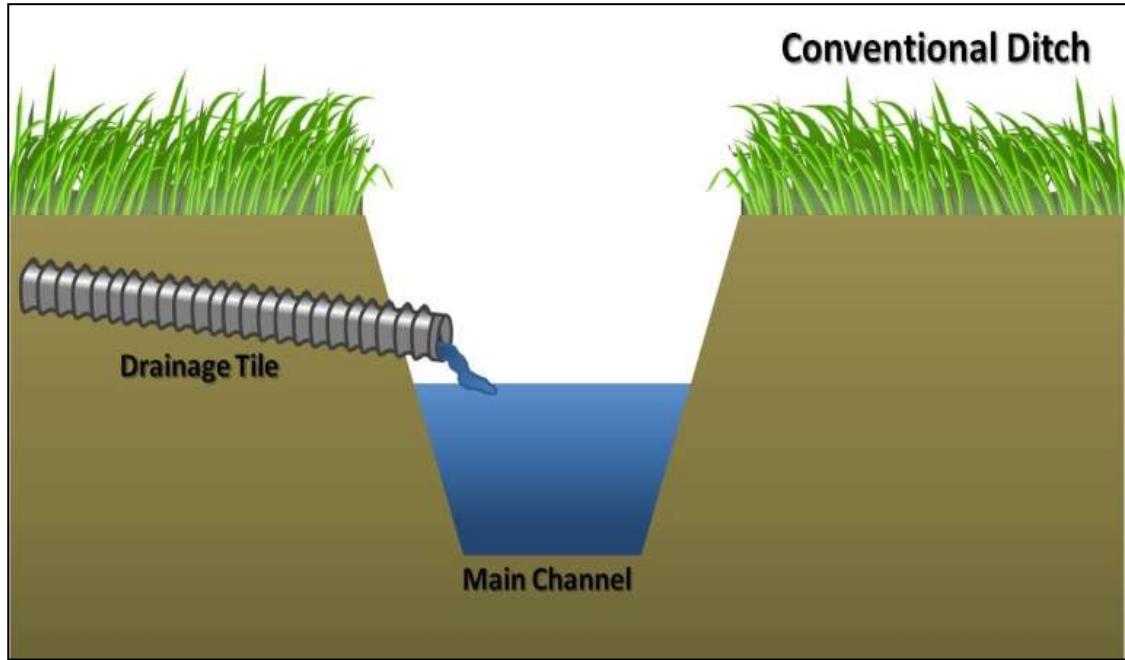


Jefferson et al. 2015 HYDRO PROC

Rivers et al. 2018 WATER



Design for resilience











Self-forming channels













Educate & engage

"Science requires an engagement with the world, a live encounter between the knower and the known." – Parker Palmer



Partnerships

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen Keller

UK Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering
College of Engineering
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Forestry and Natural Resources

UK College of Engineering
Department of Civil Engineering

UK College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Landscape Architecture

UK Environmental Quality Management

UK Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute

UK Sustainability



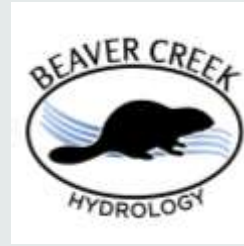
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

USDA NRCS
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

UK Tracy Farmer Institute
for Sustainability and the Environment

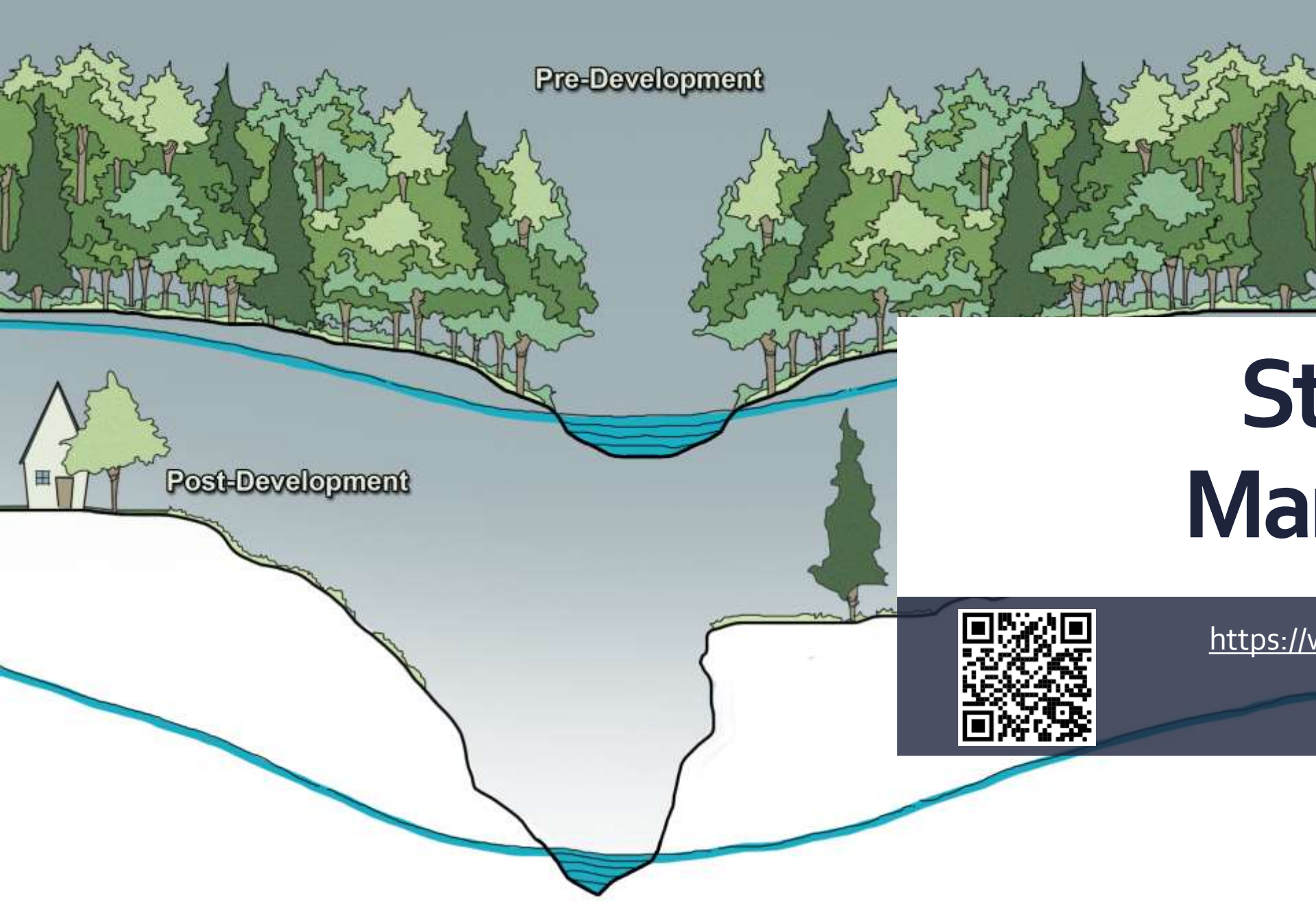
Kentucky Proud
Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Student Sustainability Council



LEXINGTON

Kentucky Master Naturalist



Stormwater Management



<https://www.uky.edu/env/stormwater>

WATER



Mission:

Maximize the infiltration and evapotranspiration of stormwater, protect water quality, and conserve water resources.

How we're going to do it:



1. Maximize stormwater infiltration and evapotranspiration



2. Minimize negative impacts to water quality across all operations



3. Optimize the use of water in campus facilities



4. Optimize the use of water on campus grounds



5. Conduct water-focused outreach and engagement on campus







Vaughn's Branch (Big Elm Fork) Stream Restoration



<https://bit.ly/3ErJRMq>



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1988

38°01'19.51" N, 84°30'30.91" W elev 9

CAUTION
Area Subject
To
Flash
Flooding









Workforce Development

*"Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to change
the world" – Nelson Mandela*









UT to Hickman Creek Stream Restoration



<https://bit.ly/35mgJpc>







1

2

3









Outreach

"Nothing in science has any value to society if it is not communicated." – Ann Roe





Take-aways

What's next?



Define success locally



Take a systems approach



Enhance resilience through self-design



Integrate biophysical & social dimensions in project site selection



Training the next generation of scientists & engineers requires partnerships & meaningful experiences

Contact Information & Resources

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- [Charlotte stream restoration](#)
- [To Build a Better Ditch](#)
- Carmen Agouridis, PhD, PE, MPP, MBA
- Email: carmen.agouridis@uky.edu
- Office Phone: (859) 257-7203
- [Restoring Streams](#)
- [Central Kentucky Backyard Stream Guide](#)
- [UK Watershed Protection and Restoration](#) (YouTube)
- [KYH₂O](#) (Podcast series)
- [Backyard Streams](#)