

National Estuarine Research Reserve System

A High Performance Network

NAML Annual Meeting

February 21, 2019

Erica Seiden

NERRS director



OFFICE FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

The NERRS Network

- **Mission**
- **Culture**
- **Organization**
- **System-wide Programs**
- **Benefits to NAML**



Over 1.4 Million Acres Protected

- Long-term research and monitoring
- Education
- Resource stewardship



Mission: To practice and promote the stewardship of coasts and estuaries through innovative research, education, and training using a place-based system of protected areas



OFFICE FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVES



LIST OF RESERVES

Great Lakes

1. Lake Superior, Wisconsin
2. Old Woman Creek, Ohio

Northeast

3. Wells, Maine
4. Great Bay, New Hampshire
5. Waquoit Bay, Massachusetts
6. Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island
7. Connecticut (*Proposed*)

Mid-Atlantic

8. Hudson River, New York
9. Jacques Cousteau, New Jersey
10. Delaware
11. Chesapeake Bay, Maryland
12. Chesapeake Bay, Virginia

Southeast

13. North Carolina
14. North Inlet-Winyah Bay, South Carolina
15. ACE Basin, South Carolina
16. Sapelo Island, Georgia
17. Guana Tolomato Matanzas, Florida

Gulf of Mexico

18. Rookery Bay, Florida
19. Apalachicola, Florida
20. Weeks Bay, Alabama
21. Grand Bay, Mississippi
22. Mission-Aransas, Texas

West

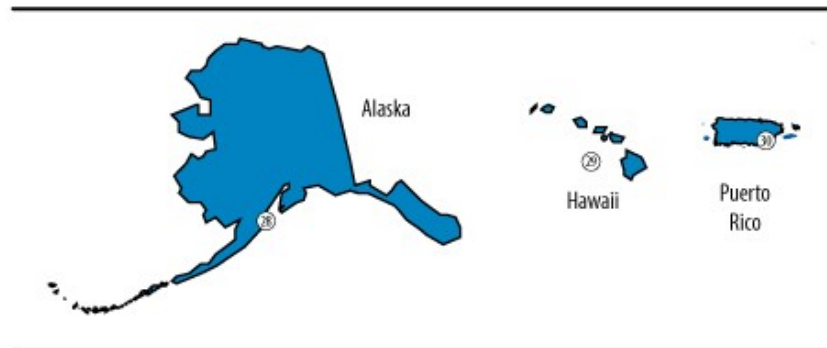
23. Tijuana River, California
24. Elkhorn Slough, California
25. San Francisco Bay, California
26. South Slough, Oregon
27. Padilla Bay, Washington
28. Kachemak Bay, Alaska

Pacific

29. He'eia, Hawai'i

Caribbean

30. Jobos Bay, Puerto Rico



Culture

- 29 unique places -common purpose & approach
- Collaborative approach to program development and decision-making
- Build strong relationships and share outcomes
- Facilitate partnerships and engage end users
- Celebrate success
- Have fun together!



Organization

NOAA

29



OFFICE FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVES

Organization

NOAA

29



OFFICE FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT

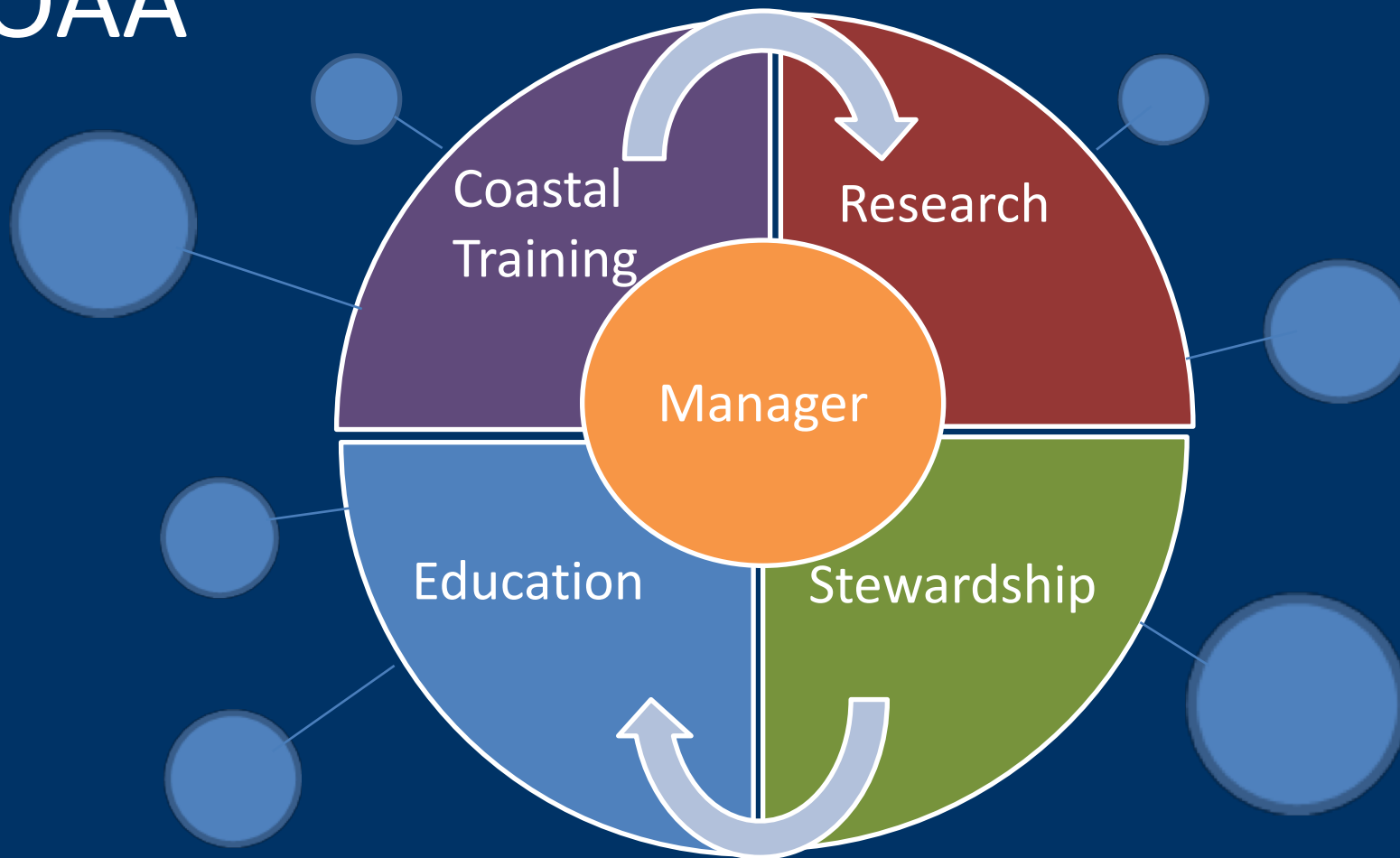
NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVES

Strategic Committee

OCM, Manager, RC, SC, EC, CTP

NOAA

29



OFFICE FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVES

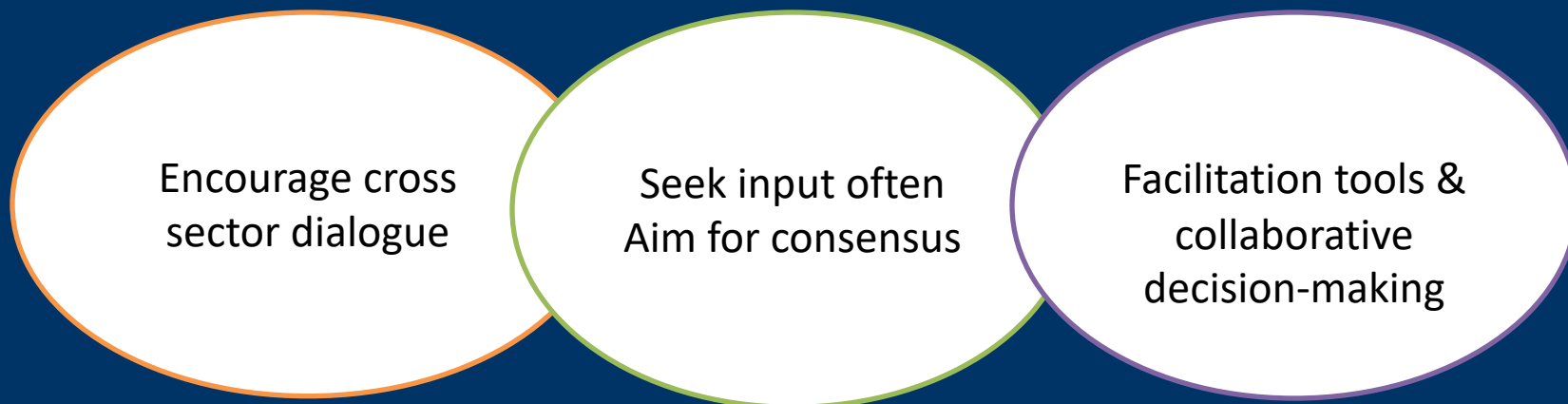
Organizational Best Practices

Engagement Tools

- Meet as sectors twice annually – virtual and in-person
- Meet as a whole system annually

Communication Tools

- Listserves for sectors and workgroups
- Intranet to facilitate document sharing



System-Wide Program Best Practices

- System-Wide Monitoring Program
- Coastal Training Program
- K-12 Estuarine Education Program
 - same approaches & protocols
 - data analysis multiple scales
 - program evaluation



National Efforts

- **Science Collaborative**

- Competitive funding
- Enhance the reserves' ability to address critical challenges

On the Horizon....

- **Margaret A Davidson Fellowship**

- Competitive funding for graduate students
- Research, mentoring, and professional development

- **NERRS Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery Framework**



Opportunities

- Reference sites
- Platform for regional/national comparison studies
- SWMP data supports research
- Partner for Science Collaborative projects
- Student opportunities -Fellowship



A scenic sunset over a body of water, likely a marsh or estuary. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The sky is filled with scattered clouds, some catching the light. The water is calm, with gentle ripples. In the foreground, there are reeds and marsh grasses on both sides of the water. In the background, a dark line of trees marks the horizon.

Get to know a NERR near you

Erica.Seiden@noaa.gov

NOAA's Office for Coastal Management