#### **Expert Work Groups Session**

#### Mass ECAN Conference 2018





## **Expert Work Groups**

- Around adaptation initiatives requiring crossorganizational collaboration
- Focused on specific ecosystems or adaptation initiatives
- Made up of experts (researchers and practitioners)
- Led by expert from organization/agency actively working on the topic in Massachusetts
- Identify gaps in research, data, practical knowledge, or policy
- Coordinate efforts to fill these gaps and create comprehensive strategies for ecosystem conservation

# **Expert Work Groups**

- Climate change communications
- Main-streaming Nature-based solutions
- Cold-water streams
- Salt marshes
- Slow the flow
- Forests

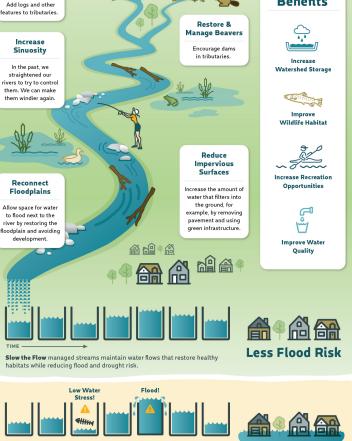
# Slow the Flow

- Managing for extreme flows and variability
- Anticipating increased occurrence and severity of floods and droughts
- Increase capacity for water ۲ storage in upper watersheds to:
  - Provide base flow during dry periods
  - Avoid damaging scour or deposition during floods

Slow the Flow for Climate Resilience With climate change, we are seeing an increase in the frequency of extreme rain events, changes in snowfall, and higher temperatures. These changes are resulting in more floods and droughts. Climate change is also combining with a legacy of hundreds of years of altering our rivers and watersheds. Managing our watersheds with a "slow the flow" approach that restores natural processes can reduce the negative impacts of floods and droughts on our communities and provide co-benefits to fish, wildlife, and ecosystems. These management strategies add up to a more resilient watershed. **Restore Natural** Complexity **Benefits** Restore & Manage Beavers Encourage dams in tributaries Increase Watershed Storage Improve Wildlife Habitat

Watershed Management Strategies to

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In our climate future without Slow the Flow strategies, stream flows are more prone to rapid fluctuations and extremely low or high water levels.

More Flood Risk

## **Breakout Options**

- Climate change communications
- Mainstreaming nature-based solutions
- Coldwater streams
- Saltmarsh
- Slow the flow