

Salt Marsh Working Group Update

Mass ECAN Conference
October 30, 2018

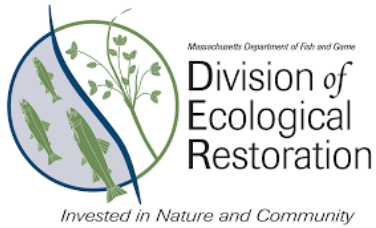
Adrienne Pappal





Scope and Goals

- Facilitate **coordinated efforts** to **assess and monitor** salt marsh health and threats
- Inform statewide and regional **strategies** for the prioritization, conservation, and restoration of salt marshes
- **Inform and share best practices** for salt marsh climate adaptation efforts
- **Identify research gaps and needs** and form a **strategic research agenda**
- Design **collaborative funding approaches** to support research and best practices
- ***Blueprint for Tidal Marsh Resilience in Massachusetts***



Participants



UMass Amherst





Work to Date

- Survey – identify priorities, focus of work, interests and expertise of the participants
- Kick off call – discuss survey results, develop priorities, workplan and next steps
- Planning future meetings



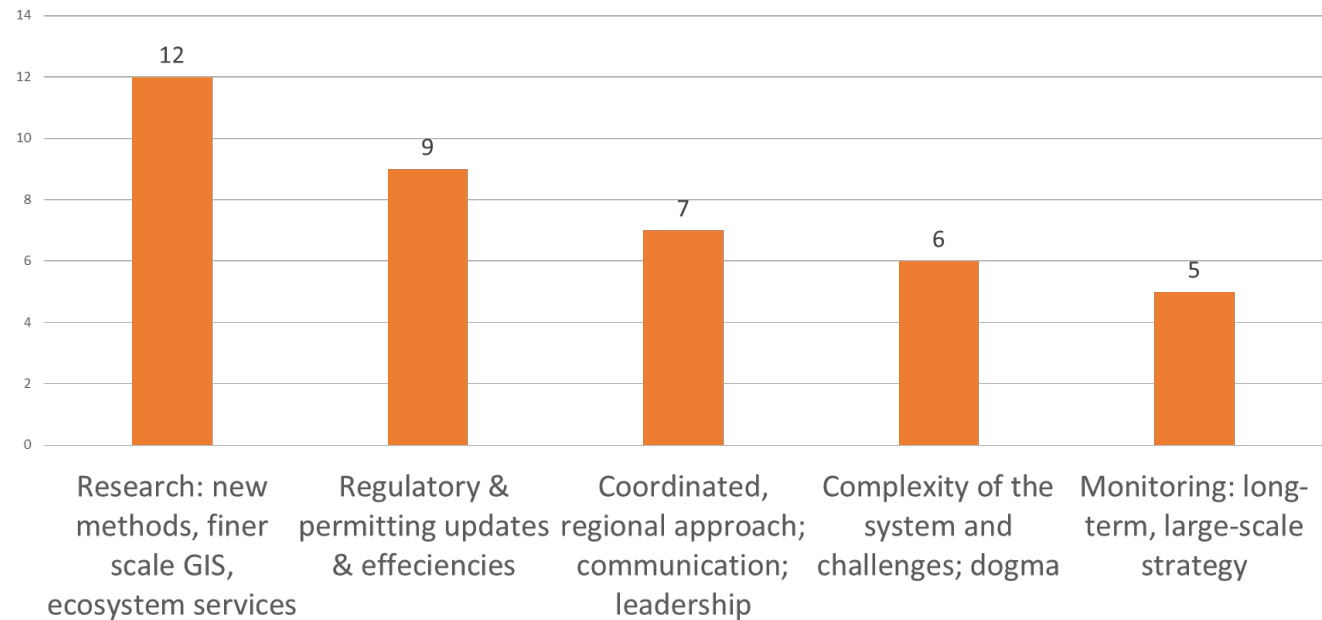
What do you hope to achieve in the next 3-5 years as a result of your work in/on salt marshes?





Challenges

- (Outside of funding)
 - Research needs given complexities of the system
 - Barriers to undertaking projects
 - Coordination
 - Long term monitoring and data needs





Top Research & Management Priorities

- Marsh impairment identification and characterization
- Identify areas for prioritized conservation, restoration, and land acquisition
- Strategies to support restoration, protection, and persistence of marshes
- Provide information to citizens
- Communicate and organize coordinated strategic climate adaptation actions

Next Steps

- Compile monitoring protocols – Google doc
- Story Map - work being done in the region (who, what, where)
- Inform *Blueprint for Tidal Marsh Resilience in Massachusetts*
- Next meeting - Nov 1
- Ignite talks on participant research (future meeting)
- New members



Thank You!

