

SAV Workgroup Meeting

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Submerged Aquatic Vegetation and Shallow Water Use Conflicts

February 17, 2021

Shallow water use conflicts arise when we have two or more goals, outcomes, or interests competing for the same space....

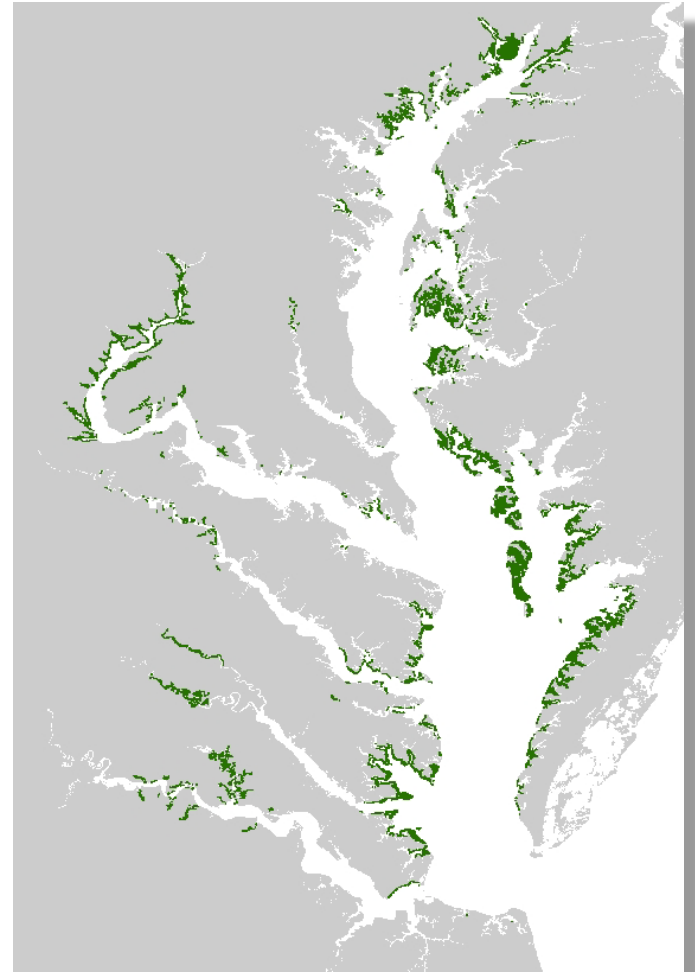


SAV Outcome:

Sustain and increase the habitat benefits of SAV in the Chesapeake Bay. Achieve and sustain the ultimate outcome of 185,000 acres of SAV Bay-wide necessary for a restored Bay. Progress toward this ultimate outcome will be measured against a target of 90,000 acres by 2017 and 130,000 acres by 2025.



SAV inhabits the nearshore shallow waters of the Bay and its tributaries





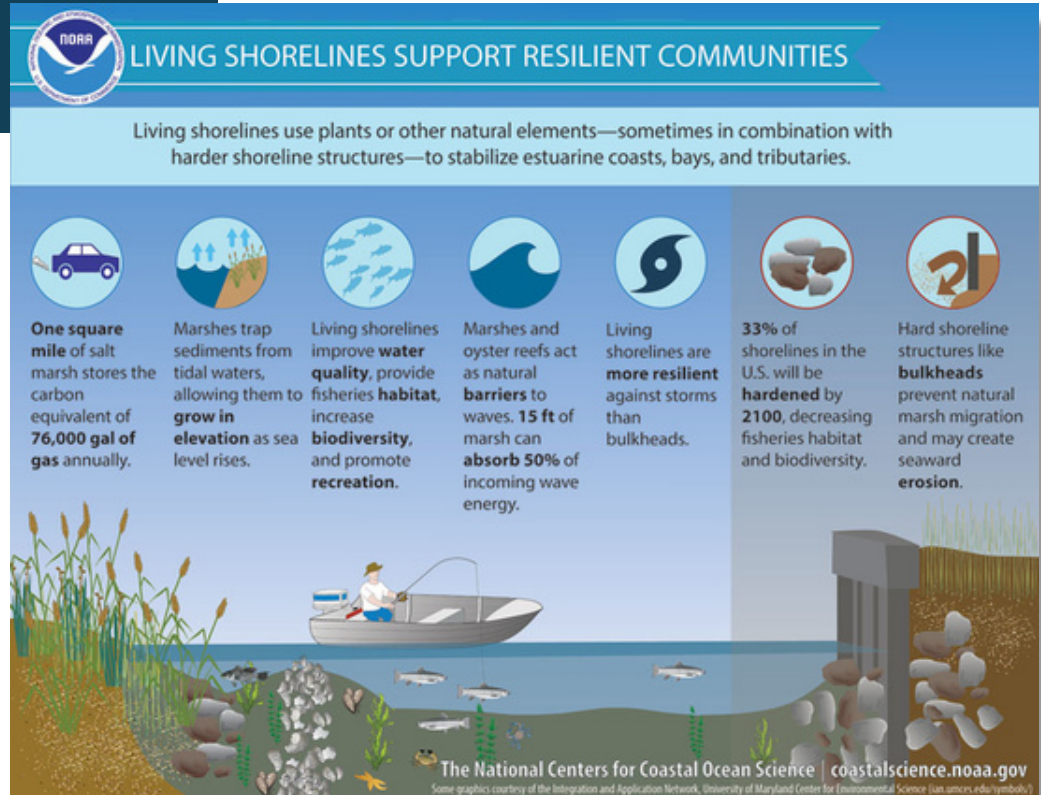
Shallow Water Use Conflicts

1. Aquaculture
2. Shellfish Harvesting
3. Recreational boating
(and the removal of SAV
to access docks, piers,
and marinas)
4. Living Shorelines



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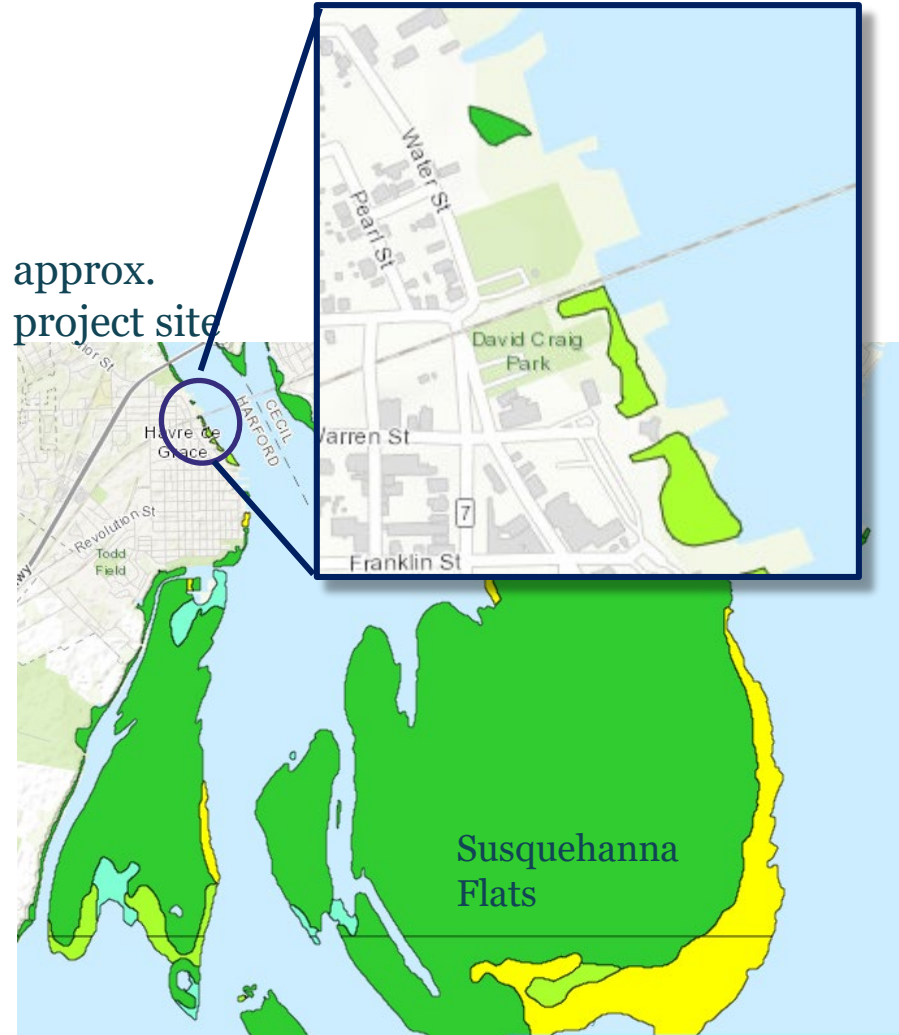


Case Study

Water St. Living Shoreline Project, Havre de Grace, MD

Details about project
redacted for online
publication

approx.
project site





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**How do we assess habitat
trade-offs?**

How can we do it better?

-Taking a hard line approach to SAV impacts sometimes misses the bigger picture of overall habitat restoration and protection.

-Trade-offs will continue to be necessary as we work through increasing shallow-water use conflicts

-Each project is unique, with pros/cons to be considered when evaluating impacts versus overall project goals and benefits.

- We don't want to set a precedent that it's acceptable to impact SAV while at the same time recognizing that sometimes the good outweighs the bad.



Moving forward

Ideas for further discussion and consideration:

SAV Workgroup meeting specifically
on this topic

STAC Workshop proposal

???