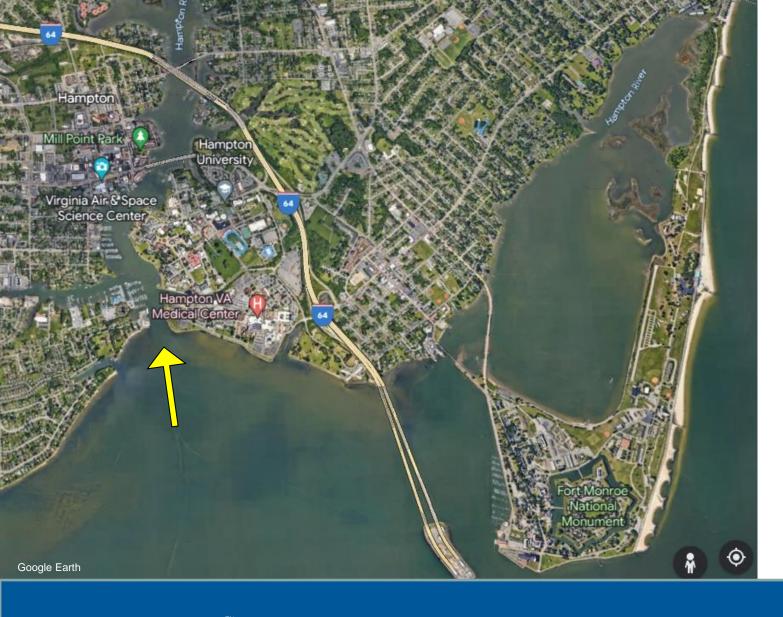


# Oyster Restoration in Virginia's Hampton River

Chris Moore, CBF
Amira Layeni,
Hampton University
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Hampton University







**Small Estuarine River** 

Watershed Completely in One Municipality

Highly Developed Watershed

Limited Completed Restoration Activities

Significant Marina and Seafood Landing Facilities



Background



September 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Old Point National Bank 101 E Queen St, 6th Floor, Hampton, VA 23669

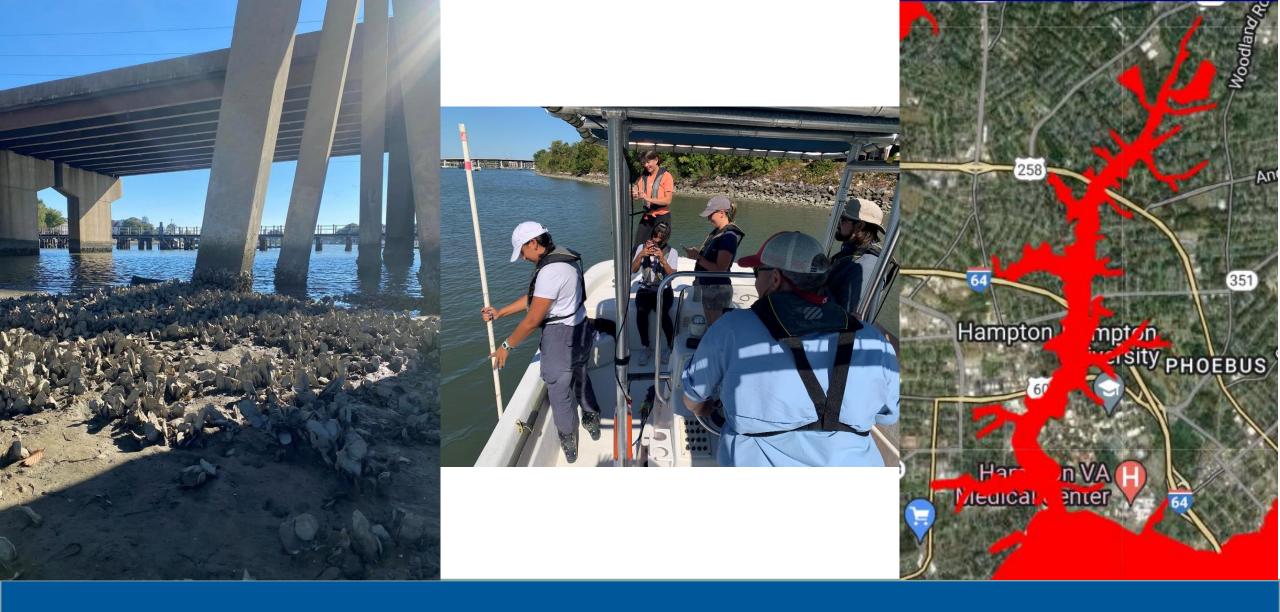


Why This Watershed



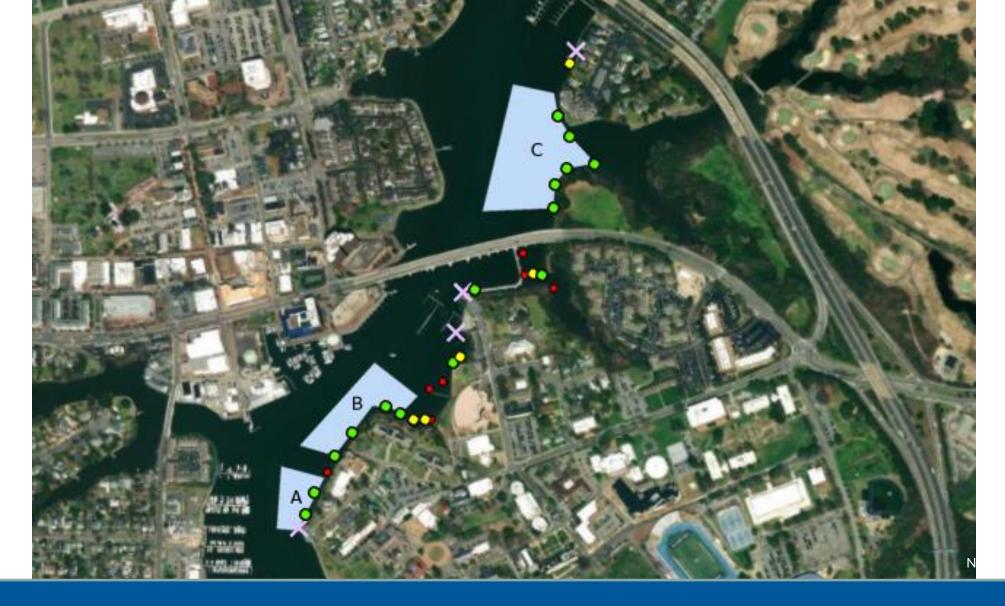


Restoration Resources



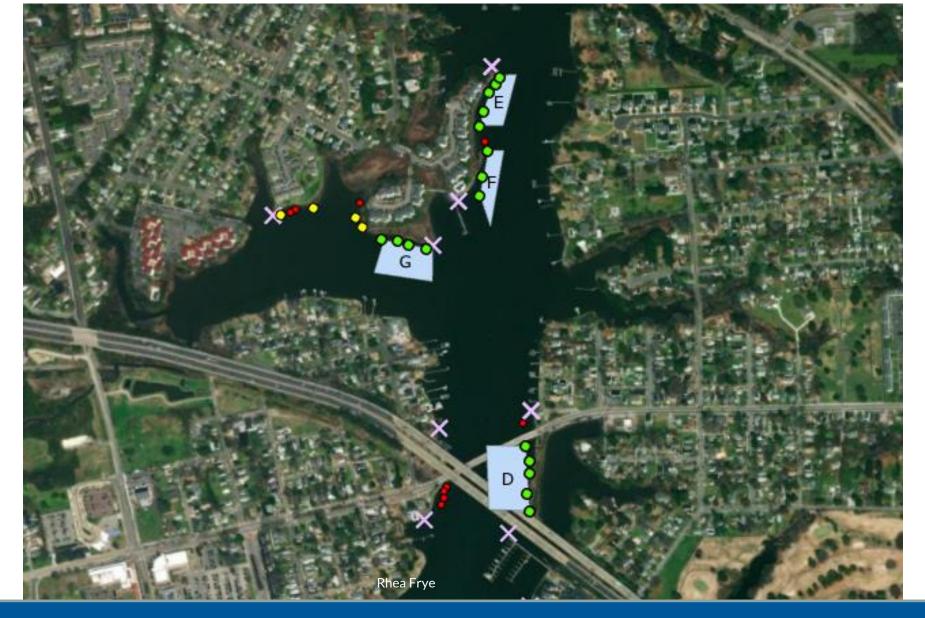


#### **Current Conditions**





Hampton River Restoration Investigations





#### Hampton River Restoration Investigations

- Raised in Katy, Texas
- BS in Biology con Ecology/ Environmental Science from WV Wesleyan College
- MS Student in Marine & Environmental Science
  - NOAA LMRCSC Fellow





**Amira Layeni** 



- NCAA DII Women's Basketball
- WE LEAD Animal Welfare & Sustainability
- Held positions in
  - Student Senate
  - Black Student Union
  - Tri-Beta

- Reforestation research
- Water quality research

Why Hampton?



Experience

- NOAA Living Marine Resource Cooperative Science Center (LMRCSC)
- Reustle Estuarine Ecology Lab (REEL)
- Shored Up
  - Oyster Paddle
  - Media Event
    - Oyster Advocacy: Hampton
       University is Getting REEL With
       Oyster Research
  - Shellebration Celebration
- CBF
  - COA Oyster Symposium
  - VoiCeS
- HU interdisciplinary group







### Discovery and quantification of plastic particle pollution in human blood

Detection of various microplastics in placentas, meconium, infant feces, breastmilk and infant formula: A pilot prospective study

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Shaojie Liu<sup>a 1</sup> ⋈, Jialin Guo<sup>c 1</sup> ⋈, Xinyuan Liu<sup>a 1</sup> ⋈ Pongyun Sun<sup>a</sup> ⋈, Bo Chen<sup>a b</sup> ⋈, Ruih
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Microplastic pollution in deep-sea sediments and organisms of the Western Pacific Ocean ☆

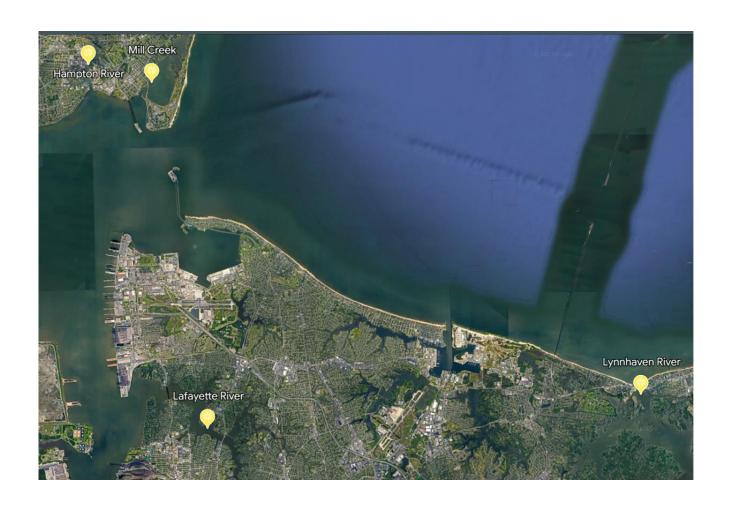




## Thesis Project: Quantifying abundance and polymer types of microplastics found in different sample types

- Eastern oyster (C. *virginica*) tissue
- reef-water
- oyster reef sediment

ASLO Multicultural Program 2023







- From Puerto Rico

- Swimmer, hiker, reader

 Bachelor's in Biology: University of North Carolina at Greensboro

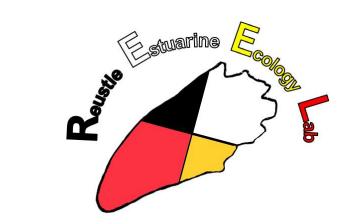




- Freshwater aquatic ecology research
- Urban vegetation research
- Marine ecology research
- National Ecological Observatory
   Network (NEON) Database- SFS
   Emerge Program
- Conferences:
  - ASLO & SFS Joint Meeting 2020
  - SFS Meeting 2021
  - JASM 2022
  - ASLO Multicultural Program 2023
- REU Coordinator









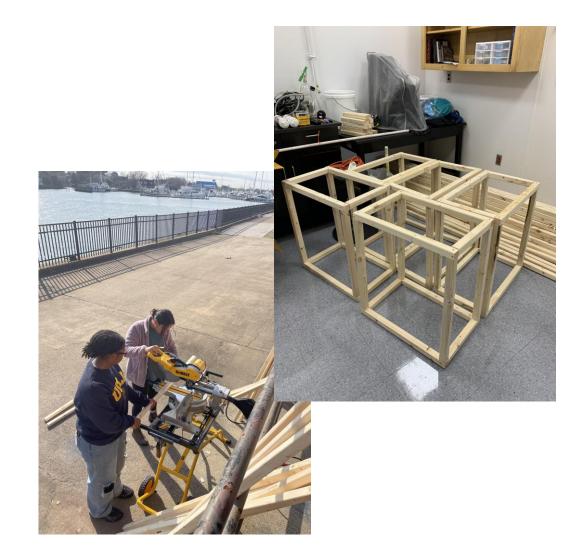
- NOAA LMRCSC Fellow
- Courses
- Outreach activities
  - Shored Up HOP
  - Shored Up Shellabration
  - HU Admitted Students Day





- Thesis Project: Assessment of topdown strengths in urbanized temperate oyster reefs
  - Long term study
  - Top-down strengths
    - Caging experiment
    - Consumption/Tethering

Basically, how important are the predators in a short, urbanized, and polluted system?







- Thesis field work!
- NOAA TAB Grant Proposal
- Collaboration with Shored Up
  - HOP
- NOAA LMRCSC NERTO















Thank you!