

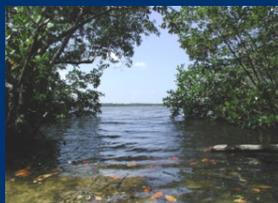
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas
Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve



Restoring the Rookery Bay Estuary: A project connecting people and science for long-term community benefit

*Presented by
Tabitha Whalen Stadler, Project Manager*



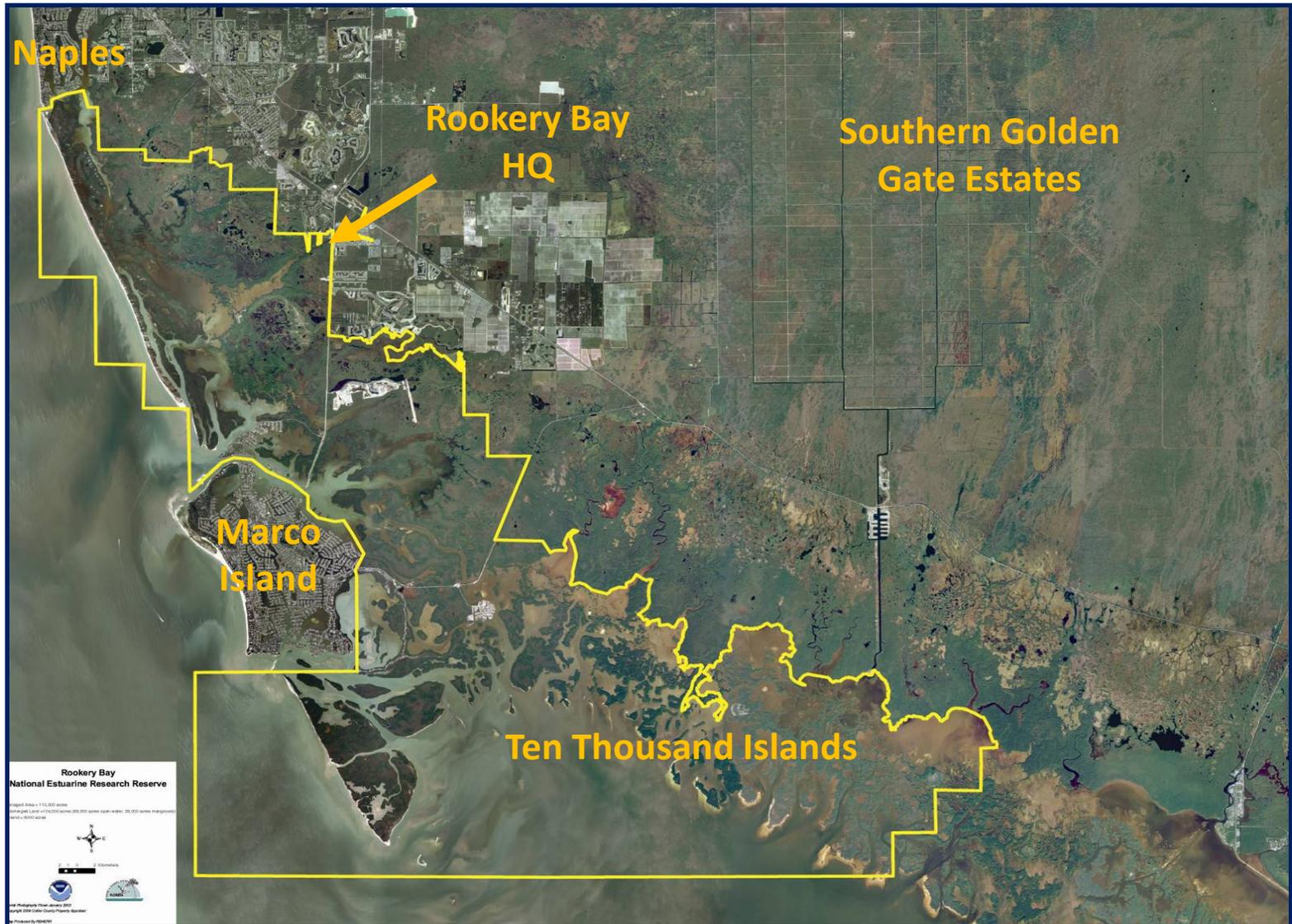


Rookery Bay Reserve



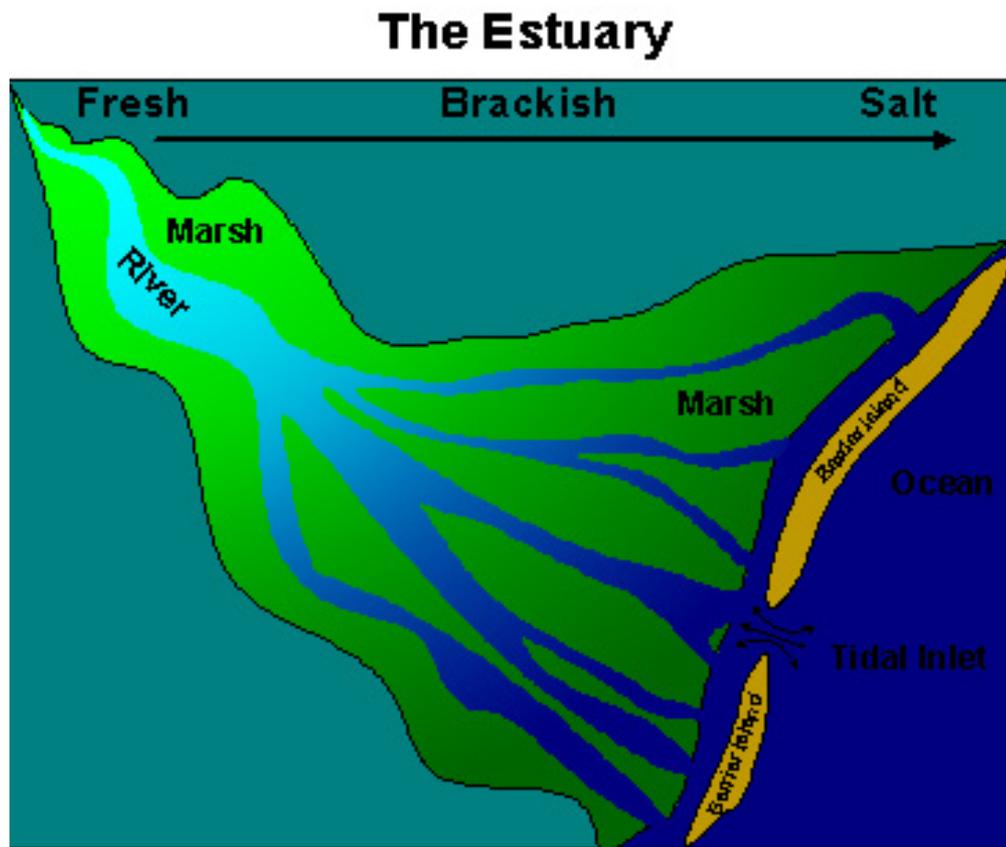
Mission: Promoting informed decisions about coastal and environmental resources through research, education and stewardship.

Rookery Bay Reserve's 110,000 acres

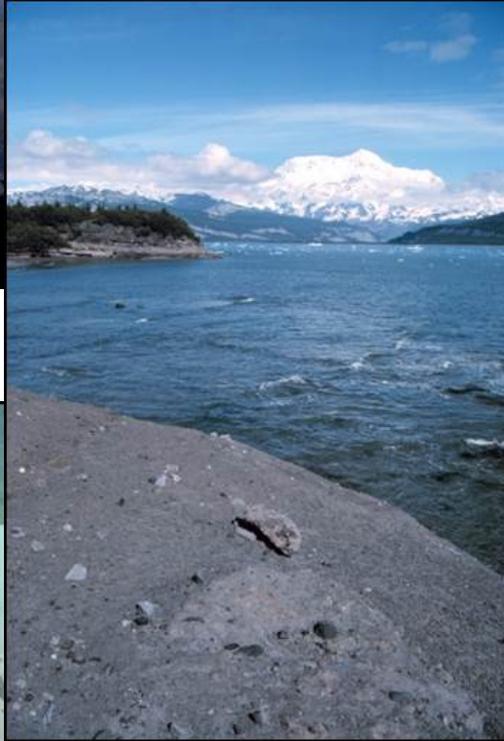


What is an estuary?

- Where rivers meet the sea
- Where fresh water and salt water mix
- Fish and shellfish nurseries
- Filters runoff
- Drives the economy



What is an estuary?





Recreational Fisheries

- Florida anglers spend \$4.95 billion on fishing expenditures annually

In Collier County:

- 20,000 saltwater fishing licenses sold annually totaling \$600,000 (est.)
- Shellfish and finfish: four million pounds harvested annually, \$3 million (est.)
- Over 22,000 registered boaters
- Boating industry grosses over \$200 million in annual economic impact



Tourism generates an average of \$1 billion each year for Collier County

- Water Quality
- Water Quantity
- Timing of Water





2009 Imagery Provided By Collier County Property Appraiser
Map Produced By Rookery Bay NERR
For Illustrative Purposes Only

Old aerial photos inform restoration by providing insights on historic conditions.

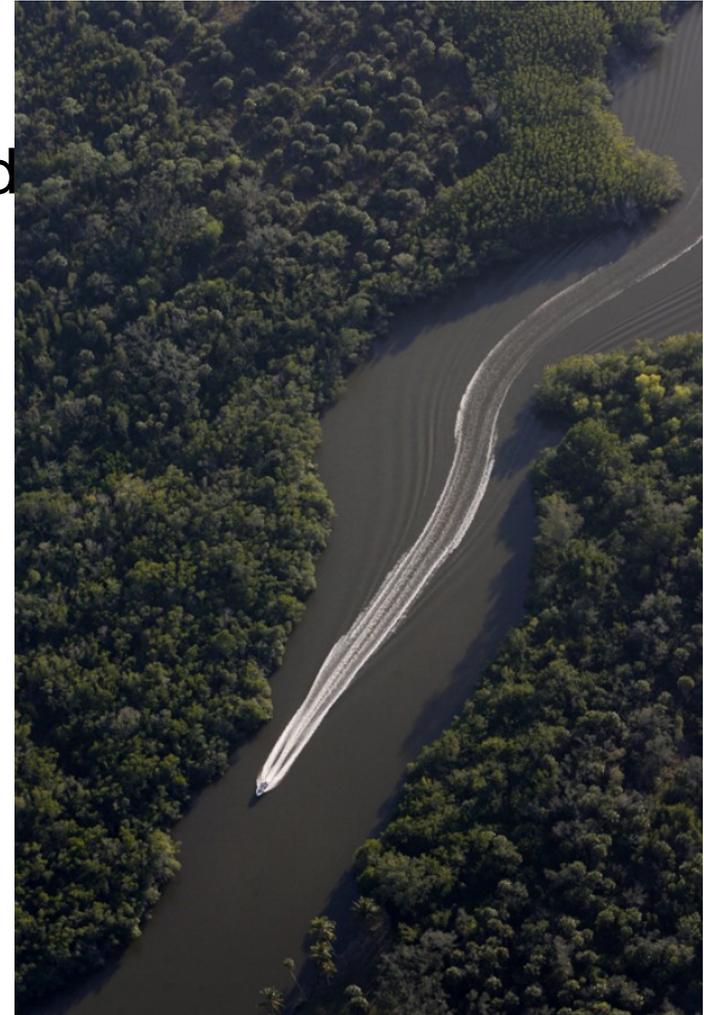


RESTORING THE ROOKERY BAY ESTUARY

A PROJECT CONNECTING PEOPLE AND SCIENCE FOR LONG-TERM COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

- \$815,000 to Rookery Bay Reserve
- NOAA Science Collaborative funded
- Ends June 1, 2015
- Five Pieces, in two phases
 - Modeling
 - Ecological
 - Social Science
 - Partnerships
 - Outreach and Education





Modeling



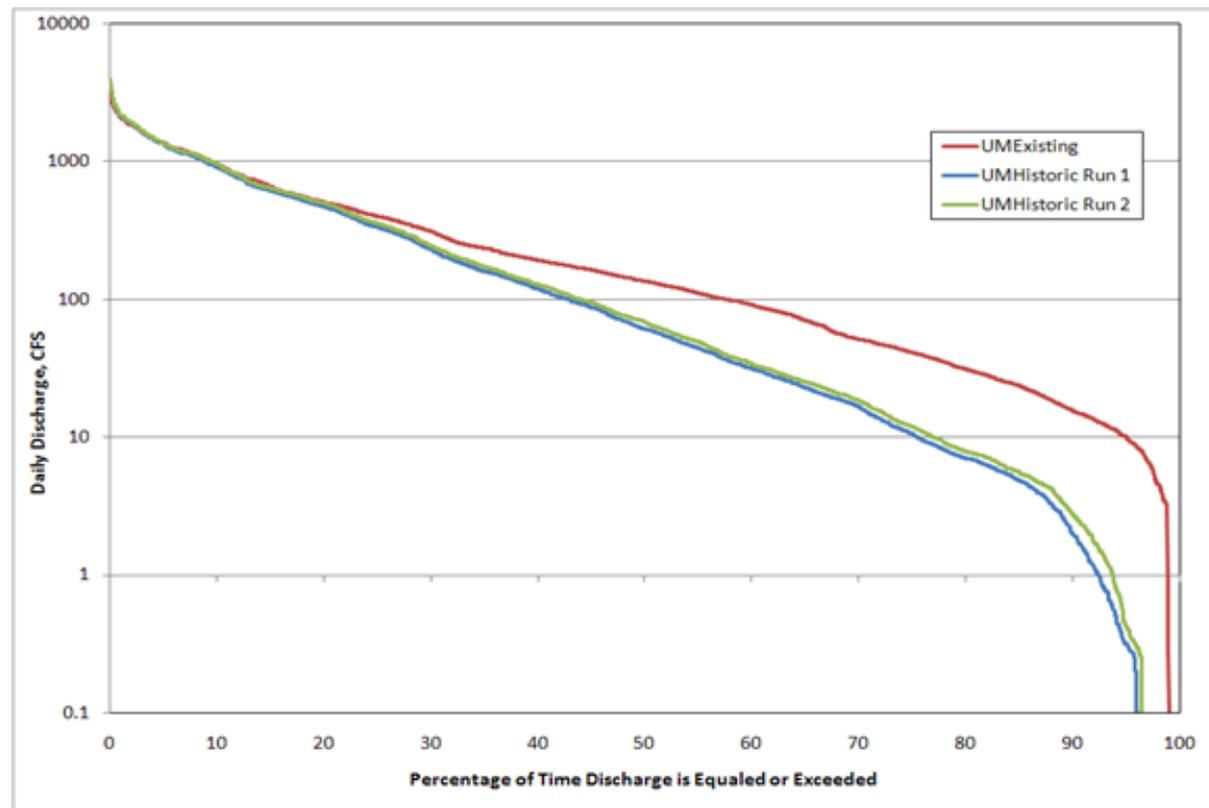
Phase I

- Local scale
- Natural conditions
- Current conditions

Phase II

- Scenarios

Myakka River Flow Duration Graph Comparison



Phase I

- Literature review
- Data analysis



Phase II

- Choose indicators
- Determine monitoring or restoration activities



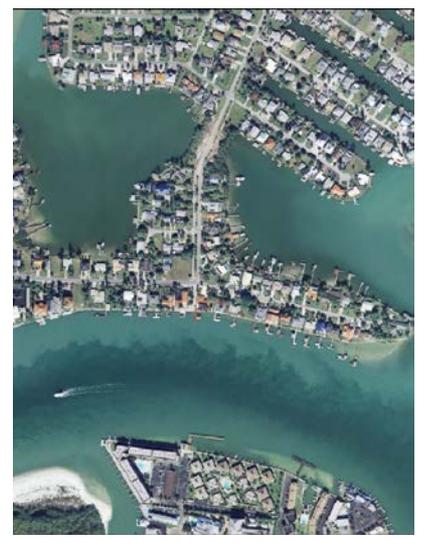
Phase I

- Literature review
- Local interviews



Phase II

- Education/Outreach



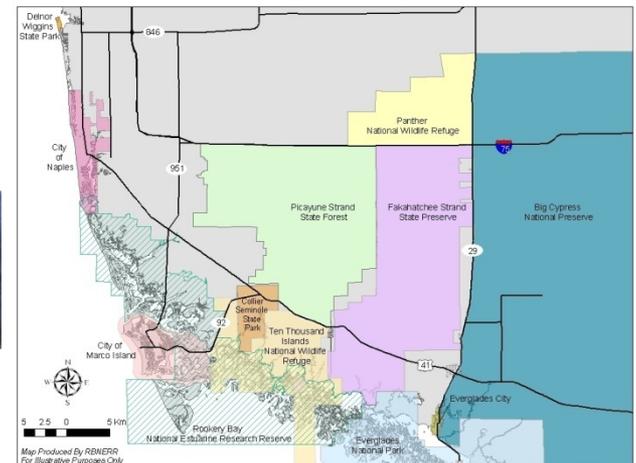
Partnerships

Phase I

- Project Advisory Group
- Presentations

Phase II

- Identify on-going projects



Project Advisory Group

- Big Cypress Basin, SFWMD
- City of Naples
- City of Marco Island
- Collier County
- FDEP DEAR
- Audubon of Florida
- Conservancy of SWFL
- Rookery Bay Reserve
- Taylor Engineering
- RWA/Robau & Assoc.
- Interflow Engineering
- Scheda Ecological
- Nova Southeastern University





*Rookery Bay is yours to explore, enjoy and protect.
Thank You!*

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