



Hammond Cove Shoreline Restoration Plan

Located south of Harding Ave
between Pennyfield Ave and Longstreet Ave,
at the confluence of the East River and the Long Island Sound,
in the Borough of the Bronx

Community Meeting
September 16, 2025

Parks

Agenda and Meeting Goals:

- Introductions - who we are and what we do
- Scope, goals, and timeline
- Review of existing conditions at Hammond Cove
- Proposal for ecological restoration work
- Discussion
- Next steps

FIGURE 1
NYC’s Land Cover: 41% of NYC Is Green

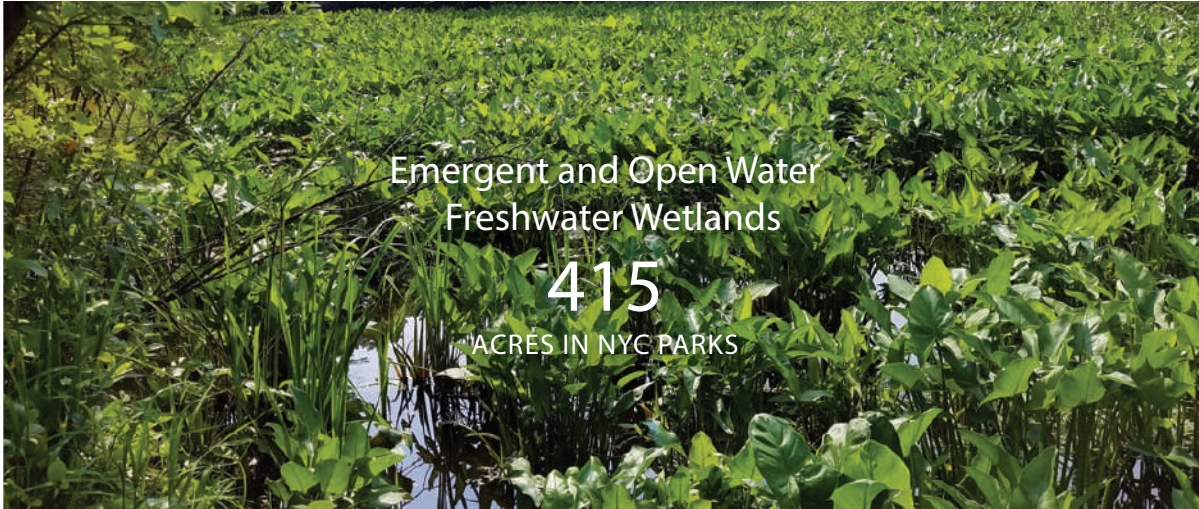
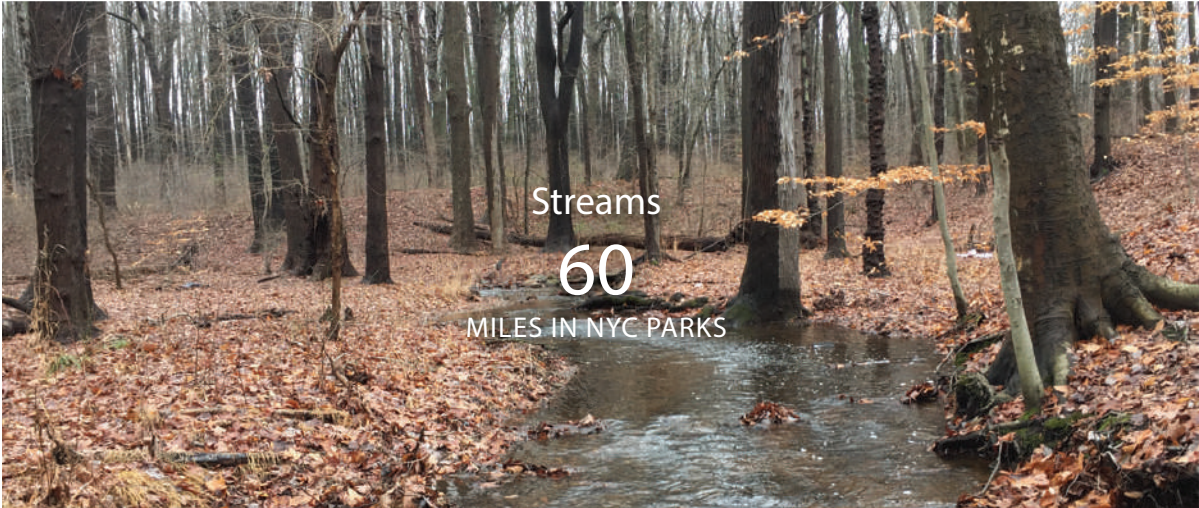


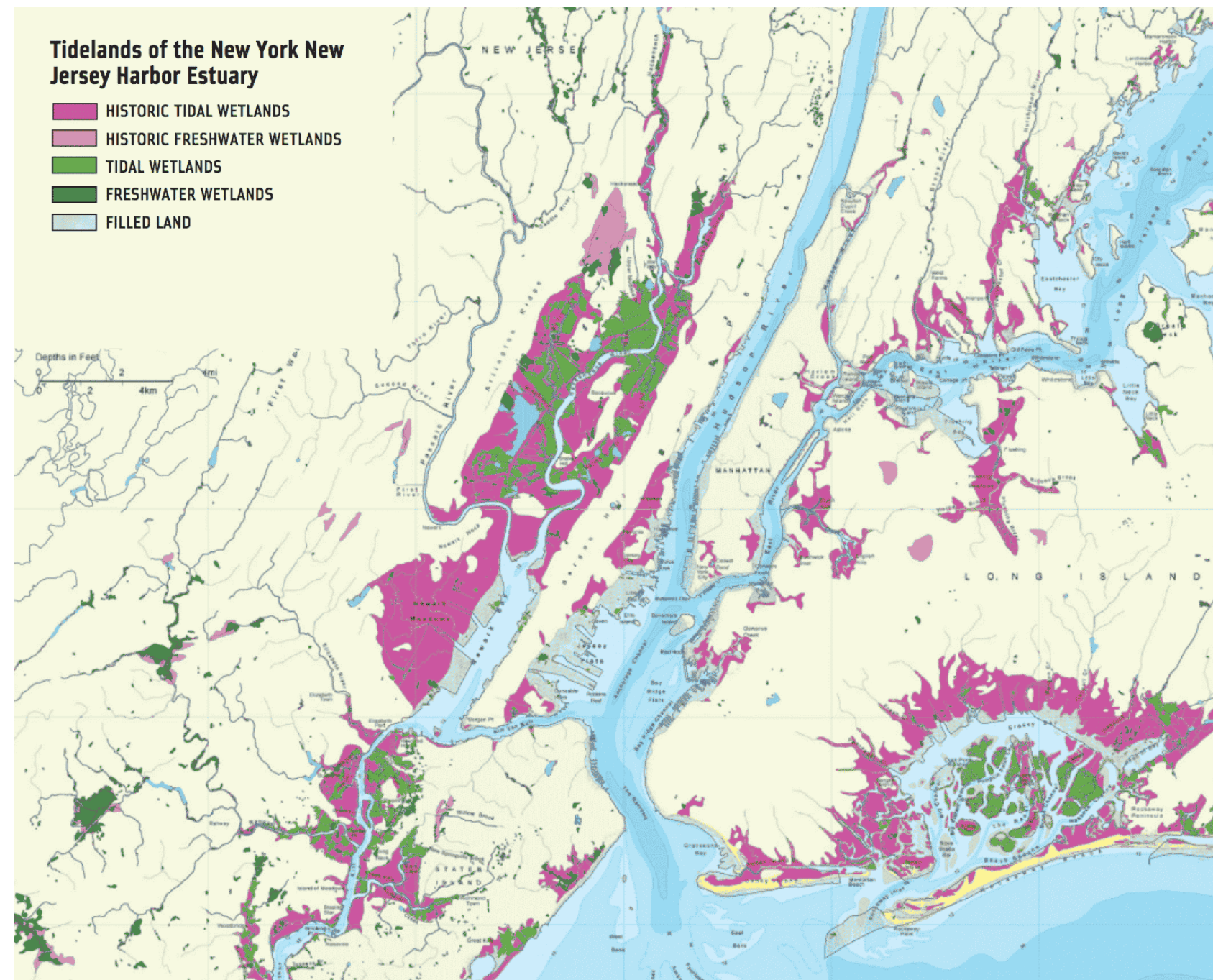
FIGURE 2
NYC’s Natural Areas Make Up 12% of the City



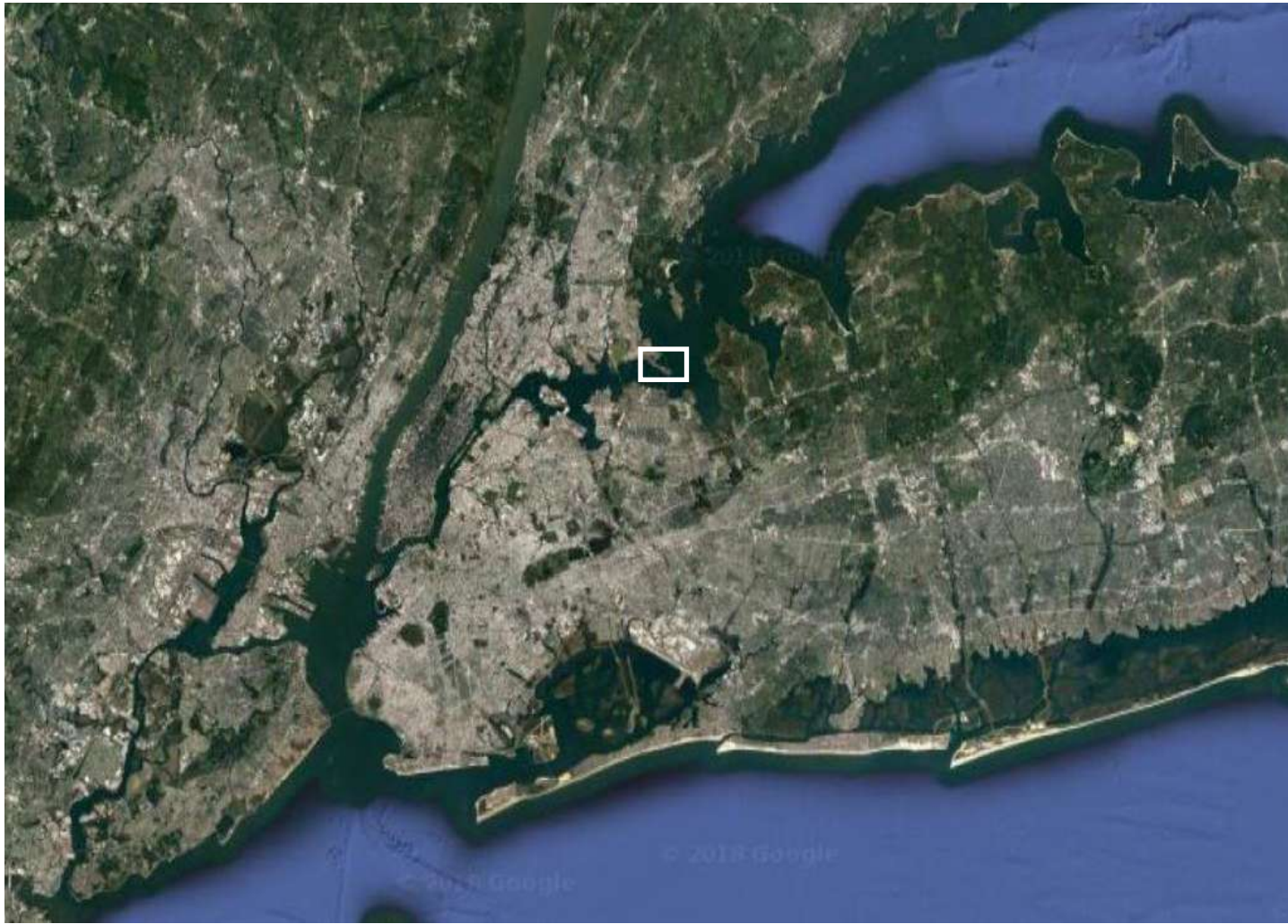
FIGURE 3

Half of NYC’s Wetlands and Streams Are in NYC Parks





source: Regional Plan Association



5 miles



1/4 mile

NYC PARKS PROPERTY

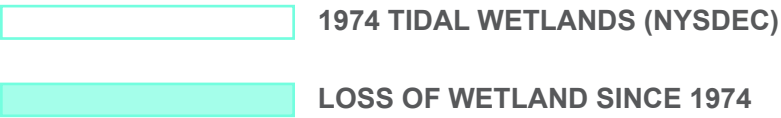


NYC Parks

Hammond Cove, Bronx | Context

Why Hammond Cove?

Hammond Cove was identified as a priority restoration opportunity in an ecologically important area.



Since 1974, low marsh has receded landward an average of more than 30 feet, and has become fragmented. The marsh edge is a steep bank that has been undercut in places.

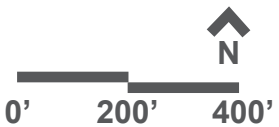
The project area is located within a designated Special Natural Waterfront Area (SNWA). SNWA's are large swaths of complex habitats and natural resources along New York City's waterfront. **This cove is one of the few remnants of original salt marsh along the otherwise armored and developed shoreline of the south-east Bronx.**





Hammond Cove, Bronx | 1924 Aerial

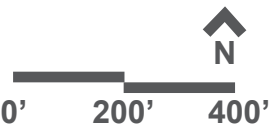
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Hammond Cove, Bronx | 1951 Aerial

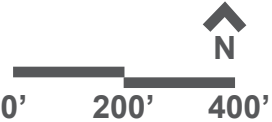
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Hammond Cove, Bronx | 1996 Aerial

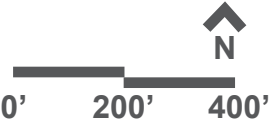
NYC PARKS PROPERTY





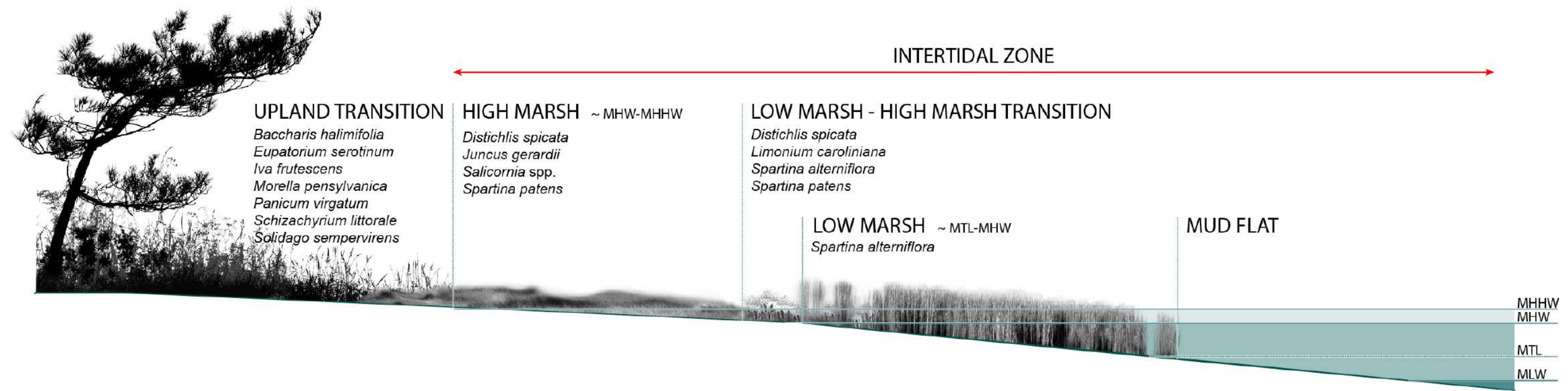
Hammond Cove, Bronx | 2024 Aerial

NYC PARKS PROPERTY



Wetland Habitat

Typical profile of salt marsh plant communities









Hammond Cove, Bronx | Existing Conditions



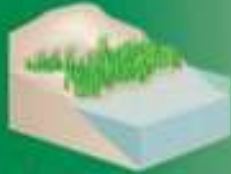
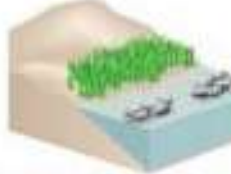
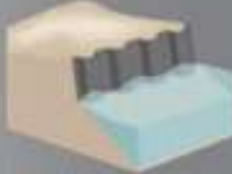
Hammond Cove, Bronx | Existing Conditions





What is a living shoreline?

A protected and stabilized shoreline that is made of natural materials such as plants, sand, or rock.

GREEN - SOFTER TECHNIQUES			GRAY - HARDER TECHNIQUES		
Living Shorelines			Coastal Structures		
					
VEGETATION	EDGING	SILL	BREAKWATER	REVETMENT	BULKHEAD
Provides a buffer to upland areas and breaks small waves.	Added structure holds the toe of slope in place.	Parallel to vegetated shoreline, reduces wave energy, and prevents erosion.	(Vegetation optional) Offshore structures intended to break waves, reducing the force of wave action, and encouraging sediment accretion.	Lays over the slope of the shoreline and protects it from erosion and waves.	Vertical wall parallel to the shoreline intended to hold soil in place.
Suitable for low wave energy environments.	Suitable for most areas except high wave energy environments.	Suitable for most areas except high wave energy environments.	Suitable for most areas.	Suitable for sites with existing hardened shoreline structures.	Suitable for high energy settings and sites with existing hard shoreline structures.

source: NOAA



LIVING SHORELINES SUPPORT RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Living shorelines use plants or other natural elements—sometimes in combination with harder shoreline structures—to stabilize estuarine coasts, bays, and tributaries.



One square mile of salt marsh stores the carbon equivalent of **76,000 gal of gas** annually.



Marshes trap sediments from tidal waters, allowing them to **grow in elevation** as sea level rises.



Living shorelines improve **water quality**, provide fisheries **habitat**, increase **biodiversity**, and promote **recreation**.



Marshes and oyster reefs act as natural **barriers** to waves. **15 ft** of marsh can **absorb 50%** of incoming wave energy.



Living shorelines are **more resilient** against storms than bulkheads.



33% of shorelines in the U.S. will be **hardened** by **2100**, decreasing fisheries habitat and biodiversity.



Hard shoreline structures like **bulkheads** prevent natural marsh migration and may create seaward **erosion**.



source: NOAA

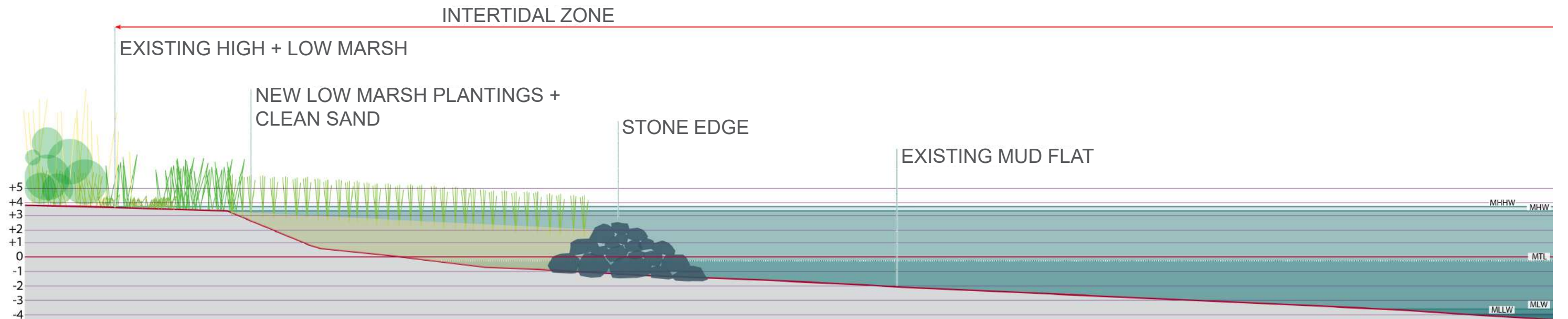


EXISTING MARSH CONDITION



PLANTING WITH STONE EDGE

Source: Southern Environmental Law Center



INSTALLATION OF CLEAN SAND, PLANTINGS, AND STONE EDGE TO STABILIZE ERODING SHORELINE



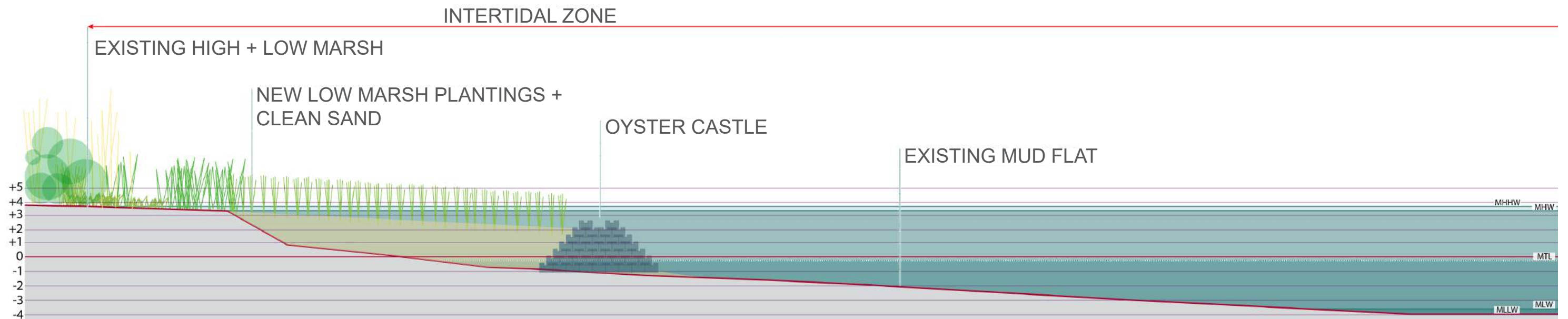


EXISTING MARSH CONDITION



PLANTING WITH OYSTER CASTLES

Source: National Science Foundation / Bo Lusk, TNC



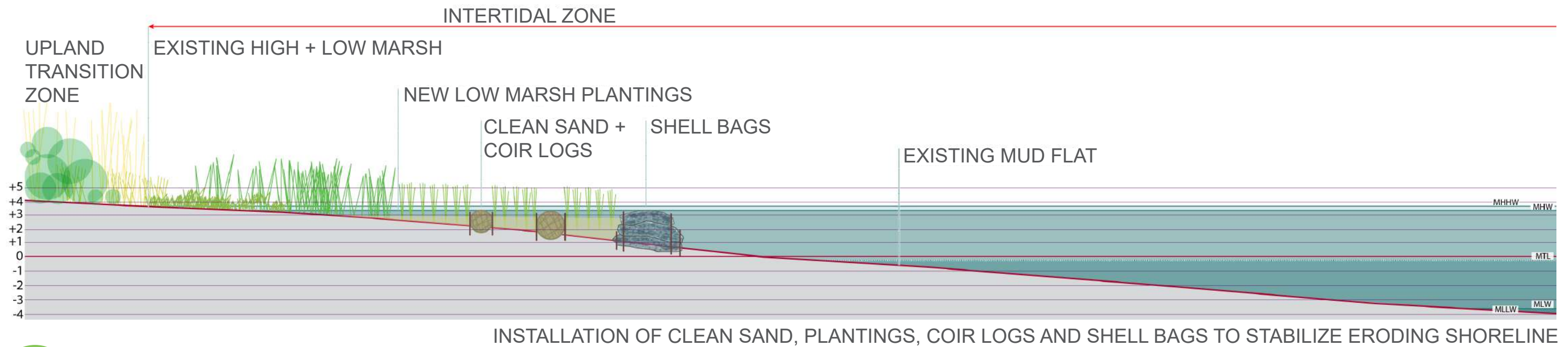
INSTALLATION OF CLEAN SAND, PLANTINGS, AND OYSTER CASTLES TO STABILIZE ERODING SHORELINE



EXISTING MARSH CONDITION



COIR LOG AND SHELL BAGS
Source: DelawareLivingShorelines.org





May 2010



June 2010



June 2011

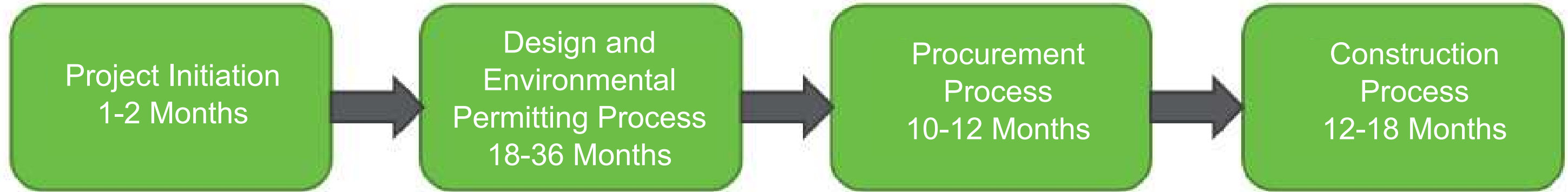
Installation of coir logs to stabilize eroding shoreline

photo credit: Partnership for the Delaware Estuary



Natural Areas Restoration Project Timeline

The timeline for a typical capital project is between 30-45 months. For projects requiring environmental permits, an additional 12-18 months may be added to the timeline.



- Fully funded
- Designer assigned
- Community Input meeting

- Conceptual design
- Schematic design
- Contract documents
- Approvals, reviews
- Preparation and reviews of environmental permits

- Legal reviews
- Bid reviews and determination
- Comptroller approval

- Pre-construction and on-site meeting
- Construction work date set
- Subcontractor approvals
- Change orders and overruns
- Inspections
- Planting windows and contractor warranties

Volunteer with NYC PARKS STEWARDSHIP

Join NYC Parks Stewardship to explore and restore New York City's Natural Resources. Volunteers help to conserve and protect forests, wetlands and local street trees!

Contact Us:

www.nycgovparks.org/reg/stewardship

Stewardship@parks.nyc.gov



Hammond Cove, Bronx | NYC Parks Stewardship



Installation of coir logs to stabilize eroding shoreline
photo credit: Mike Shanahan, CoastalResilience.org



Community based oyster restoration project, North Carolina
photo credit: NOAA

Thank you!

**Any questions or additional thoughts,
please reach out to:**
katerine.borrome@parks.nyc.gov



Hammond Cove, Bronx | Next Steps

