

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) Edgewater, MD

Working Land & Seascapes (WLS)

A team of Smithsonian scientists working together with regional stakeholders to identify conservation needs, generate scientific information, and combine resources to aid in the protection of the environment.



Smithsonian
Institution

RAPPAHANNOCK WORKING LAND & SEASCAPES

A team of Smithsonian scientists with a variety of specialties spanning from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Chesapeake Bay

Bird Diversity

Land Use

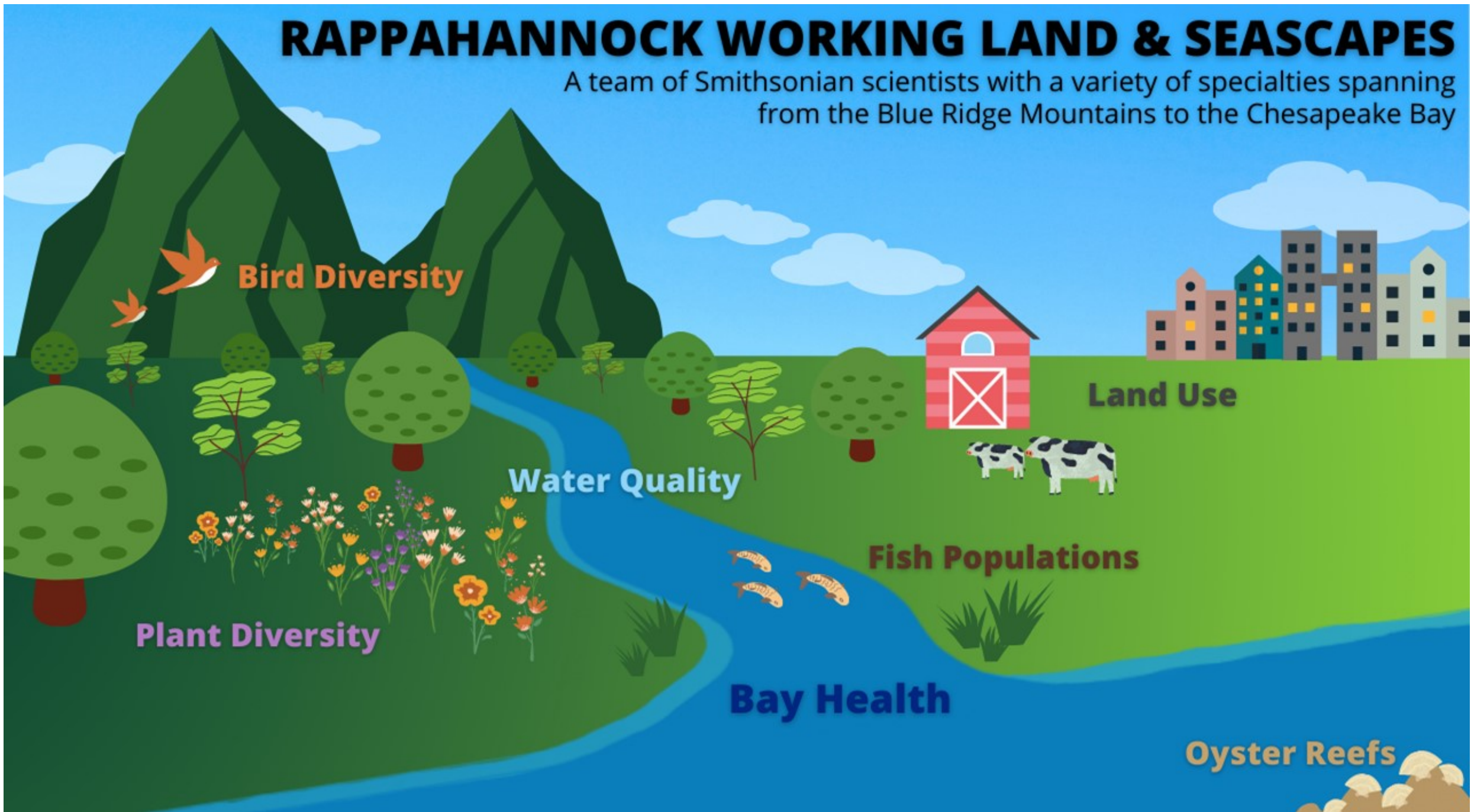
Water Quality

Fish Populations

Plant Diversity

Bay Health

Oyster Reefs



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Bird Diversity

Water Quality

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1. **Prioritize** mutual conservation needs, co-design research, and share results with existing networks
2. **Examine** how land use change influences biodiversity and ecosystem services
3. **Develop** indicators (e.g. plants, birds, and migratory fish) to track these influences

Smithsonian Rappahannock Working Land and Seascapes

Kim Komatsu - community ecology,
rangeland/agroecosystems

Amy Johnson - avian ecology,
grassland biodiversity conservation

Iara Lacher - landscape ecology, plant
ecology, macroecology

Matt Ogburn - fisheries, estuarine
and marine ecology

Amy Hruska - forest ecology, conservation
biology

Allison Tracy - marine community ecology

Henry Legett - animal behavior, fisheries

Meredith Hickman - communications

Julie Luecke - public engagement

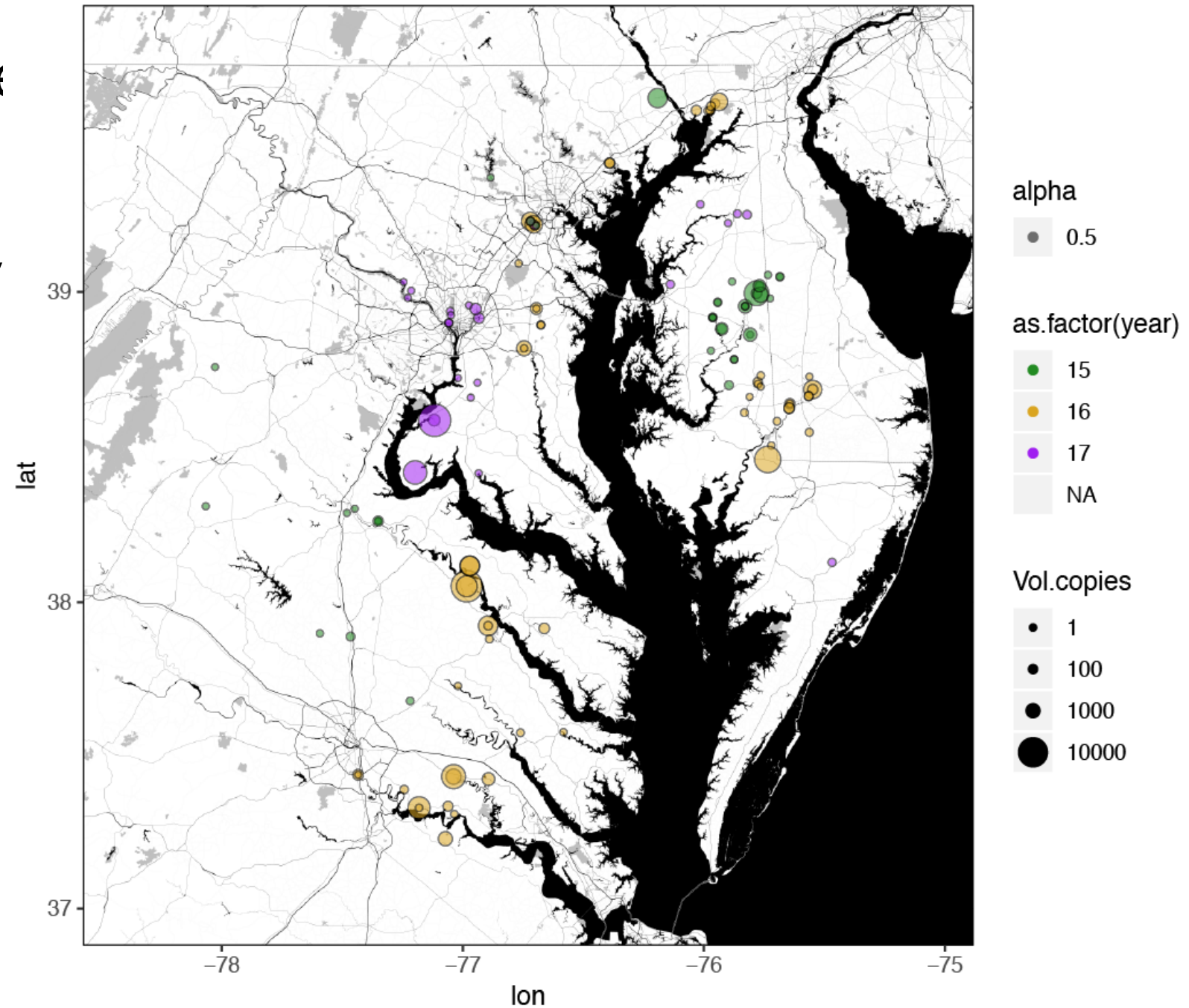
River Herring research projects

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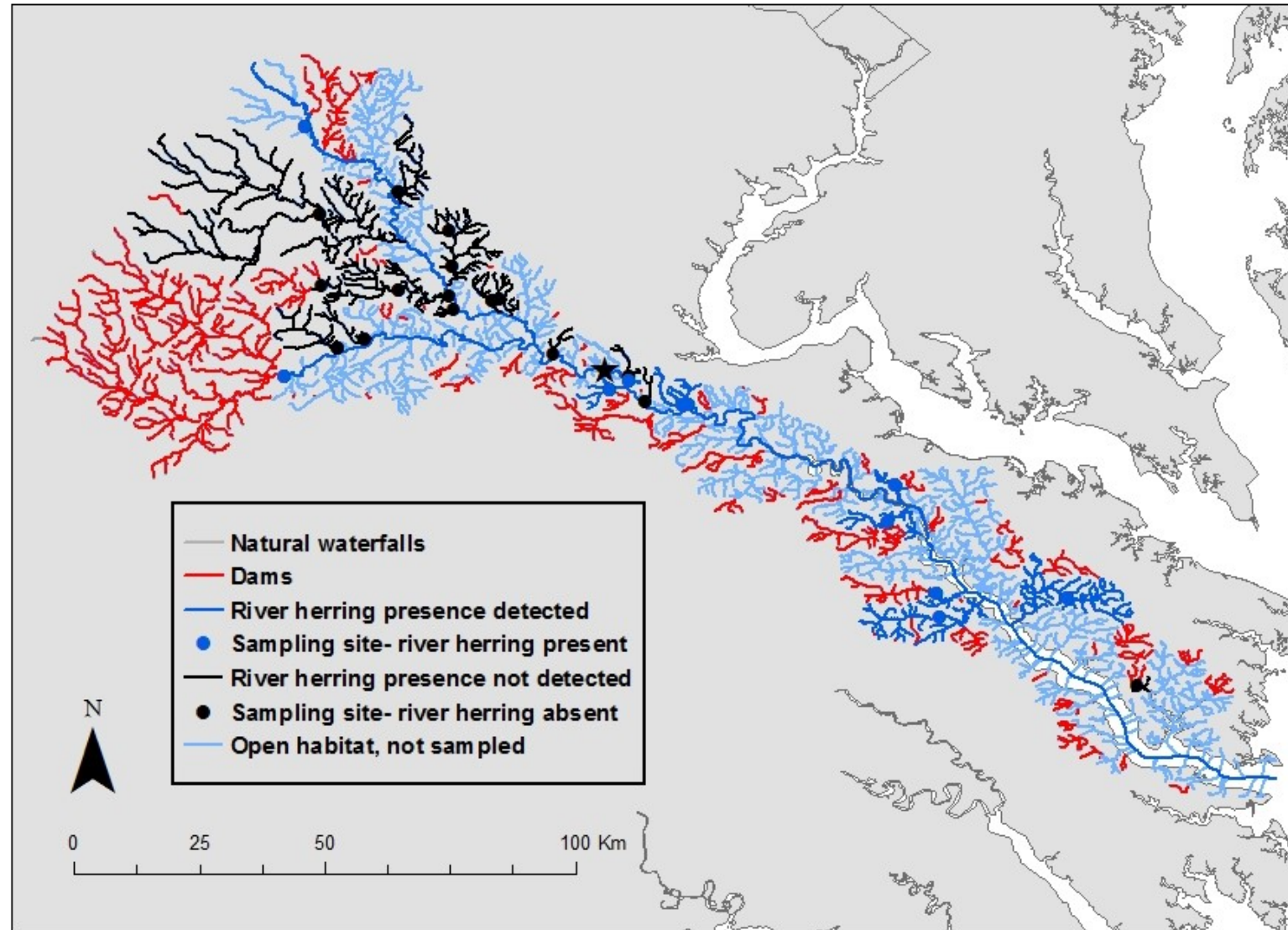
Bay-wide: Plough et al. 2018



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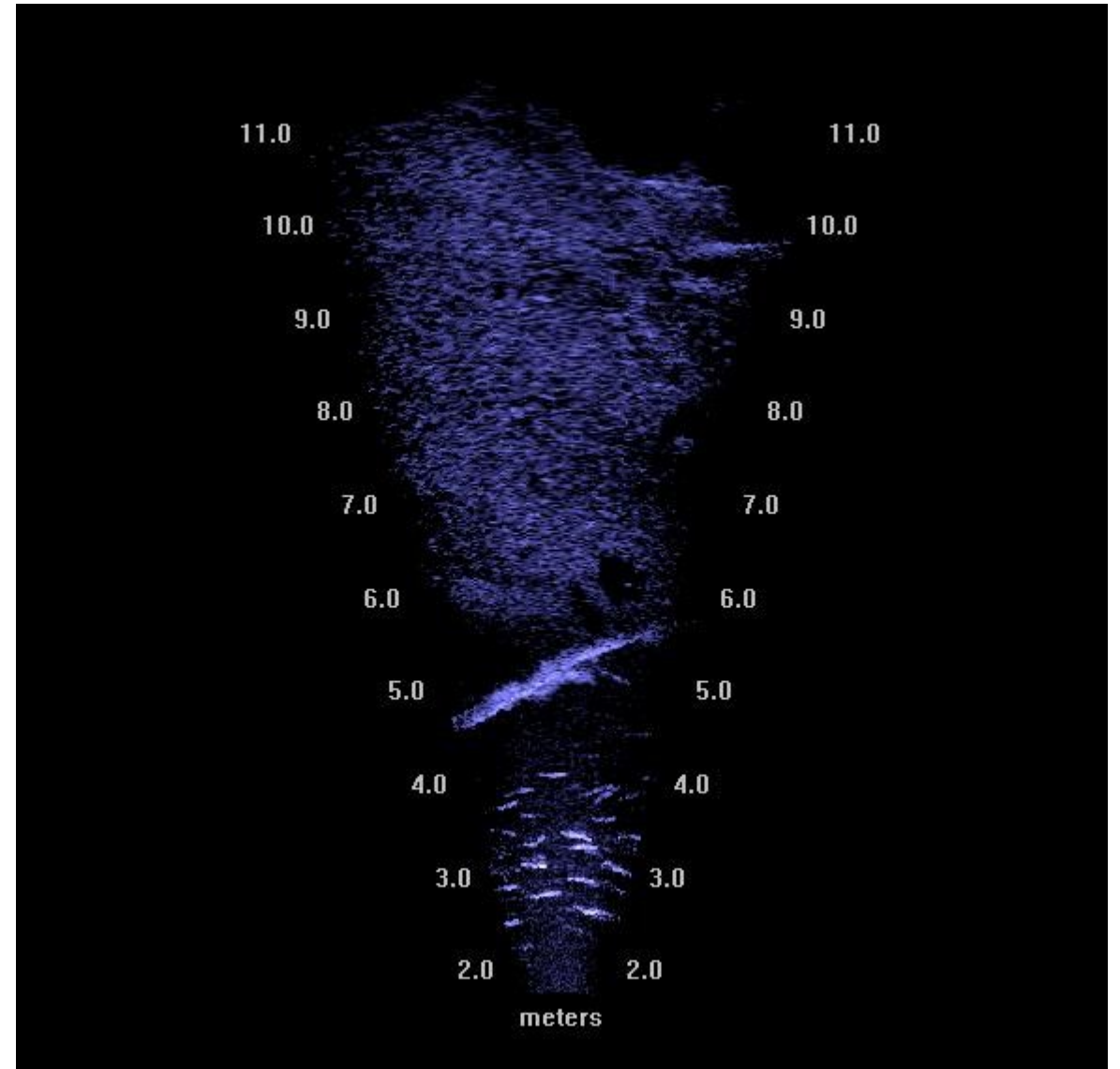


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2. Using counts of herring migrating upstream to study phenology.

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4. Restoring aquatic connectivity
(2018 Bloede Dam removal)



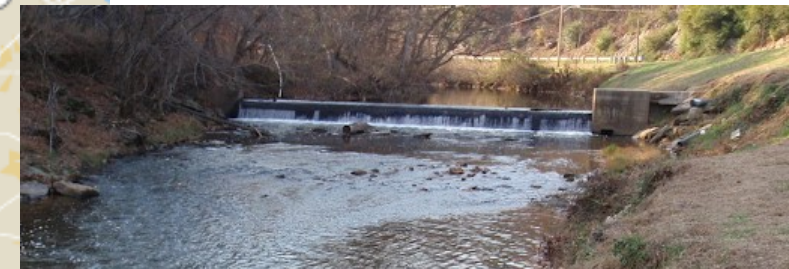
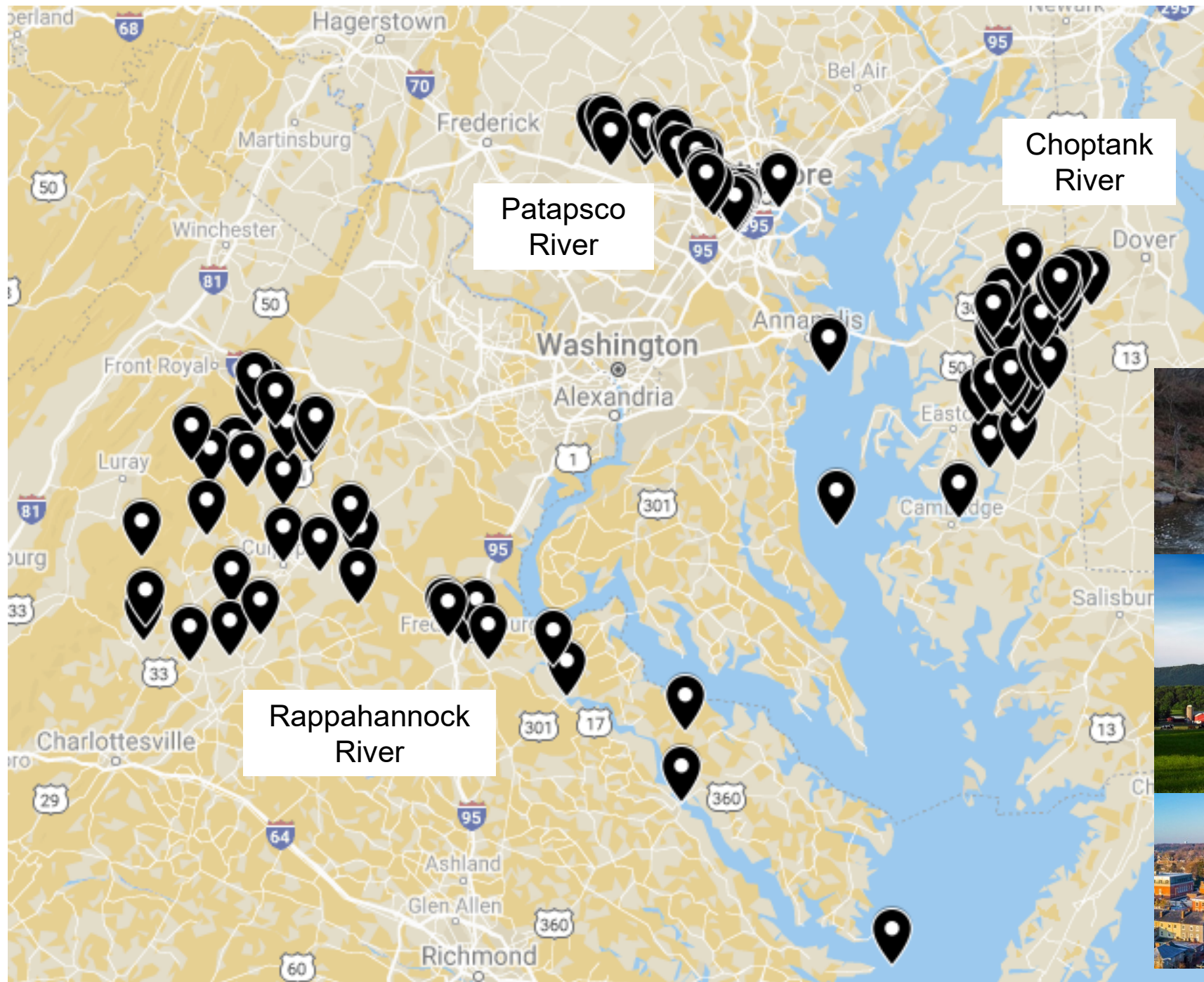
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5. Water temperature regimes of Chesapeake rivers
(Choptank, Patapsco, Rappahannock)





Discussion points

- Questions about WLS and River Herring work
- Needs, interests, and values of the Rappahannock Tribe
- Existing datasets
- Additional contacts, broader meeting with RappWLS?