Capitalizing on Coastal Blue Carbon

The Conference Center at Massasoit Community College – Brockton, MA | May 12-13, 2015

This conference is organized by the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Waquoit Bay Reserve Foundation, and the Bringing Wetlands to Market: Nitrogen and Coastal Blue Carbon Project partners.

CONFERENCE LOCATION: The Conference Center at Massasoit Community College 770 Crescent Street, Brockton MA 02302

DIRECTIONS & LODGING INFO: http://www.massasoit.mass.edu/conference_center/

CONFERENCE QUESTIONS & AVAILABLE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS:
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COASTAL BLUE CARBON: New Guidance & Tools for Coastal Managers & Policymakers

Results of the Bringing Wetlands to Market Project and Related Research and Implications for Wetlands Conservation and Restoration in New England and Beyond
SESSION 1: Why Blue Carbon Matters to New England

Keynote - Blue Carbon: A New Tool for the Coastal Manager and Policymaker’s Toolkit – David Yoskovitz, Ph.D., Chief Economist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration


SESSION 2: Innovations in Blue Carbon Science: Findings from the Bringing Wetlands to Market Project

Bringing Wetlands to Market: Nitrogen and Coastal Blue Carbon – Bridging Science, Policy, and Management – Tamra Marie Surgeon Rogers, Coastal Training Program Coordinator, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Building a Salt Marsh greenhouse gas budget: Quantifying Emissions in Response to Nitrogen loading – Jianwu (Jim) Tang, Ph.D., Associate Scientist, Marine Biological Laboratory


Examining Relationships Between greenhouse gas fluxes and Plant Zones – Serena Moseman-Valtierra, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Rhode Island

SESSION 3: Blue Carbon Financing: Applications & Tools for Wetlands Conservation and Restoration

Introduction to Coastal Blue Carbon Markets and Carbon Finance – Steve Emmett-Mattox, Senior Director for Strategic Planning, Restore America’s Estuaries

Bringing Blue Carbon to Market: An Introduction to the Tidal Wetland and Seagrass Restoration Methodology and Guidance Document – Steve Emmett-Mattox, Senior Director for Strategic Planning, Restore America’s Estuaries and Steve Crooks, Ph.D., Climate Change Program Manager, ESA, Inc.

A Model to Help You Determine Your Wetland’s Carbon Budget – Omar Abdul Aziz, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Florida International University

Blue Carbon Economics of Salt Marsh Restoration: Herring River Restoration Project Case Study – Irm Walker, Consulting Economist, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences and Tim Smith, Restoration Ecologist, Cape Cod National Seashore

Considerations in Planning a Blue Carbon Project – Steve Crooks, Ph.D., Climate Change Program Manager, ESA, Inc.

Ask the Presenters: Lingering Blue Carbon Questions – Bringing Wetlands to Market Project Team

SESSION 4: Blue Carbon Application Issues Focus: Climate, Sea Level Rise, and Nitrogen

Salt Marsh Response to Sea Level Rise and Implications for Blue Carbon – Meagan Eagle Gonneea, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, U.S. Geological Survey, Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center

Climate and Coastal Resilience: National Policy Opportunities for Coastal Blue Carbon – Ariana Sutton-Grier, Ph.D., Assistant Research Scientist, Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland, and Ecosystem Science Adviser, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Nitrogen Impacts on Marshes: Field and Greenhouse Findings and Implications for Management – Cathleen Wigand, Ph.D., Research Ecologist, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Elevated CO2 and Nitrogen Impacts on Native and Introduced Wetland Plan Communities – Thomas Madison, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Bryn Mawr College

Nitrogen Impacts on Carbon Storage in Wetlands – Jianwu (Jim) Tang, Ph.D., Associate Scientist, Marine Biological Laboratory, Kevin Kroeger, Ph.D., Scientist, U.S. Geological Survey, Serena Moseman-Valtierra, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Rhode Island; Meagan Eagle Gonneea, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, U.S. Geological Survey, Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center

SESSION 5: Hands-On Learning (Mini-Workshops)

Select one

• Modeling greenhouse gas fluxes in wetlands
• Innovations in science and field work from the BWM Project and additional science questions
• Blue Carbon Projects - Examples of policy and projects from around the world
• Communicating and Educating About Blue Carbon

SESSION 6: Hands-On Learning (Mini-Workshops)

Select one

• Applying the tidal wetland and seagrass restoration methodology
• Understanding the economics: Application of the economic analysis
• Innovations in science and field work from the BWM Project and additional science questions (repeat)
• Delving deeper into the “BWM: STEM Curriculum Linking Wetlands and Climate Change”

SESSION 7: What’s Next for Blue Carbon in New England

Panel Discussion – Jon Kachmar, Southeastern Massachusetts Program Director, The Nature Conservancy; Aisling O’Shea, Manager Global Warming Solutions, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs; Tim Purinton, Director, Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration; Kristin Wilson, Ph.D., Research Coordinator, Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve; Moderator: Steve Crooks, Ph.D., Climate Change Program Manager, ESA, Inc.;