

Community Recovery Efforts in Apalachicola, FL

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In Our Time Together....

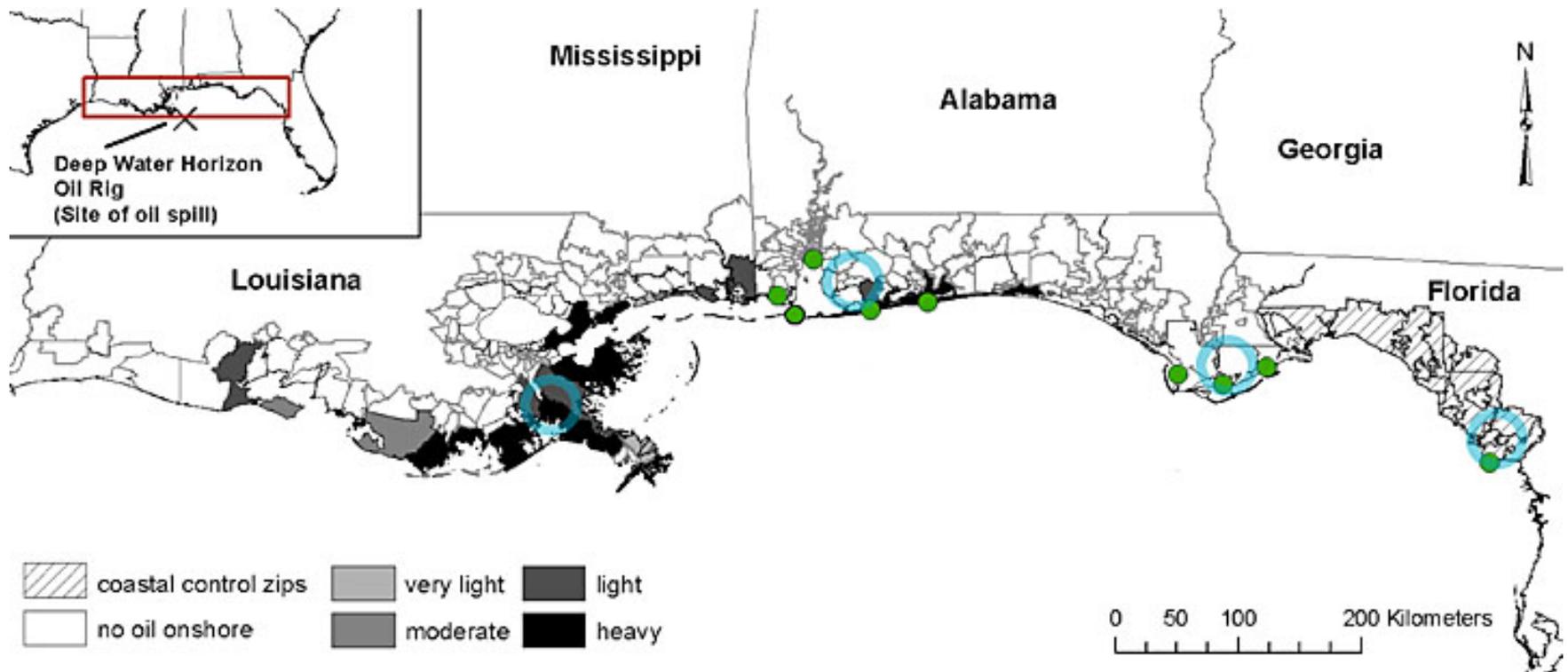
- Background
 - How did we get to Apalach?
- Our Purpose
- Actions to Date
- SMARRT
- Future Research/
Programs



Background – HGHC Project



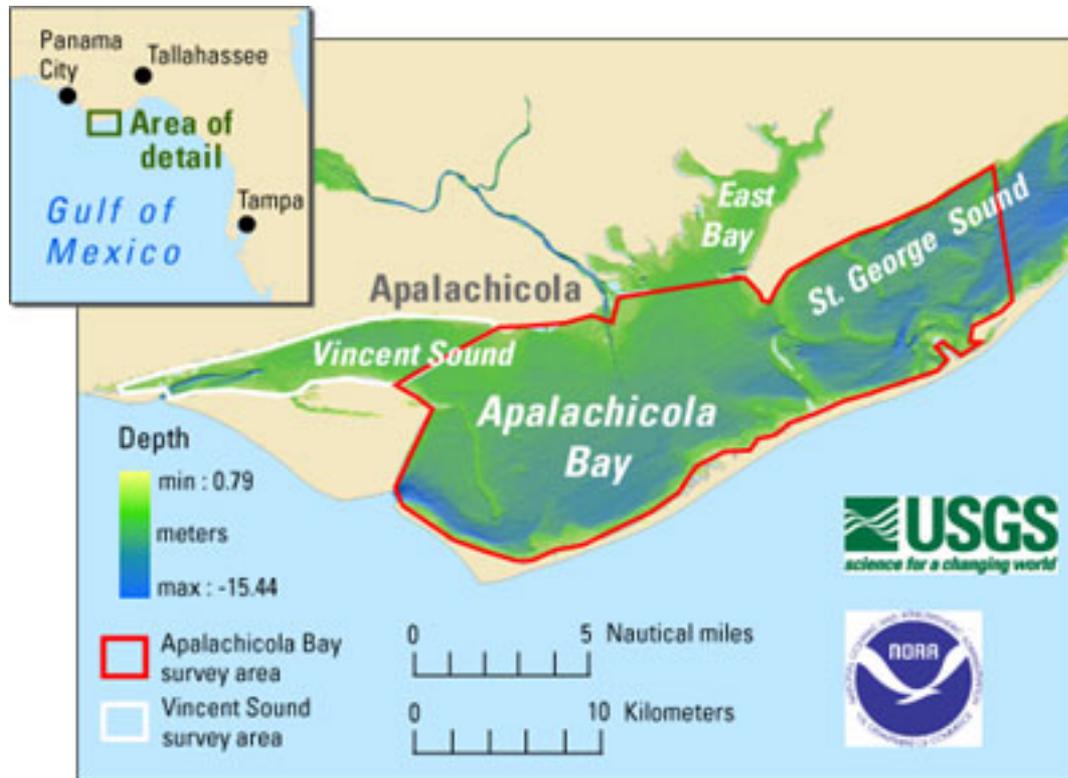
HEALTHY GULF HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



Background – Community Outreach & Dissemination Core

- The purpose of the Community Outreach and Dissemination (COD) Core is to
 - Understand communities in order to develop best practices and materials for dissemination and promotion of research results/findings
 - Coordinate relevant findings into knowledge beneficial to communities
 - Strengthen and develop societal structures in order to empower communities for future disasters

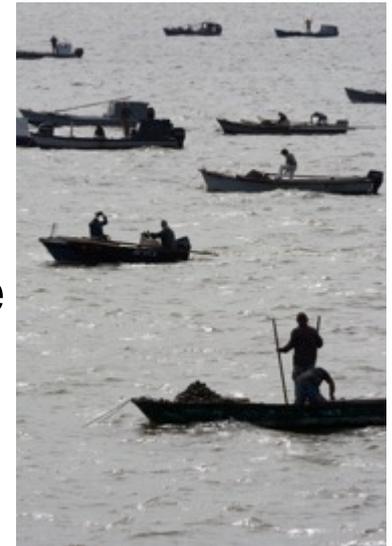
Background – Apalachicola, FL



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- Franklin County Population – 2,260
- Median Household Income - \$20,285
- 25.3% of population are below the poverty line
 - Including 32.4% of the age of 18
- 55% are high school graduates



Background – Apalachicola, FL



- Dependent upon Seafood Industry – Over ½ pop. employed
- Oyster production alone accounts for 90% of Florida's oysters and 10% within continental US



- Multi-year lost due to several hardships in the area

Background – Oyster Recovery Team

- Because of our work in the area, we were asked to join the University of Florida Oyster Recovery Team
- Our Role
 - Working with Sea Grant Florida
 - Help communities understand the science behind these environmental events
 - Use this knowledge to help in guiding the response of the community
 - Monitor communities, and individuals within those communities, and help them come together to deal with the disaster

Purpose

- To continue our CBPR work with a small, resource dependent community facing an economic crisis
 - Assist in mitigating effects of economy within the community
 - Develop communication messages and grassroots efforts to keep community members informed
 - Help in developing best management practices to build resiliency within the community
 - Provide foundation for the community to develop own initiative to influence future policy

Theoretical Frameworks to guide our actions

- Social Vulnerability
 - Factors that make a group more or less able to cope with change
- Increasing community & involving community members can lessen vulnerability & increase resiliency
 - Community Participatory Research



Theoretical Frameworks to guide our actions

- Resiliency
 - Humanity looks to the future and wants what it now values to be there (Martin-Breen and Anderies, 2011)



Our Actions

- Community Meeting
 - Followed by a community listening session
- Developed an Oyster Situation Report
- Community Session to present the Oyster Situation Report to community
 - <https://www.flseagrant.org/wp-content/uploads/>
- Followed up with community in February 2015 to determine their perceptions 3 years later

Our Actions

- Listening Session (October, 2012)
 - What is happening & how are these events affecting you?
 - What are potential solutions to the problem?
- At session, the idea of the Seafood Management Assistance Resource & Recovery Team (SMARRT) was presented
 - Re-directed our efforts (& Research) to best help in the development of SMARRT
 - Community Meeting in December, 2012

About SMART

- About 15 members
- Facilitator with the City of Apalachicola
- Representative of those that make a living off of the Bay

- Oystermen
- Crabber
- Shrimpers
- Fishing guides
- Dealers
- Local Association Representatives
- Fishermen
- Clammer

About SMARTT

- 100% Consensus
- Work with partners (gov't, nonprofits, universities, etc.) to ensure the sustainability of the Apalachicola Bay
 - Proposals
 - Programs
 - Requests
 - More reactive than proactive right now but starting to evolve
- First meeting in January 2013 (monthly meetings)

Current Efforts with SMARRT

- Team Development/Leadership training
 - Opinion leaders
 - Overcome personal agendas & history
 - Betterment of the community
 - Make decisions as a whole
 - Take action
- Serve as a Resource
 - Attend monthly meetings
 - Take meeting notes
 - Assist with Governance structure
 - Help in directing efforts for overall goals

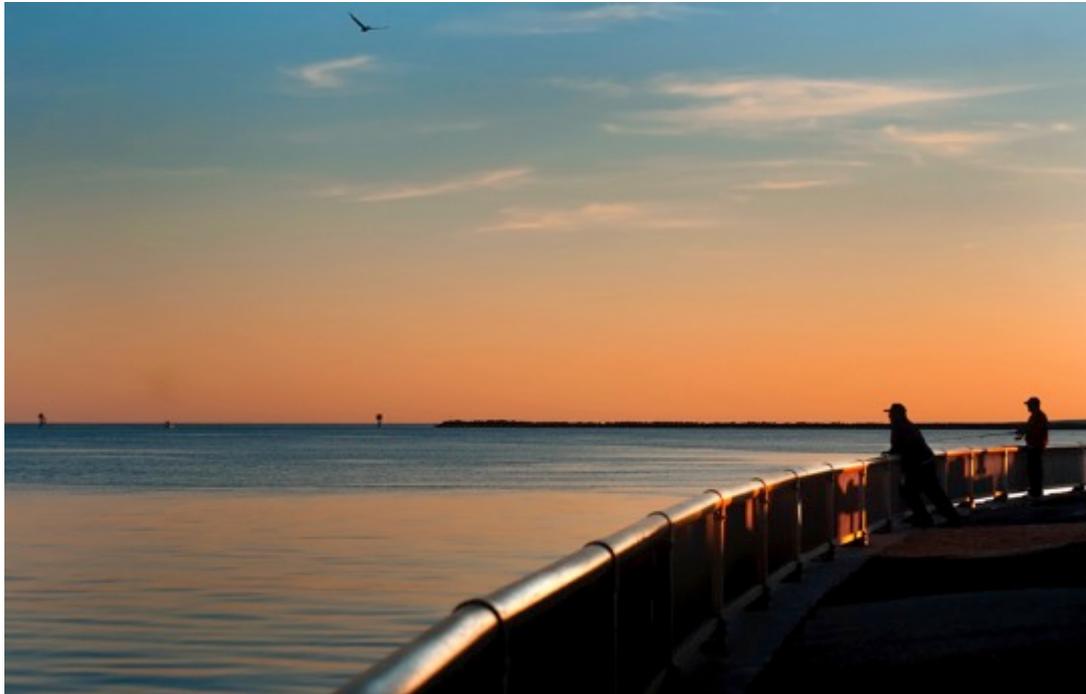


SMARTT Current & Future Work

- Shelling Research grant with Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Grant proposals
- Program Development
- SMARTT Governance
- SMARTT & Community members are engaged in research projects (Dr. Kane)
- Moving ahead, gap and NEED (& want) to collaborate regionally – BMPs, resources, TEAM

Thank You!

Happy to Answer Any Questions!



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