

THE KERR MCGEE SITE

DRAFT RESTORATION PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Public Information Session
Kerr McGee Natural Resource Trustee Council

November 6, 2019 – Navassa, North Carolina



Natural
Resource
Damage
Assessment
and
Restoration

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Introductions
- Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR)
- Overview of Kerr McGee NRDAR Case
- Proposed Restoration Projects, Public Involvement and Next Steps



Sturgeon Creek, Navassa, NC

THE TRUSTEES

- Are authorized by law to act on behalf of the public to restore resources and services injured by a release of hazardous substances
- Conduct NRDAR process

NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEES



NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES



UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

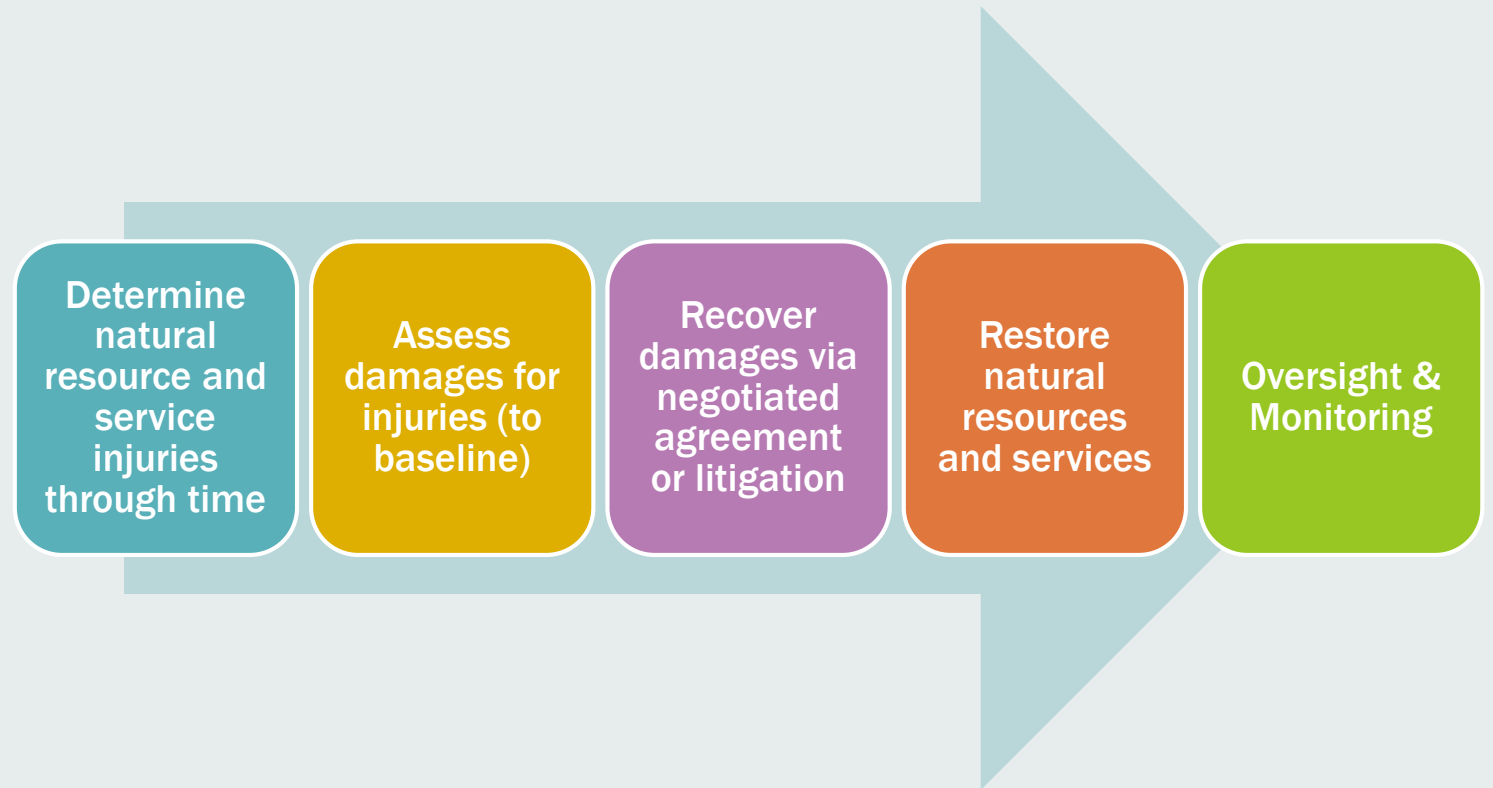


NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

WHAT IS NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT & RESTORATION (NRDAR)?

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION IS . . .

- Led by Trustees
- A legal and scientific process, defined in federal regulations, to determine the amount and type of restoration to offset injuries
- Conducted parallel to, and continuing after, the spill response or release
- NRDAR's goal is to restore injured resources and services



NRDAR IS NOT . . .

- Compensation for human health or economic losses
- A fine, penalty, or enforcement action
- Part of response or removal actions (aka – cleanup)
- Mitigation



*****THIS MEETING IS NOT ABOUT CLEAN UP OF THE KERR MCGEE SITE**

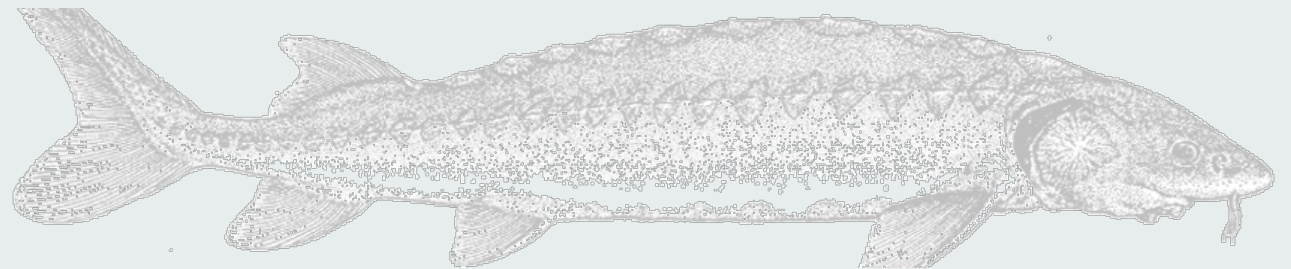
NRDAR

WHY?

- To make the environment and public whole from injury to natural resources

HOW?

- Restore, replace, and/or acquire the equivalent of injured resources and ecosystem services lost

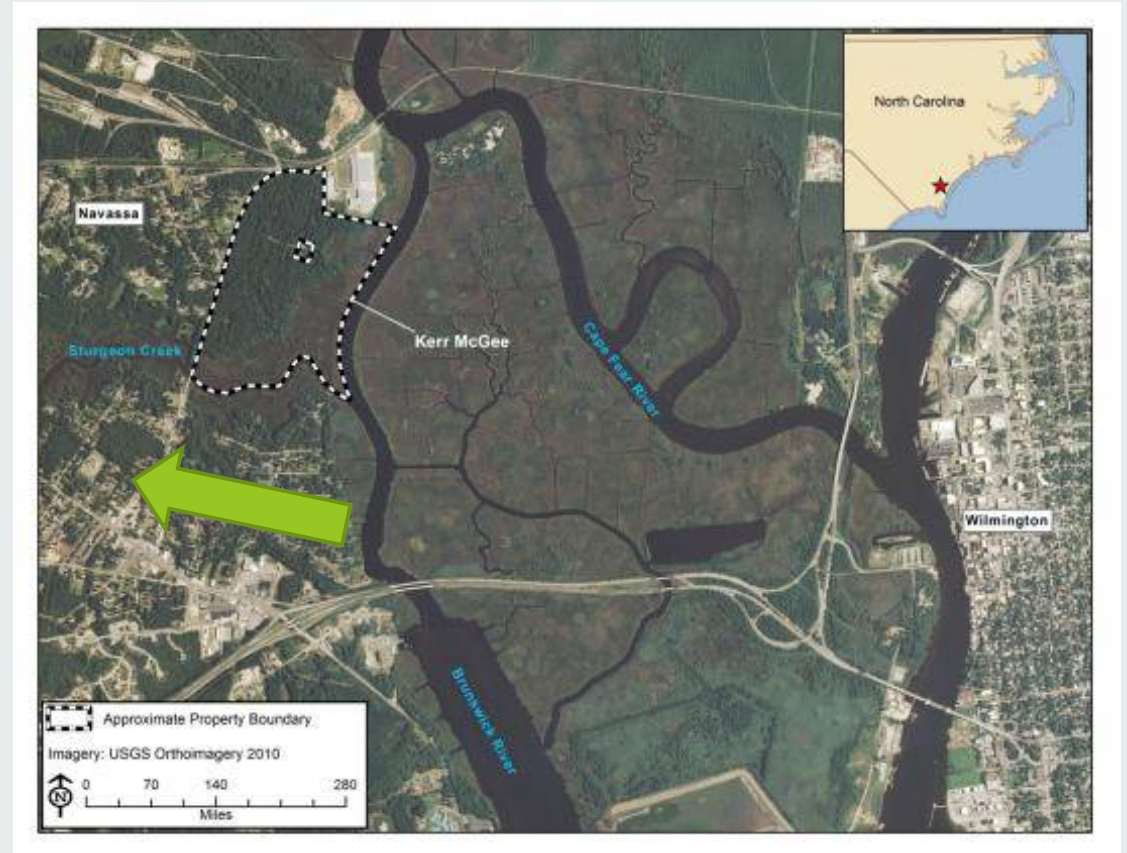


Credit: NOAA

KERR MCGEE RESOURCE INJURIES

KERR MCGEE: THE SITE

- Creosote wood treatment facility
- Bordered by Brunswick River & Sturgeon Creek
- Operated 1930's-1970's
- Dismantled 1980
- Wood treatment process released hazardous substance into surrounding marshes
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)



KERR MCGEE: THE INJURIES

- PAHs impacted marsh sediments (**BENTHIC** Habitat)
- Species living in and around the sediments are impacted too



KERR MCGEE: THE SETTLEMENT



- January 2015: Legal settlement reached
- Settlement: >\$23 million
- Funds must be spent to restore injured natural resources and services

KERR MCGEE NRDAR TIMELINE

- ~1936-~1974: Release of hazardous substances
- 2009:
 - Tronox Corp. declares bankruptcy
 - Expedited damage assessment;
 - Natural Resources damage claim submitted to bankruptcy court
- 2015:
 - Final legal settlement reached: \$23 Million
 - Project scoping process initiated
- 2019:
 - Oct 17th - Draft Restoration Plan released to public
 - Dec 2nd - Public comment period closes

KERR-MCGEE CHEMICAL CORP. SITE – NAVASSA
NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION
NAVASSA, NORTH CAROLINA

Scoping Document for Restoration Planning
For Public Review and Comment

August 4, 2015

Prepared by
The Natural Resource Trustee Council
for the
Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. Superfund Site in Navassa, NC

**PROPOSED
RESTORATION
PROJECTS, PUBLIC
INVOLVEMENT AND NEXT
STEPS**

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT ON RESTORATION

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KERR McGEE (PHASE 1) RESTORATION PROJECTS*



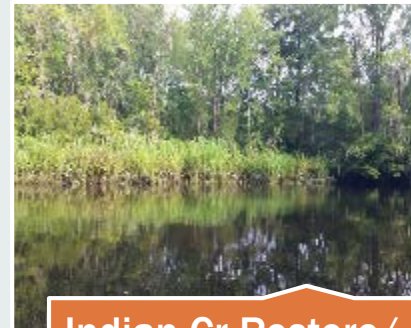
Alligator Cr
Restoration



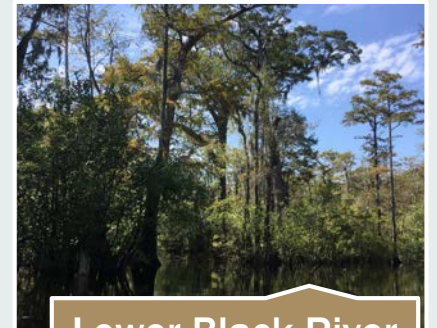
Battleship – Living
with Water



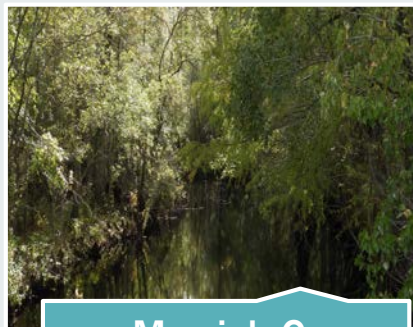
Carolina Beach SP
Restoration



Indian Cr Restore/
Protect



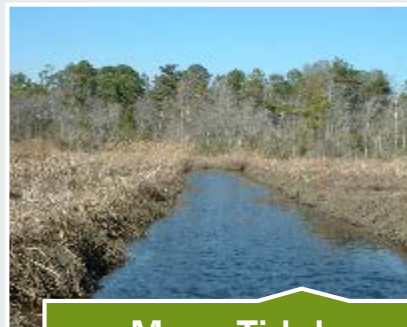
Lower Black River
Conservation



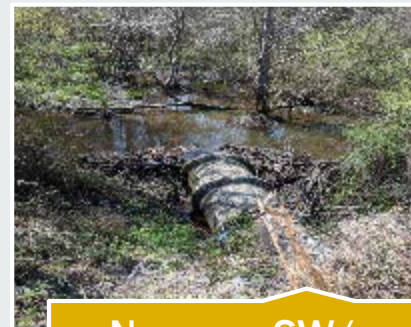
Merrick Cr
Conservation



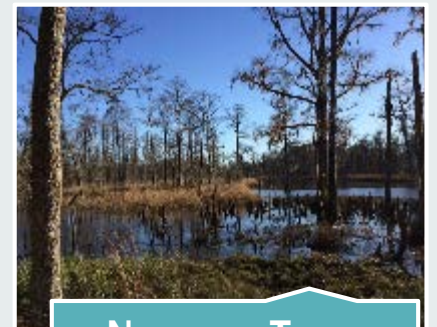
LCFR Bottomlands
Conservation



Moze Tidal
Restoration



Navassa SW/
Buffer Restore



Navassa Town
Park

* Proposed – Draft RPEA open through 12/2/19

ALLIGATOR CREEK RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION

Key Project Features

- Approximately 80 acres of habitat restoration and conservation on Eagle Island
- Restore section of Alligator Creek and adjacent tidal wetlands
- Build berm to address sea level rise impacts to existing cypress wetlands
- Provide site access and interpretation components for public use



BATTLESHIP NORTH CAROLINA—LIVING WITH WATER

Key Project Features

- Restore 800 linear feet of shoreline and create 2 acres of tidal saltmarsh at the Battleship NC site.



CAROLINA BEACH STATE PARK RESTORATION

Key Project Features

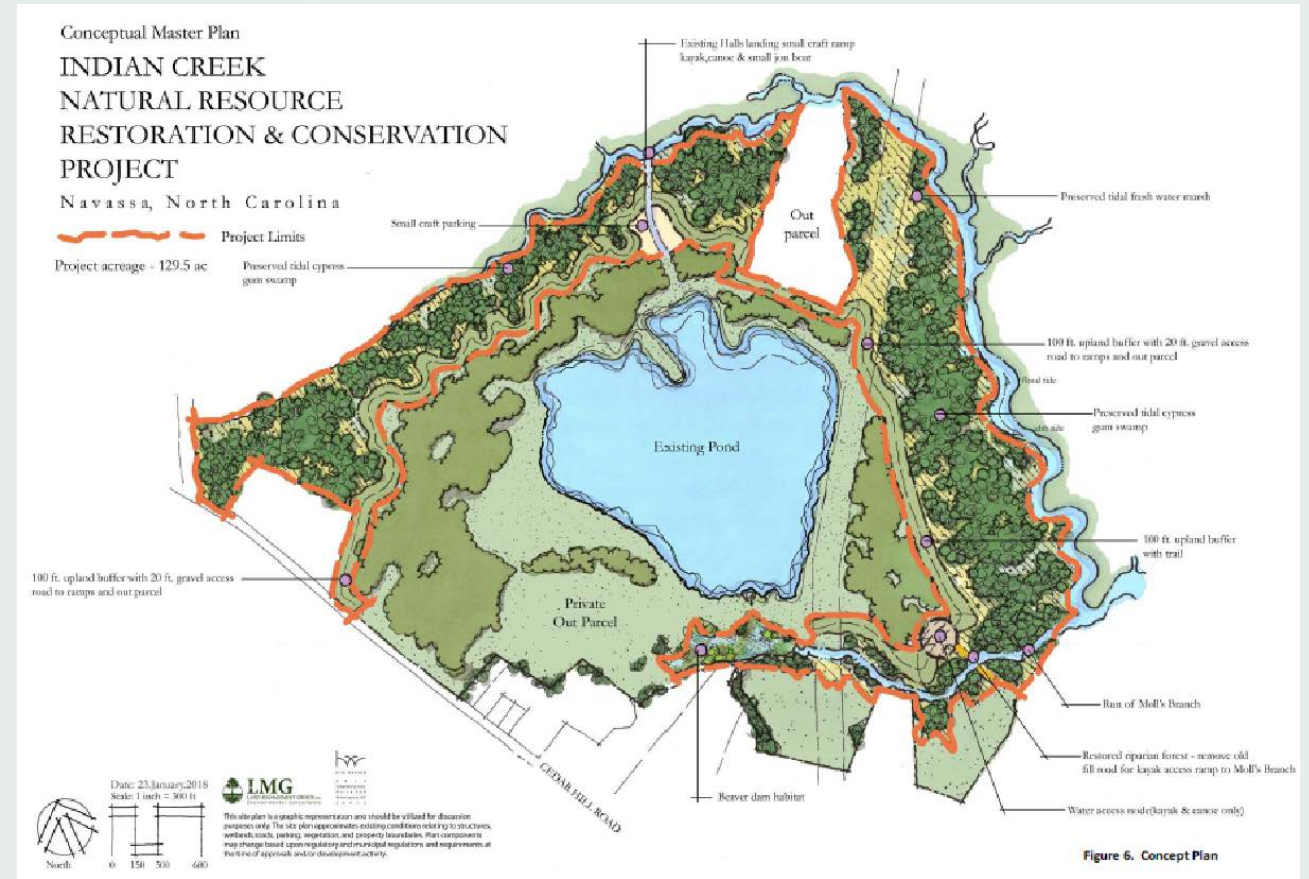
- Create approx. 5 acres of oyster reef patch habitat and shoreline stabilization structures
- Restore 13.5 acre saltmarsh



INDIAN CREEK NATURAL RESOURCE RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION

Key Project Features

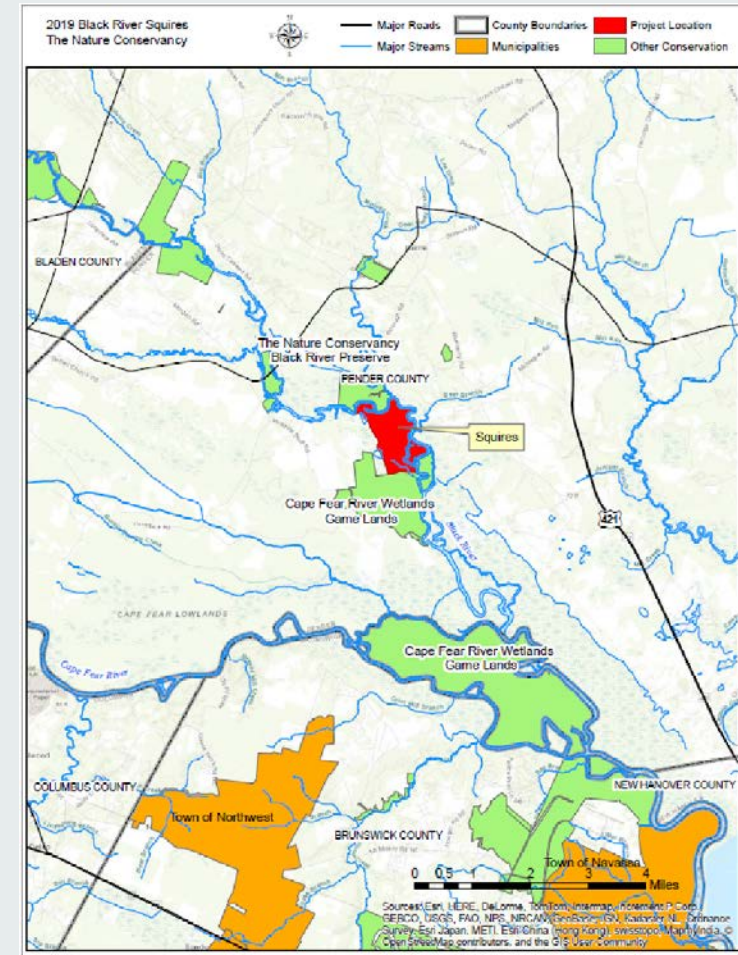
- >142 acres protected along Indian Creek, tributary of Cape Fear River
- Preserve tidal freshwater marsh and tidal cypress-gum swamp through conservation easement
- Restore tidal freshwater swamp through road bed removal at Moll's Branch
- Repair ramp at Hall's Landing, and install kayak launch at Moll's Branch
- Strategically connected to Lower Cape Fear Bottomlands Conservation project



LOWER BLACK RIVER & MERRICK CREEK CONSERVATION

Key Project Features

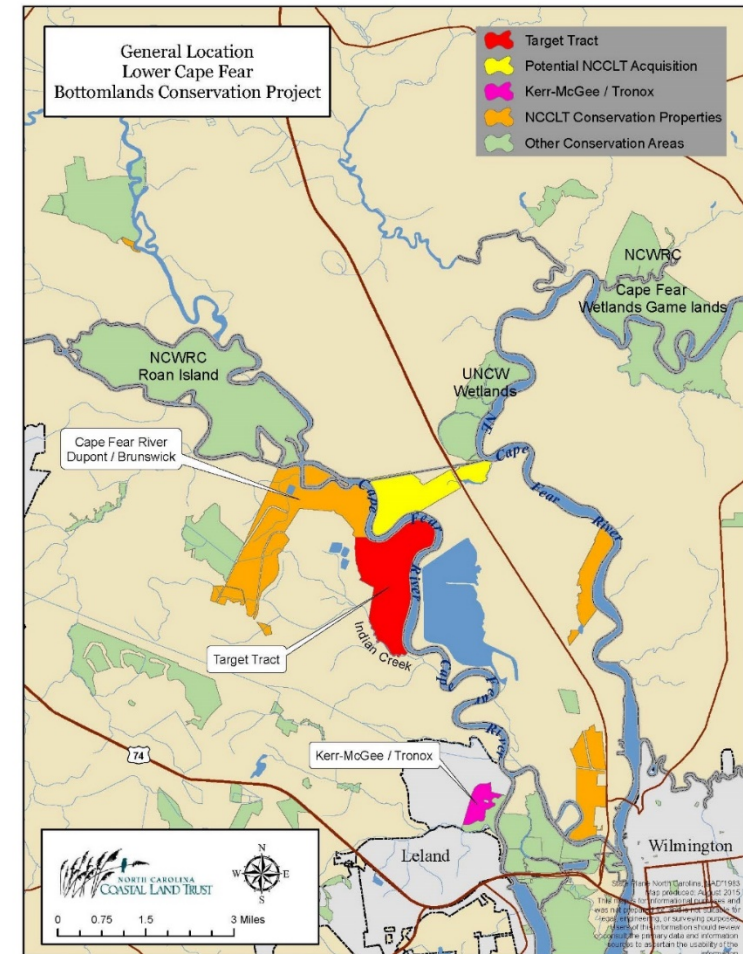
- Contribute to the preservation of
 - Lower Black River--more than 500 acres of tidal swamp forest and wetlands along Black River
 - Merrick Creek--more than 250 acres of pristine tidal swamp forest along Merrick Creek in Pender County
- Avoids conversion of habitat due to logging and/or development
- Connects conservation lands and strengthens conservation corridor



LOWER CAPE FEAR BOTTOMLANDS CONSERVATION

Key Project Features

- Preserve more than 1,000 acres of riverine habitat along Indian Creek and the Cape Fear River
- Avoids conversion of habitat due to logging and/or development
- Connects conservation lands, and strategically connected to Indian Creek Natural Resource Restoration and Conservation project



MOZE HERITAGE SITE TIDAL RESTORATION

Key Project Features

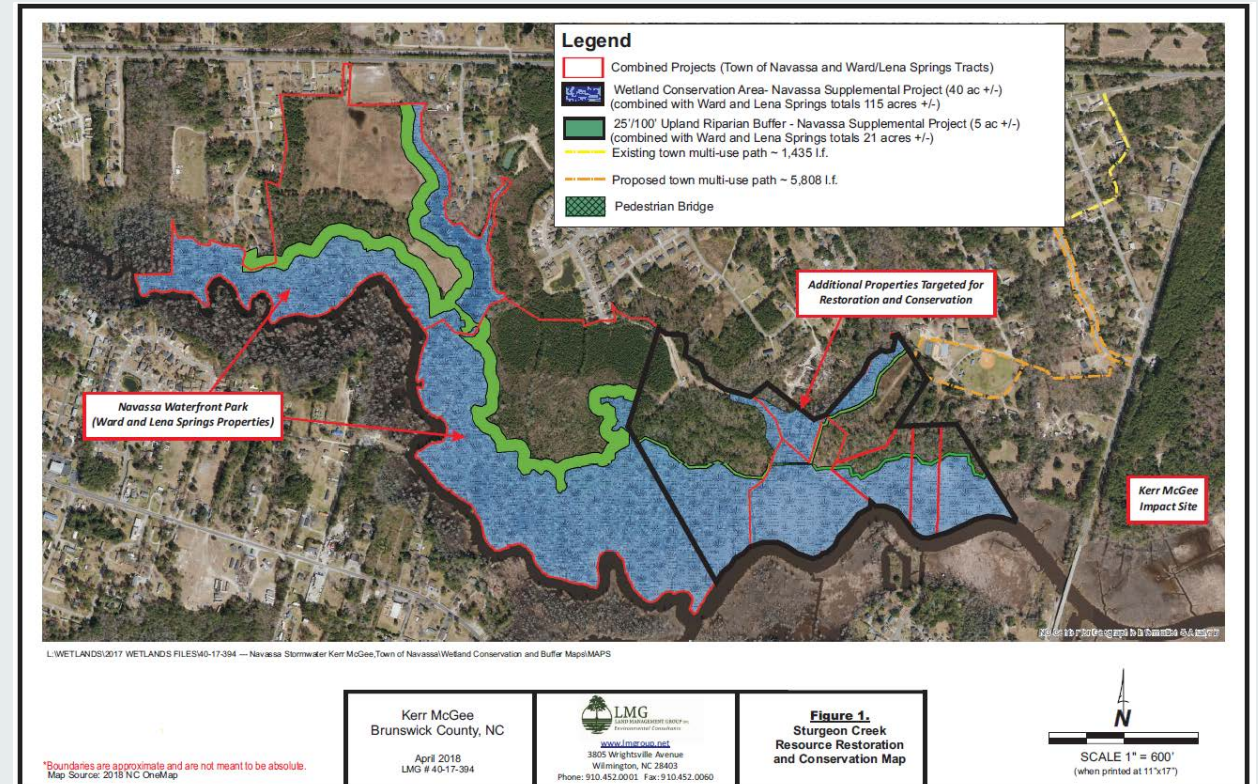
- Enhance riverine swamp forest habitat along northeast portion of the Kerr McGee Site.
- Rehabilitate historic rice field dikes
- Preserve high marsh habitat through conservation easement



NAVASSA STORMWATER AND RIPARIAN RESTORATION

Key Project Features

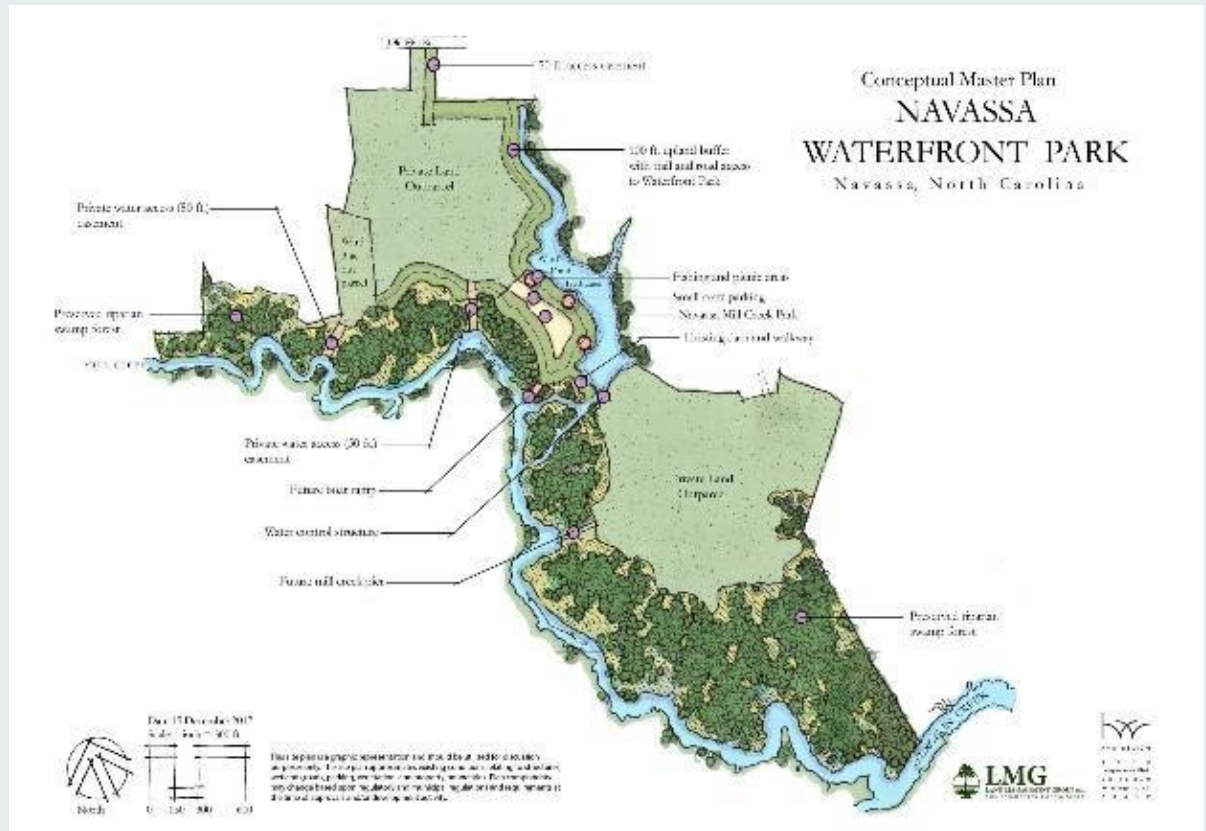
- Develop comprehensive stormwater management plan for Navassa
- Target four stormwater drainage areas of concern: Moll's Branch, Indian Creek, Redmon Creek, and Sturgeon Creek
- Restore and conserve riparian wetlands and buffers
- Strategically connected to Navassa Waterfront Park project
- Addresses community flooding, and avoids degradation of water quality and loss of biodiversity.



NAVASSA WATERFRONT PARK

Key Project Features

- Preserve approximately 50 acres of tidal wetlands through conservation easement along Mill and Sturgeon Creeks in Navassa, NC
- Install fishing platform and transient boat dock, and pedestrian trail system
- Strategically connected to Navassa Stormwater and Riparian Restoration project



HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

- Review the Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment and provide comments
 - Comment card at tonight's meeting
 - Review plan (select link to plan under "case documents")
 - <https://darrp.noaa.gov/hazardous-waste/kerr-mcgee-chemical-corp-tronox>
 - Submit written comments to howard.Schnabolk@noaa.gov or by mail :
 - Howard Schnabolk % NOAA Restoration Center
2234 South Hobson Ave
Charleston, SC 29405

THE NEXT STEPS

- Public Comment period closes **December 2, 2019**
- Summary of comments and responses provided
- Finalize restoration plans
- Initiate Phase 2 Scoping
- Complete on-the ground restoration!





THANK YOU

