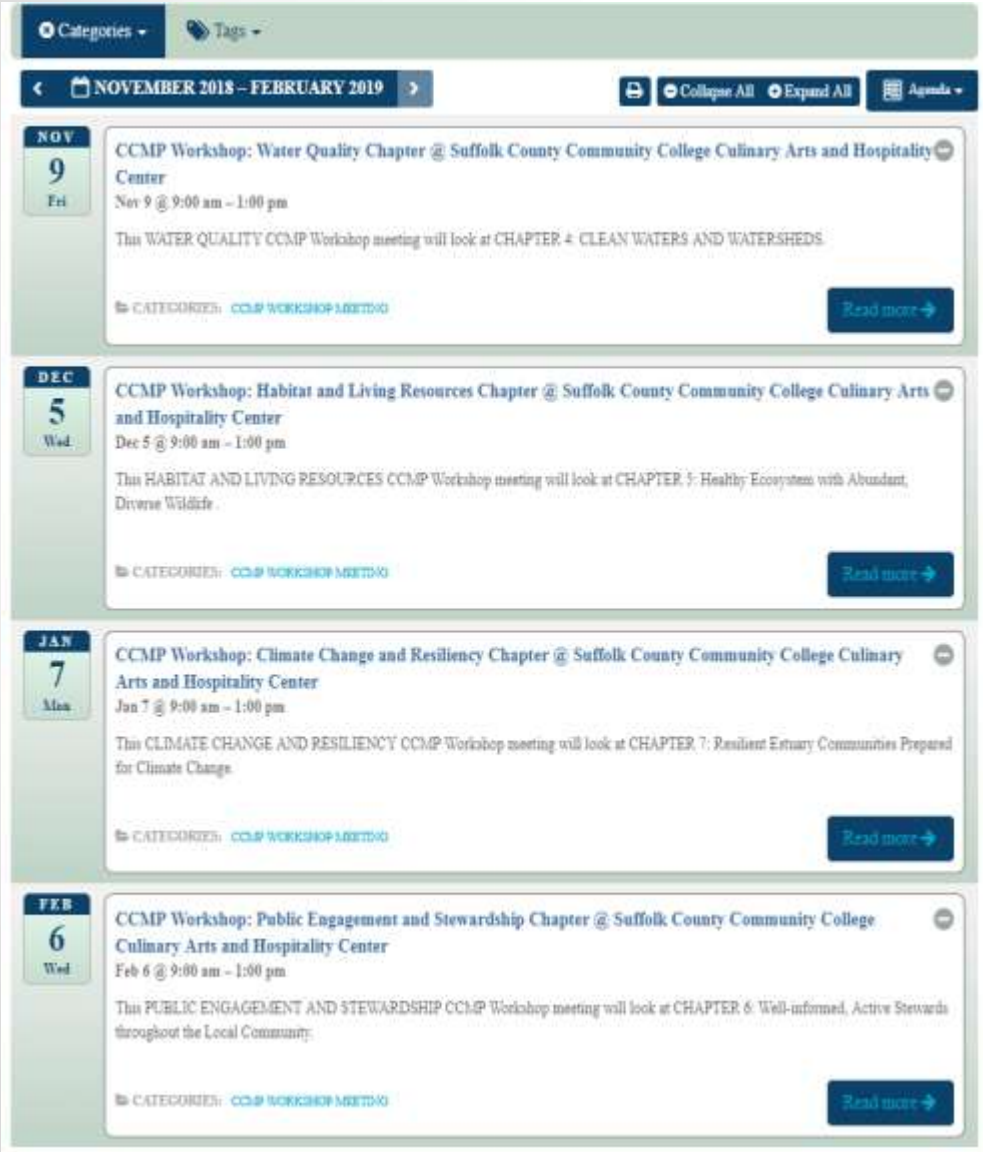
Peconic Estuary PROGRAM

UPDATE

November 2018

PEP CCMP Revision Underway



- CCMP outline submitted to EPA on **September 30th, 2018.** Comments from the EPA were reviewed and incorporated.
- **PEP is now hosting four CCMP Workshop Meetings monthly** throughout November, December, January and February to gain specific feedback on the Draft CCMP Outline and Chapters.
- The draft CCMP document is anticipated to be submitted for review by EPA, NYSDEC, Suffolk County and Local Governments in March 2019.

Peconic Estuary Solute Transport Model

Contracting with United States Geologic Survey

Status: GIS preparation and Model Development phase. **Next project meeting on November 14th, 2018.**

Link to Solute Transport Model Workplan

Objective: This Solute Transport Model will be a tool to estimate time-varying nitrogen loading rates to the Peconic Estuary resulting from wastewater and fertilizer inputs to the groundwater. The overall objective of the study is to apply methods that will allow for the quantitative analysis of nitrogen loading rates to the Peconic Estuary resulting from wastewater and fertilizer inputs to groundwater in Suffolk County.

Specifically, the objectives of the investigation are to

1) develop data sets representing current and historic land uses relevant to nitrogen loading in coastal watersheds

2) incorporate these data as source terms in models capable of simulating transport processes to estimate current estuarine loading rates and nutrient concentrations in the aquifer, and

3) use these current-condition models to simulate the response of estuarine loading rates to possible wastewater-management actions.

CLPS Update and Climate Ready Assessment Services for PEP and Shinnecock Indian Nation

Contracting with Anchor QEA

Status: New CLPS criteria being circulated for review and feedback. Next Steps: Mapping of CLPS.

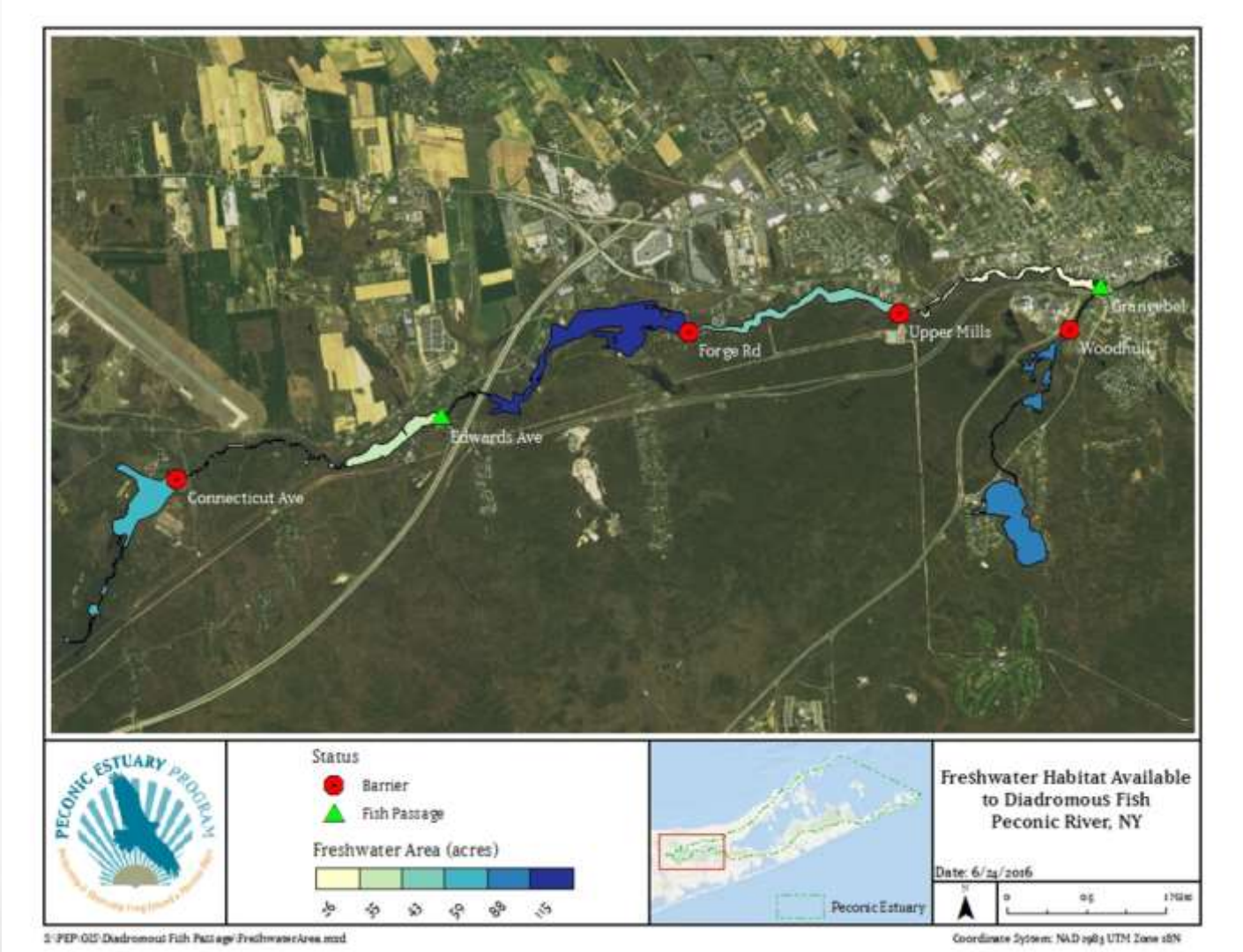
Objective:

1)Re-evaluation of the original prioritization of the Critical Lands Protection Strategy (CLPS).

2)Assessment of climate change vulnerabilities of the environmental restoration and protection programs for both the Peconic Estuary Program and Shinnecock Indian Nation.

Habitat Restoration Updates

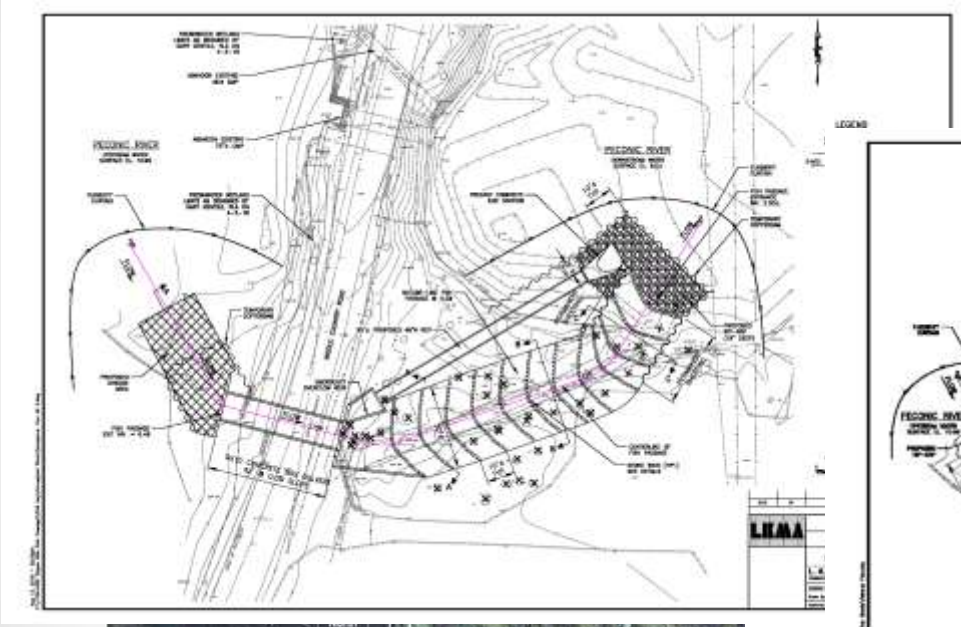
The Peconic Estuary Program is working with its partners to restore critical freshwater spawning and maturation habitat for diadromous fish on the Peconic River.

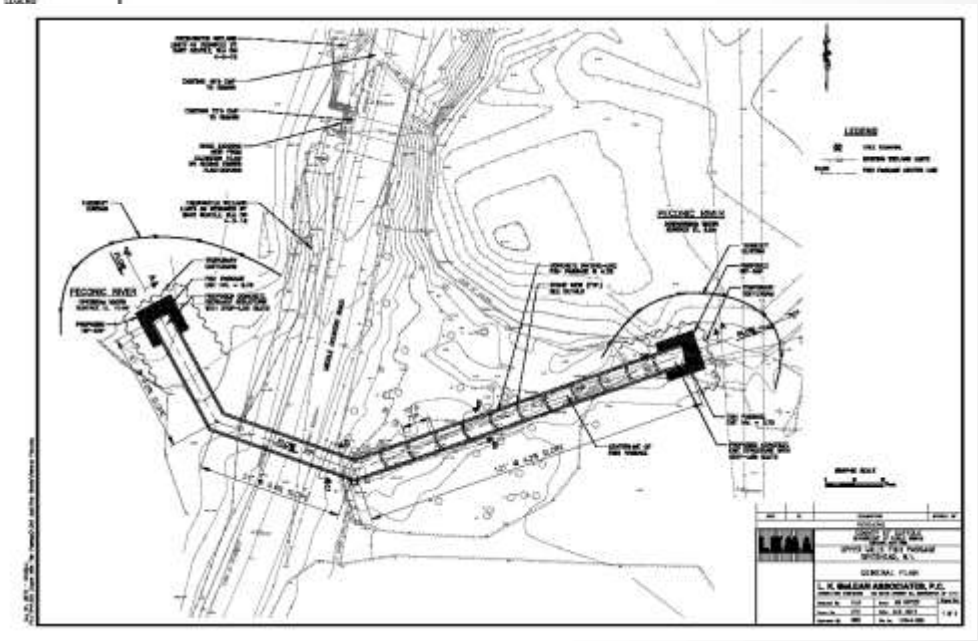


Upper Mills Dam Fish Passage Project

Contracting with L.K. McLean Associates for engineering design/permitting services

Status: 2 Conceptual Designs developed for **stakeholder meeting on November 8th, 2018.**

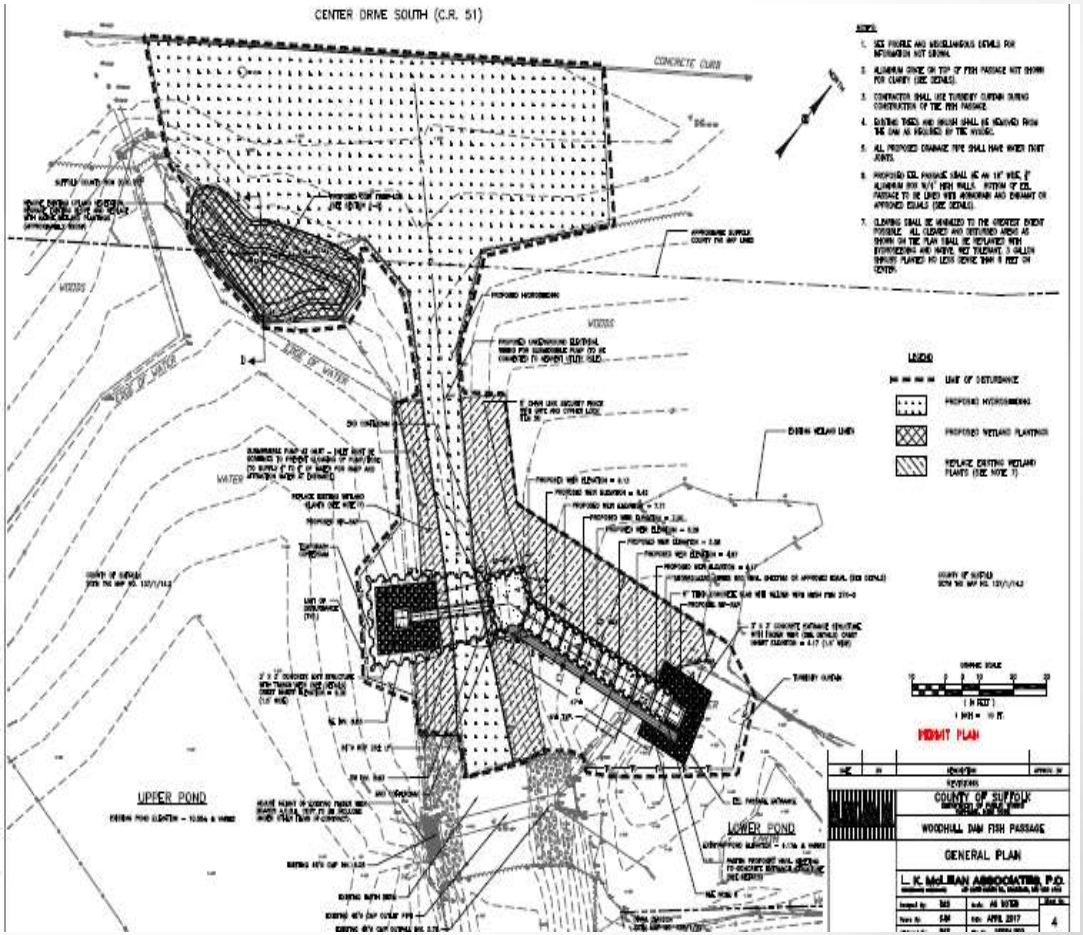




Woodhull Dam Fish Passage Project

Suffolk County contracted with L.K. McLean Associates for engineering design/permitting services

Status: NYSDEC WQIP Funding awarded for fish passage construction. Awaiting permit. Construction RFP under development with DPW.



Conceptual Habitat Restoration Design Planning in the Peconic Estuary

Peconic Estuary is contracting with Land Use Ecological
Status: Site surveys underway.

Conceptual habitat restoration designs will be developed for the following identified priority sites:

a. Southold: Narrow River Road Wetland Restoration

b. Southampton: Iron Point Wetland Restoration

c. East Hampton: Lake Montauk Alewife Access and Habitat Enhancement

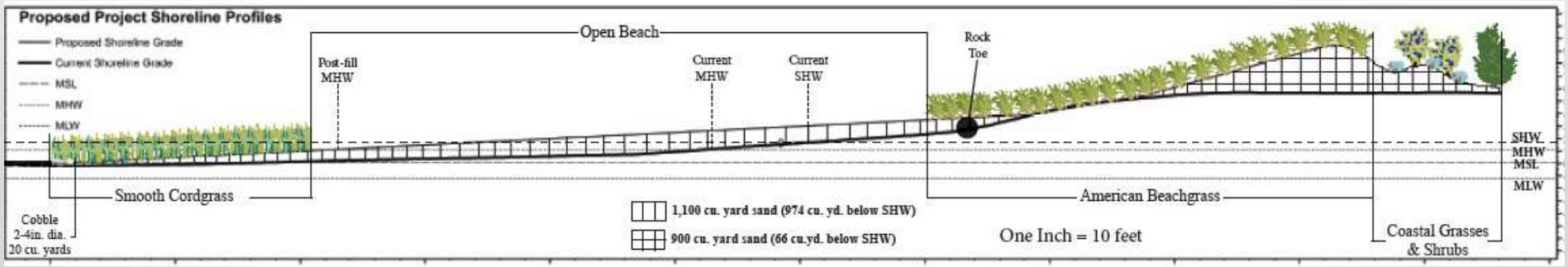
d. Riverhead: Meeting House Creek Main Road Wetland Construction/Restoration

- 2016 Suffolk County Capital funds have been secured for implementation of the Lake Montauk project.
- PEP secured 2018 NEP Funds ($173,719) for implementation of the Meeting House Creek project.

Living Shoreline Pilot Project- Greenport

PEP is contracting with Cornell Cooperative Extension and Peconic Land Trust

Status: All permits in hand. Construction will occur spring 2019.



Seagrass Bio-optical Model

PEP is contracting with The Research Foundation of SUNY Stony Brook
Status: Final tasks underway.
Presentation on project at November 30th, 2018 Natural Resources Subcommittee Meeting.

- Objective: Site specific information to inform eelgrass management and restoration programs. This project will lead to a better understanding of specific light and temperature requirements for eelgrass in the Peconic Estuary (PE). This is the critical next step towards understanding the threats to the eelgrass community and where restoration projects have the best probability of success.

- Link to project presentation at August 15th TAC meeting: https://www.peconicestuary.org/peconic-estuary-seagrass-bio-optical-model-project-presentation-kaitlyn-otoole-2018/

Expansion and Monitoring of the Town of Southold Living Shoreline Demonstration Project

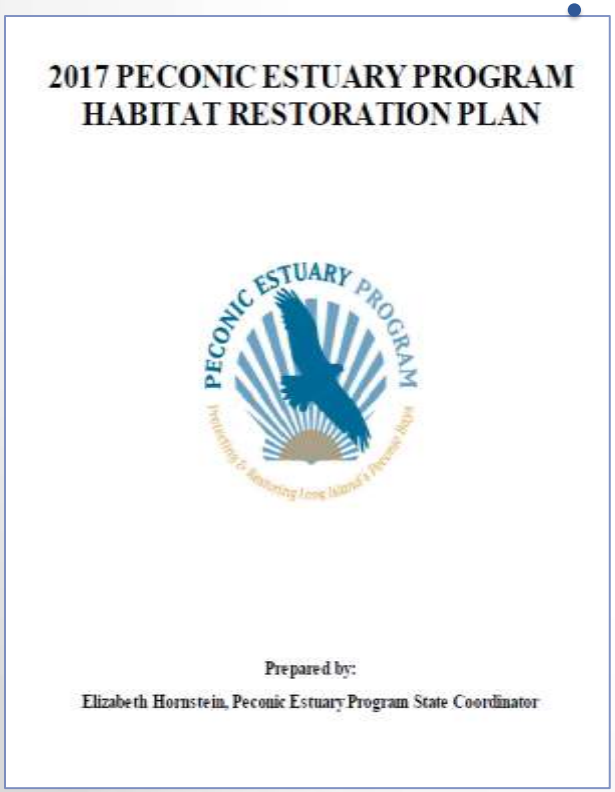
Peconic Estuary Program is going to contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension
Status: Contract around for signatures.

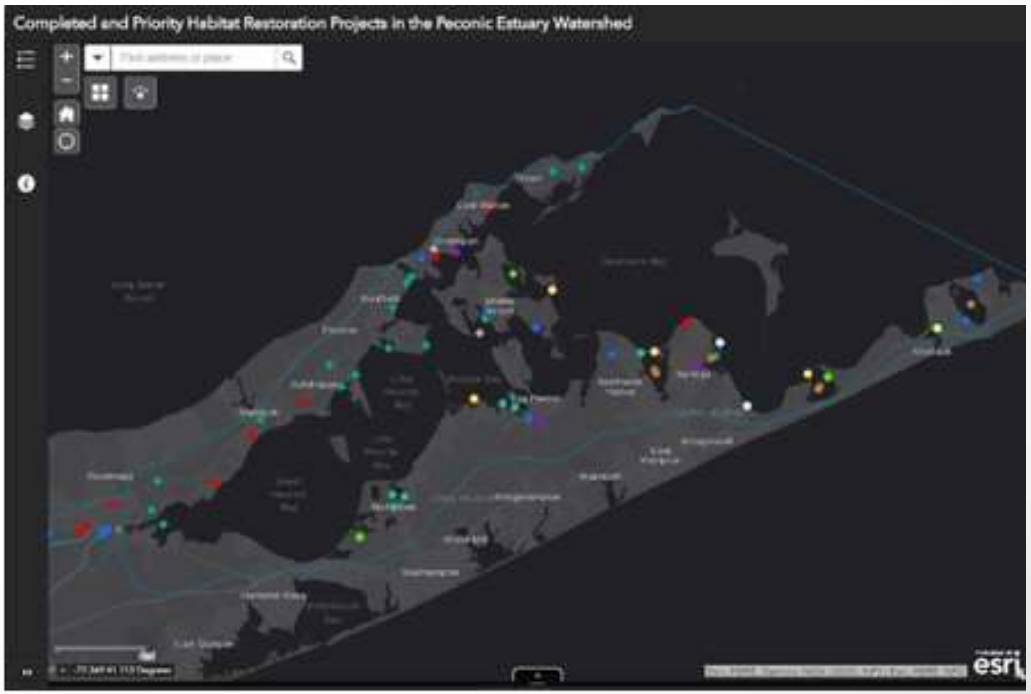
Figure 2. Location of proposed living shoreline project on Southold Town Trustee land near Suffolk County Marine Environmental Learning Center.

- Expansion to an existing Town of Southold Living Shoreline Demonstration Project contract with the Town of Southold Trustees and the Suffolk County DEDP.
- Establish a larger geography of the project and monitoring services to run in tandem with the existing project to enable the quantification of nitrogen and pathogen uptake results and assessment of the effectiveness of the living shoreline to mitigate nitrogen pollution in the Peconic Estuary-Spartina alterniflora and ribbed mussels.

2017 Habitat Restoration Plan & Map Finalized

- Interactive GIS Map of Habitat Restoration Projects is live!
- This map complements the 2017 Peconic Estuary Program Habitat Restoration Plan and will serve as a tool to track habitat restoration progress: completed, ongoing, and priority habitat restoration projects in the Peconic Estuary watershed. .
- Click here to view the map.





Hardened Shoreline GIS Mapping Project

With the help of two interns, PEP is undertaking a GIS mapping project to quantify the amount of hardened shoreline in the Estuary. This supports Action 3, under Objective 9 in the Habitat Restoration Plan. The last survey was in 2003.