

# Sea Level Rise Task Force Natural Resources Working Group

Co-Chairs:

Karen Chytalo  
NYSDEC, Marine Resources  
[knchytal@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:knchytal@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Sarah Newkirk  
TNC on LI, Coastal Program  
[snewkirk@tnc.org](mailto:snewkirk@tnc.org)

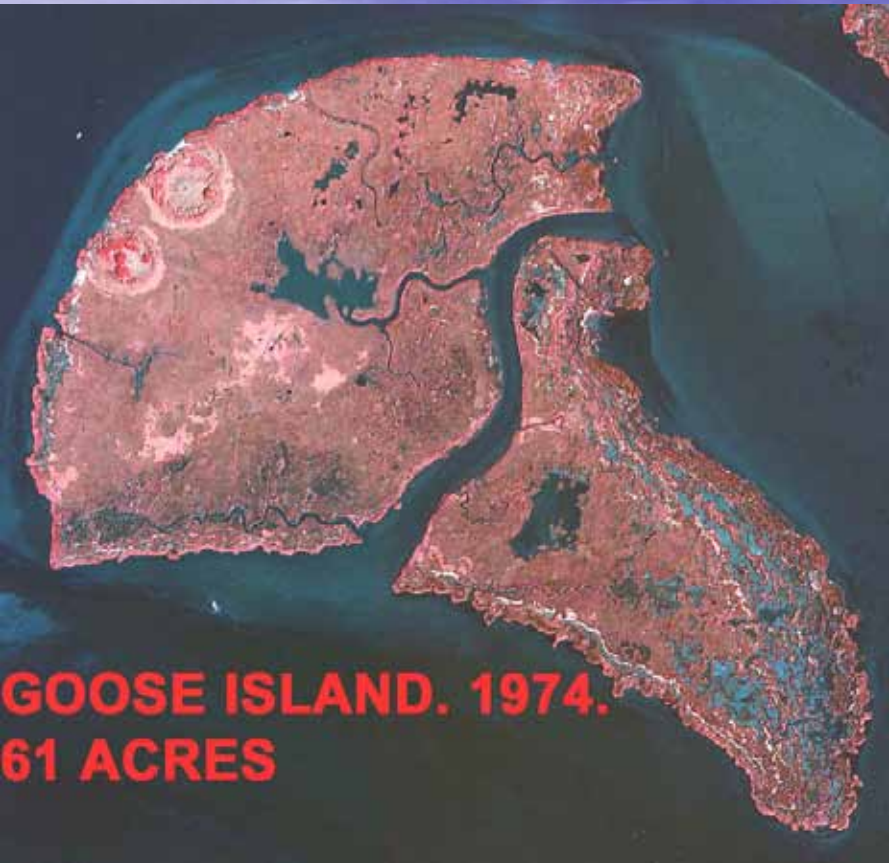
# Habitats of Concern

- Tidal Wetlands (low energy coastal environments)
- Low to moderate energy coastal environments (Great South Bay, Peconic Bay, NY Harbor, Hudson River)
- High energy shorelines (Atlantic Ocean, Long Island Sound)

# Key Threats

- Submergence
- Changes in sediment budget
- Loss of habitat and other secondary impacts

# Goose Island, South Shore



**15 acres lost = 24.6% loss / 24 years = 0.62 acres/yr**

**GOOSE ISLAND. 07/17/01. E. PICARD.**



**D. FALLON**

East High Meadow, Jamaica Bay oblique  
flying SW across marsh June, 2003



# Habitat Migration



# Somewhere to go...NW Harbor



# Nowhere to go...Flanders Bay



# Where will Tivoli North Bay wetlands and SAVs go?



# Habitats and threats, continued

- Coastal bluffs → Accelerated undermining
- Rocky intertidal areas → Changes in substrate
- Groundwater → Salinity changes
- Submerged aquatic vegetation → Light limitation
- Seal haul-out areas → Loss of refuge area
- Barrier islands → Long-term viability
- Freshwater aquatic systems → Salinity changes

# Habitat Benefits

- Provides a physical structure for refuge, spawning, nursery, foraging and as a corridor for many animals and plants
- Shoreline protection/natural infrastructure
- Contaminant and sediment trapping
- Nutrient cycling
- Increases dissolved oxygen in the water

# Next Steps:

- Collect public insights;
- Develop data/information resources;
- Prioritize threat level and timeframe;
- Develop strategies;
- Prioritize strategies.

For More Information:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/energy/45202.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/45202.html)