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Building Resilience: connecting systems and communities



State of the Bay Conference 2015 Jed Wright, Gulf of Maine Coastal Program, USFWS Madeline Kinsey, University of California Davis



Resilience

The capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and reorganize while undergoing change so as to retain essentially the same function, structure, identity, and feedbacks

Regime shifts

Semi-arid rangelands that are overgrazed suddenly flip from a grass dominated regime to one with shrubsundergrazed become deserts

Restoration

"returning an ecosystem to a close approximation of its condition prior to disturbance"

National Research Council 1992

Developing strengths, acquire skills to cope, recover from hardships, and be prepared for future challenges

- Connectivity
- Social Capital
- Modularity
- Feedback
- Institutions



Nine Resilience Properties

- Diversity
- Ecological variability
- Modularity
- Acknowledgement of slow variables
- Tight feedbacks

- Social capital
- Innovation
- Overlap in governance
- Ecosystem services

Social

- Social Capital
- Innovation
- Overlap in Governance
- Ecosystem
 Services

Diversity

- Modularity
- Tight Feedbacks

Ecological

- Ecological Variability
- Acknowledging Slow Variables







Diversity



Ecological variability

Changes Will Happen Slowly 20 – 60 years for significant isotherm shifts



Slow variables



Modularity













Maine Rivers









Overlap in governance



Social capital



Ecosystem Services



Innovation

River corridor management

- Identify, protect and restore, river processes that promote long term river equilibrium (stability) and sustain quality habitat
- Stream geomorphic assessments



How do you building resiliency in a landscape where linkages between social and ecological systems are weak?