

STORMWATER SOLUTIONS FOR COASTAL COMMUNITIES

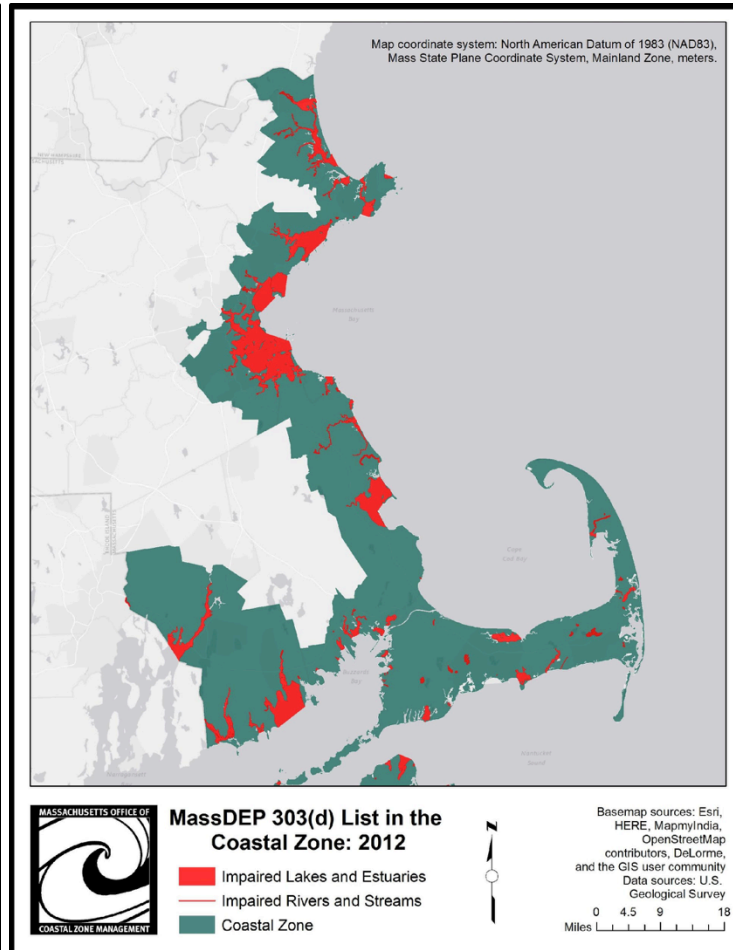
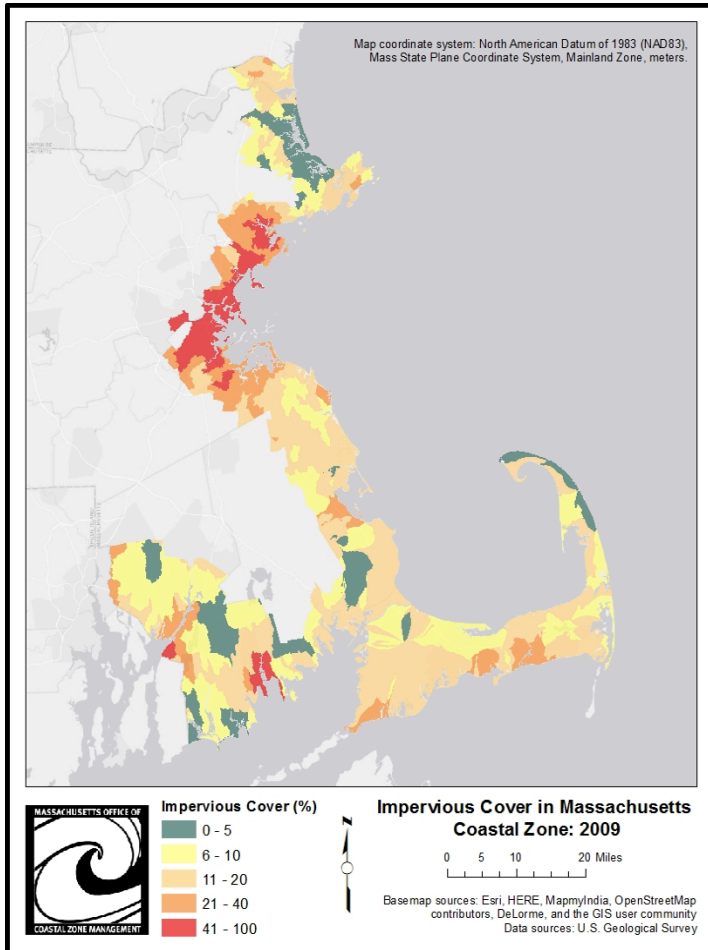
NROC Winter Meeting

Portsmouth, NH – March 15, 2016

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Current Conditions & Trends



53% of undeveloped land in the state is currently unprotected

Current SW obstacles for MA coastal zone:

- Physical and regulatory constraints
 - High water table levels
 - Flat terrain
 - Unique soil types
 - Highly altered drainage systems
 - More stringent coastal regulations
- Extreme event stressors
 - Hurricanes
 - Storm surge
 - Land subsidence
 - Sea level rise



Floods in
January
2015,
Scituate
MA

Nor'easter
in
February
2013,
Hull MA



Floods in
February
2013,
Nantucket
MA

Observed Change in Very Heavy Precipitation

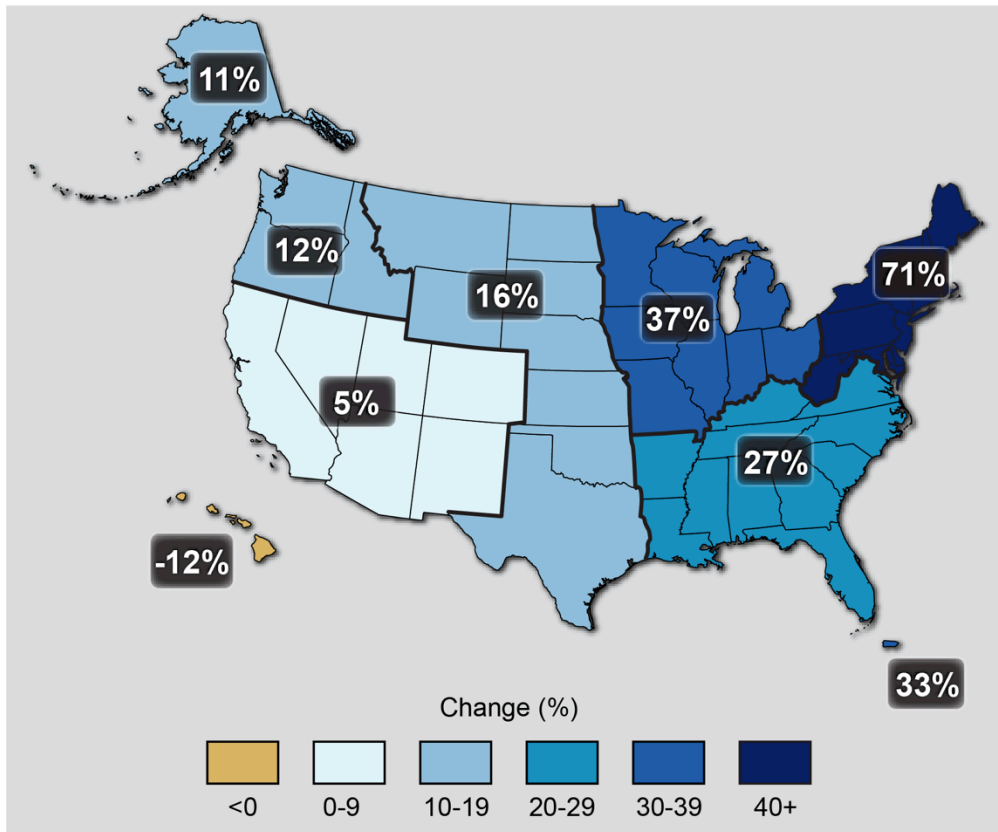


Figure source: Karl et al. 2009; Walsh and Wuebbles 2014



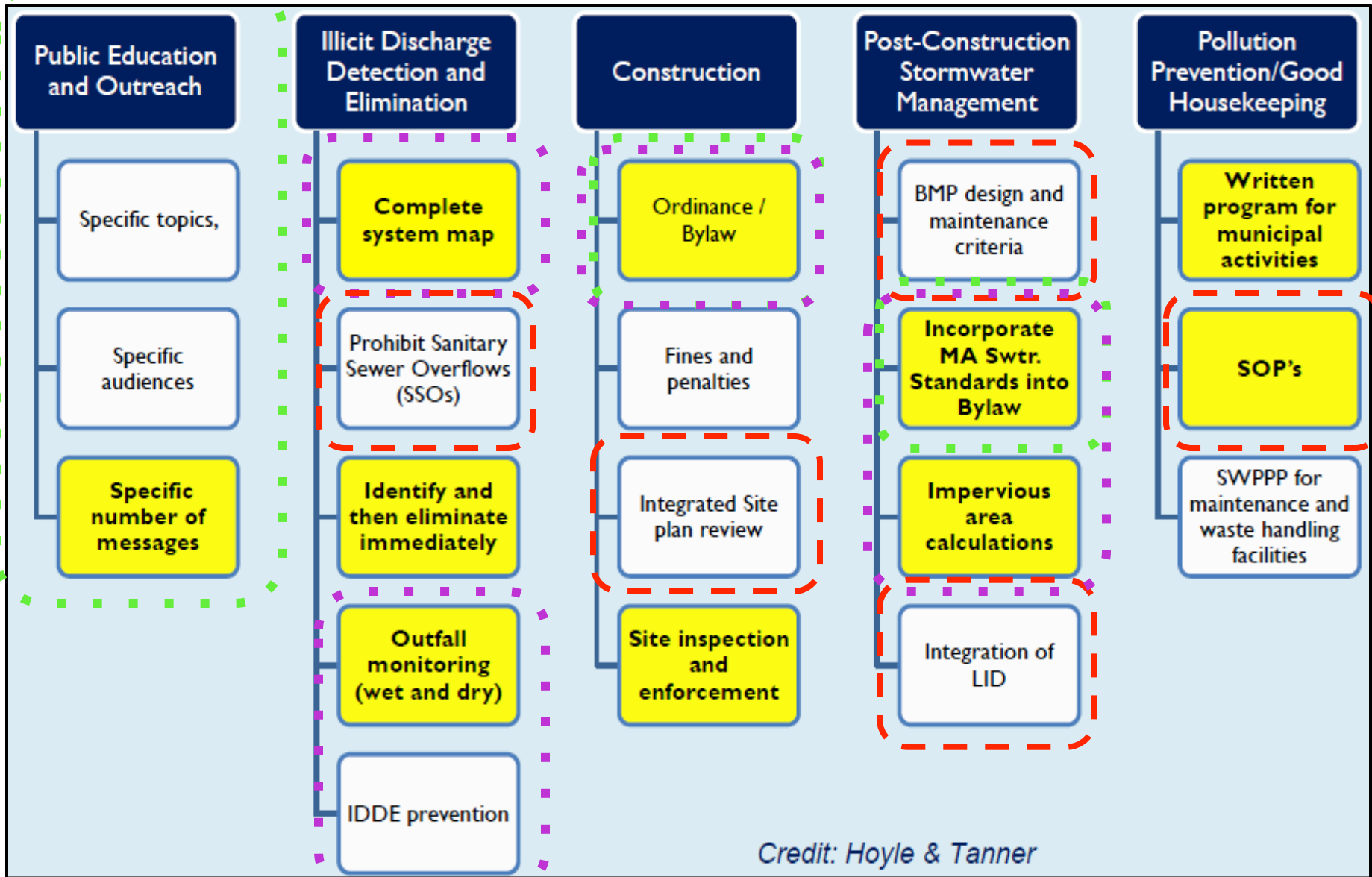
Future (and current) risks

- Sea level rise
- Storm surge
- Annual precipitation
- Coastal-influenced groundwater elevation
- Precipitation extremes (design storm event precipitation depths)

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES

Engaging with municipalities to provide **technical assistance** on stormwater management in the coastal zone with a focus on, **effective and resilient technologies**, available **funding mechanisms**, and **permit requirements**.

Developing the coastal communities component of the Stormwater Solutions **website** and **associated materials** to serve as a model program to support effective stormwater management at the local level.




RESULTS OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

Increased Awareness, Effectiveness, Efficiency

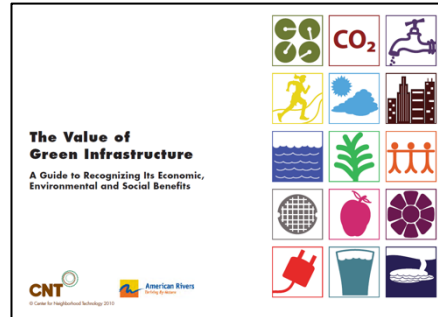
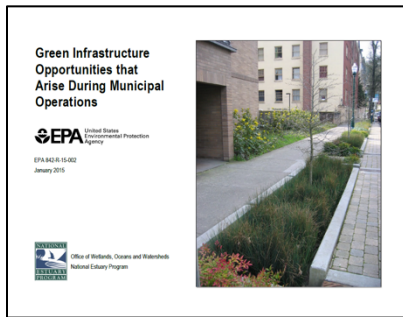
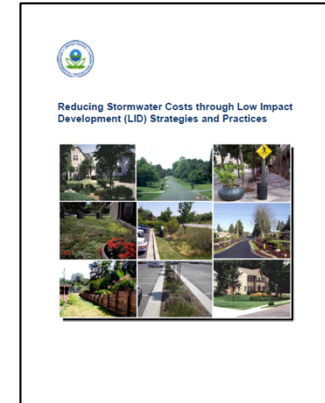
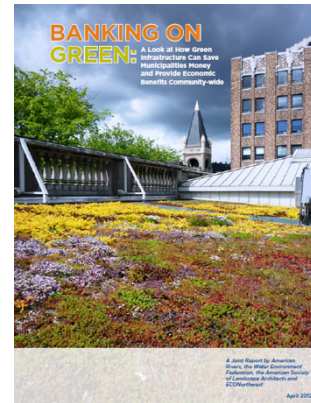
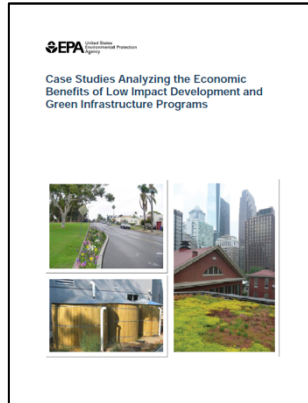
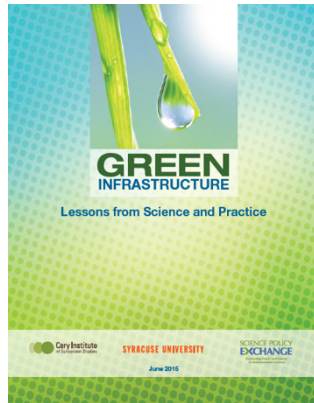
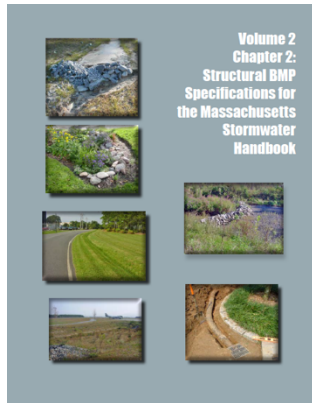
- Provide strategies for more bang for your buck
- Provide database of funding mechanisms and sources
- Provide standardized materials, resources and guidance for DPW, boards, and governing officials focused on stormwater impacts and solutions
- Provide low-cost, high-benefit structural and non-structural BMP recommendations and include local, on-the-ground examples
- **Audience:** municipal/utility staff; mayor/city council/select board; local boards; consultants
- **Format:** technical tools/training; case studies; factsheets; website; presentations

PRODUCTS:

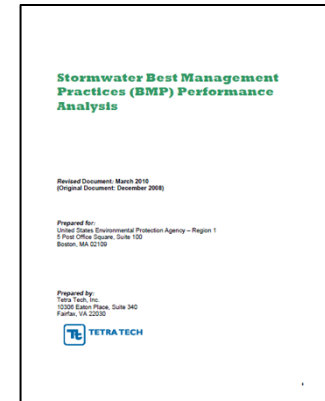
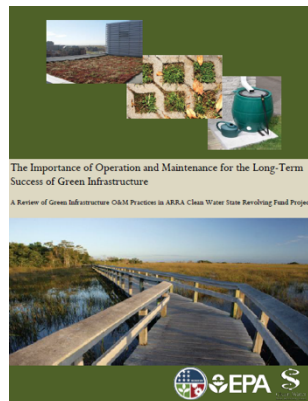
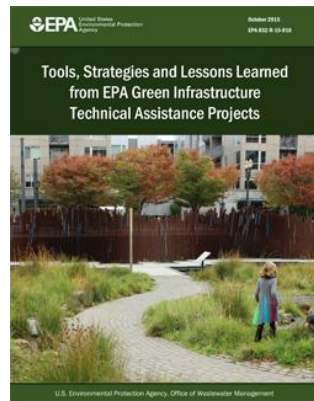
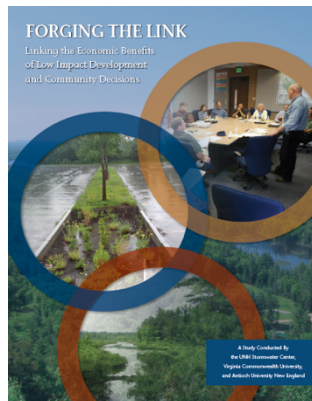
FORMAT	PRODUCT
<i>StoryMaps</i>	Introduction to stormwater in MA coastal zone (incl. climate change impacts, coastal constraints, and stormwater management solutions)
<i>Factsheets</i>	Low-cost, high-benefit strategies (incl. benefits of investing now, innovative funding strategies, integrated planning)
	Suitable available resources for local officials (incl. education and outreach materials)
<i>Databases</i>	Available funding sources
<i>Technical Tools</i>	Stormwater BMP selection tool
	Process and policy guidance document for local officials



Stormwater
Solutions: Coastal
Communities
Website



STORMWATER BMP SELECTION TOOL



- **Costs** (e.g. land, construction, and maintenance)
- **Site Design** (e.g. local feasibility; appropriate land use)
- **Receiving Water Characteristics** (e.g. drains to sensitive water body, wetland, or endangered species habitat)
- **Treatment Suitability** (e.g. removes nutrients, bacteria; provides groundwater recharge)
- **Physical Feasibility** (e.g. soils infiltration rate; depth to high water table; maximum slope)
- **Community and Environmental Factors** (e.g. ease of maintenance; community acceptance; habitat quality)
- **Site Restrictions and Setbacks** (e.g. 100-year floodplain; water wells; septic systems)
- **Climate and Terrain Factors** (e.g. vulnerable to salt water intrusion, flooding and inundation, or rising sea levels)

STORMWATER BMP SELECTION TOOL: VARIABLES

THANK YOU

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