

Restoring One of America's Greatest Rivers

-Elizabeth River -

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URBANWATERS
FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP
Restoring Urban Waters, Revitalizing Communities



York River

Chesapeake Bay

James River

Atlantic Ocean

Elizabeth River

The Elizabeth River Project

“Backbone Organization”

Mission: Restore the Elizabeth River to the highest practical level of environmental quality through government, business, & community partnerships.

- 150 River Star Schools
- 4,500 River Star Homes
- 101 River Star Business
- Projects support from US Navy, NOAA, USACE, US EPA, VA DEQ, VA DCR, VADOF, NFWF, VADGIF, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake



Our Agenda

Watershed Action Plan

- One of the 1st Sub-Watershed Plans completed on the Bay (1996, 2002, 2008, 2014)
- Focused efforts on priority actions that will have the greatest positive impact on river restoration
- Developed with input from 120 stakeholders including: government, science, citizen groups and industry



Cancer in the Mummichog

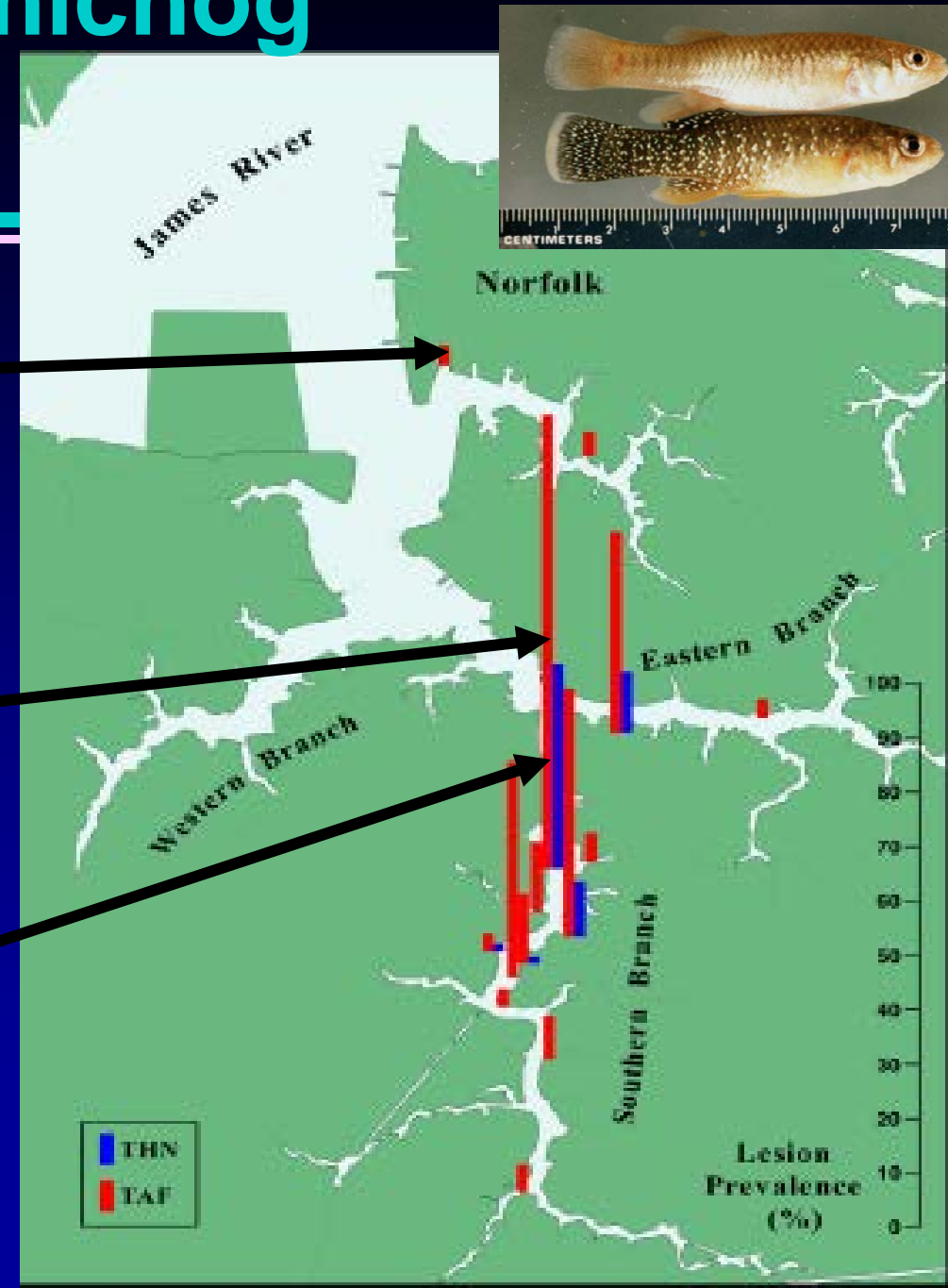
Healthy Mummichog Liver



Pre-Cancerous Mummichog



Cancerous Mummichog Liver



Money Point – A Story of Environmental Restoration

- Hess Corp
- Kinder Morgan
- Citgo
- VA Port Authority
- City of Chesapeake
- NOAA
- EPA
- NIH
- Corps of Engineers
- South Norfolk Civic League



Paradise Creek – A Creek of Landfills Now a Creek Full of Life

- Dominion Power
- VA Port Authority
- Beazley Foundation
- City of Portsmouth
- US Navy
- EPA
- National Park Service
- Corps of Engineers
- Cradock Civic League
- State agencies



Lafayette River – Achieving a Community Vision

- City of Norfolk
- HRSD
- Local Boat Clubs
- CBF
- NOAA
- EPA
- NIH
- 2,000 River Star Homes



Chesterfield Heights – Restore Resilient Shores

- City of Norfolk
- Old Dominion University
- 100 Resilient Cities
- HUD
- FEMA
- NOAA
- EPA
- NIH
- Wetlands Watch
- 1,000 River Star Homes



Collective Impact

The commitment of a group of important actors from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem.



Five Criteria for Collective Impact

- 1) Backbone Organization – independent staff dedicated to the initiative
 - 2) Common Agenda – shared vision
 - 3) Shared Measurement System – consistent measure of success
 - 4) Mutually Reinforcing Activity – need a plan
 - 5) Continuous Communication – regular meetings
- 
- The background of the slide is a photograph of a port at dusk. Several large gantry cranes are visible in the distance, their lights reflecting on the water. The sky is a mix of purple and blue, and the water in the foreground is calm with some ripples. A small boat is visible on the water near the cranes.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY • POLITICAL SCIENCE

"This is a richly detailed and carefully supported examination of an under-explored aspect of environmental protection: the role of grassroots organizations. This work is particularly valuable because it does not merely describe the work of these organizations. The mix of history and analysis allows the reader to see the value of the work and the challenges it faces. This mix points to the necessary policy framework that must be in place to replace the concrete challenges that grassroots organizations face. *The Case for Grassroots Collaboration* has the potential to add to the field's knowledge of an important yet emerging topic."

—Gerald Andrews Emison, Mississippi State University

"This work offers a fresh perspective on collaboration by focusing on citizen-based efforts to resolve complex problems. An in-depth examination of three grassroots environmental organizations reveals the power in voluntary collaboration as a catalyst for action."

"The Case for Grassroots Collaboration brings together the most current research on environmental policy and grassroots environmental restoration of local, place-based initiatives, to make a compelling case for the value of citizen-based efforts, such as the Chesapeake Bay. The book's major theme, 'restoring water quality one watershed at a time,' richly illustrated by three in-depth case studies, inspires hope for those discouraged by the limited success of government-led, large-scale environmental collaboration. The message, supported by evidence from the case studies, is that grassroots environmental restoration efforts can gain on a larger scale. The rich detail of the case studies, backed by current research, is valuable to academic researchers and accessible to citizens who are inspired by their own sense of place to make a difference."

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MORRIS, GIBSON,
LEAVITT, AND JONES

THE CASE FOR
GRASSROOTS COLLABORATION



JOHN CHARLES MORRIS, WILLIAM ALLEN GIBSON,
WILLIAM MARSHALL LEAVITT, AND SHANA CAMPBELL JONES

THE CASE FOR GRASSROOTS COLLABORATION

Social Capital and Ecosystem Restoration at the Local Level



Questions??

