

Natural Resource Adaptation Action Area



Carrabelle, Florida



Whitney Gray NRLI Class XII





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Comprehensive Plan Amendment:

Natural Resource Adaptation Action Area



Concept:

Allowing a natural resource to self-adapt by getting out of the way/staying out of the way of habitat migration/conversion





Huh?!



What's an Adaptation Action Area?

- Comprehensive Plan tool optional
- Established in Florida statutes in 2011
- Allows a local government to establish an area designated for prioritization of funding
- The designated area would be the subject of flood mitigation or adaptation planning.

Flood mitigation is one of the critical ecosystem services we receive from coastal ecosystems



Examples:

remove abandoned infrastructure
return elevations to grade
restore hydrologic connections
change zoning if local sea level reaches a particular
elevation



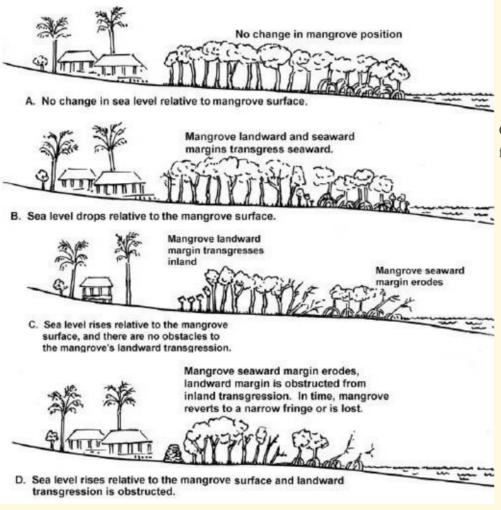




Why bother?

Coastal ecosystems are vulnerable to sea level rise.

As sea level rises, beaches, dunes, salt marshes, mangroves, and other coastal ecosystems can move inland UNLESS there is something in the way. If there is something in the way of that habitat migration, sea level rise will overcome the ecosystem and it will be "pinched out".



Coastal ecosystems are important for:

- wind and wave-breaking during storms
- habitat for many endangered species
- nursery-grounds and habitat for many important commercial and recreational fish species
- cultural, spiritual, artistic and other intangible values

How do we develop this concept?

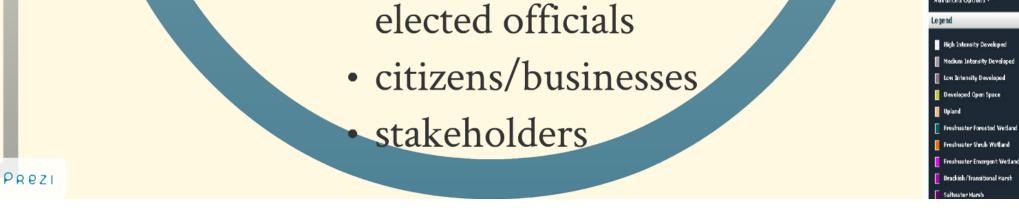
Need experts in:

- law
- planning
- coastal ecosystems
- local knowledge

Need buy-in from:

 local gov't staff and elected officials





Expert partnerships in development

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Conservation Law Clinic at UF
Department of Urban and Regional Planning at FSU
1000 Friends of Florida

Stakeholder partnerships in development

City of Carrabelle City of Apalachicola

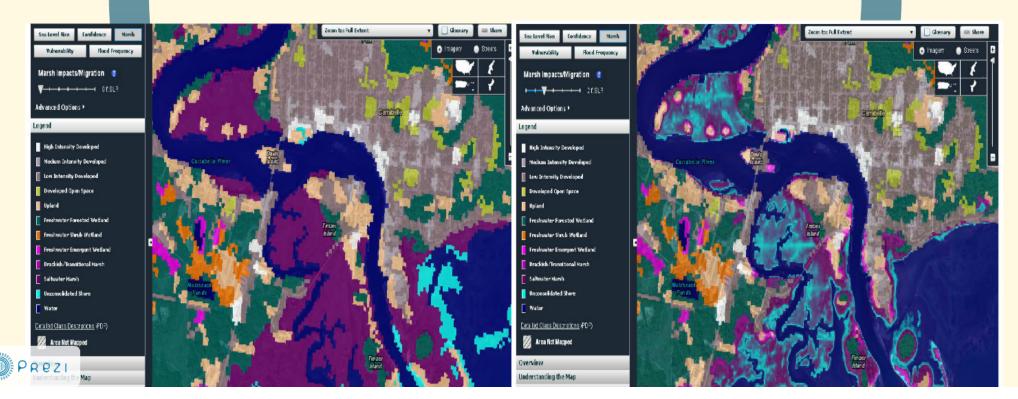
Partners still needed

Citizen stakeholder groups
Natural resource stakeholders
Business stakeholders
Others?



How do we start?

- Convene experts to discuss the concept
- Use maps to find potential vulnerabilities
- Work with city leaders to develop a general AAA policy for the comp plan with appropriate goals and objectives
- Pencil in a timeline for getting specific



- Introductory presentations
 - vulnerabilities
 - value of coastal ecosystems
 - comprehensive plan
 - adaptation action areas concept language
- Attendees help identify potential areas on large printed maps
- Develop support for the concept







Second Workshop

- Present adaptation options
 - Include cost information
 - Research potential funding sources like grants and other programs from federal, state, and county government
 - Emphasize the cost of not acting
- Ask attendees to weigh options and prioritize

Law and Planning Experts take workshop results and draft the NRAAA



Third Workshop



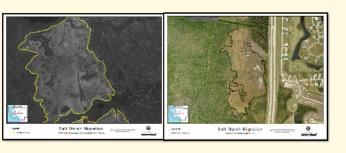
- Present draft NRAAA to stakeholders
- Ask for final thoughts before it goes to the City Commission



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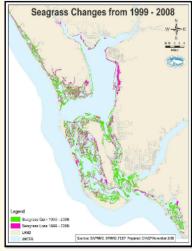




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