

*Update:*

**Oyster Restoration in  
Support of the Chesapeake  
Bay Executive Order**



## Executive Order Goal:

- Restore oyster populations in 20\* tributaries by 2025

## Oyster Metrics:

- NOAA, USACE, DNR, VMRC, Army Corps, UMD, VIMS + 17 consulting scientists;
- Developed Bay-wide, consensus definition of ‘restored reef’ and ‘restored tributary’
- On-the-ground restoration is now being built to meet these metrics

## Established:

- MD & VA Oyster Restoration Workgroups

# Maryland

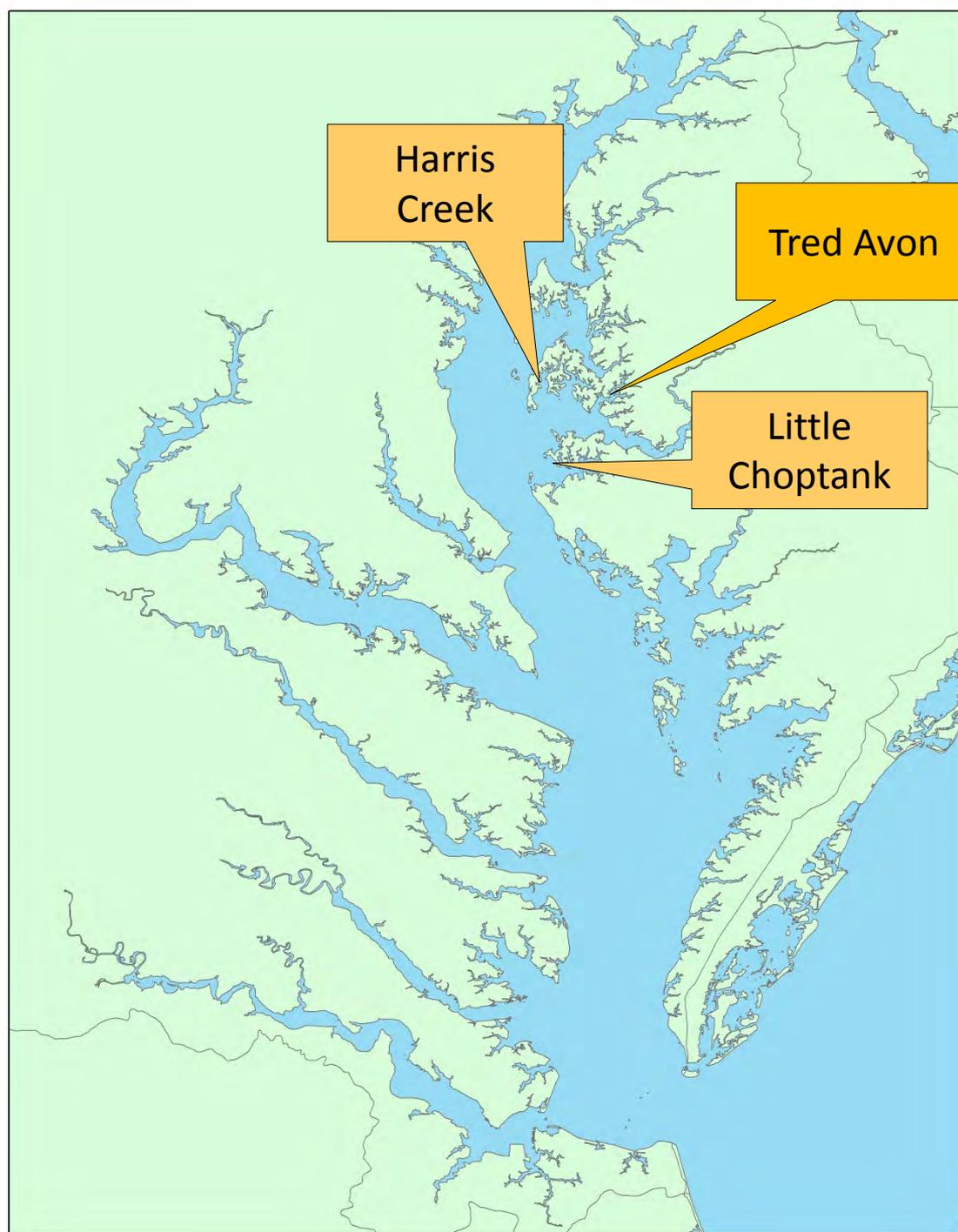
## Tributary Selection:

- Harris Creek
- Little Choptank River
- Tred Avon

“Choptank Complex”



OYSTER RECOVERY  
PARTNERSHIP | ORP



# Harris Creek

## Developed Tributary plan

Calls for 377 acres to be restored to the Oyster Metrics-level definition

## Tributary Plan implementation

Currently constructed: 188 acres

Planned & Funded for 2014:

Will bring total to 293 by end of 2014

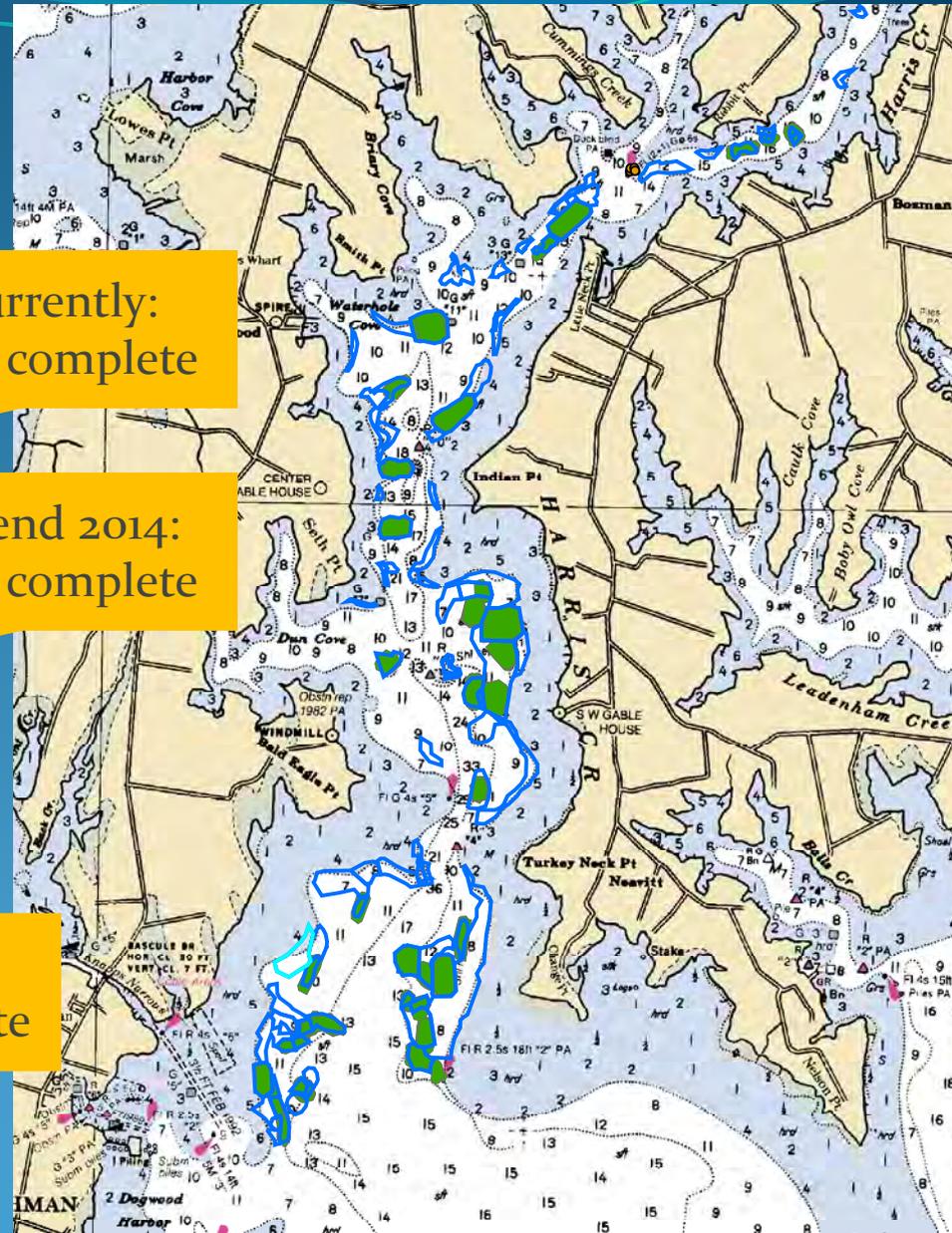
Anticipated for 2015:

377 acres total

Currently:  
50% complete

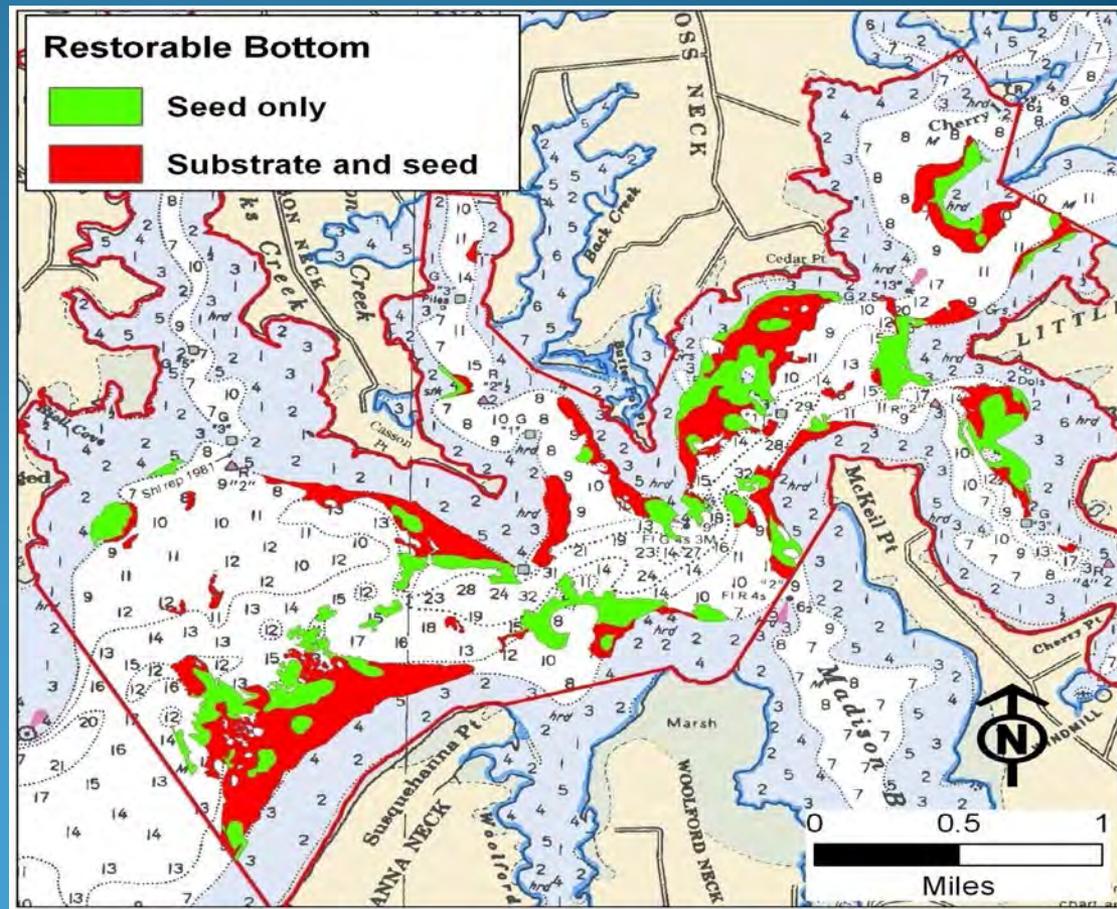
By end 2014:  
78% complete

By end 2015:  
100% complete



# Little Choptank River

## Developed Draft Tributary plan





## Monitoring

- For Oyster Metrics success criteria
  - reef-level oyster surveys at year 1, 3 and 6 (ORP)
  - reef footprint mapping: post-construction, year 3 and year 6 (NOAA)
- Diagnostics (ex: disease; water quality)
  - DNR vertical profiler in Harris
  - NOAA vertical profiler in Tred Avon (spring 2014)
  - DNR ongoing water quality monitoring
  - DNR annual fall surveys

-Can be used to adaptively manage restoration techniques

## Research

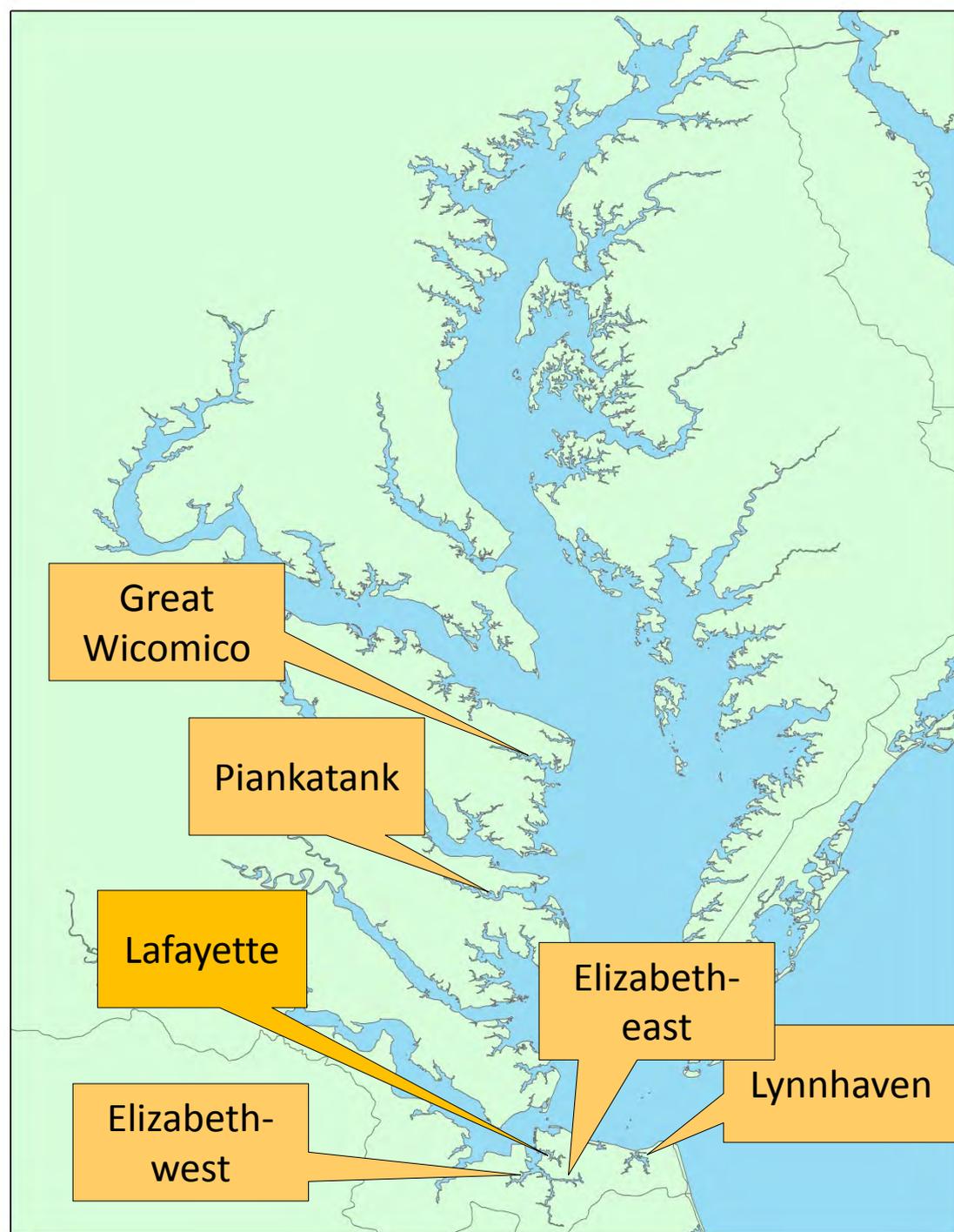
-ex: quantification of ecosystem services (Howard Townsend will present on this next)



## Virginia

### Tributary Selection:

- Lynnhaven
- Lafayette\*\*
- Piankatank\*\*
- Great Wicomico
- Elizabeth River-eastern branch
- Elizabeth River-western branch



# Virginia

## Tributary Plan Teams

- Lafayette\*\*
  - NOAA
  - USACE
  - Chesapeake Bay Foundation
  - Elizabeth River Partnership
  - City of Norfolk
  - VIMS
  
- Piankatank\*\*
  - NOAA
  - USACE
  - Chesapeake Bay Foundation
  - The Nature Conservancy
  - VIMS

