

Feasibility Study of Use of Thin Layer Deposition of Sediments to Establish a Stable Substrate for the Restoration of Degraded Salt Marsh in Village Creek's Estuary

Objectives

Investigate the Feasibility of Saltmarsh Restoration in the Village Creek Estuary

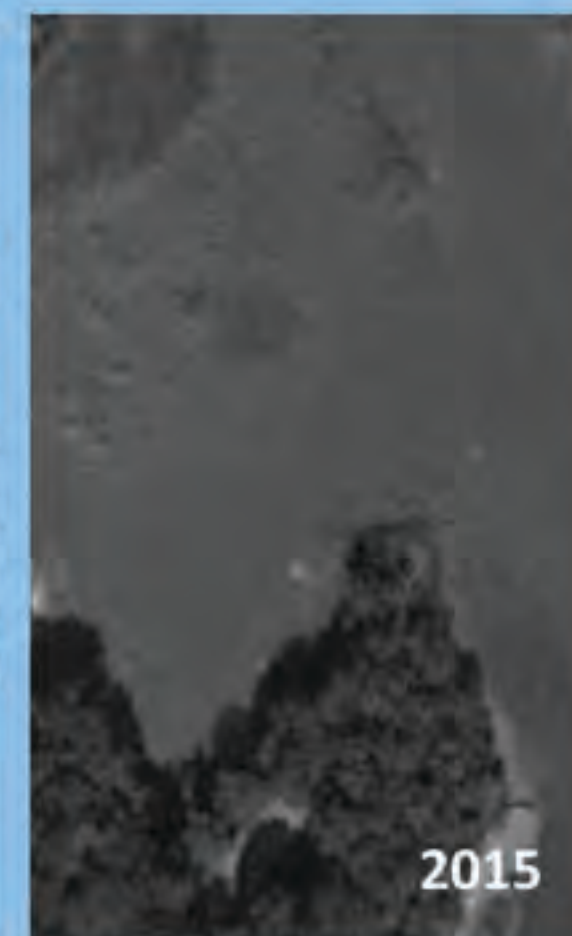
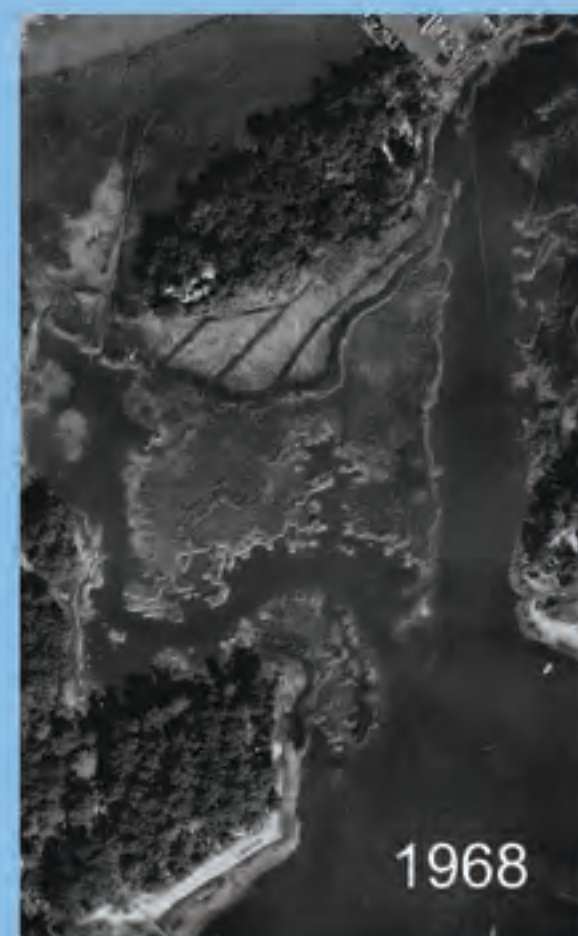


- Investigate the feasibility of using dredged materials to restore degraded saltmarsh in the Village Creek Estuary
- Determine historical saltmarsh cover of the estuary
- Examine the hydrology of the estuary and fine-scale mapping of the subject areas
- Conduct a survey of plant and animal species in the subject areas
- Propose sites for restoration and evaluate potential design process

Project Scope

The Project is Relevant to the Local Community, Long Island Sound and Connecticut State

- Improvement of our scientific understanding of the function, resiliency and stewardship of our coastal saltmarsh resources
- This is one of the first efforts of this kind in Connecticut and the information generated will help to inform and improve the potential for success of other similar projects in the state
- The Village Creek Project is a small scale pilot program in an estuary that contains all of the critical components of a typical Long Island Sound coastal community
 - residential property
 - commercial property
 - industrial area
 - recreational area (beach front)
 - small boat marina
 - healthy saltmarsh
 - degraded saltmarsh
 - mud flat
- These natural and built components are also extremely sensitive and susceptible to damage and degradation from increasingly severe weather events due to climate change



Collaborations



- Community education and outreach stakeholders
 - commercial and residential property owners
 - boating community
 - environmental organizations
 - state and local regulatory authorities
- Continuing community outreach program
- Science Department of Brien McMahon High School
 - Village Creek and Wilson Point Community Associations
 - Norwalk Land Trust membership

The project's science and financial structure developed in the course of the feasibility study will be available in the public domain