

#### What?—Development and Salt Marshes have not mixed well

- Development has effected many of our salt marshes in unwanted ways
- Development will continue in Glynn County and the county is surrounded by salt marshes
- Development will continue to impact the salt marshes
- Salt marshes are viewed as our most important natural resource and deserve our protection
  Our track record is flawed

#### Types of effect

- Degraded/ Un-mantained Mosquito Control Ditches
- Roads/Causeways/Dykes/Dams/Bike Trails
- Insufficient size of bridges to allow flow
- Impoundment Walls
- Dredge dumped straight into marsh
- Channelization
- Mismanagement of water control structures such as flood gates

### **Mosquito Control Ditches**

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#### Southwest Jekyll Degraded Ditches

# South Jekyll Ditched Marshes

#### South Jekyll ditch degredation



#### Wooden sea wall presumably for impoundment on Little Saint Simons Island

#### Spoil adjacent to Jekyll Island Airport

#### Channelization Oak Grove Island

#### Site East of Oak Grove Island









#### Oak Grove Causeway Looking West During Low Tide



#### Site cut off by old dykes North of Jekyll Airport



#### Why do we have the problem?

- No one knows how to do it
- To correct the problem we have tried ditching
- Tide gates
- The ditches have worked well but need maintenance
- Never knew how many ditches how long or how deep
- How wide does the mouth of the ditch need to be
- How important is the sheet flow



## Northern Most Marsh On Jekyll Island

Ditches may have permanently fixed the problem as far as mosquito source reduction....Natur e seems to have accepted our solution

## North Jekyll Island ditch degradation



#### Ditches on Southern End-of-the Sanchopan Marsh on LSSI are facilitating diurnal flow



# These marshes may breed mosquitoes

- These insects fly many miles with the wind
- Many sites could become breeders if they aren't already
- Some previously ditched but will breed again if not maintained
- Intercoastal waterway may be effected--\$\$\$\$\$

#### Jekyll Island Causeway

S. A.

#### Latham Creek





## Span Budge in South Interior of Jekyl Island

Anten

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# Span bridging the whole width of a marsh may not be necessary



# Who makes the decisions to develop

- Elected officials rely on is the calculations of the developing engineers
- Corps of Engineers tried to attempt marsh mitigation on Andrew's Island – We just dug the land down to the average height above mean sea level that spartina alternaflora grows
- Oak Grove no one could make a decision on a fix so the county just left one gate open
#### Sidney Lanier Bridge Mitigation Site

### Southeast Andrew's Island Marsh Mitigation Project

Corp of Engineers cut the dredge down to the elevation of other spartina marshes and plugged with Spartina sp. grass



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### Initial Proposal/New Consideration

Maintain Current Ditches and maybe use ponds to harbor predatory fish to control larvae

May have found a better way

Looking for a solution/options we modeled and may be onto something here that can accurately predict tidal volumes and therefore protect the marsh from future well intended but ill conceived modifications

#### Big and Small Projects -A "Few Real Winners"

- We would like to test our model on presently degraded models
- LSSI North Sanchopan, Jekyll Clam Creek bike trail, Oak Grove island
- Before and after data
- Years to monitor time it takes for recovery
- □ Looking at biota So many desciplines involved
- Proper, accurate portrayal of the model will need many different sciences in order to be reputable for future referance



Flow Rate through a 25 ft wide bridge Flow Rate through two 18" Culverts

#### Clam Creek Healthy marsh

POSSIBLE BRIDGE LOCATION

dals ON

CLAM CREEK STUDY SITE























## Clam Creek Study Site



















#### Mosquito Larvae in Marsh potential site for salt marsh hydration project

3.5 acres that breed after spring tides due to poor drainage of salt water









03/17/2010 03:34









## Fish Sampling

# Also minnow traps

CONTRACT OF








Glynn County, Georgia CIG(Coastal Incentive Grant) for Clam Creek Pocket Marsh Transect Lines - April 2010



Friday, May 21, 2010 Transect Lines 04302010 - RSN

## Marsh Sampling Data Sheet

Date_7-13-1	0	Time	<b>_7:59</b> A	AM Low tide at	
Latitude & Lo	ongitud	le			
Location _Cla	m Cr	eek Jekyll Isla	and		
Transect #	_1	Quadrat #	1	Quadrat size _	_0.5m^2_
Photo #	_1-1	Investiga	ators _	Ben Brewer-David	d Miller

### **VEGETATION:**

Spartina	Distichlis	Juncus	Other*
# Live > 15cm21			Baetis 125
# Live < 15cm3		<u>N/A</u>	
# Dead stems4			
% cover _15			60
(in 0.5 m <sup>2</sup> quad)			

Height of 5 tallest in cm (Spartina only)

\_19.5"\_, 20"\_\_, 17"\_\_,17"\_, 16.5"\_

Observations on leaf color within the quadrat (green, brown, purple): \_\_\_\_\_Bright Green\_\_\_\_\_

### FAUNA:

Periwinkles	nm 3 any dead?0_
Mud snails # live	any dead?
Other snails type? # live	any dead?
Crabs # holes > 5 mm diameter	_2 any dead crabs?1
Mussels (0.5 x 0.5 m <sup>2</sup> quadrat) # live _	1 any dead?
Other observations of fauna	

#### **GENERAL:**

Is there a clear transition area along this transect? [x ] Yes [] No If yes, approx. how far is this quadrat from the transition zone? 20'\_m Other observations (soil firmness, presence of sulfide, other smells, conditions): \_\_Saturated very firm soil\_\_\_\_\_\_ POREWATER: Soil temp \_\_\_\_\_ Salinity \_\_45\_\_ pH \_\_\_\_\_ ELEVATION: \_\_2.233' msl (based on GPS reading)

Use 0.5m<sup>2</sup> quad for all percent cover counts and for flora and fauna rounding to the nearest 25 if need be.





















# YEAR ONE GRANT CYCLE BUDGET

YEAR 1							
Itemized Costs	Total Cost	CIG Funds Requested	Matching Funds (in- kind and other)				
Personnel	\$20,691		\$20,691				
Fringe Benefits	\$3,369		\$3,369				
Equipment	\$3,000	750	\$2,250				
Travel							
Supplies	\$2,828		\$2,828				
Subcontract	\$28,387	\$28,387					
Construction							
Other							
TOTAL	\$58,275	\$29,137	\$29,138				

# DELIVERABLES

 Trained volunteer Task Force Protocol for all aspects of study(handbook)
Reports
All data

# G.E. Q.R.G.I.A. Oyster Habitat Restoration Project In Progress Please Do Not Disturb the Bagged Shell



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Savannah (912) 598-2348 pr Brunswick (912) 264-7323



www.mares.uga.edu/shelifish

Future Plans More bridges or larger culverts



# Food For Thought

- Does the mixture of natural and man-made irrigation channels work against our common goal of flooding and ebb tide cycles twice a day? Does the water just travel straight though the marsh from one entrance/exit to another
- Does the species of plant present at a given location hinder the transport of water across a marsh during the sheet flow part of the tidal cycle?
- Can we predict volume of water it takes to flood a given marsh and also predict the necessary size of the entrance/entrances of the channels allowing the flow to occur





48 inches wide to flood >100 acres of marsh

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