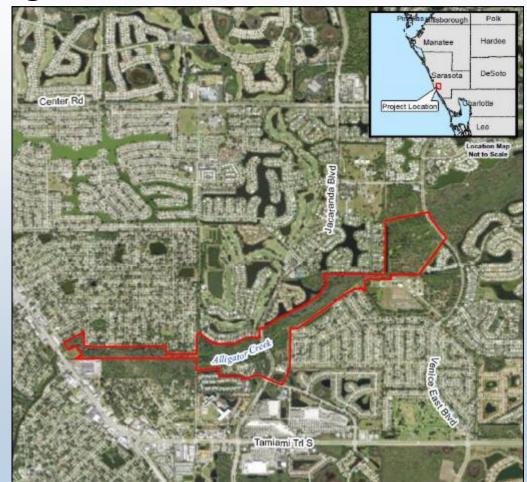




#### Background

- Tidally influenced creek beginning as a freshwater wetland system flowing to Lemon Bay
- Urbanized watershed
- Alterations to system began in 1940's
- Excavated to typical trapezoidal cross-section in project area





#### **Project Overview**

Why Alligator Creek?

- Steep and unstable side banks resulting in excessive erosion and sedimentation
- High nutrient loading due to increased drainage flow
- Nuisance/Exotic vegetation overtaken native stream and shoreline habitats
- Ditching has resulted in significant waterbody degradation and homogenization, diminishing important fish rearing habitat and biodiversity

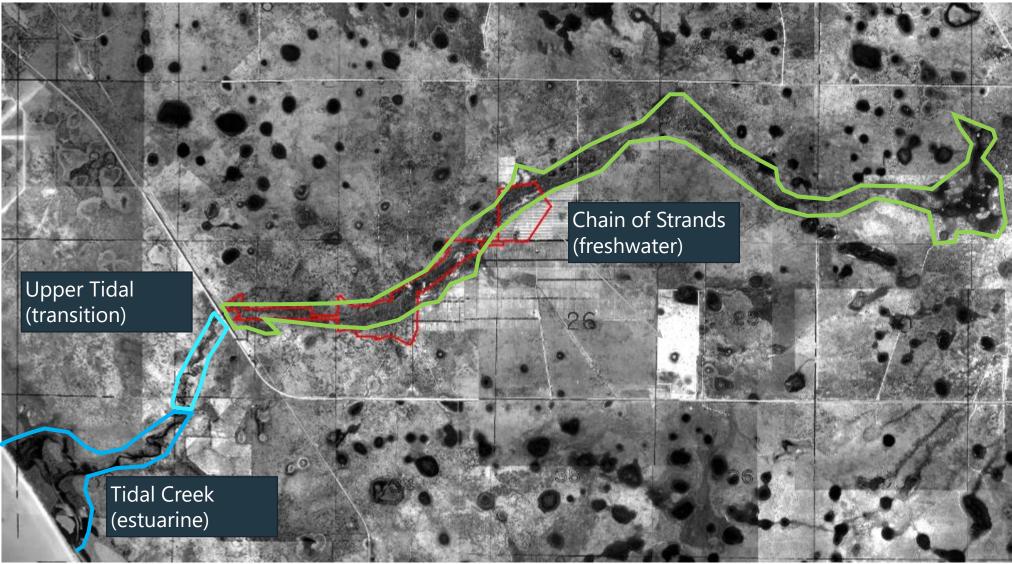


#### **Project Benefits**



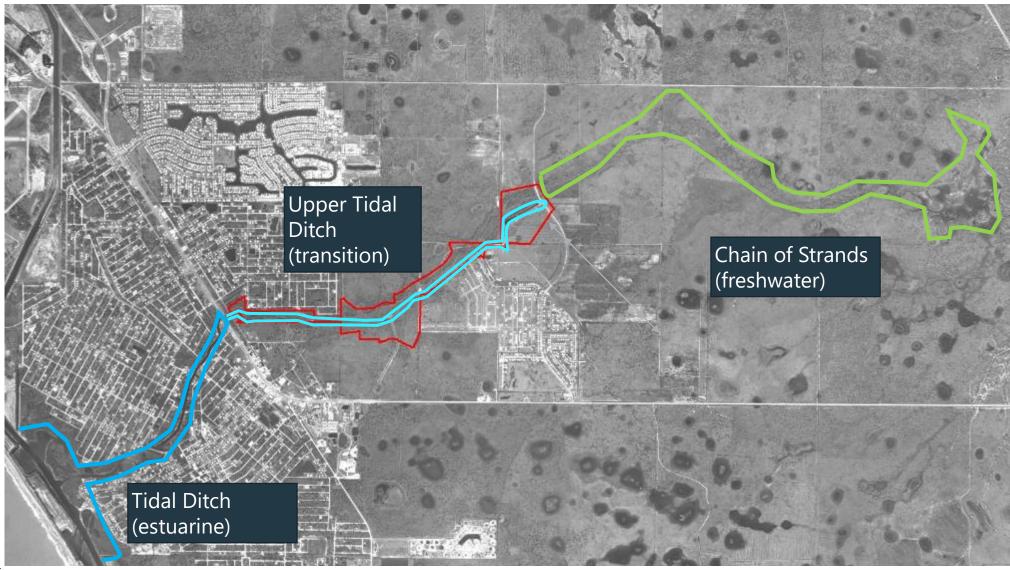
- Remove nutrients
- Stabilize banks
- Reduce maintenance
- Improve fisheries habitat
- Improve resiliency
- Enhance recreational area





wood.







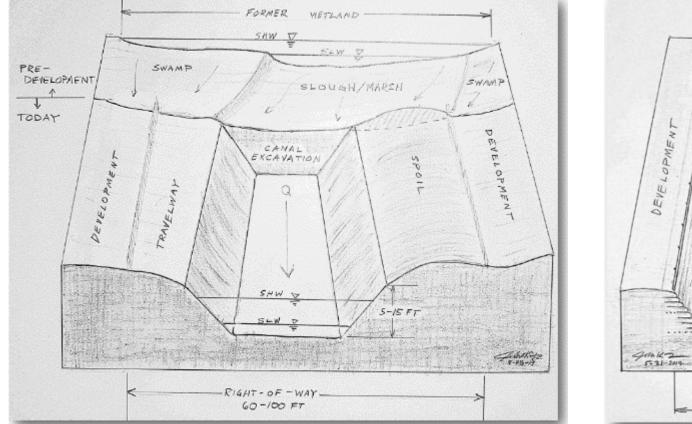


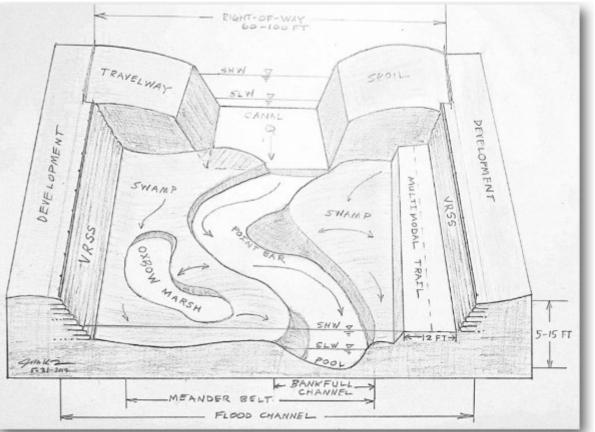
wood.



### **The Altered Drainage Network**

### **Priority 2 Restoration**

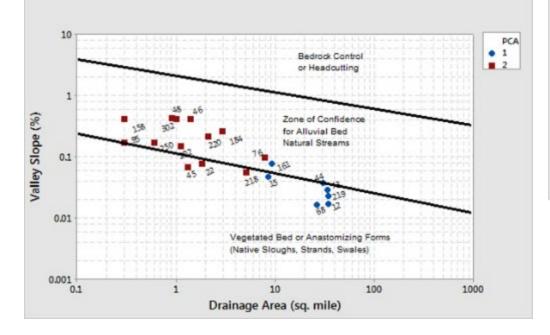


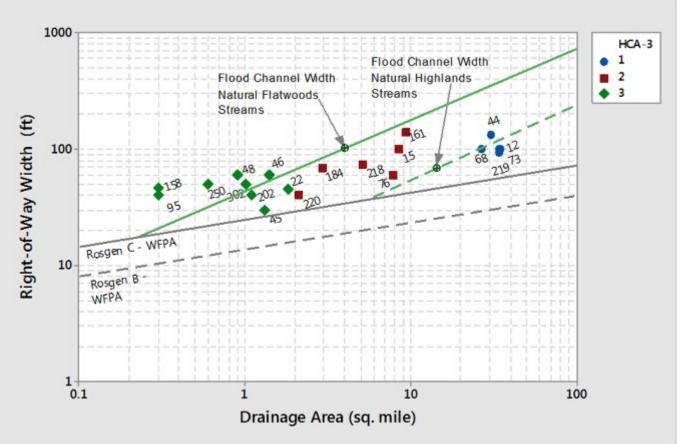


wood

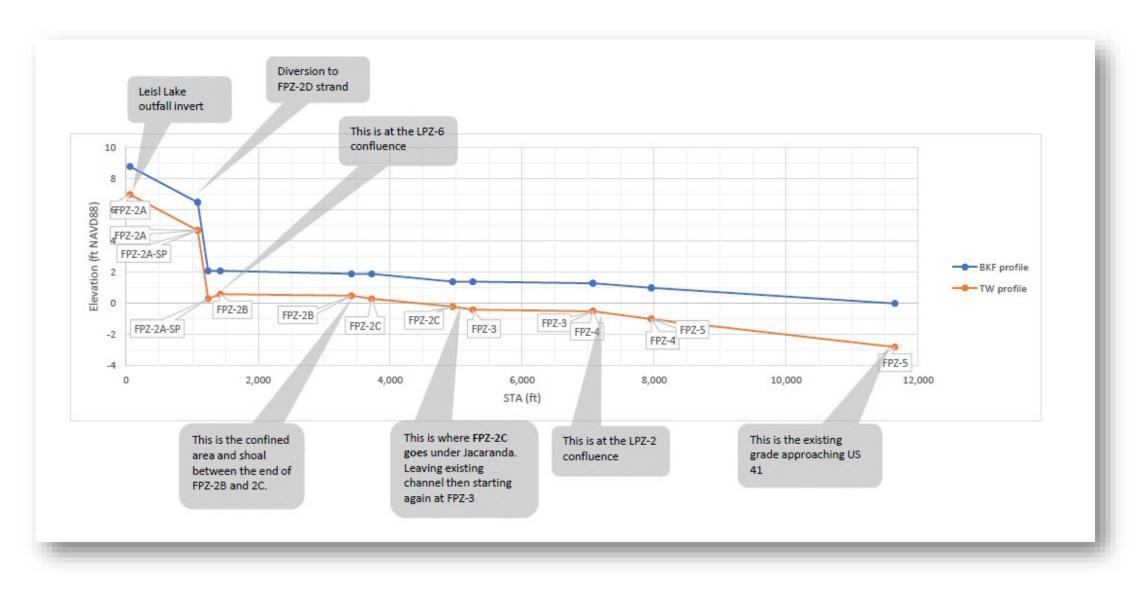
## Florida's Biophysical Fit

- Harness natural forces and use nature as our guide
  - More resilient
  - Less maintenance
  - More beautiful
  - Efficient design and construction



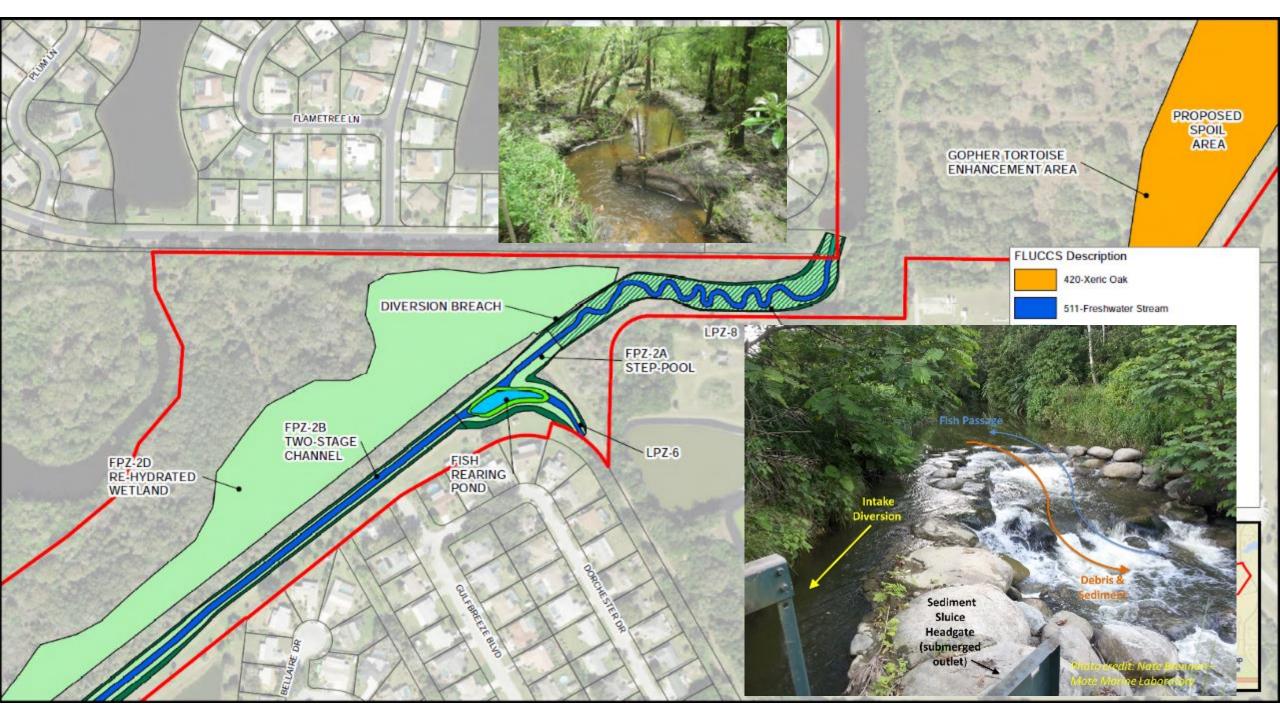


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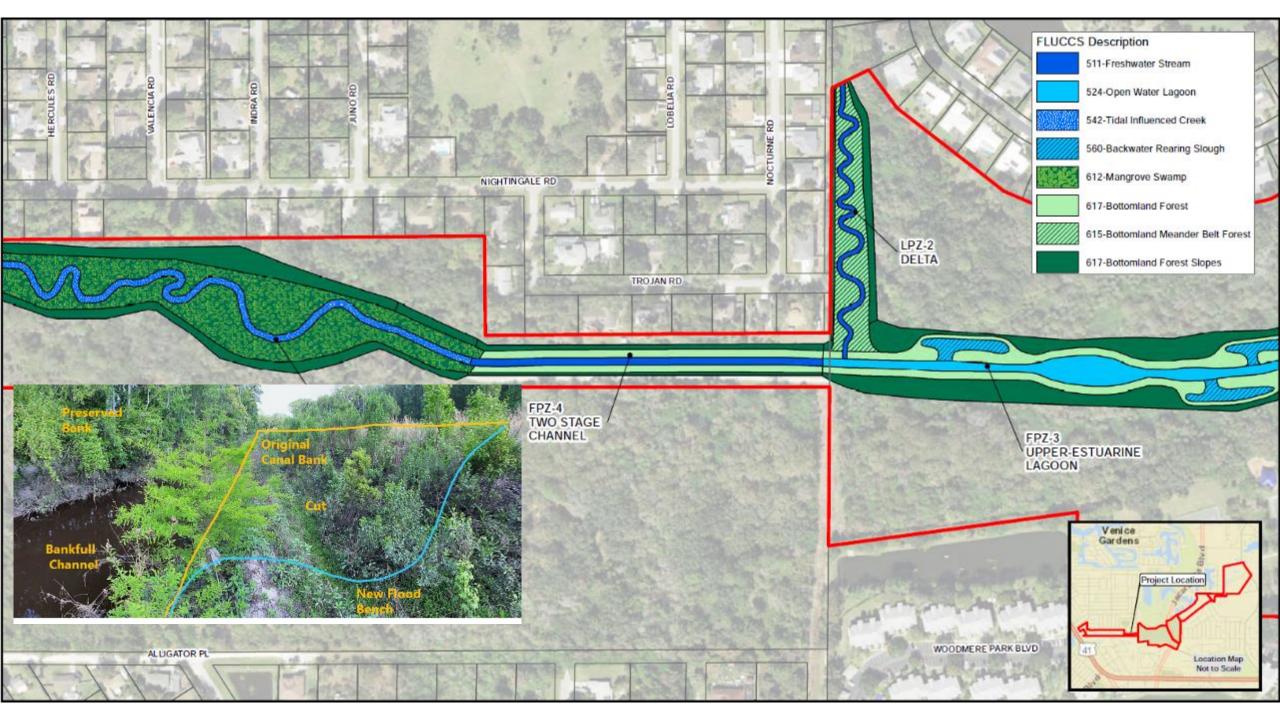


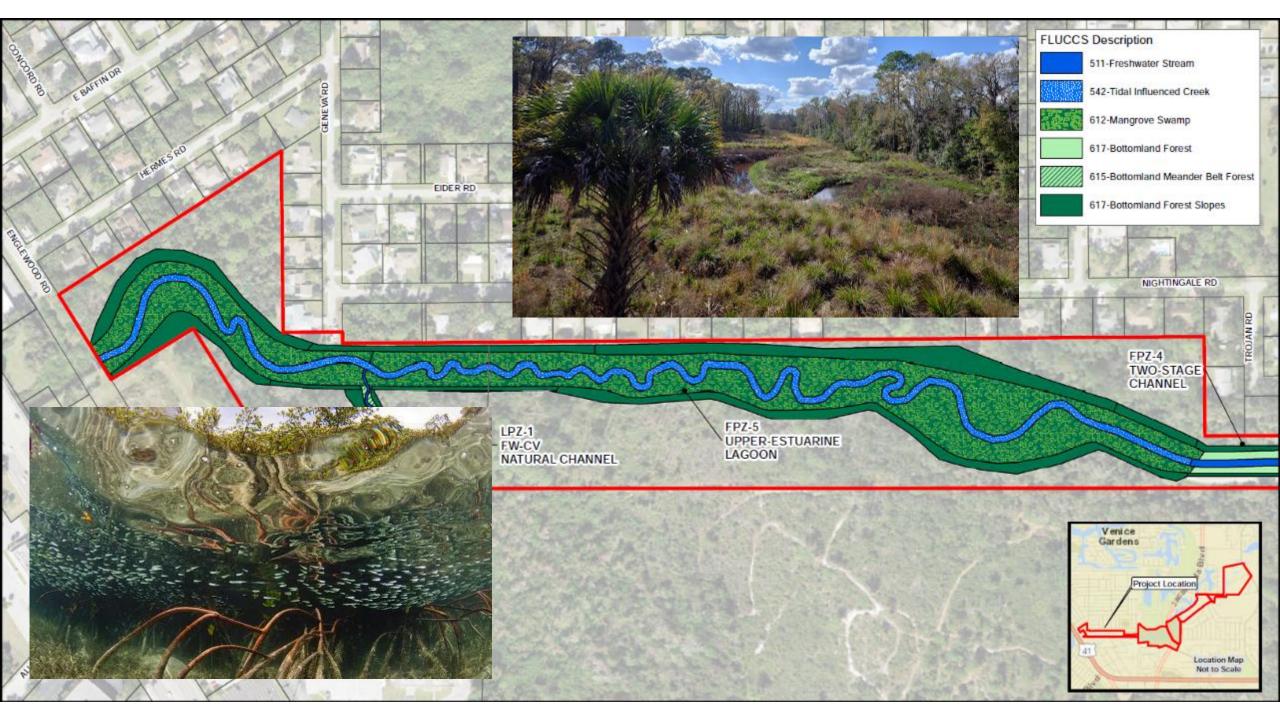












### World Famous Venice Rookery (at Venice Area Audubon Rookery)



Second grade students on a field trip to the Venice Area Audubon Rookery *By Lynne Pedlar* 



from Nate Brennan, Mote Marine Laboratory

### Venice Snookery (coming soon to Alligator Creek)

### A Biologically Diverse & Beautiful Bioreactor

- Significantly cleanse groundwater and surface water remove 1,500 lb TN per year
- Expanded wetland and aquatic habitats up to 54 acres functional wetland gain, ~3 miles of natural channels/lagoons
  - Reduced palliative maintenance **self-organizing equilibrium** with tide, valley, & watershed conditions
- Plan will unlock the potential of Alligator Creek as an estuarine fish nursery ~76 acres of snook & tarpon rearing areas
- Most of the new creek will look like it belongs in old Florida, from headwaters to the tide
- It will be a marvelous community asset, easily accessed by nature lovers
- A learning tool on the vanguard of re-imagining the potential of our state's canals and ditches





# Alligator Creek Stream Restoration Project Vision









#### **Questions or Comments?**





### **Prepare for Rain**

- Dry Season Construction
- Weather resilient construction sequencing
- Segmented Construction (stitch and move one geomorphic unit at a time)



Edwards Bottomland Project – flood under construction



Edwards Bottomland Project – ongoing construction undamaged by flood



### **Enhanced Water Treatment Through Every Surface**

