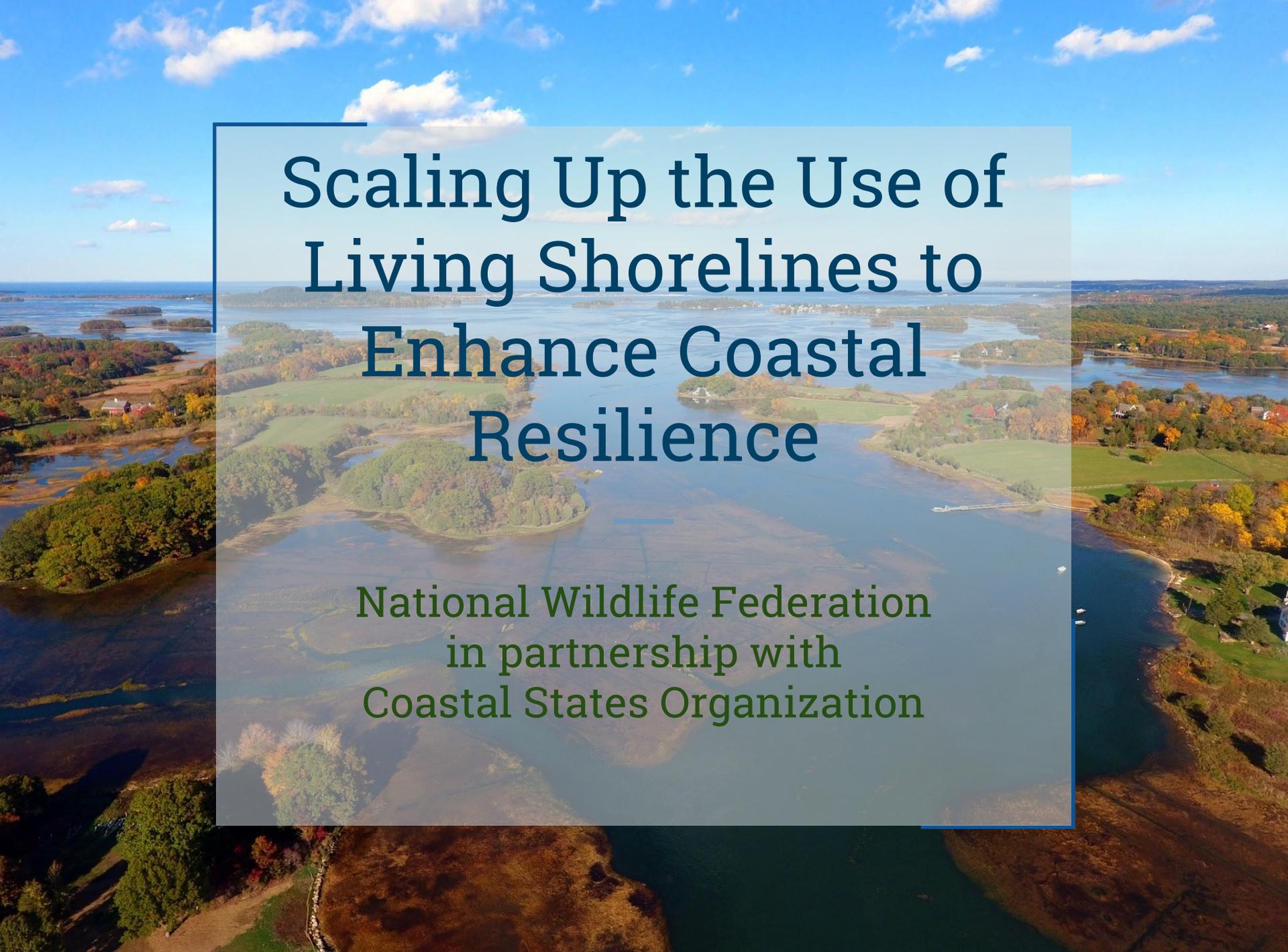




Audio call-in: 515-739-1034  
Passcode for call-in: 859205#

An aerial photograph of a coastal wetland area. The image shows a large body of water, likely a bay or estuary, with numerous small islands and peninsulas. The surrounding land is covered in dense vegetation, including trees with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow, orange, and red. There are also green fields and some buildings visible on the land. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. A semi-transparent blue box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the main title and subtitle.

# Scaling Up the Use of Living Shorelines to Enhance Coastal Resilience

National Wildlife Federation  
in partnership with  
Coastal States Organization



# About this Webinar

---

- Audience and purpose:** CSO Members/State Coastal Managers and staff are the audience for this webinar because of your on-the-ground expertise in various components of the LSL process. The project team wants to engage coastal managers throughout this project to ensure that this work will provide helpful outcomes on the ground.
- Interactive:** Please provide any thoughts, comments, resources, etc through the GoToMeeting chat feature.
- Goals:** Provide background on the project and a clear path forward for coastal manager engagement and contributions.



# Project Team

---

- Bruce Stein (Chief Scientist, Assoc VP, PI)
- Chris Hilke (Project Lead, New England lead)
- Karl Schrass (Mid-Atlantic lead & Outreach lead)
- Avalon Bristow (Mid-Atlantic)
- Amanda Fuller (Gulf of Mexico lead)
- Jessie Ritter (Policy lead, Gulf of Mexico)
- Emily Powell (Gulf of Mexico)
- Bradley Watson (CSO)
- John Ryan-Henry (CSO)



# Project Background

---

- Inherent challenges to coastal zone management
- Various efforts at multiple scales to “regionalize” coastal resiliency enhancement approaches
- NWF’s Coastal Portfolio
  - Identifying cross-cutting, multi-benefit outcomes



# Purpose and Objectives

---

The high-level goals of this project are to:

- 1) Dramatically scale up the use of living shorelines for coastal protection, restoration, and enhancement;
- 2) Increase the use of living shoreline techniques that are ecologically appropriate regionally, and that are ecologically and geomorphically appropriate at the site level; and
- 3) Increase the use of living shoreline techniques that are adaptive in the face of rising seas and a changing climate.



# Project Design

---

1. Policy Analysis
  - ◆ Federal (Implementation of NWP 54)
  - ◆ State (permitting conditions)
2. National Policy Advocacy & Engagement
3. Policy Amplification
4. Service Provider Engagement





# Policy Analysis Overview

---

- Identify federal and state-level policies incentivizing or impeding LSL deployment
- Identify specific opportunities and barriers to “regionalizing” the application of living shorelines
- Develop policy and regulatory recommendations based on lessons learned
- Identify opportunities to promote the application of LS approaches in emerging federal legislation and rules



# Policy Analysis - Federal

---

- Track the use of USACE living shoreline nationwide general permit
  - ◆ Identify complications in its application
  - ◆ Identify opportunities to strengthen living shoreline incentives
- Identify key emerging federal legislation/rulemaking
  - ◆ infrastructure legislation??
  - ◆ Grant programs
  - ◆ Water Resources Development Act
  - ◆ Disaster and natural hazard risk reduction (e.g. NFIP reform)



# Policy Analysis - State

---

- Overview of relevant regulations in each state.
- How are living shorelines perceived (by State agencies) (by practitioners) in terms of an effective shoreline stabilization and/or coastal resilience strategy?
- What factors are contributing to encourage/discourage the use of LSL?
- How is NWP 54 applied in the region/state?
  - ◆ Are there Regional Conditions imposed by the District?
  - ◆ Are there conditions imposed by the state?
  - ◆ Does the District use any applicable regional general permits?



# Policy Amplification

---

- Collaborate with CSO, NWF state affiliates, and other partners to promote policy and regulatory reforms in priority states
- Conduct briefings to emphasize effectiveness, cost savings, and multiple benefits of LS
  - ◆ Congressional
  - ◆ State regulators and policymakers
  - ◆ USACE Districts and Divisions



# Service Provider Engagement

---

- Explore opportunities to develop and deliver a training program focused on addressing knowledge gaps in siting, design, performance, and long-term resilience
  - ◆ Possibly - Establish a peer-to-peer collaborative
  - ◆ Possibly - Develop region-specific training modules on effective, practical, and ecologically appropriate approaches
  - ◆ Possibly - Create a recognition or certification program
  - ◆ Possibly - Create a program for real estate agents



# Timelines and Milestones

---

## Year One -

- Perform policy analysis
- Identify practitioner contacts and leaders
- Develop recommendations, policy and training goals

## Year Two -

- Conduct policy outreach
- Implement training program



# Opportunities for CZM Programs to Engage

- Contribute on-the-ground expertise
  - ◆ Best practices
  - ◆ Areas of need
  - ◆ LSL service provider contacts
  - ◆ Propose other ideas for engagement
- State policy analysis interviews
- Potential dialogue on policy approaches
  - ◆ Share state policy approaches with project team
  - ◆ Project team dialogue over potential policy outcomes
- Collaborate on service provider engagement



# Next Steps

---

- Identify state program points of contact for policy analysis interviews
- Identify ongoing LSL policy initiatives in your programs
- Provide feedback/suggestions on opportunities/needs for service provider engagement



# Wrap Up

---

Questions and feedback?

Chris Hilke

[hilkec@nwf.org](mailto:hilkec@nwf.org)

John Ryan-Henry

[jryan-henry@coastalstates.org](mailto:jryan-henry@coastalstates.org)

