



Accabonac Harbor, NY

SMARTeams Workshop

Peconic Estuary Partnership - Suffolk County Contract

WHEN: Thursday, May 15, 2025 Coffee & Check-in 9:00, Start 9:30, & End at 4:30 PM

Friday May 16, 2025 Coffee & Check-in 8:30, Start at 9:00, & End at 3:45 PM

WHERE: The Nature Conservancy's Center for Conservation (CFC) at 142 E Hampton Sag Harbor Turnpike, East Hampton, NY 11937

*PLEASE BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR LUNCH HEAD COUNT: [HERE](#)

OBJECTIVES:

- Engage regulators in better understanding current scientific thinking regarding salt marsh stressors, impairments, and remedies.
- Motivate regulators to play an active role in supporting minimally disruptive restoration approaches.
- Develop restoration plan to restore single channel surface hydrology to Accabonac harbor in order to efficiently restore ecosystem function, switch elevation trajectory from negative to positive, increase native vegetation cover, facilitate marsh migration, reduce mosquito production & pesticide application, support at-risk species, and promote climate adaptation.
- Develop prioritization and phasing of a thoughtful, effective and long-lasting restoration project to restore long-term viability to the harbor, describe monitoring plan to measure marsh response.
- Get feedback from restoration partners.

OTHER: We will be in a conference room for part of the time, so a computer, notebook, coffee mug etc. will be helpful. We will also be in the field, so please be prepared to spend time on the marsh in all weather (knee boots, water bottle, hat, sunblock, and mosquito repellent advised)

We will be visiting sections of Accabonac Harbor. Parking will be limited, there will be a 16 passenger van for transport but please help us organize carpooling to and from the TNC office at field.

TIDES: Thurs. Low @ 6:40am, High @ 1pm; Fri. Low at 7:24am, High at 1:42pm

This **two-day workshop** is focused on methodology, planning, and regulatory discussions:



Day 1 – Thursday, May 15:

- Background and Methodology Overview
- Zoom participation will be available (for those with busy schedules or traveling from afar)
- **Field component** – We strongly encourage in-person attendance to see the site!



Day 2 – Friday, May 16: *(Regulators-centered)*

- **Participation for Regulators & Land Owners**
- Presentations on plans and proposed actions, Accabonac **tideshed-specific examples**
- Explanation of actions, potential impacts, and mitigation efforts
- Q&A with the design and implementation teams for your assessment questions
- **Field day component** – We strongly encourage in-person attendance to see the site!

PRE-WORKSHOP READINGS

Summary and Abstracts Folder: [Workshop pre-readings](#)

Focus on [Adamowicz et al. 2020](#); [Burdick et al. 2020](#); [Maher & Starke 2023](#)

Thursday, May 15 – Virtual & Field Session

Thursday Zoom Link: <https://tnc.zoom.us/j/94693648007?from=addon>
Meeting ID: 946 9364 8007

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
9:00 AM	Coffee and Registration	—
9:30 AM	Welcome, Introductions, & Workshop Overview	Joyce, Jade (PEP)
9:40 AM	Accabonac Harbor: A Restoration Priority	Nicole Maher (TNC)
9:50 AM	Colonial Farmers on the Marsh (<i>see pre-reading</i>)	Susan Adamowicz

10:20 AM	Break	—
10:35 AM	Salt Marsh Ecology: Two Subsidence Trajectories	David Burdick
11:00 AM	Breaking Bias: Identifying Impairments & Successional Features on the Marsh	Geoff Wilson
12:10 PM	Lunch Break	—
1:00 PM	Marsh Elevation Trajectory in Accabonac: What's Missing?	Nicole Maher
1:30 PM	Hydrological Impairments in Accabonac: Why We Need to Intervene	Geoff Wilson
2:00–4:30 PM	Field Visit: Carpool to Accabonac Harbor Marsh (Northern-most EH property) *Low tide: 6:39 AM; High tide: 12:58 PM* Return to CFC by 4:30 PM	

Friday Zoom Link: <https://tnc.zoom.us/j/92849042552?from=addon>
 Meeting ID: 928 4904 2552

Friday, May 16 – Field & Discussion Day: Regulators & Land owners

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
8:30 AM	Check-In & Coffee	—
9:00–9:30 AM	Day One Review: Lessons Learned & Myth Busting	SMARTeams
9:45–11:45 AM	Field Trip to Merrill Lake Sanctuary (<i>in the field by 10:00 AM</i>) *Low tide: 7:24 AM; High tide: 1:42 PM*	
12:15 PM	Lunch at CFC	—
12:45 PM	Current Landscape Features: Examples from Northern East Hampton Parcel & TNC's Merrill Lake Sanctuary	Geoff Wilson
1:30 PM	Proposed Actions: Restoring Single-Channel Hydrology Using Light-Touch Techniques	Geoff Wilson
2:00 PM	Break	—
2:15 PM	Introduction to Monitoring Framework & Adaptive Management Thresholds	SMARTeams (David or Susan)
3:00 PM	Feedback Session: What Should We Know as We Prepare Designs for Your Review?	Jade and Will
3:30–3:45 PM	Workshop Closeout & Next Steps	SMARTeams