

WHAT'S A WETLAND WORTH?

MEASUREMENT TOOLS AND FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF KENAI PENINSULA PEATLANDS

Webinar: April 25, 2018 | 9:00AM to 11:00am

Register Here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2779908832656217601>

Hosted by Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and the NERR Science Collaborative
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) and Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (WBNERR)

Objectives:

- Build capacity for KBNERR and partners to communicate about blue carbon evaluation through transfer of information from SERC and WBNERR
- Introduction of project to stakeholder liaisons and preliminary consideration of local potential for blue carbon projects
- Strengthened stakeholder network around wetlands, ecosystem valuation, and land use impacts issues

Audience:

KBNERR staff: Research, Training and Stewardship sectors

Kenai Peninsula Partners: Community Council, Soil and Water Conservation District, KP Borough Staff: River Center Coastal Program, Land Management and Planning Departments, and Material Site Code Task Force

Agenda

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| 9:00 a.m. | Welcome and Introductions | |
| 9:00 a.m. | Why Blue Carbon Matters in Alaska <i>Welcome and Introductions, host perspective, background on Kenai Lowlands</i> | Coowe Walker KBNERR Watershed Program (15 min) |
| 9:15 a.m. | Potential Carbon Stocks of Kenai Peninsula <i>Presentation on potential Blue/Turquoise Carbon stocks on the Kenai Peninsula</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Where peatlands are</i> • <i>Where tidal wetlands are</i> <i>Linking assessment and monitoring methods with management and planning</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Carbon markets</i> • <i>How does AK peat fit into carbon markets</i> • <i>Conservation vs restoration costs</i> | Dennis Whigham SERC Plant Ecology Lab Pat Megonigal SERC Biogeochemistry Lab Steve Crooks Silvestrum Climate Associates (30 min) |
| 9:45 a.m. | How are wetlands valued by local landowners and resource managers? What are current threats or opportunities for wetland conservation? | Q&A (15 min) |



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| 10:00 a.m. | <p>Bringing Wetlands to Market <i>Quantifying greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration in coastal wetlands and predicting greenhouse gas fluxes across a range of environmental settings</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Process of bringing wetlands to market</i> • <i>Broadening work to carbon budget environmental settings</i> • <i>Tying to broader market</i> <p><i>Tools and resources to enable coastal managers and policymakers to leverage blue carbon to achieve broader wetlands management, restoration, and conservation goals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Connect to decision making</i> • <i>Unforeseen benefits</i> | <p><i>James Rassman</i> <i>WBNERR Stewardship</i></p> <p><i>Tonna-Marie Surgeon-Rogers</i> <i>WBNERR Coastal Training Program</i></p> <p>(30 min)</p> |
| 10:30 a.m. | <p>Are stakeholders currently aware of wetland ecosystem services or financial incentives for conservation?</p> <p>Are there specific strategies for stakeholder engagement and awareness building that would work best for our local landowners?</p> | <p>Q&A</p> <p>(15 min)</p> |
| 10:45 a.m. | <p>Local Management Issues and Next Steps <i>Wrap up of emerging issues and applications, July Field Trips</i></p> | <p><i>Syverine Bentz</i> <i>KBNERR Coastal Training</i></p> <p>(15 min)</p> |
| 11:00 p.m. | Adjourn | |

RESOURCES FOR BLUE CARBON PROJECTS

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center Biogeochemistry Lab Blue Carbon Projects:

<http://www.serc.si.edu/labs/biogeochem/bluecarbon.aspx>

Waquoit Bay NERR Bringing Wetlands to Market Nitrogen & Coastal Blue Carbon Project:

<http://www.waquoitbayreserve.org/research-monitoring/salt-marsh-carbon-project/>

Conservation International Blue Carbon Initiative:

<http://thebluecarboninitiative.org/>

NOAA Habitat Coastal Blue Carbon:

<http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/coastalbluecarbon.html>

Restore America's Estuaries Blue Carbon Resources:

<https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon-resources>

