



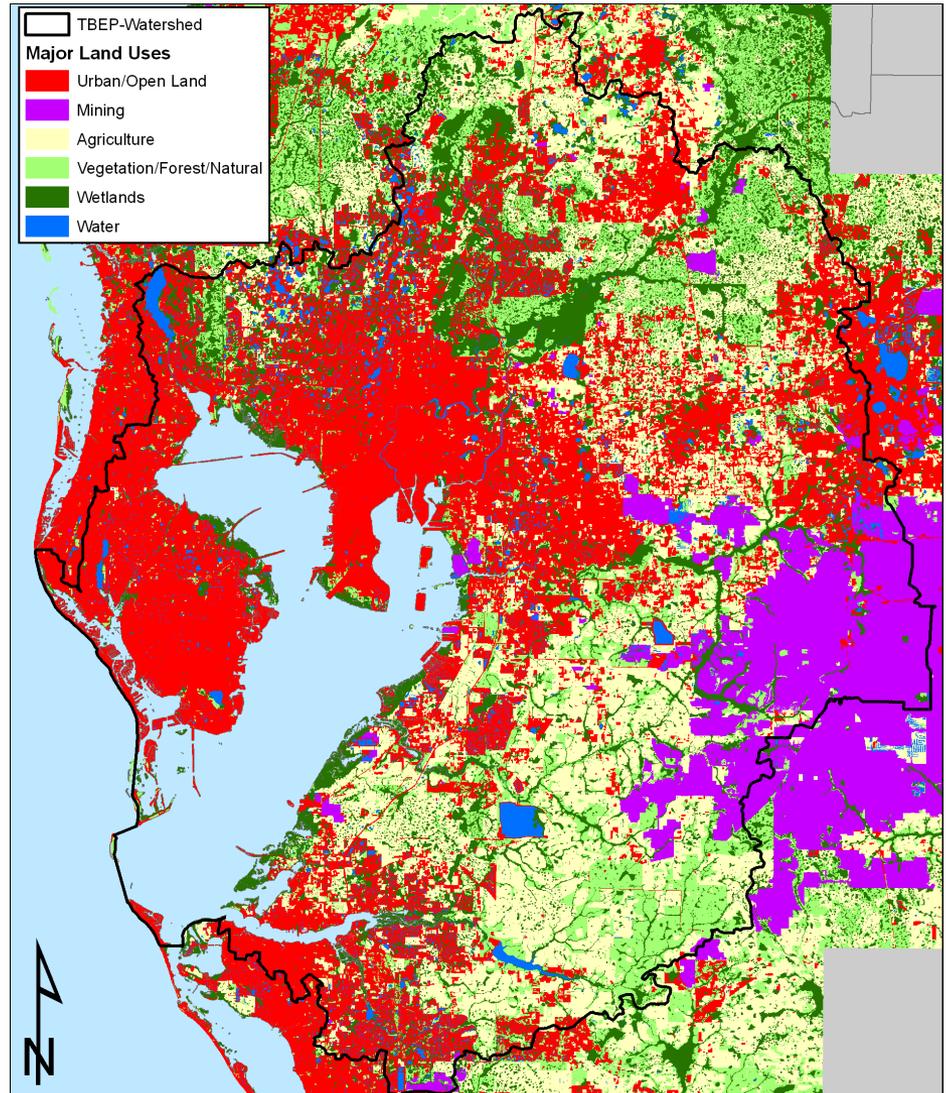
# Tampa Bay's Collaborative Approach for Recovery

Holly Greening, Director  
Tampa Bay Estuary Program  
August 2015



# *Fast Facts about Tampa Bay*

- Florida's largest open-water estuary
- Open water: 400 sq miles
- Watershed: 2,600 sq miles
- Average water depth: 12 feet
- Watershed population: 2.3 million
- Port Tampa Bay in top 10 in U.S.



# *Tampa Bay in the 1970s*



*Archie Creek*

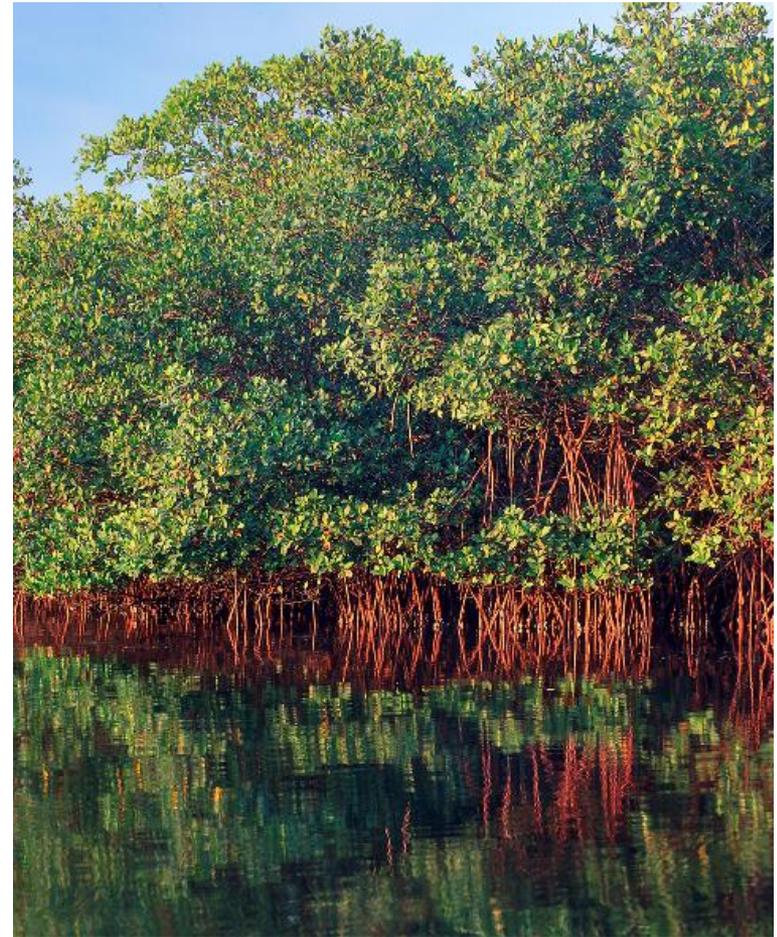


*“The Kitchen” (Hillsborough Bay near Gibsonton)*

*Photo by JOR Johansson*

# *Restoring Tampa Bay*

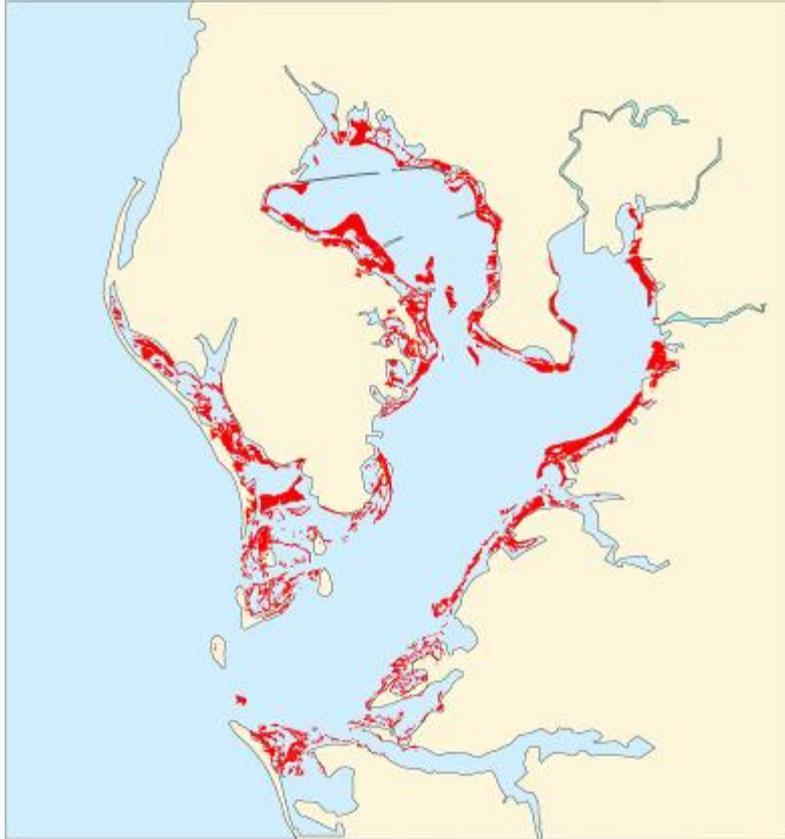
- Citizen action
- ABM
  - Early 1980s
- SWFWMD SWIM
  - late 1980s
- TBEP
  - 1990



# Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council: A Founding Partner



# *Tampa Bay Seagrass Restoration Goal*



Difference between 1950 and 1990  
seagrass cover

**Seagrass  
Restoration Goal:  
Restore seagrass  
acreage to that  
observed in ~1950.**

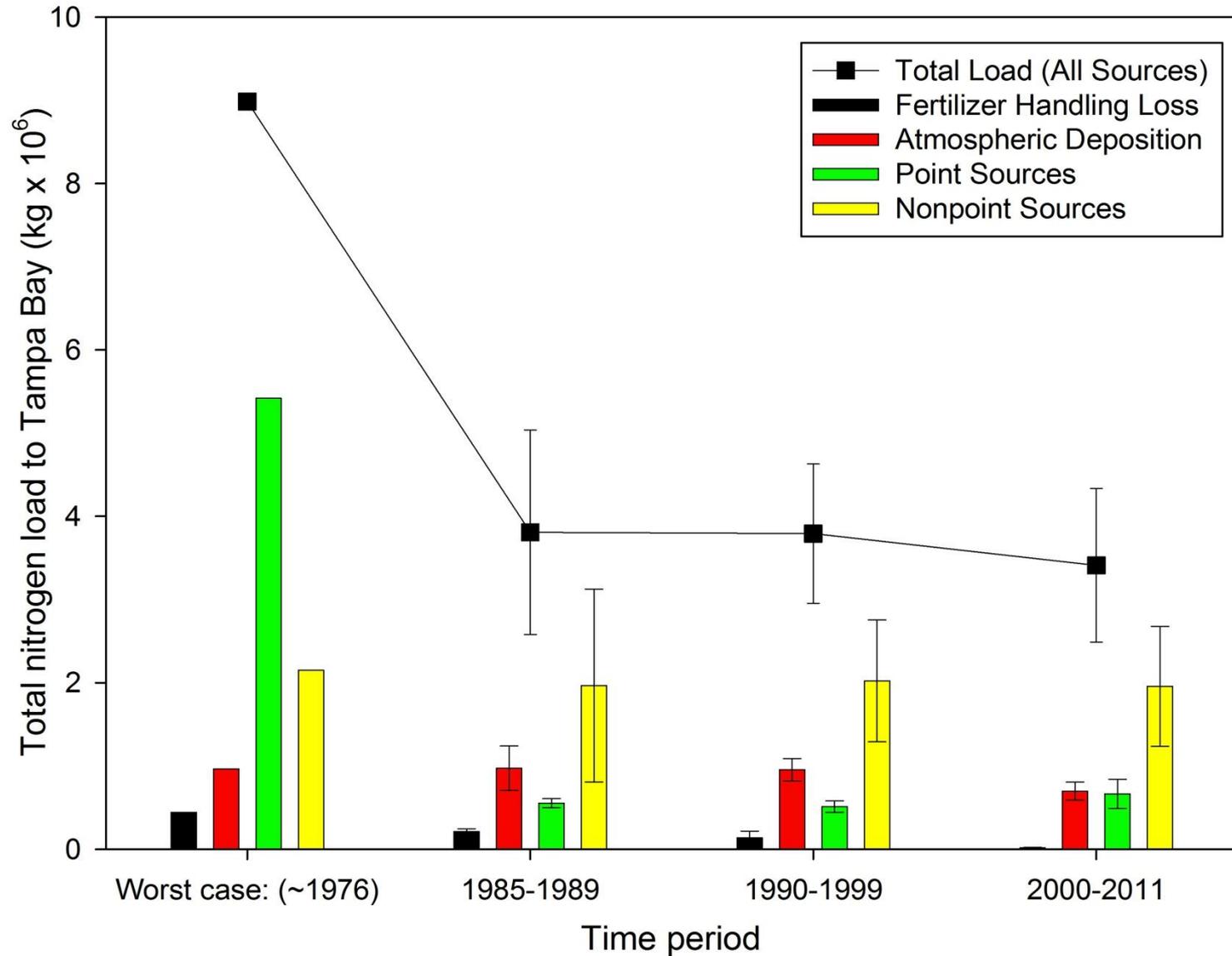


# Tampa Bay Nitrogen Management Consortium

- 45+ public and private partners throughout watershed-  
collaborative approach to meeting regulatory water quality goals.
- 500 projects and actions
- Consortium developed and agreed to voluntary 'caps' on nitrogen loads at 2003-2007 levels for all sources. Caps now incorporated into permits. TMDL is being met.



# *Nitrogen load has decreased*



# Water quality has improved

Annual average chl-a concentration thresholds

Advanced wastewater treatment begins

Stormwater regulations enacted

TBEP formed

NMC formed



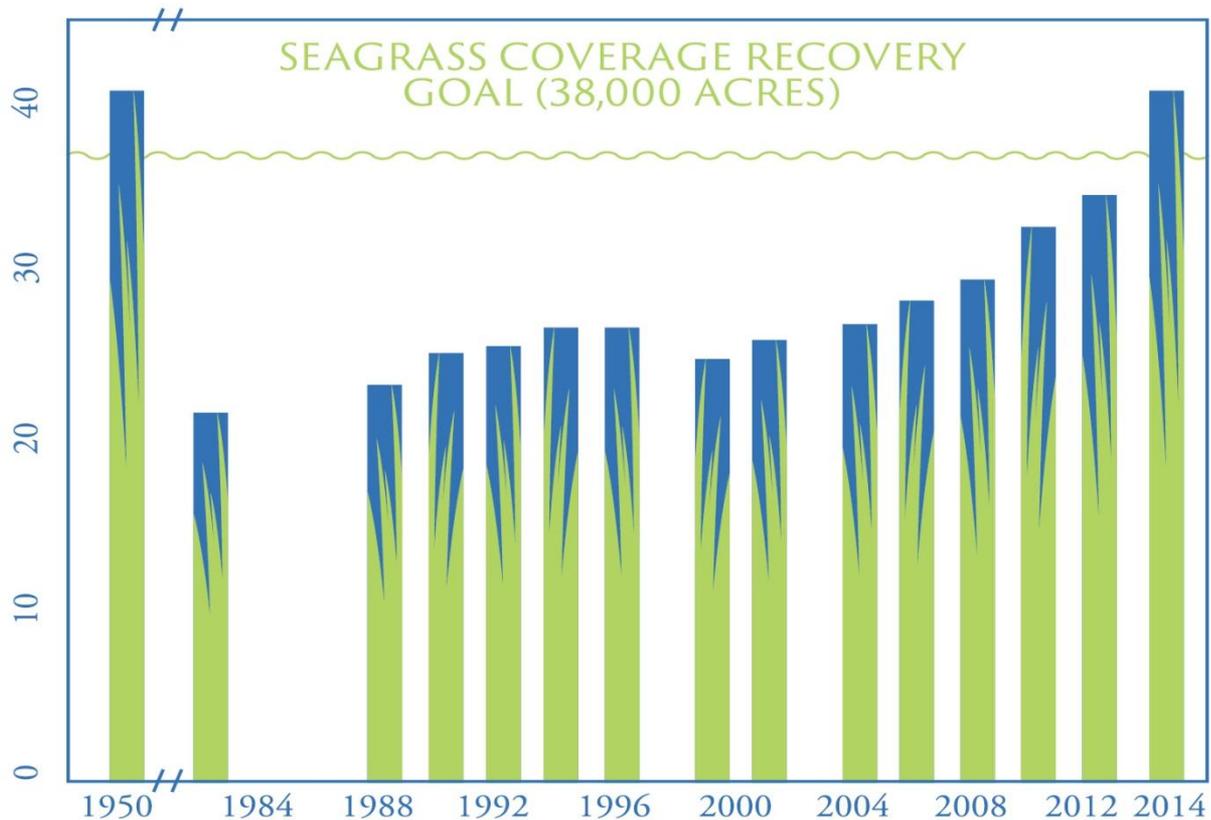
Photo by Bryan Chamberlain

Year	Old Tampa Bay	Hillsborough Bay	Middle Tampa Bay	Lower Tampa Bay
1974	No	No	No	Yes
1975	No	No	No	Yes
1976	No	No	No	Yes
1977	No	No	No	No
1978	No	No	No	Yes
1979	No	No	No	No
1980	No	No	No	No
1981	No	No	No	No
1982	No	No	No	No
1983	No	No	No	No
1984	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
1985	No	No	No	Yes
1986	No	No	Yes	Yes
1987	No	Yes	No	Yes
1988	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1989	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
1990	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
1991	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1992	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1993	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1994	No	No	No	No
1995	No	No	No	Yes
1996	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1997	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1998	No	No	No	No
1999	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2001	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2002	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2003	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2004	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2005	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
2006	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2007	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2008	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2009	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2010	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2011	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2012	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2013	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2014	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Data source: EPCHC

# 2015- Seagrass Goal Met!

SEAGRASS COVERAGE (x 1,000 ACRES)



Data: SWFWMD

# TBRPC Analysis: Economic Value of a Healthy Bay

## Economic Valuation of Tampa Bay



- Determine impact that the bay has on the Tampa Bay Economy.
  - More specifically, determine the impacts that a clean or healthy bay has on the regional economy
- How?
  - Using REMI Model, determine impact of each sector to total economy
  - Determine bay impact to each industry
  - Aggregate Bay Dependent Industries to determine percentage to total economy
  - Case Studies to demonstrate value



Report prepared by the Tampa Bay Estuary Program  
and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

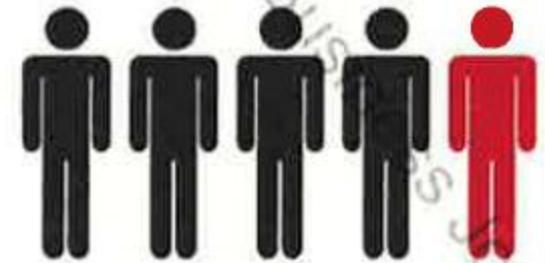
2014



COVER STORY

# CLEAN WATER MEANS MORE THAN YOU THINK

Despite massive growth, water quality in Tampa Bay has improved dramatically in 20 years



## HEALTHY BAY

1 out of every 5 jobs in the TBEP Watershed depend on a healthy bay.

**\$22B**

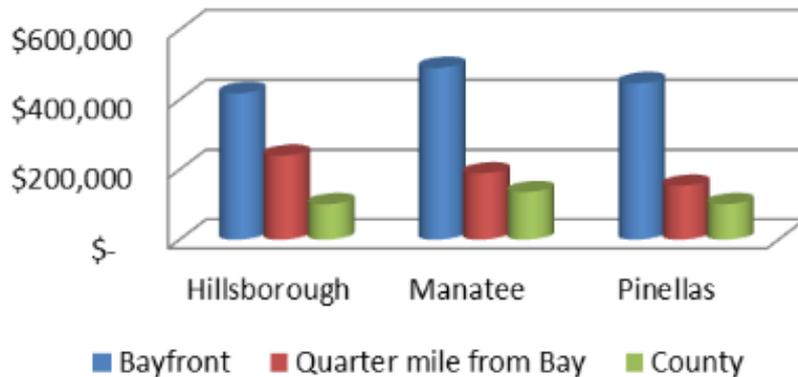
within all six counties

**13%**

of economy for all six counties

# *Houses and hamburgers*

**Average Value of Home**



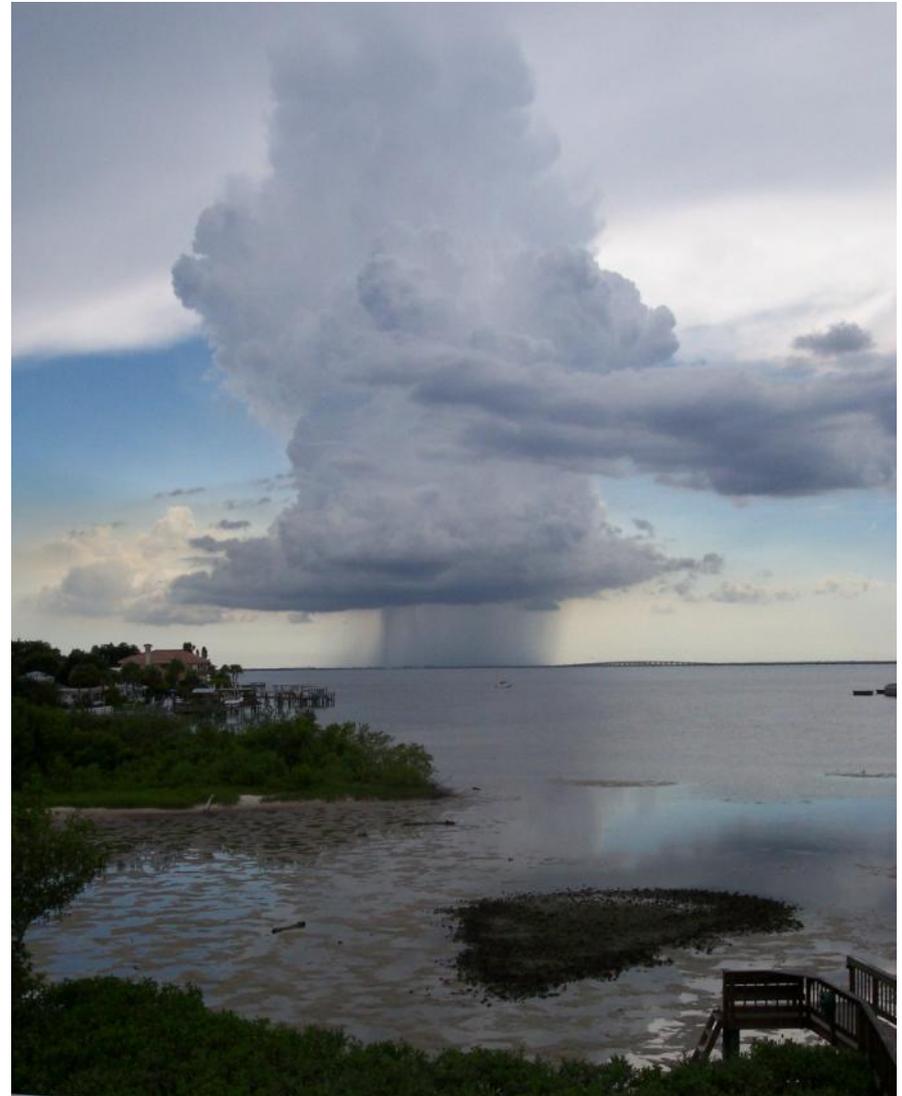
**Premiums for bayfront average around 2.2 to 2.8 times non-waterfront**

**Bayfront locations show tendency to demand premium prices.**



# *Emerging Challenges*

- Water quality threats
- Population increases
- Sea level rise/climate change
- Habitat loss
- Oil and industrial spills
- Ocean acidification



# *TBEP ongoing initiatives*

## Blue Carbon and Ocean Acidification

- CRE Support

## Community Involvement

- Volunteer Workdays
- Bay Minigrants

## Social Marketing- Be Floridian

- Residential fertilizer campaign

## Coastal Habitat Partnership

- Incorporate resiliency

## Tampa Bay Nitrogen Management Consortium

- New and expanding sources

## TB Environmental Restoration Fund

- Public/private grants program

## Education and outreach

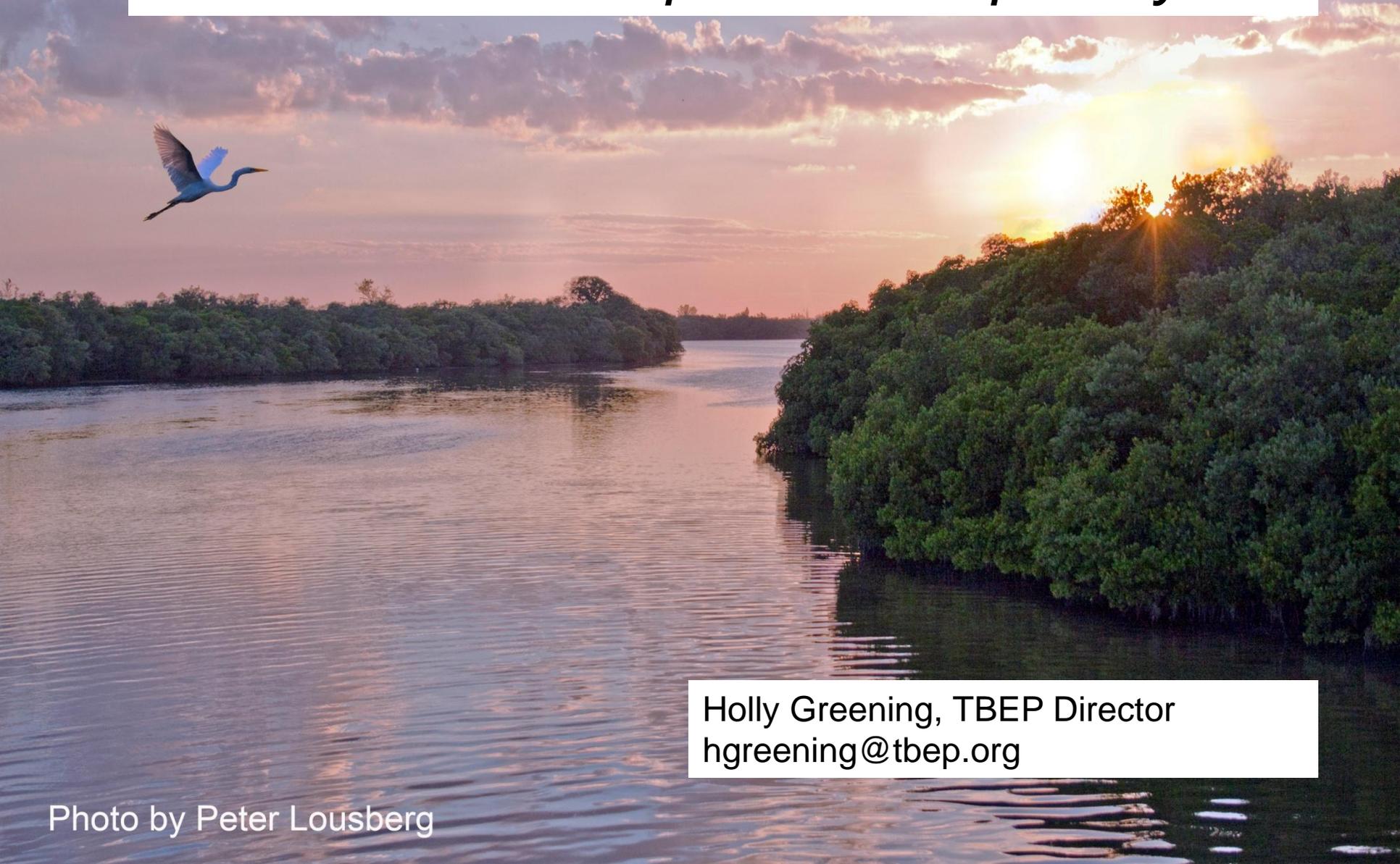
- Summer camp workshops
- 6-10 year olds- curriculum

## **THINK eARTh:**

**The Tampa Bay I want to inherit**



*Thank you for your continued partnership  
to restore and protect Tampa Bay*



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Photo by Peter Lousberg