



Farmers in the Marsh: Fixing Furbish

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Category: Research and Management

Why: Restoring high marsh habitat (marsh platform)

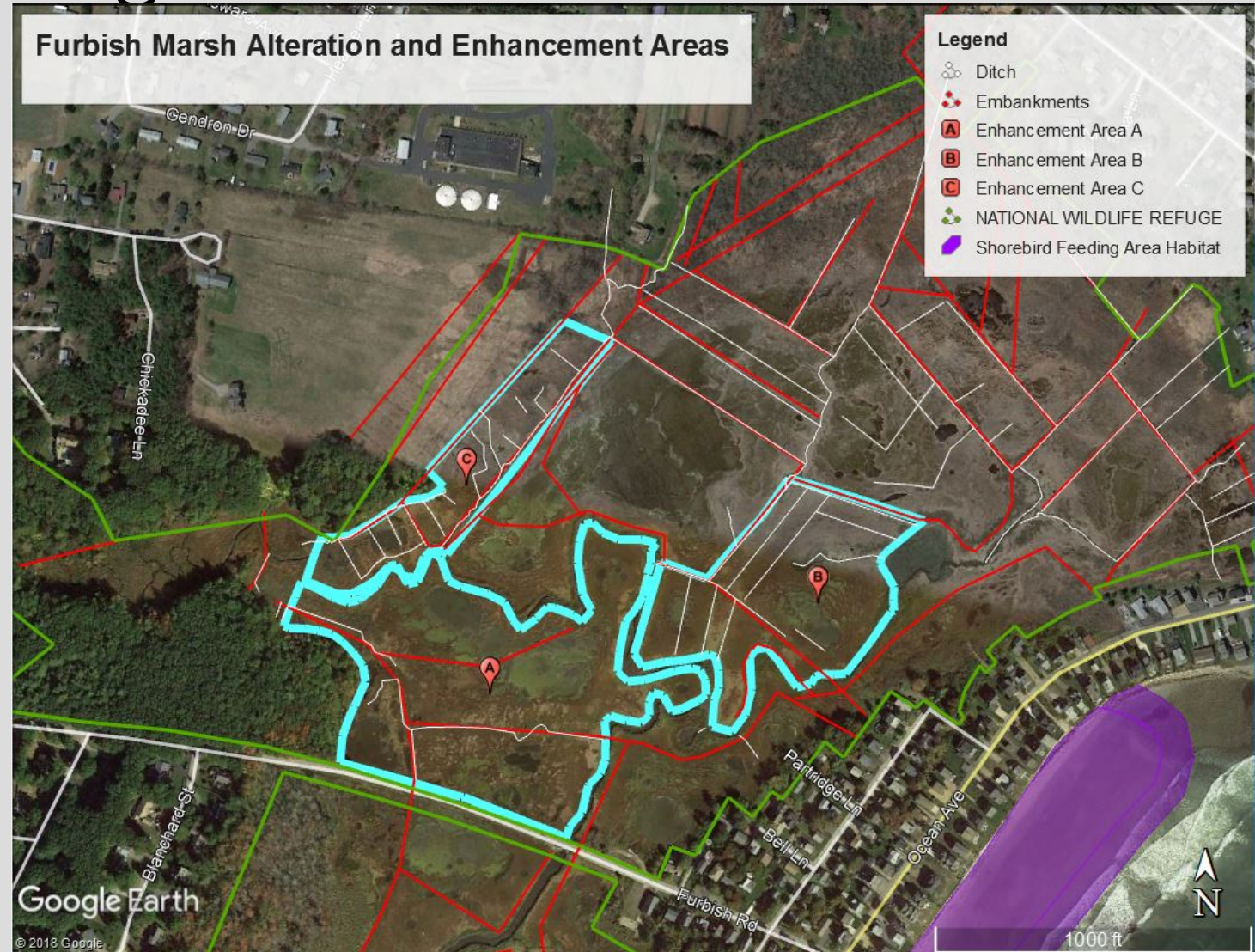
- What are the best ways to identify former agricultural alterations?
- What methods are best used to restore hydrology, increase elevation and restore vegetation suitable for saltmarsh sparrows?
- WHY? We are currently losing the vegetated marsh platform *throughout New England* and it is being replaced by shallow standing water. This is a process where we'll be working with features that are present in the marsh and is an alternative to more drastic techniques such as thin layer deposition.

What: Project Goals and Desired Outcome

- What are the goals of this project?
 - Restore tidal hydrology
 - Increase elevation
 - Restore high marsh habitat suitable for saltmarsh sparrows (et al.)
- What are you measuring?
 - In process
- What is your desired ultimate outcome?
 - short-term: remove standing water from marsh surface and restore plant growth (anticipate *S. alterniflora*)
 - Long-term: increase marsh elevation, restore *S. patens*/high marsh habitat

Where are you working: Rachel Carson NWR/ Parker River NWR/Region 5

- What is your unit of measure?
Tideshed



Who is doing the work and When are you doing it?

- Susan Adamowicz
- Geoff Wilson (Northeast Wetland Restoration), Kate O'Brien, Bri Benvenuti, Ryan Kleinert
- Start 2019
- This is a pilot project which will establish proof of concept for an approach to restore high marsh processes, vegetation and habitat. It is not a cookie-cutter approach, but guidelines will be established for application to other sites.

How

- How is your work being funded (if you're comfortable sharing)
 - We are currently applying for state funds
- How is your work being communicated to your target audience(s)?
 - We are in communication with our FWS regional office.
 - As the project develops we will be share with colleagues, other salt marsh managers and the public
 - Subject was first raised in a presentation at the NEERS 2018 Spring Mtg