

Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

Wildlife Management Area Practices Essex District Office



The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department

*The mission of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is the
conservation of our fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats
for the people of Vermont*



What we conserve



Natural communities



Fish



Habitat



Invertebrates



Wildlife



Plants

Who we serve



Wildlife watchers



Future generations



Anglers



Hunters and trappers



Communities



Landowners

Funding

- Pittman Roberts
 - License Fees
 - Vermont Duck Stamp
 - Capital Projects
 - NGO Matching Funds
 - Various Grants
- 
- The background of the slide features several concentric, light blue circular ripples that resemble water droplets, positioned in the lower right quadrant.

Surveys

- Aerial Survey
 - Midwinter Survey
 - Preseason Survey
- Breeding Waterfowl Plot Survey
- Nest Box Survey
- Goose Nesting Survey
- Woodcock Singing Ground Survey
- Marsh Bird Survey
- Dove Survey
- Etc.



SNOW GEESE



BALD EAGLES

VFWD Nest Box Program

Maintained in Winter

Protected with Predator Guards

Checked for Utilization





Wood Duck

Nest Box Program 2019

489 Nest Boxes

81% Used by Waterfowl

Wood Duck (60%)

Hooded Merganser (9.4%)

Common Goldeneye (0.2%)

Common Merganser (11.4%)



Hooded Merganser



Goldeneye

Waterfowl Banding



Cannon Net

Vermont Waterfowl Banding 2019

Mallard	213
Wood Duck	866
Canada Goose	555
Hooded Merganser	6
Black Duck	9

Total **1,649**



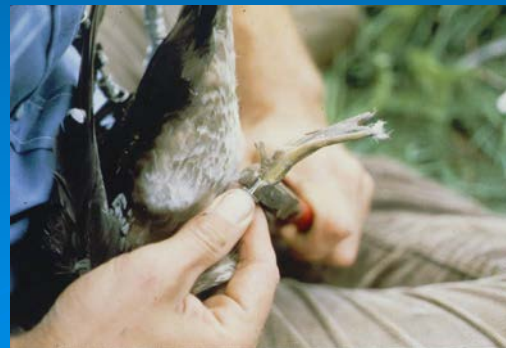
Bait Trap



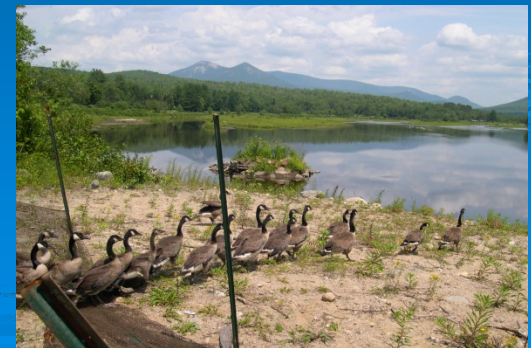
Cannon Net



Banded Black Duck



Applying Band



Goose Drive





Outreach and Education









Waterfowl Hunting



45 Species of Ducks, Geese and Swans in North America

30+ Species Observed in Vermont

Vermont Top Harvest Species (collectively make up ~ 90% of Vermont harvest)

Mallard

Wood Duck

Black Duck

Green-winged Teal

Common Goldeneye

Ring-necked Duck

Other Species Commonly Seen

Blue-winged Teal

Pintail

Gadwall

Wigeon

Scaup (Lesser and Greater)

Bufflehead

Hooded Merganser

Common Merganser

Gadwall

Controlled Hunting Areas



Dead Creek WMA



Dead Creek WMA



Mud Creek WMA



Mud Creek WMA

Water Level Management



Mud Creek WMA



9 WMAs with Waterfowl Impoundments

25 Dikes



Water Level Management

Dead Creek WMA

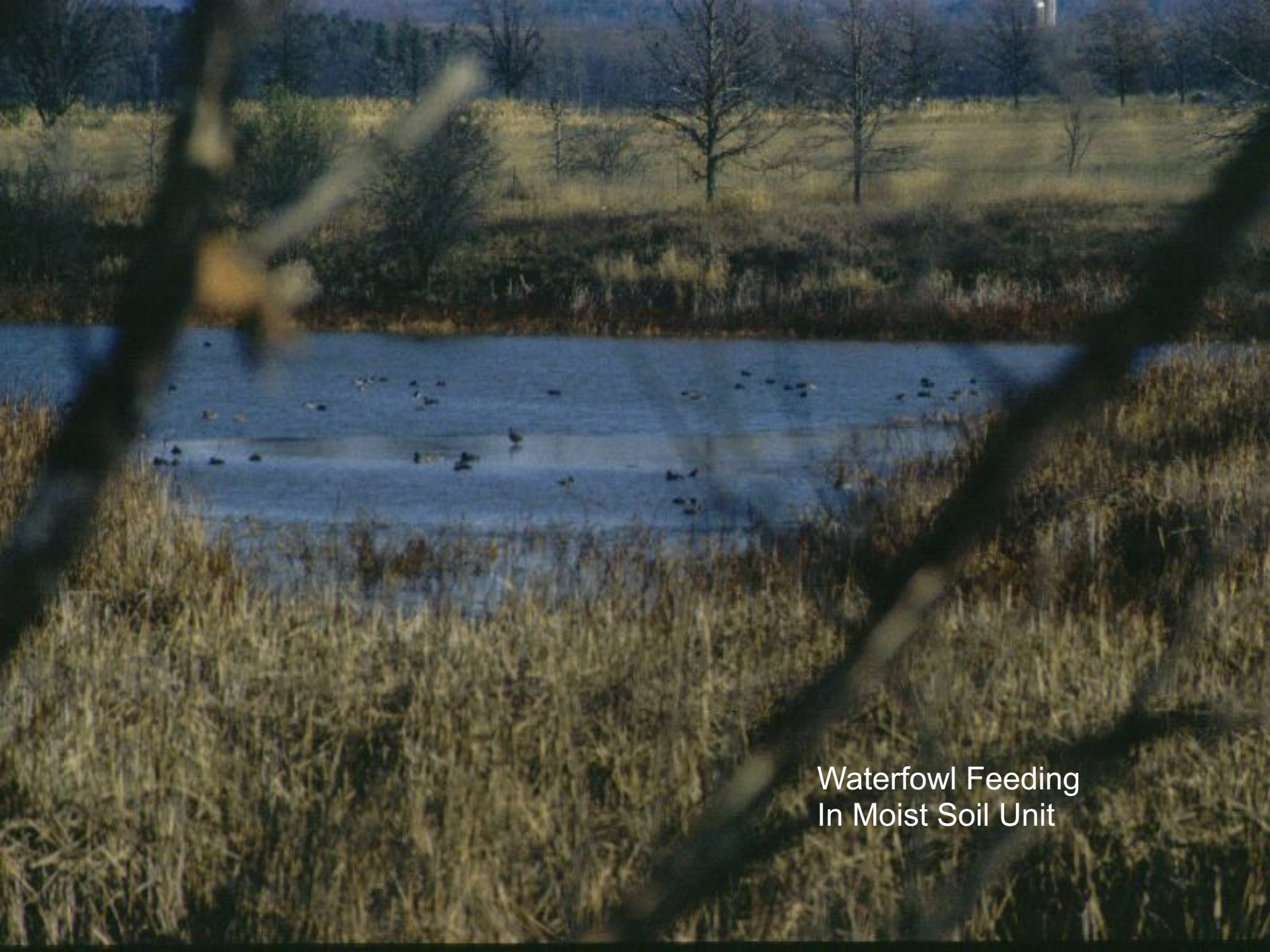








Smartweed



Waterfowl Feeding
In Moist Soil Unit

Grassland Management



Nesting Mallard









Forest Management















Research









Wetland Restoration



Dead Creek WMA













Wetland Conservation



Vermont Duck Stamp Fund

Established by Legislature in 1985

First Duck Stamp in 1986

Raised \$4.7 million

Spent \$2.2 million on Projects

Current Balance of \$ 2.4 million

Interest Balance of \$301,600

Completed 96 Projects involving 12,199 acres



Long-tailed Duck
2001 VT Stamp Image



Examples of Wetland Projects



Pomainville WMA
Pittsford



Lower Otter Creek WMA
Ferrisburg



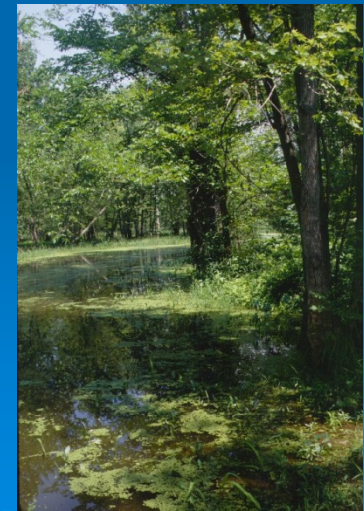
Halfmoon Cove WMA
Colchester



Clyde River Access Area
Brighton



Johns River
Derby



Rock River WMA
Highgate



VFWD EPA-Funded Wetland Acquisition and Restoration Grant



Summary

- Overview – How did this come to be?
- FY20 and FY21 Funds total \$4.35 million
- Future Opportunities
- Minimum Requirements
- Steering Committee:
Representation from DEC,
Fisheries and Wildlife.

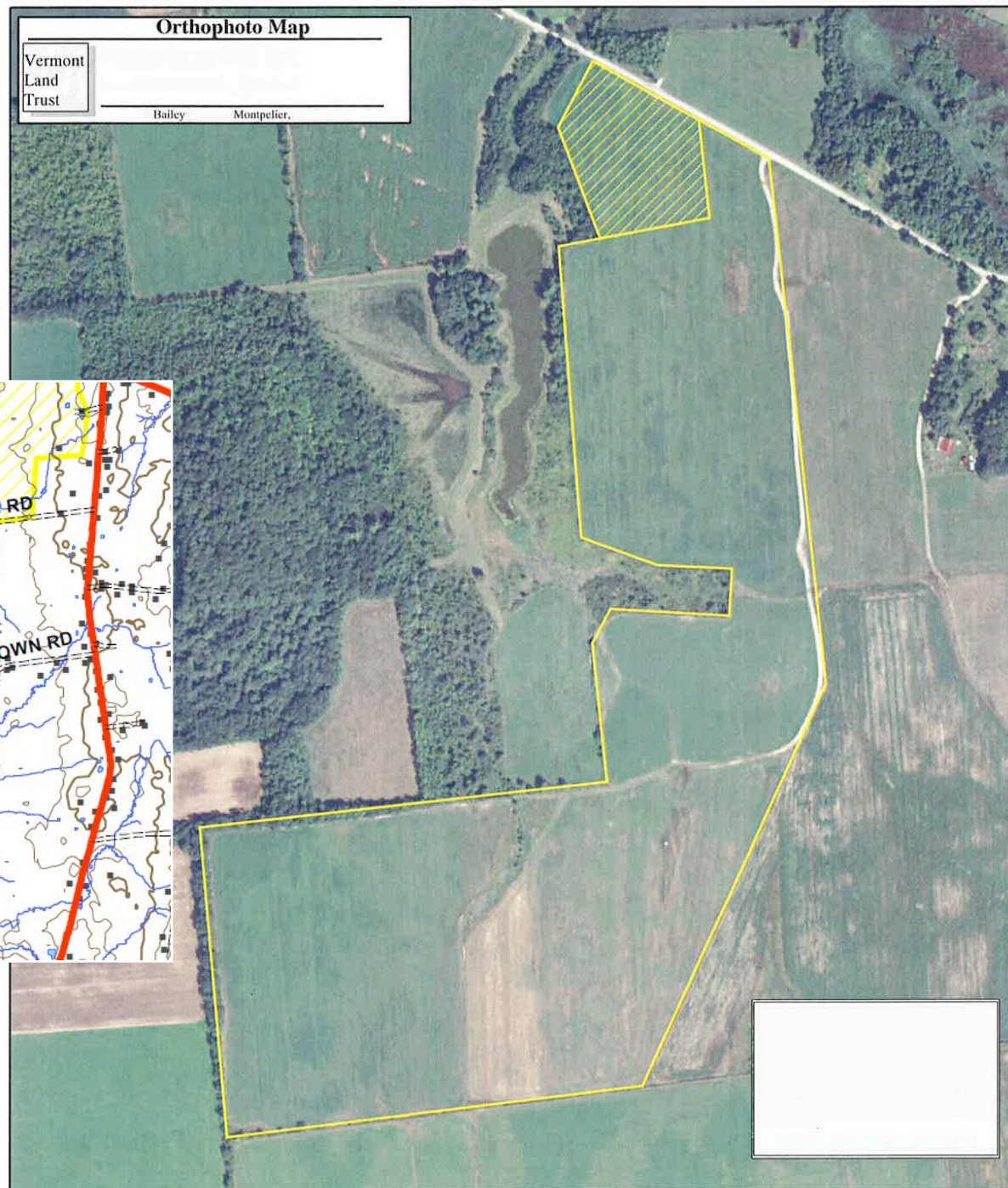
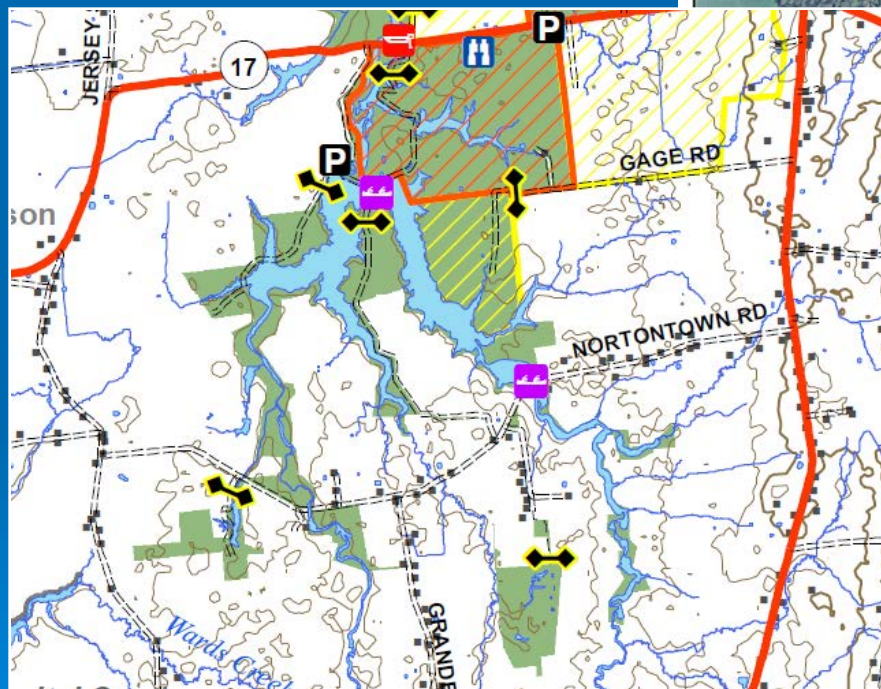


Current Project Analysis

Project	Town	Restorable acres	Total acres	% restored	How initiated	Status
Rock River	Highgate	21	124	17%	Real estate listing	Closing date
Dead Creek	Addison	88	93	95%	Real estate listing	Signed P&S
Malletts Creek	Colchester	20	80	25%	Partner contact	P&S
East Creek	Orwell	10	38	26%	Cold call letter	Appraisal
Intervale	Colchester	104	142	73%	Cold call letter	Appraisal
Dead Creek	Addison	194	214	91%	Cold call letter	Early
Dead Creek	Panton	119	124	96%	Cold call letter	Appraisal
Intervale	Colchester	100	124	81%	Farm retirement	Signed P&S
Lemon Fair	Bridport	TBD			Long-time lessee	Early
Grand Total		656	939	70%		

Dead Creek WMA

98 acres

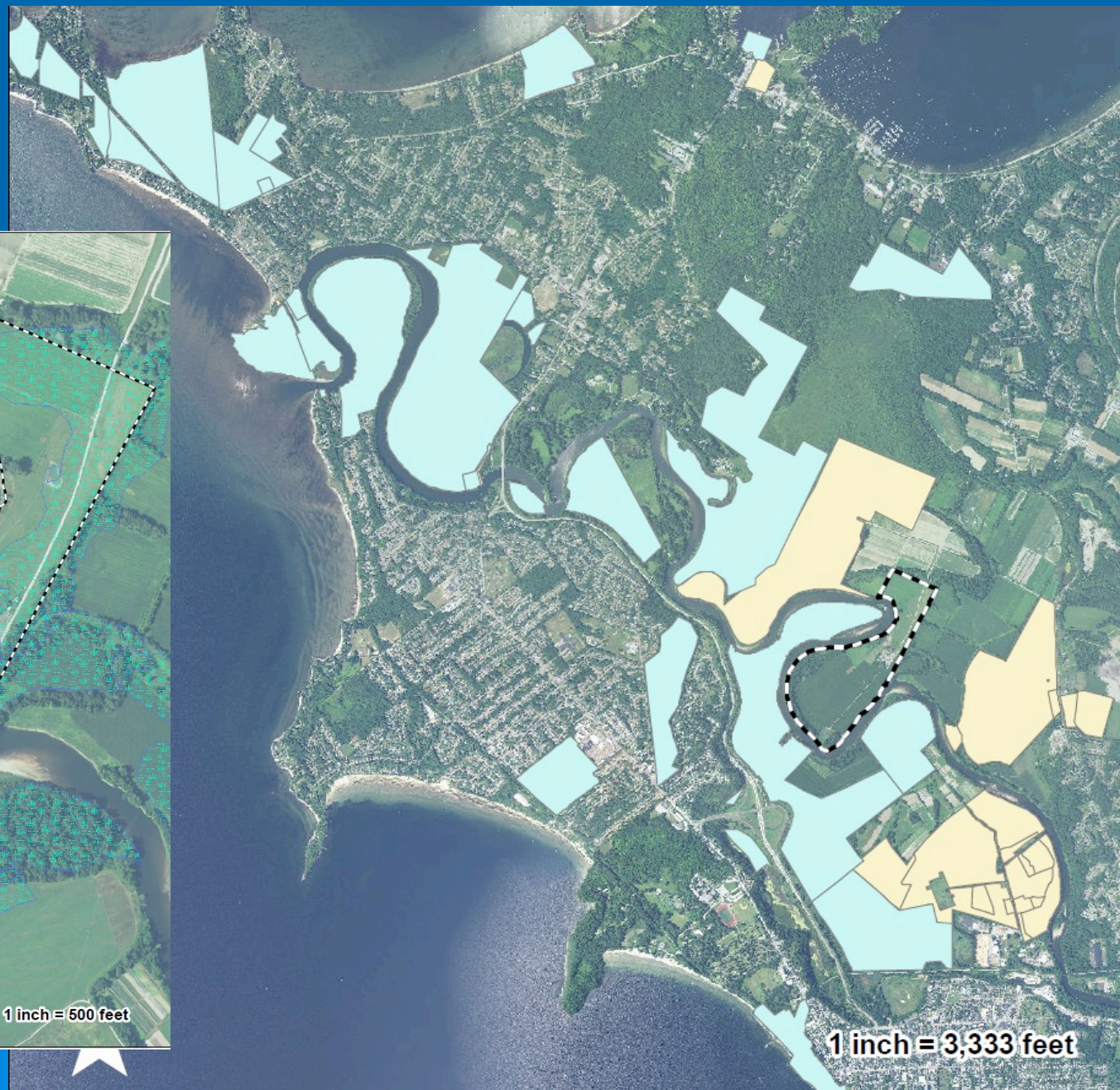


Rock River WMA – 124 acres



Intervale WMA

124 acres





Goal: 4-5 closings in 1 year

Currently have 3 signed P&S
and working on 6 more

Wetland
Restoration
Team



Deadline

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Partners in Wetland Conservation



Questions?

