



# North Shore Regional Workshop: Innovative Approaches to Reducing Community Vulnerability

The National Wildlife Federation invites you to join us for the **North Shore Regional Workshop on Innovative Approaches to Reducing Community Vulnerability**. This workshop is designed to engage local planners, municipal officials, interested citizens, and others on making the transition from adaptation planning to on-the-ground implementation.

The purpose of this workshop is to provide local municipalities within the Great Marsh with examples and strategies for the use and application of ecosystem-oriented approaches for increasing coastal resiliency.

Through a facilitated panel discussion, workshop participants will have the opportunity to engage speakers on lessons learned from utilizing natural solutions for building coastal resiliency and explore innovative approaches to overcome policy, financing, and design challenges.

**WHEN:** May 18, 2016  
8:30 – 3:45 pm

**WHERE:** Parker River NWR Headquarters  
6 Plum Island Turnpike  
Newburyport, MA 01950

## REGISTRATION:

- No cost to attend!
- Breakfast & lunch will be provided
- Space is limited to 60 participants
- **Registration is required!**
- Please RSVP to register

**RSVP by May 13<sup>th</sup>**

to Taj Schottland  
National Wildlife Federation  
[SchottlandT@nwf.org](mailto:SchottlandT@nwf.org)

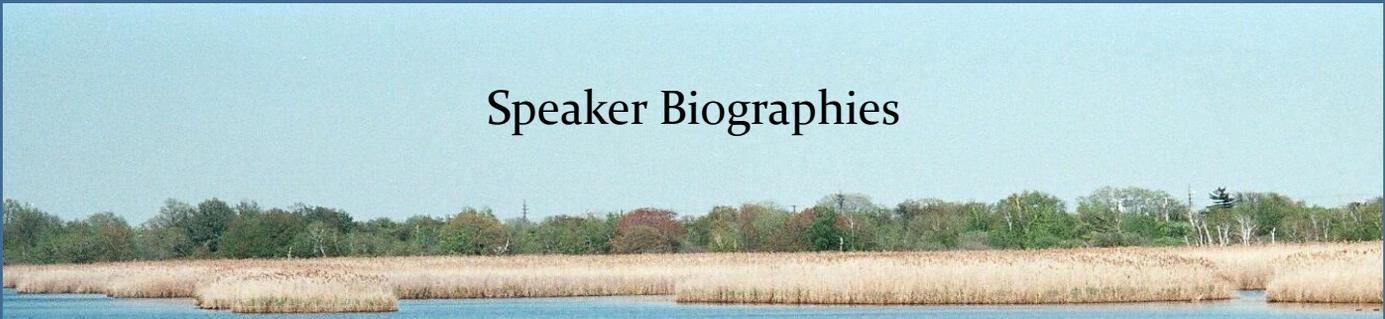
## WORKSHOP AGENDA (subject to revision)

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|-------|---|
| 8:30  | <b>Meet &amp; Greet</b>   |
| 9:00  | <b>Continental Breakfast</b> (provided)   |
| 9:30  | <b>Introductory Remarks</b>   |
| 9:40  | <b>Great Marsh Adaptation Planning to Implementation</b> <i>Taj Schottland, National Wildlife Federation</i>  |
| 10:10 | <b>Lessons Learned: The evolution of living shorelines in Maryland</b> <i>Bhaskaran Subramanian, Maryland DNR</i>   |
| 10:45 | <b>Break</b>  |
| 11:00 | <b>Fixing the Resilience Gap: Integrating policy, natural systems, and finance to engineer sound solutions</b> <i>Wendi Goldsmith, Center for Urban Watershed Renewal / Sustainability Visions, LLC</i> |
| 12:00 | <b>Lunch</b> (provided)   |
| 1:00  | <b>Massachusetts policies that govern the application of green infrastructure techniques</b> <i>Julia Knisel /Kathrynn Glenn, MA CZM</i>  |
| 1:30  | <b>Panel Discussion</b>   |
| 3:30  | <b>Closing Remarks</b>  |



Funding for this workshop is provided by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management

# Speaker Biographies



**Bhaskaran Subramanian** is a nationally recognized expert on living shorelines. He currently heads the Shoreline Conservation Service for MD Department of Natural Resources where he works with various stakeholders (federal, state, local governments, private sector, and citizens) providing technical assistance for habitat creation/restoration projects. He is also an active participant in the “SAGE” partnership that brings together Federal, State, and Local Agencies, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, engineers, and private businesses: 1) Use and promote green-gray approaches to ensure coastal community and shoreline resilience; 2) Broaden science, engineering, policy and marketing activity both domestically and internationally; and 3) Engage community partners in regional demonstrations.

**Wendi Goldsmith, PhD, PG** is Co-Founder and Director of the Center for Urban Watershed Renewal. She is a Yale trained geologist and recognized leader in guiding communities and engineering teams to adopt climate resilient strategies. A pioneer in green infrastructure, Dr. Goldsmith has led R&D programs for DOD developing methods for evaluating and optimizing efficient and sustainable solutions for building and site design accommodating natural processes. She played a lead role on the planning, design, and program management of the \$14 billion post-Katrina Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System, the first regional-scale climate adapted infrastructure system in the US.

**Julia Knisel** Coastal Shoreline & Floodplain Manager, Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management. Biography to follow.

**Kathryn Glenn** North Shore Regional Coordinator, Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management. Biography to follow.

**Taj Schottland** is a Coastal Adaptation Specialist for the National Wildlife Federation’s Northeast Climate Adaptation Program. He works to promote innovative natural solutions that can help protect coastal ecosystems and human communities from the impacts of climate change. Currently he is overseeing the development of a vulnerability assessment and climate adaptation plan for six municipalities along the North Shore of Massachusetts. Prior to joining NWF, Taj spent five years working as an avian biologist and restoration ecologist for Cardno and PRBO Conservation Science. He worked on 14 avian-related projects throughout the United States, including six studies that evaluated the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. He’s also supported and/or managed large-scale restoration planning and monitoring, and was a contributing author to several technical reports in support of litigation.