

Some Lessons From the Governance of Large Coastal Ecosystems

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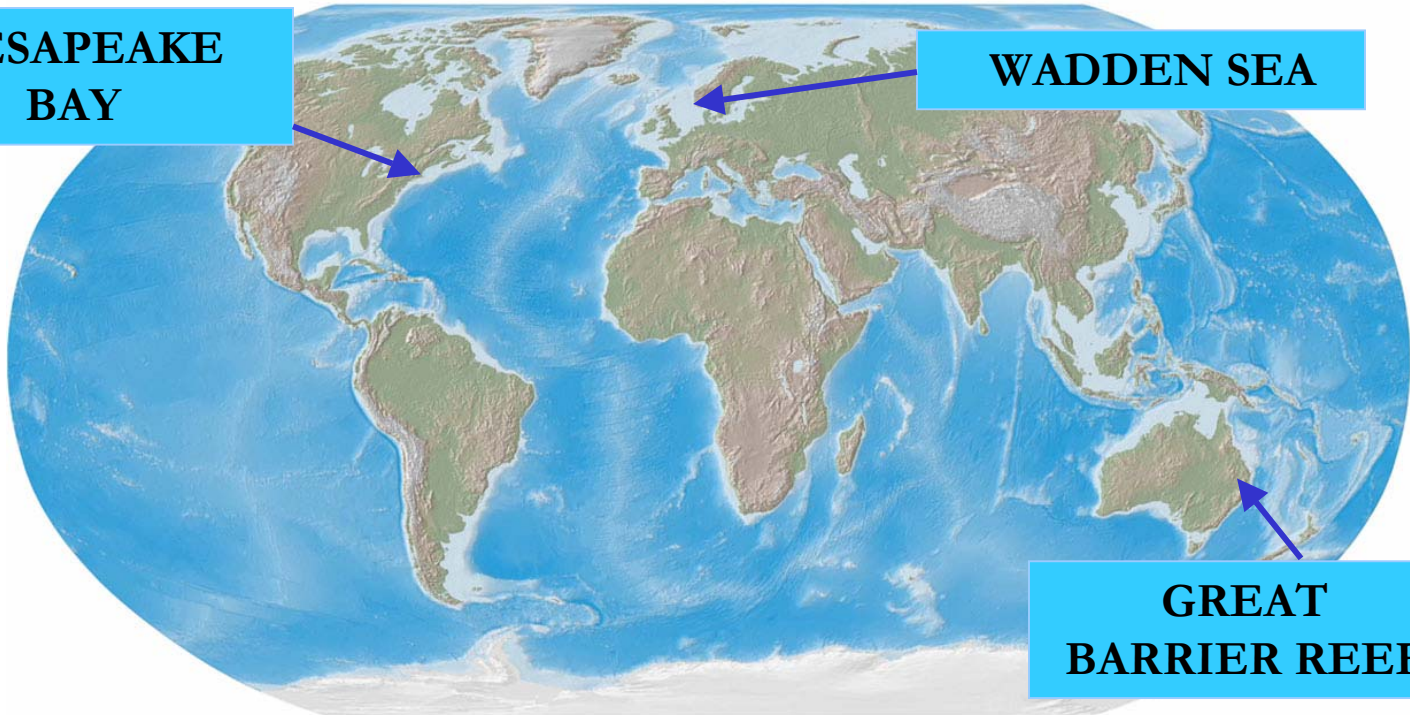
and

Donna Nickerson

**CHESAPEAKE
BAY**

WADDEN SEA

**GREAT
BARRIER REEF**



Characteristics of the Places

	Mgt. Area	% Water	\$/yr. Core Millions
Wadden Sea	13,500	~ 80	0.5
Great Barrier Reef	340,000	~90	4.5
Chesapeake Bay	166,000	~7	20

How Long Does It Take?

	Mandate Secured	1 st Order Threshold
GBR	15 ('75)	21
WS	18 ('78)	34
CB	23 ('83)	27

How Much Does It Cost?

	Annual Core \$millions	Annual Implementation \$millions
GBR	4.5	20
WS	0.5	20
CB	6	70

What's The 3d Order Harvest?

- | | |
|-----|---|
| GBR | No adverse trends in water quality, critical habitats or fish populations attributable to human activity |
| WS | Increased salt marsh and sea-grasses
Improved water quality
Improved fishery harvests |
| CB | Increases in some key species, fish river habitat, sea-grasses, vegetated buffers...
Reductions in nutrient loading, toxics, turbidity |

Some Conclusions

- work at the regional scale is complex and requires a high threshold of institutional capacity with:
 - strong, informed constituencies
 - goals on issues that stir the blood
 - a mandate from the highest authorities
- sustained success requires:
 - decentralized implementation structures
 - monitoring directed at the program's goals