Wetland Mapping and Geographic Information System work across the Bristol Bay Region

Presented By:

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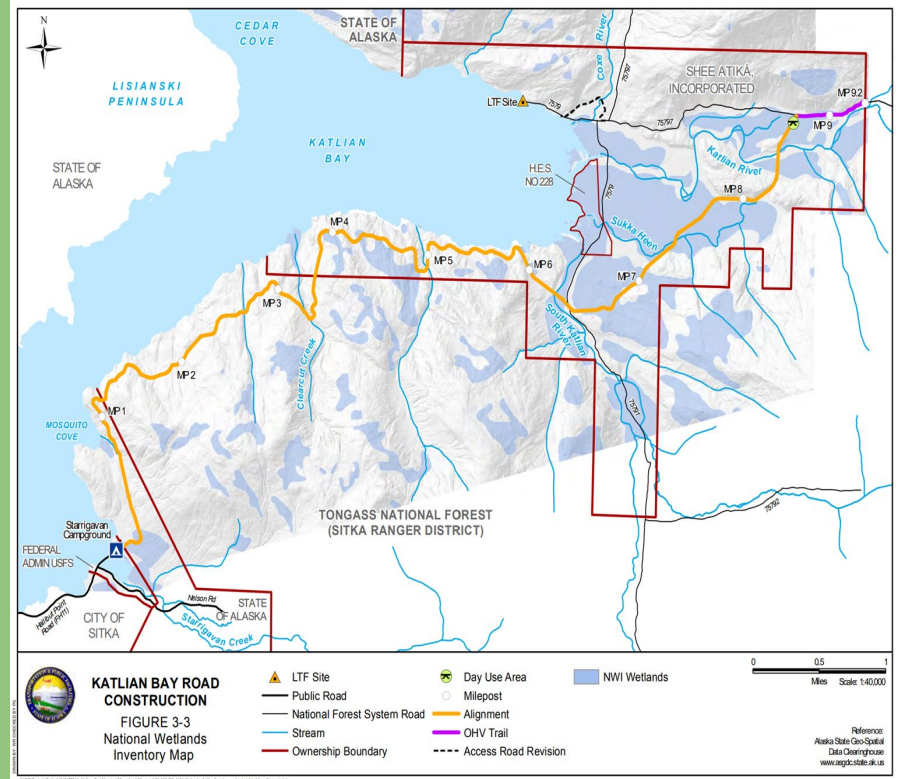
Project Overview

- In 2021, BBNC was awarded $1 Million from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation America the Beautiful Challenge Grant

- The project included a wetland mapping component and an outreach and education component

Why do we need wetland maps?

The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

- Improving data accuracy
- NWI use for planning/ decision making
- Public use

Previous wetland data

Most recent data

Mapping Status

- **2021** Identified a priority data gap as the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve (BBFR)

- **2022** Mapping began

- **2023-2024** Field work

- **2023-2025** Outreach and Training
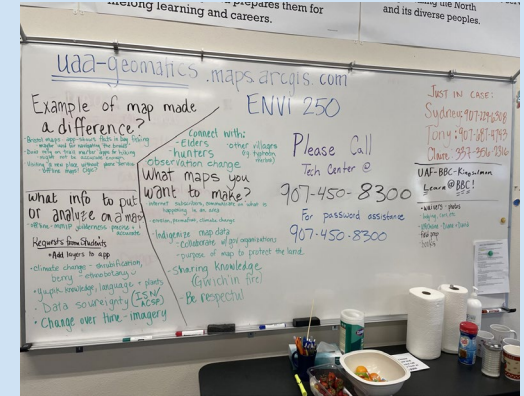
- **2026** Final data available

Capacity Building in the Bristol Bay Region

- ENVI 250 Introduction to Community Geographic Information Systems
- Informational meetings in communities
- Created two BBNC internships to help produce community wetland maps
- Created two BBRCTE High school interns who are updating wetland maps.

GIS Training - Experience as a student

- Learn about the advancements in geospatial systems
- Apply concepts to relevant topics
- Network with professionals
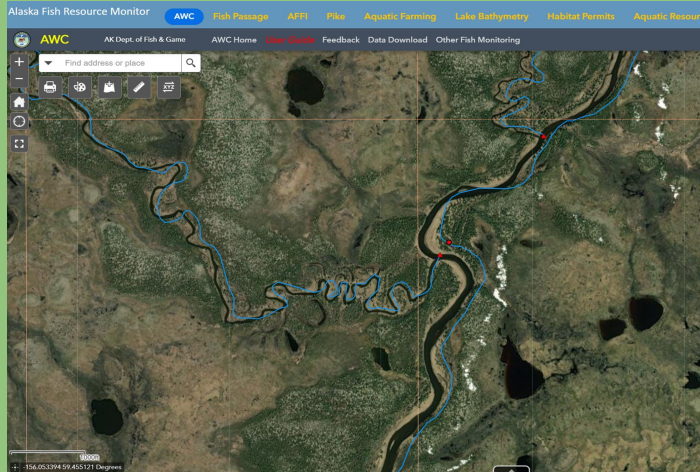
GIS Training In Bristol Bay

- Share real life experiences
- Create internship and job opportunities
- Advocate for Bristol Bay youth and professional needs

Future opportunities using geospatial wetlands data

- Science and conservation support
    - Habitat suitability models
    - Forage availability by wetland type
    - Salt marsh migration
    - Carbon storage

- Quantify potential salmon habitat
    - Document known wetland salmon habitats
    - Explore and model system connectivity

Summary

- Wetlands data will be available through the NWI public portal for use
- Maps can be generated on the web, or in GIS to support conservation efforts of our remarkable region
- Want this project to set the stage for future geospatial training and jobs
- Want this project to be a catalyst for what is possible!

Questions:

- What are the main types of wetlands in Chignik area?
- How were the wetlands identified?
- What type of satellites were utilized in this project?

Quyana!

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