

# Let's Work Together: New Models for Achieving Actionable Science in SC

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# South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium



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- Research
- Extension
- Education and Training

Why new models?

- Study Groups
- Complex Issues

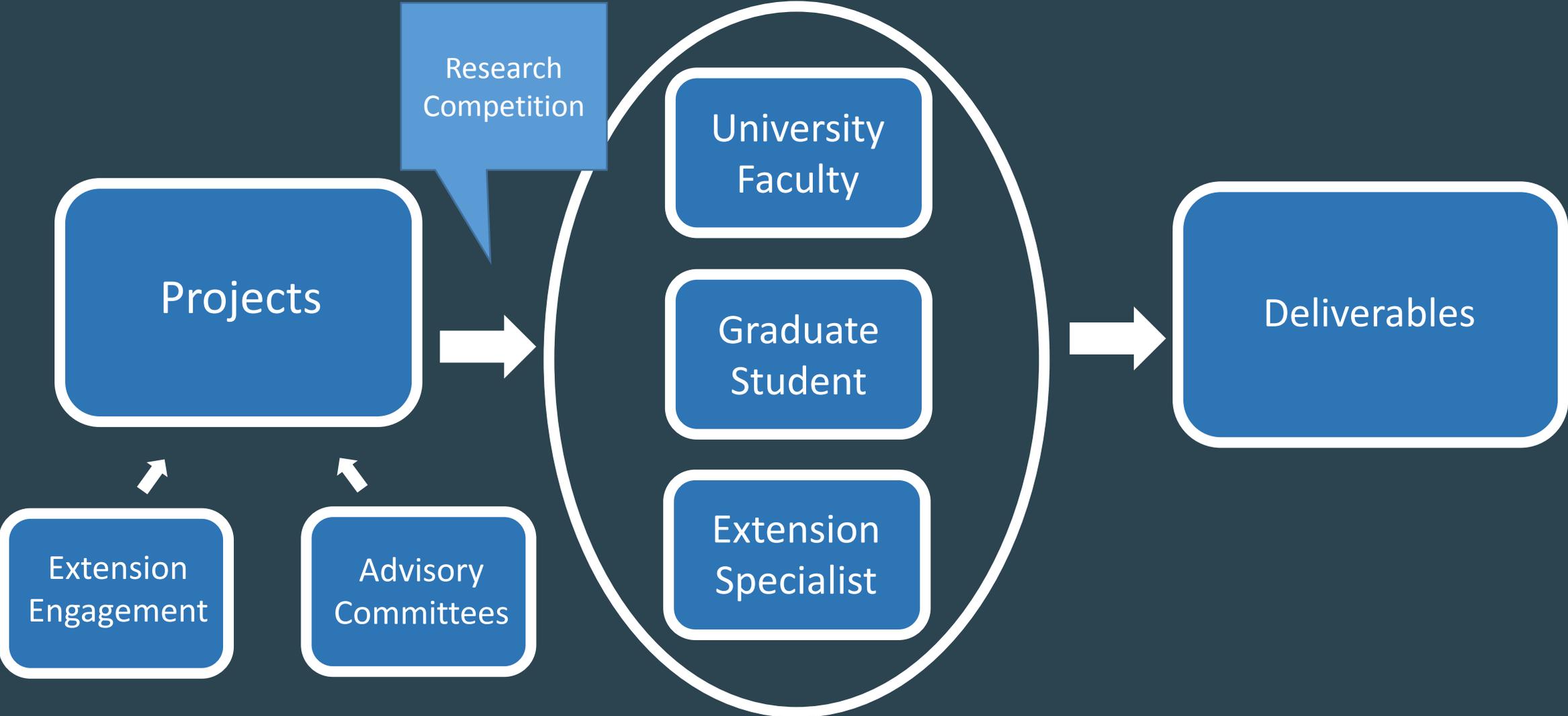


# Study Groups



- New methods to fund applied research that translates directly to problem solving
- 2014 competition provided specific needs for research
- Each project to be a Study Group
- Project questions were scaled to a year for the initial trial
- Five projects were funded.

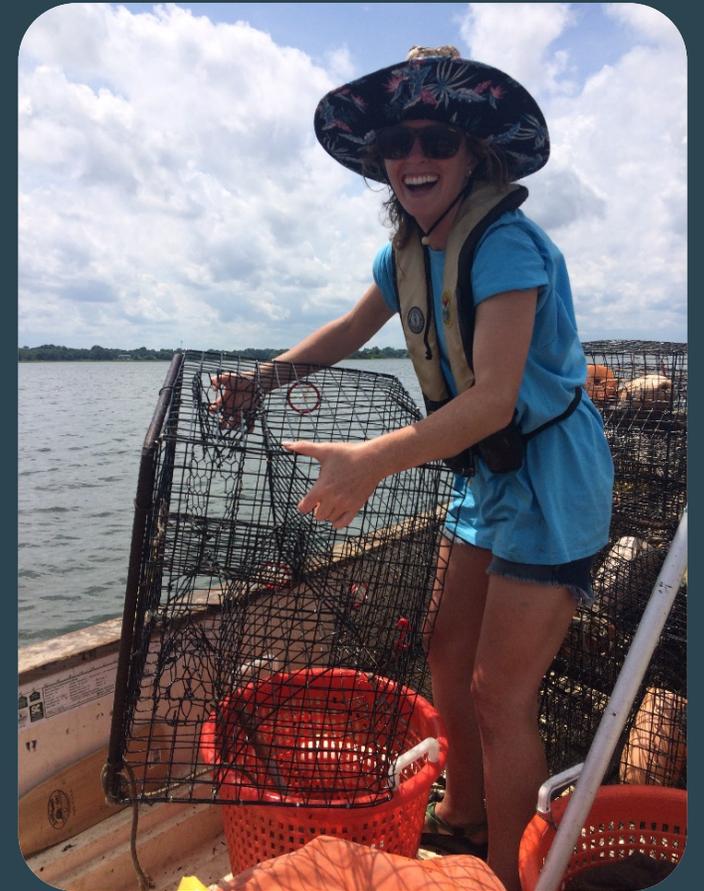
# Study Group Membership Design



# Assessing the Status of the Blue Crab Fishery

Dr. Amy E. Fowler, Dr. Michael Childress, Kelsey McClellan, and Julie Davis

- Blue crab catch per unit effort (CPUE) has shown declines in the catch records of commercial fisheries.
- To address knowledge gaps:
  - Analyzing the effects of salinity on blue crab habitat selection
  - Comparing the current recreational blue crab fishery to that of the last statewide survey (1997)
  - Developing a state of the knowledge report concerning the impacts of climate and habitat change on blue crab populations



# Blueways-Greenways: Developing Examples as Models for Other Communities

Dr. Norman S. Levine, CofC, Vonie Gilreath, BCDCOG, Ashley Buffington, CofC and April Turner, S.C. Sea Grant

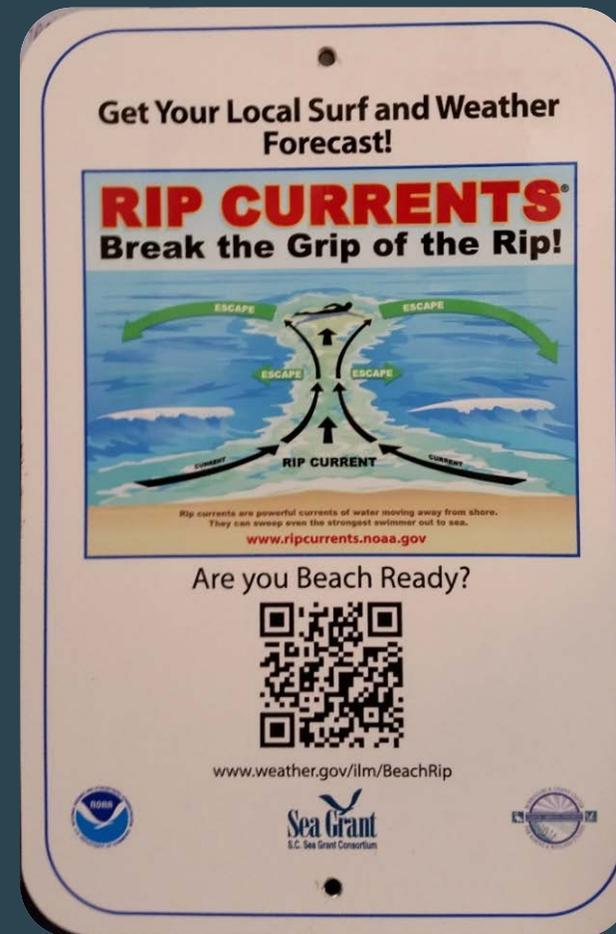


- Develop approach for communities who seek to inventory and/or build upon existing Blueways in their community
- Supported and extended Blue Trails project
  - Mapped Blueway and Greenway systems within a 3-county region
  - Key information gathered from stakeholders through workshops and an on-line survey
- Online tool and information generated during workshops Blueway/Greenway trail networks

# Assessing the Effectiveness of Enhanced Rip Current Awareness Signage

Dr. Eric Koepfler, CCU, Dr. Michael Slattery, UT (formerly SC Sea Grant), Dr. Holley Tankersley and Jon-Erik Taylor, CCU

- Myrtle Beach study area
- Rip current awareness signs were updated to include QR codes directing individuals to the National Weather Service Rip Current Warning for the local area.
- Intercept surveys, 300+ beachgoers to determine their awareness of the signage
- Signage not helpful however, visitors will talk with educators and pay attention to monitors in hotels



# Fishery-Related Working Waterfronts

Dr. William Norman, CU, Jennifer Calabria, CU and Julie Davis, SC Sea Grant



- Working waterfronts become increasingly vulnerable to coastal development pressures and climate change impacts such as sea level rise and storm events
- Analysis of planning documents
- Focus Groups in each community
- Comparative analysis of working waterfront capacity on the South Carolina coast to enable decision makers to prioritize important targets for preservation and revitalization.

# Understanding Perceptions of Climate Change in South Carolina's Coastal Communities

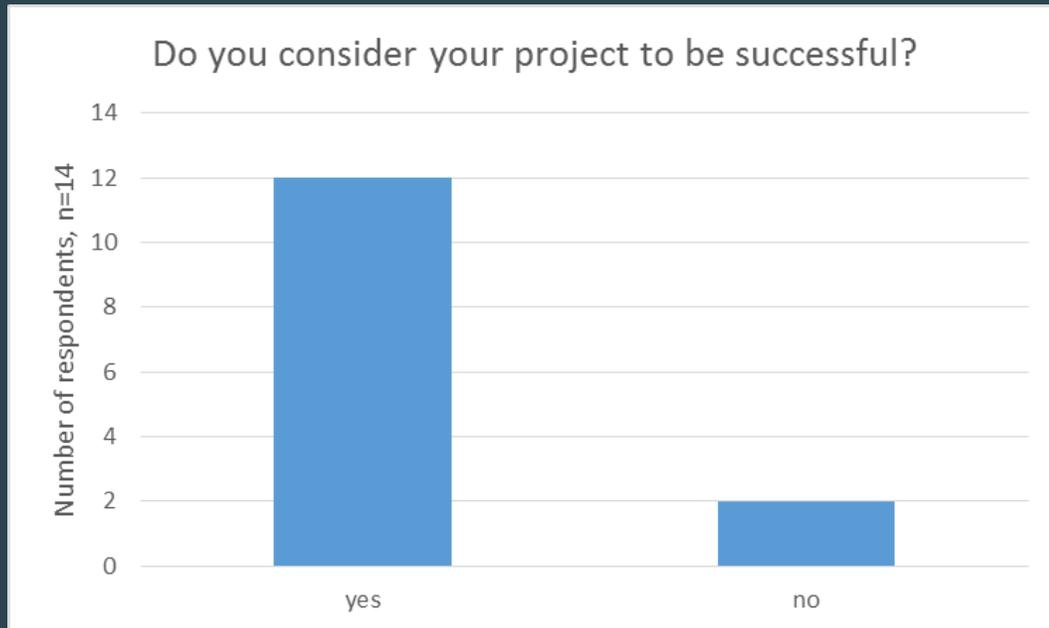
**Dr. Matthew C. Nowlin, CofC, Lorna Parkinson, CofC and Dr. Liz Fly, SC Sea Grant**

- Coastal SC residents may be highly vulnerable to the potential hazards of climate change
- Gain an understanding of how climate change and related impacts are perceived and can easily be communicated
- Coastal county surveys to understand cultural cognition
- Focus groups, deliberative democracy-type approach

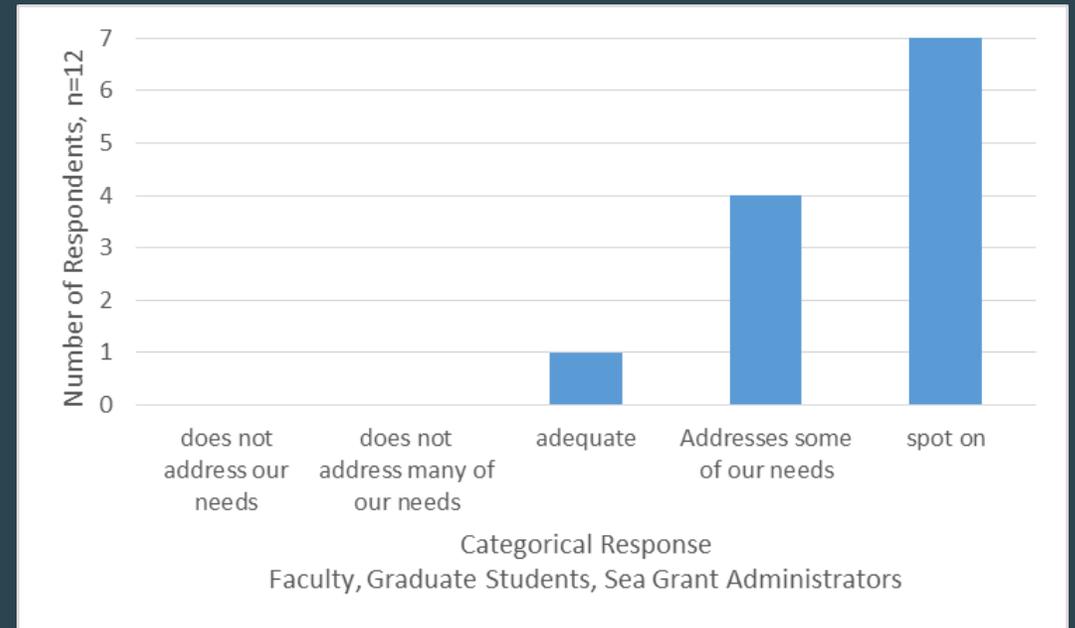


# Selected Study Group Evaluation Results

## Success of Individual Projects

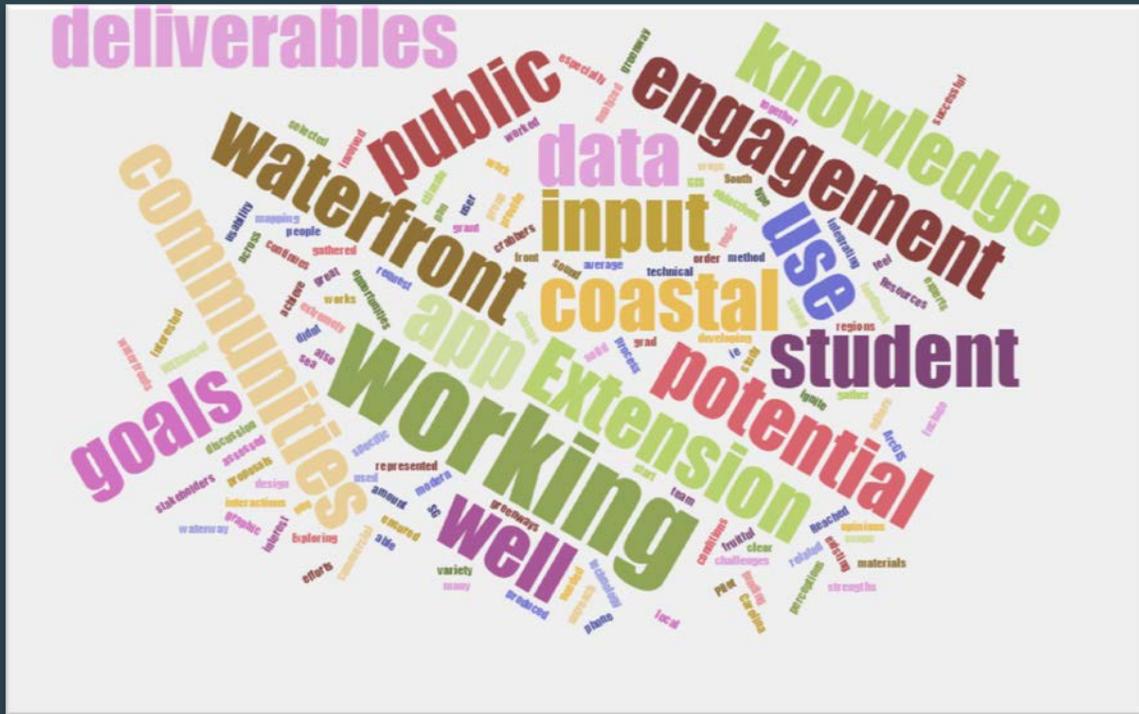


## Overall Program Objectives



# Selected Study Group Evaluation Results

## Strengths of the Projects



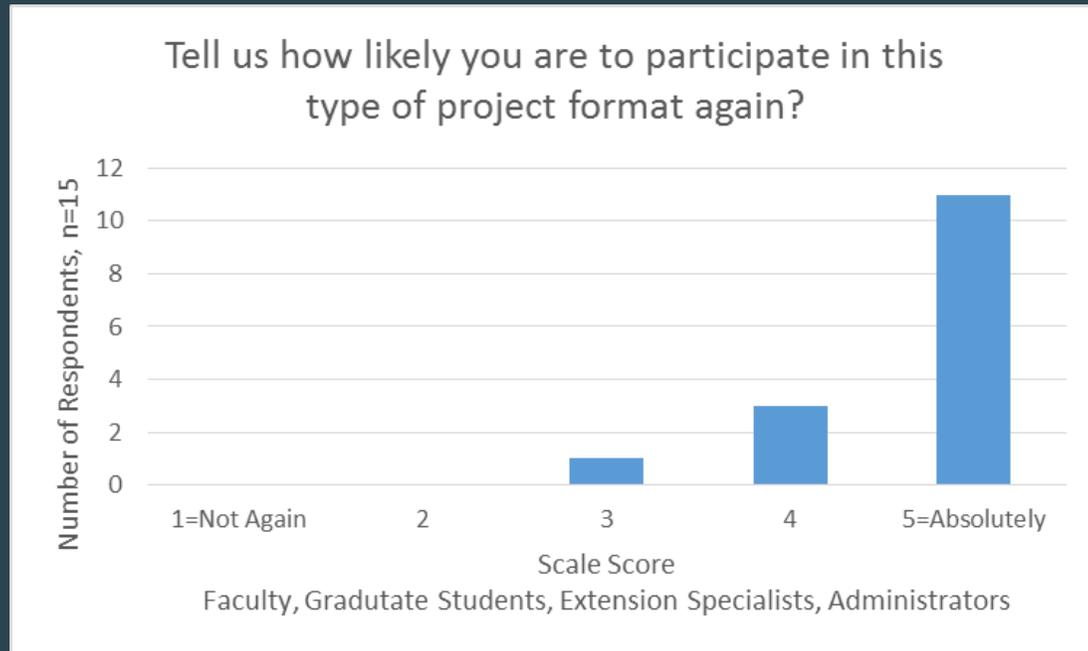
Word cloud graphic from narrative responses to “What do you believe are the strengths of your project?” n=13

## Tangible Benefits to Students

	• % of students benefitting	
Thesis	20%	
Internship	20%	
Support	40%	
Journal Article	20%	
Other publications	40%	
Successful Mentoring in Engagement and Extension	100%	

# Selected Study Group Evaluation Results

## Willingness to Use this Design in the Future



## Challenges for future development

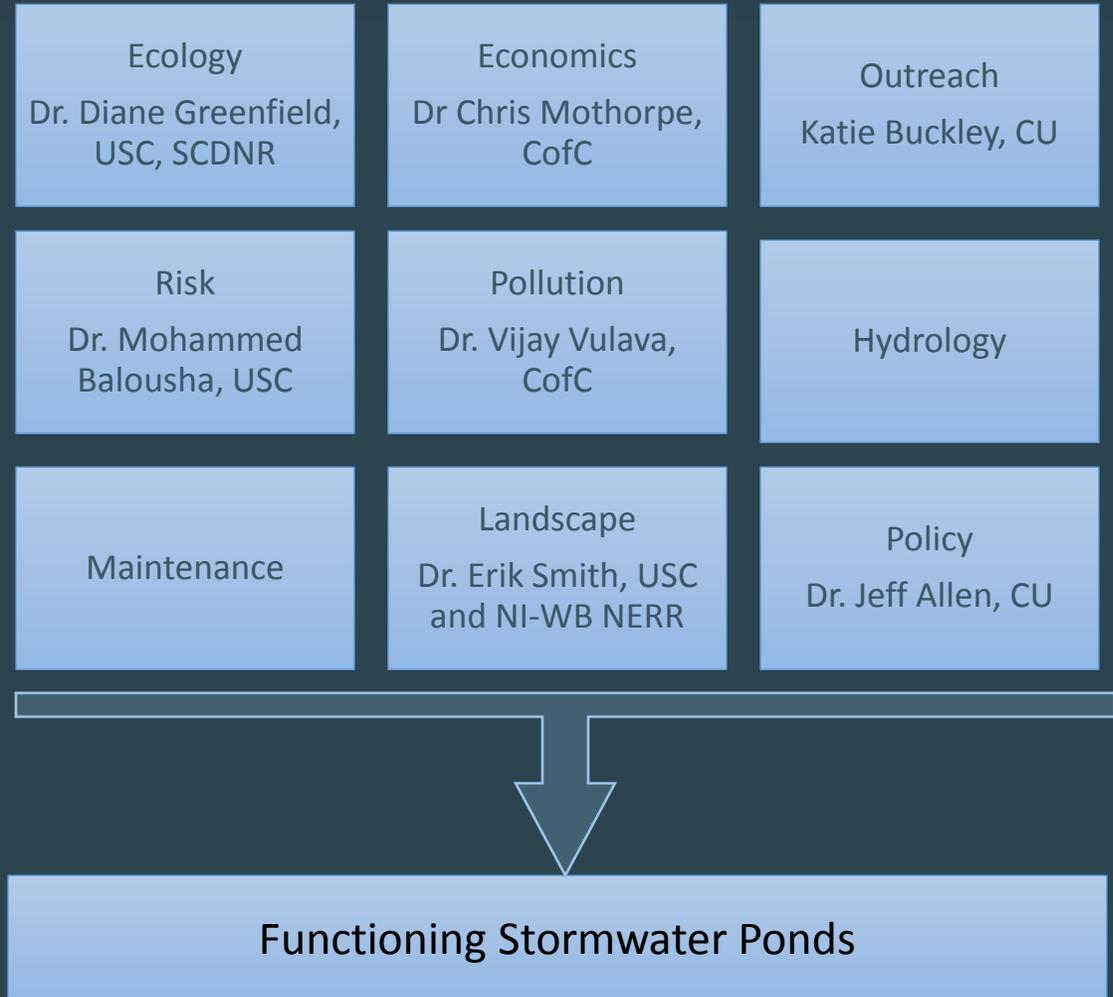
- **Expansion of time frame both for proposals and work.**
- **Gaining access to underserved populations**
- **Facilitating communications among team members as to specific duties**

# S.C. Stormwater Ponds Research and Management Collaborative -- State of the Knowledge Report



2012

Erik Smith, USC & NIWB NERR



# Project Partners

