

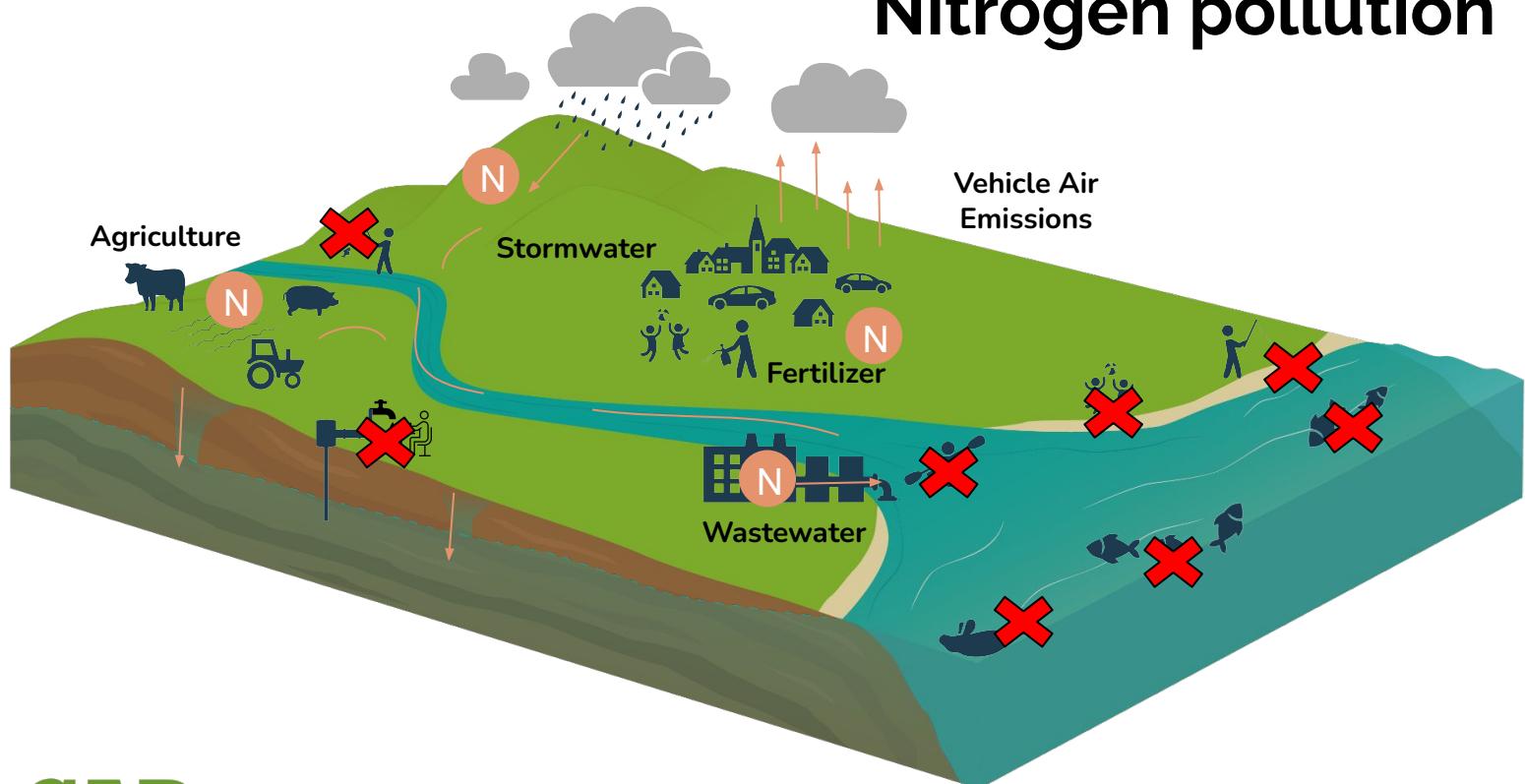
A photograph showing a group of approximately ten people of diverse ages and ethnicities gathered outdoors near a body of water. Some individuals are standing and talking, while others are seated or working on equipment. The setting appears to be a park or a coastal area with trees and buildings in the background. The overall atmosphere is one of a community or environmental action group.

# Blue Green Action Platform

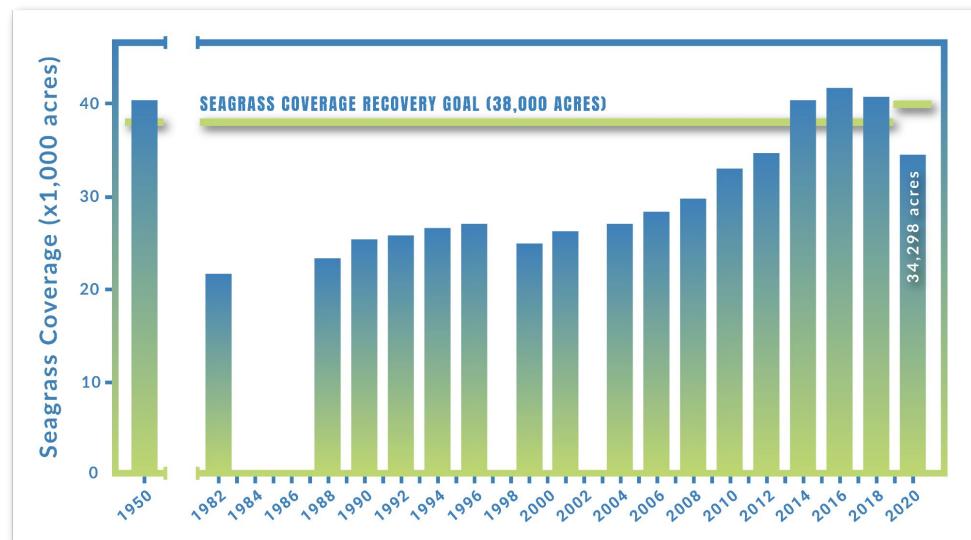
...building an inclusive, people-centered  
platform to address nitrogen pollution

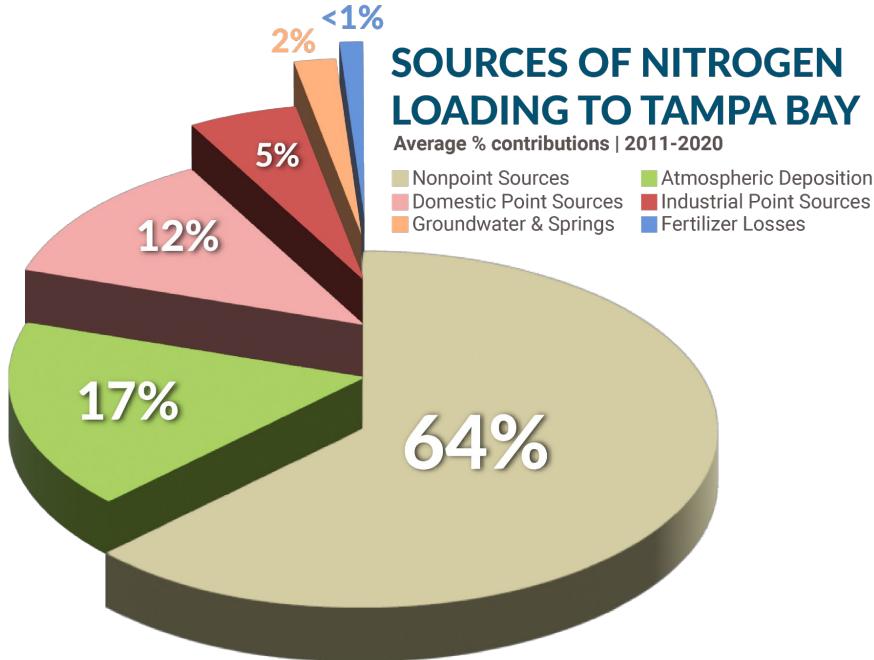


# Nitrogen pollution



# Problem Structuring





Entity	Source	Percent Remaining Allocation (if applicable)	5-yr Average TMDL Equivalent Load (tons/year)
Hillsborough County	MS4	22.60%	235.6
	Point Source – Falkenburg SW		15.2
	Point Source - Falkenburg RE		2.8
	Point Source – South County SW		1.8
	Point Source – Pebble Creek SW		0.3
	Point Source – Pebble Creek RE		0.1
	Point Source – Valrico SW		5.6
	Point Source – Valrico RE		5
City of Lakeland	MS4	1.10%	10.9
	Point Source – Lakeland SW		20
	Point Source – Lakeland RE		0.2
City of Mulberry	MS4	0.20%	2.1
	Point Source – Mulberry SW		2.4
Pasco County	MS4	3.70%	38.4
	Point Source – Master Reuse System RE		5.8
City of Plant City	MS4	0.90%	9.2
	Point Source – Plant City SW		9.5
	Point Source – Plant City RE		1
Polk County	MS4	6.50%	67.5
	Point Source – NW Regional RE		0.6
	Point Source – SW Regional RE		1.1
City of Tampa	MS4	4.80%	50
	Point Source – HF Curren SW		212.2
	Point Source – HF Curren RE		1

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# Problem Structuring

- Consecutive seagrass declines (2018-present)
- Non-point & atmospheric sources
- Who's (not) at the table

# People-Inspired



John Muhammad  
July 15, 2021 ·

Bro John Muhammad  
qhorsley@gmail.com

Maya Burke

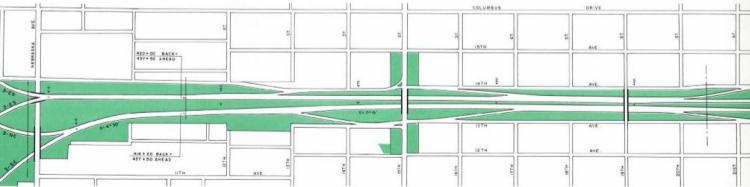
zoom

Tampa Bay Breakfast Club was live.  
July 15, 2021 ·

They are picking up dead fish, dead dolphins and sea turtles, and there has been an unconfirmed rumor of a dead manatee from the Bay. So we brought @Maya Burke ... See more

A screenshot of a Zoom video conference interface. At the top left is a profile picture of a person with a monkey icon. To the right is the name "John Muhammad" and the date "July 15, 2021". Below the name is a video thumbnail of a smiling Black man wearing a hoodie and glasses, with the text "Bro John Muhammad" and an email address "qhorsley@gmail.com" below it. To his right is another video thumbnail of a Black woman with the name "Maya Burke" below it. The bottom of the screen displays a transcript of the video call, mentioning the collection of dead marine life and a rumor of a dead manatee. The "zoom" logo is in the bottom right corner.

9. The Redevelopment and Slum Clearance program now being initiated in the "Scrub" should be extended gradually to others, Dobeville and Ybor City.
- Currently, under Title I of the Housing Act of 1949 the Housing Authority of Tampa in conjunction with the City, is making a study of and plans for the reconstruction of the "Scrub" area lying north of Cass Street, between Central and Maryland Avenues, one of the worse slum areas in the city. This area of some 4,000 people, located virtually in the center of the city, is an economic burden to all the taxpayers in that it costs more in crime and service charges it returns to the city in taxes. The reconstruction of the area for improved living and additional commercial and industrial enterprise will remove one of the most insidious and cancerous infections in the city. Once that area has

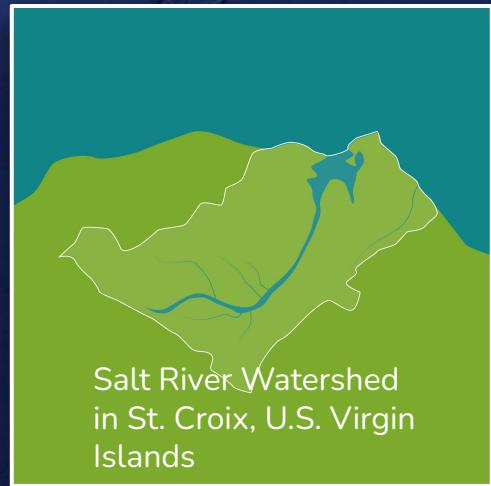
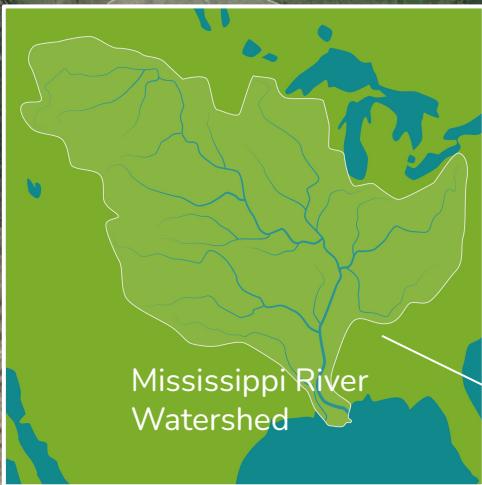


# People-Inspired

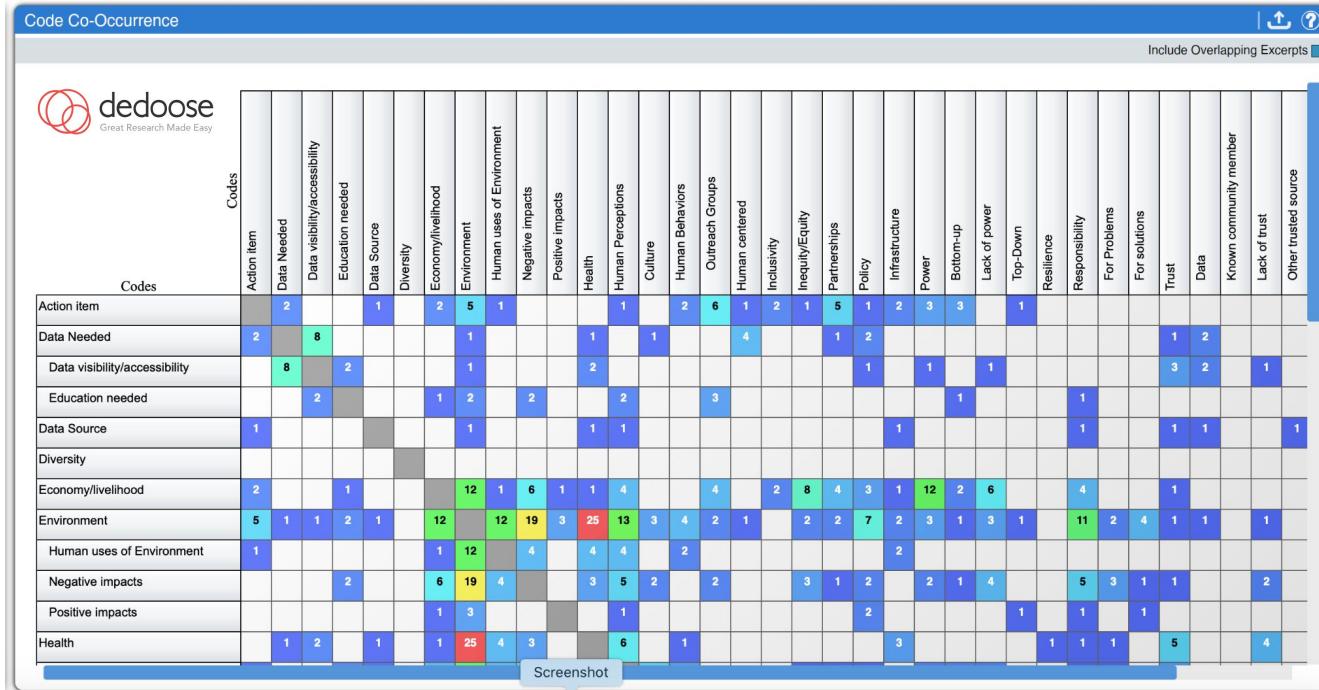




- 3 pilot watersheds
- Humanize the challenges of and solutions to N pollution



# People-Inspired



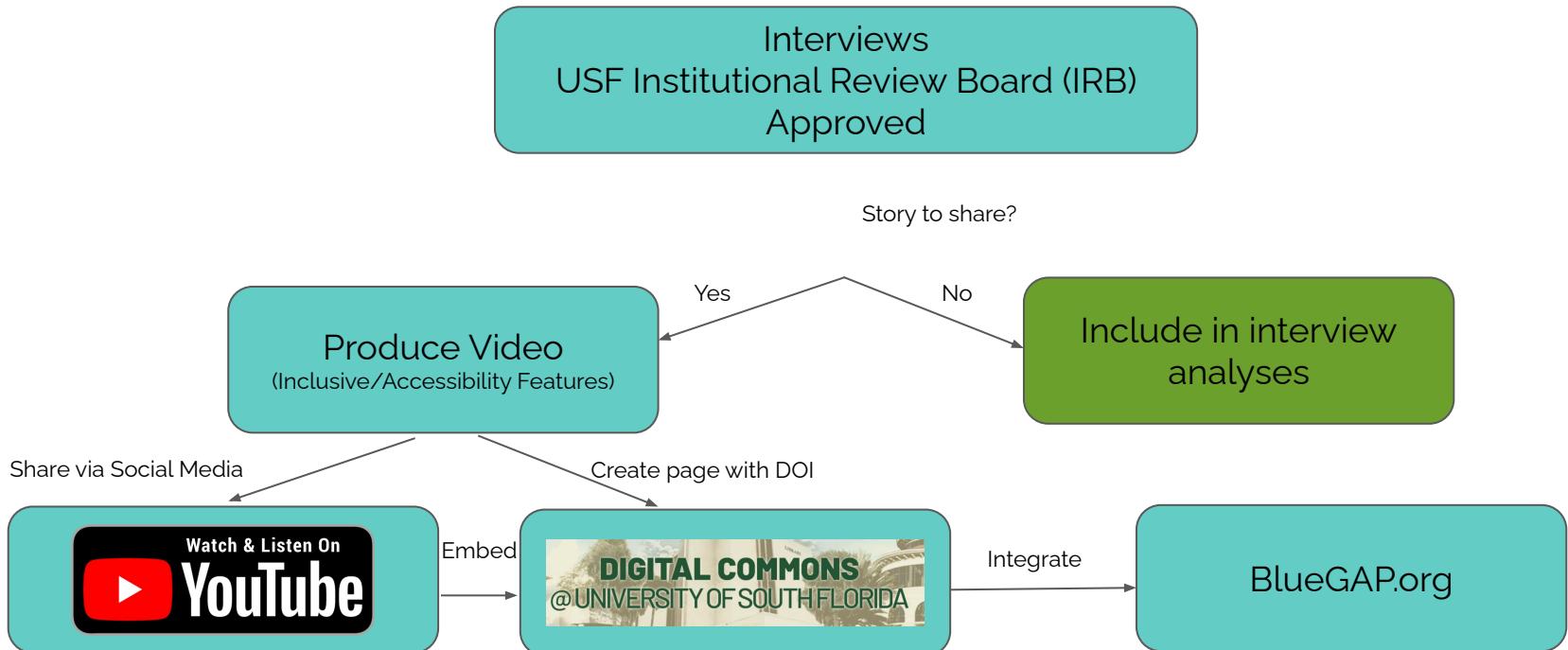
# Storytelling Themes



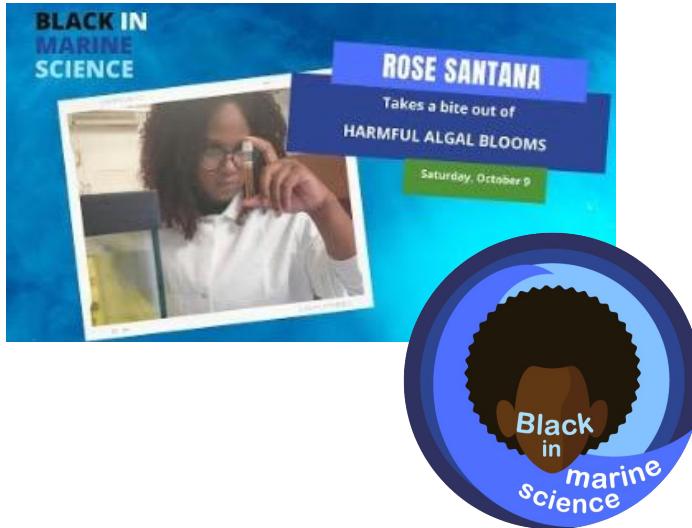
**Economy:** "[Farmers] are open to listening to what we can present to them [as] factual information. And if you can show a return how it's gonna benefit them financially, they certainly are more interested."

**Health:** "When we were kids growing we could drink water out of the water hose...and everything was fine...People are scared, these kids can't do that anymore. They have to buy water from the store."

# Database



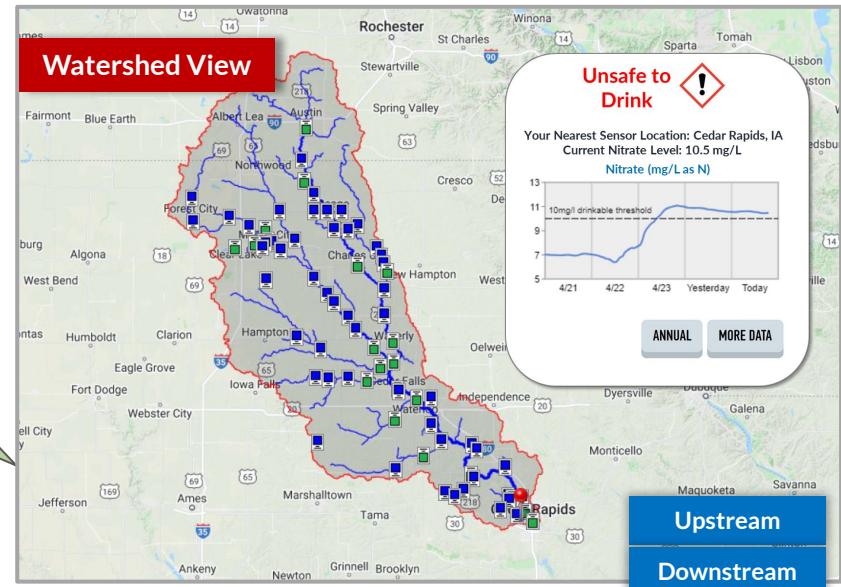
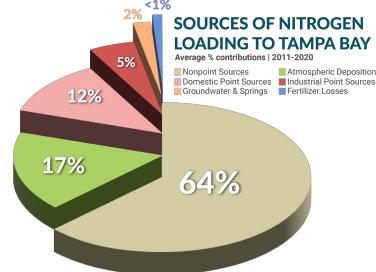
# Inclusive Educational Materials



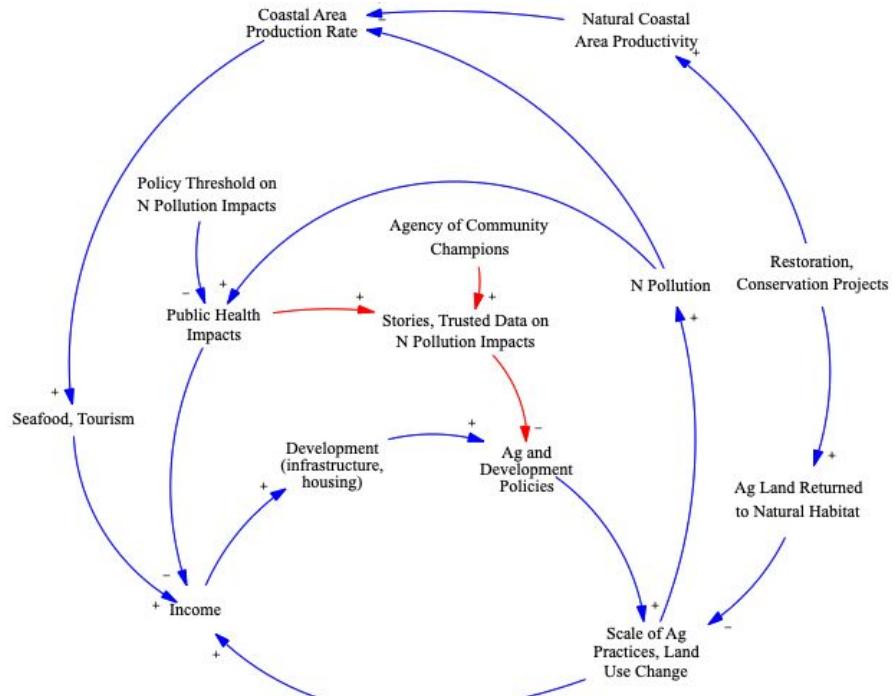
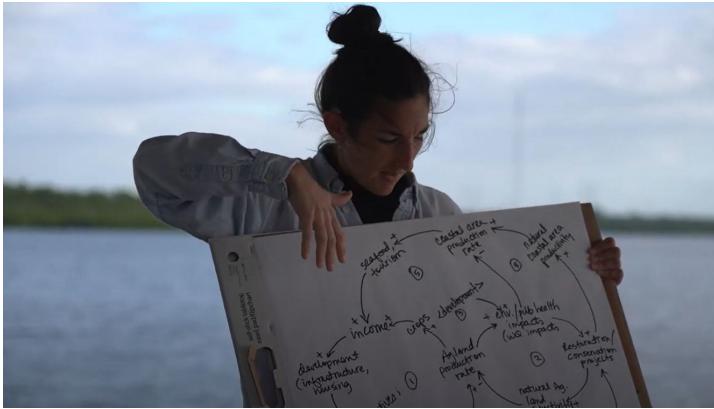
- Documentary
- Shareable infographics
- BIMS Bites/Dives
  - What is nitrogen and how do we measure it
  - Pollution of drinking water and health impacts
  - Fertilizers be running.
  - The Farm Bill...Forreal?

# Data Themes

**Data needed:** "In Iowa we have what's called the Nutrient Reduction Strategy, which very clearly identifies agriculture as the number one source of nutrient loading into our waterways in the state of Iowa. Yet people... have a really hard time accepting that their farming is really the number one contributor of nutrient pollution in the state..."



# Leverage Points





## Alliance

- Connect people across watersheds

## Academy

- Build capacity within communities



Seth Watkins  
Pinhook Farms



V. Fixmer-Oraiz  
Astig Planing

Mississippi River  
Watershed



Walter Smith  
Tampa Sierra Club



Hillary Van Dyke  
Green Book  
of Tampa

Tampa Bay  
Watershed



Kelcie Troutman  
USVI East End  
Marine Park



J. Cumberbatch  
ASCE  
Soundstage

Salt River Watershed



<https://blue-gap.org/>

<> www.blue-gap.org

BlueGAP

Explore nitrogen data in your area

Enter your address:

Middle Cedar

Plan Progress

Objective Resources Alternative Assessment Detection Implementation Evaluation

Turn 1

Historic Climate Record

Turn Actions

Assess Alternative

Budget

Total: \$0 / \$1,400,000,000

Localized Actions: \$0 / \$800,000,000

Watershed Actions: \$0 / \$400,000,000

O&M Localized Actions: \$0 / \$31,800,000

Choose Strategy - Localized Actions

- Protect Municipal Water Supply
- Raise Well Intakes
- Install New Deep Water Well (IMGO)
- Install Nitrate Removal Equipment

Structural Action

- Levees

Non-Structural Action

- Elevate Structures
- Low Number of Structures Elevated
- Moderate Number of Structures Elevated
- High Number of Structures Elevated

Relocate Structures

- None
- Low Number of Structures Relocated
- Moderate Number of Structures Relocated
- High Number of Structures Relocated

Choose Strategy - Watershed Actions

- Land Cover Changes
- Grass-Based
- Riparian Buffer

Participatory Decision Support System

www.blue-gap.org

BlueGAP

Explore nitrogen data in your area

Enter your address:

Home About The Team

Walter Smith  
Sierra Club, Tampa Bay

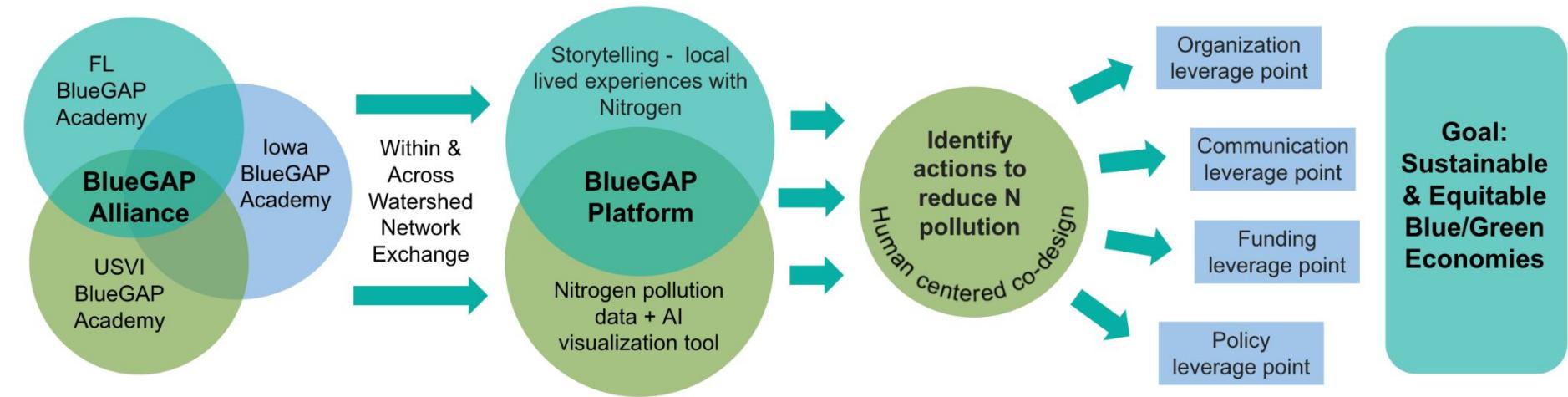


Walter hosts the Sunday Forum every Sunday on WMNF public radio. As a Tampa native and civil engineer he's vested in improving the health and livelihoods of frontline communities. He leads a Toxic Bus Tour, and organizes environmental justice forums that bring the Tampa Bay community together, raising awareness on emerging issues of concern, like nitrogen pollution. He hosts educational events at the Walter L. Smith Sr. library, named after his father, a former President of Florida A & M University.

### Listen to Walter's Story



# How?





IOWA



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA



STETSON LAW



NSF Convergence Accelerator

BlueGAP