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**Interviewer:** So I started to mention in the email, so the really high level overarching goal of the project is to understand if and how we're managing for coastal and marine biodiversity in US Marine resource management. It's a really big research question. So we have a case study approach. It's a three year project, and we're in the last year of the project right now. So the first case study was Northern Gulf of Mexico slash Mobile Bay, Alabama. So that's where Sarah is at the University of South Alabama. And one of our PIs, Steven Scyphers, second case study was Chesapeake Bay, where I live in Annapolis, Maryland, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. And the third is Puget Sound. And so initially we had Phil Levin on our team, but then when he left for the White House, he's no longer on our team. So that's why Sarah and I had been here for two weeks, kind of having these meetings, doing some on the ground scoping and having meetings to get away with the land

**BD088:**  She was supposed to be here. Is that Puget sound partly?

**Interviewer:** Yes, exactly. Yeah. So we wanted three case studies, one logistically that we had team members at, but then also we were hoping to find three regions that had somewhat similar social ecological dynamics, but we're looking for opportunities to look at commonalities and differences across three regions. So that's why we kind of landed on those three phase sounds.

**BD088:** Yeah, I'm guessing there's probably shellfish and all I can, trying to think of the similarities right now. Right,

**Interviewer:** Exactly. Yeah. And so for each of the case studies, Sarah and I have been doing individual meetings like this and interviews with community members, and we're talking to a wide variety of community members, resource users. So oyster farmers is one group that we've talked with at every region, rec and charter fishermen, to a lesser extent, commercial fishermen. It's been more recreational focused. And then waterfront homeowners. So living shorelines comes up a lot and ecotourism operators and then tribal community members and managers has been much bigger here. And so thinking about commonalities and differences like tourism that exists in each other three regions, but it's different type of tourism. So we've been speaking, we've met with dive instructor, whale watching naturalists here, but then less of a theme in our other regions. And so in those meetings with community members, our goal is to understand what local aspects of coastal and marine biodiversity those community members value and rely on for different services. And then we're meeting with resource managers to understand if and how they think about biodiversity when they're making decisions. And then understand if those two things align. If managers are thinking about the components of biodiversity that community members value. And so then we're running a workshop in each of the three regions where we bring all of those groups together and look at trade-offs of different management approaches to how we can better balance access to biodiversity with conservation of biodiversity.

**BD088:** And your workshop here is October, late October is that right. And can you just tell me what, when you are demonstrate or exposing them to trade-offs, how you do that? Is that sort of through a presentation?

**Interviewer:** Yeah. So we're using, are you familiar with mental modeler?

**BD088:** I mean, I saw Yeah, a little bit, and I saw the link that you included in your email.

**Interviewer:** Yeah. So that's the tool that we're using. So we're drawing conceptual models using as a collaborative participatory modeling tool in the workshop. And so we do that on day one with the community members. And then Sarah and I rapid fire build a community model from the discussions day one that evening. And then day two, we present it back to them to validate it. And then we use it to run some scenario simulations where you can look at, if we were to hypothetically pull one lever in the system, what components would impact, how would it impact biodiversity? And then how would that potentially then indirectly impact the ecosystem services that community members receive from that biodiversity?

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