

# *Re-vegetation Efforts on Lake Gaston*

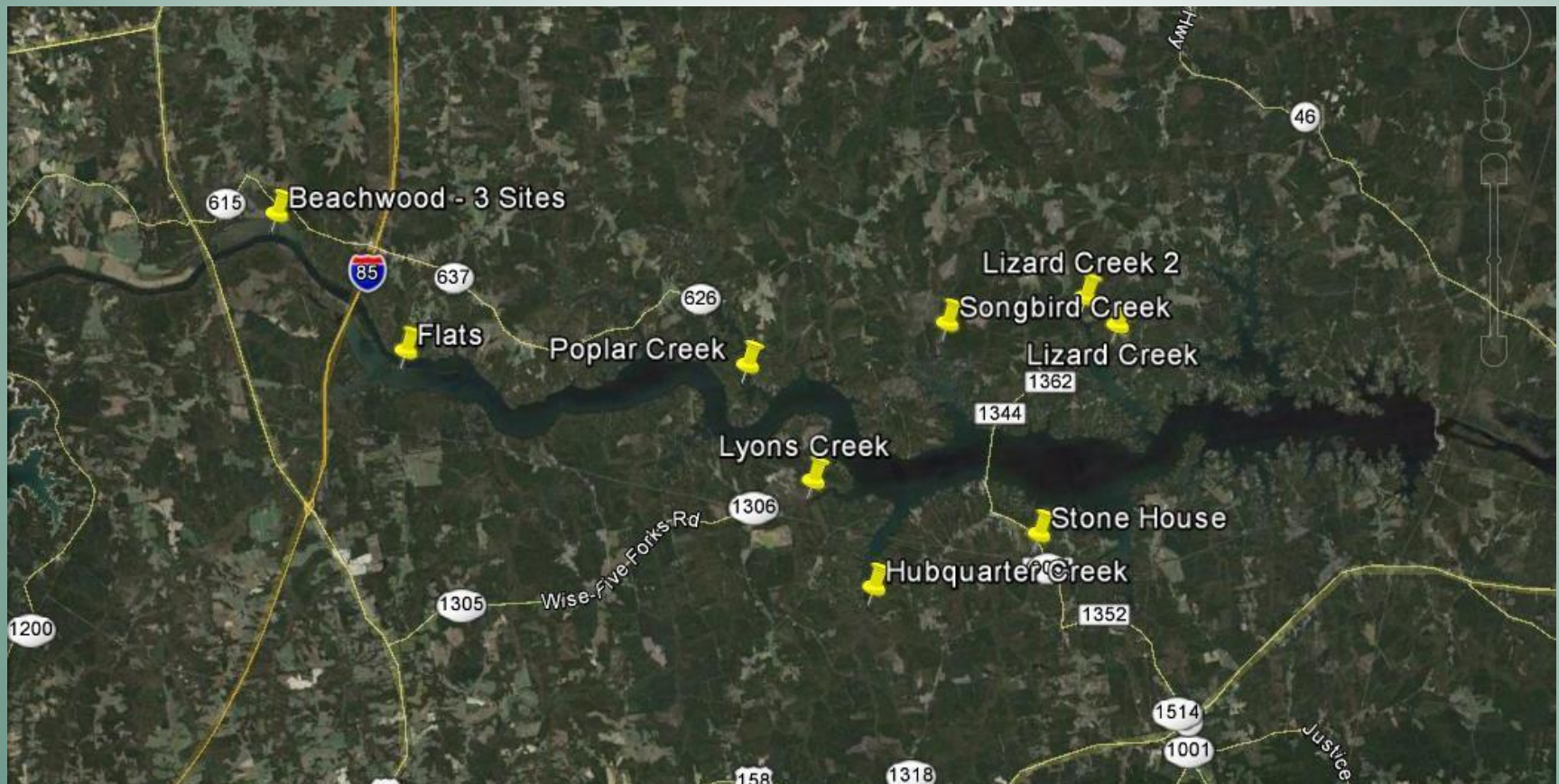


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Mark Fowlkes

Piedmont Aquatic Habitat Coordinator

# USACE Vegetation Pilot Project in 2006



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# 2014 Partnership Agreement

- 5-year project (2014 – 2019)
- LGWCC
  - Volunteers
  - \$10,000 annually in materials and supplies
- NCWRC
  - Technical guidance and assist with planting
- NCSU Lake Gaston Coordinator
  - Coordinates volunteers, technical guidance, planting



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# Volunteer Hours

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
LGA	250	266	255	136	194	0
NCSU	174	199	202	168	134	0
NCWRC	163	220	306	132	149	0
VDWR	16	24	16	11	16	0



# 14 Revegetation Sites

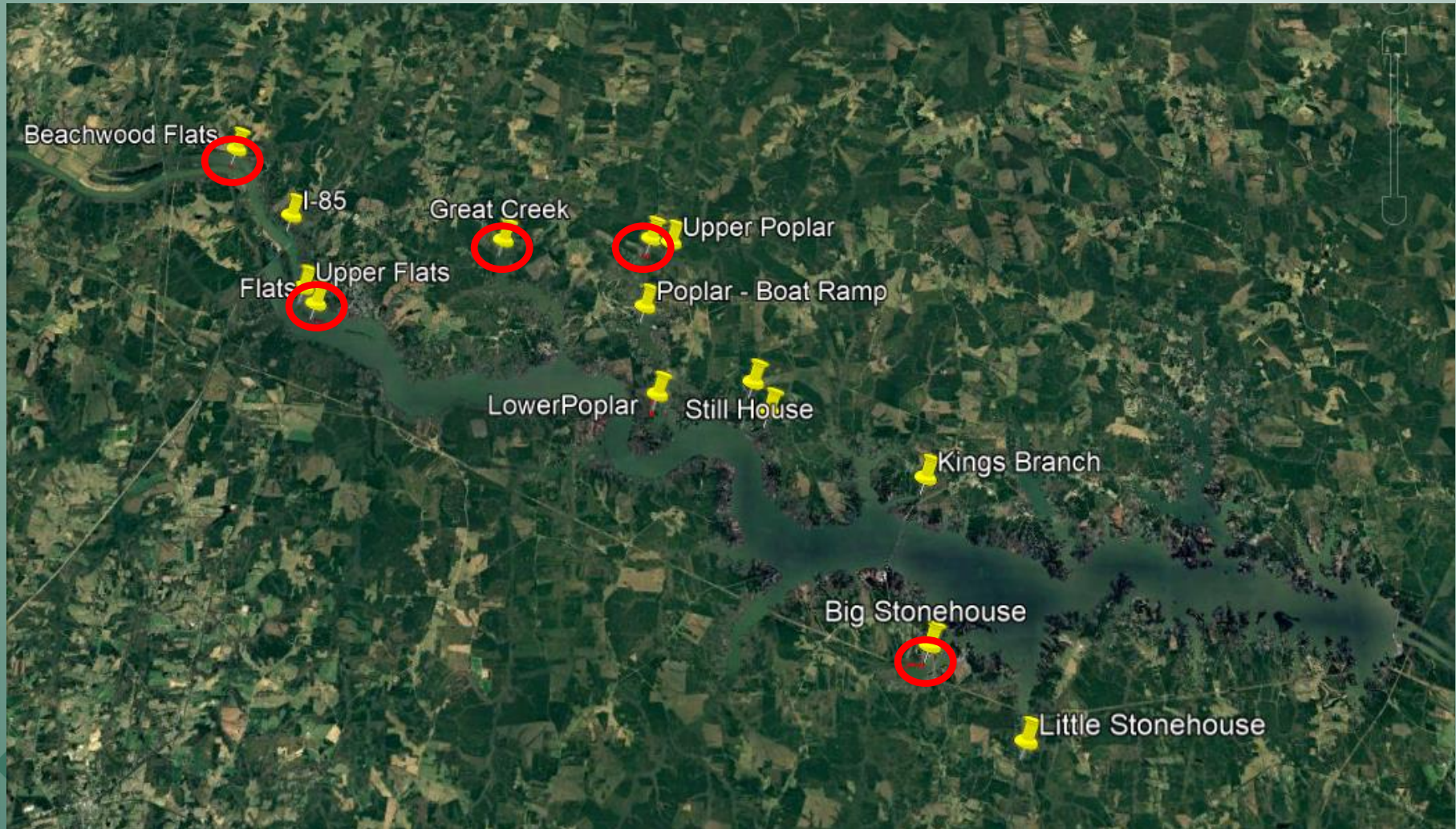


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# Re-vegetation Sites

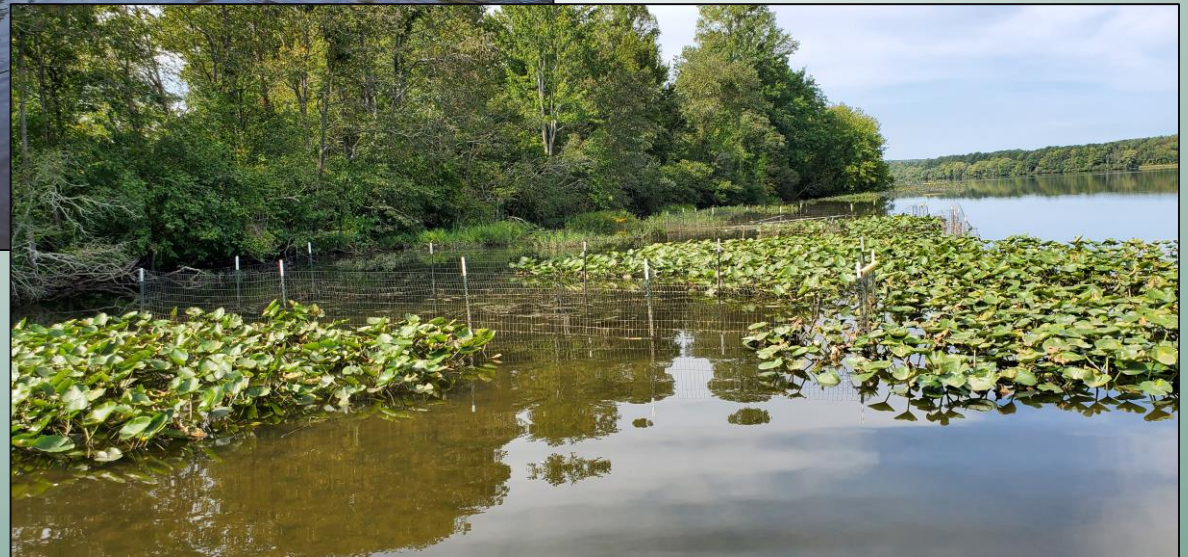
## Expanding Outside Cages





# Beachwood Flats

## Expansion away from Exclosures



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# Big Stone House 2020



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# Upper Poplar Creek – East Cove

Unprotected planting not as successful



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# 5-Year Management Plan

## 2021-2026

### 5-Year Management Plan Goal

- To improve physical habitat for sport fishes by diversifying and establishing **self-sustaining native aquatic macrophyte communities** while helping to prevent the spread of nuisance exotic plants.

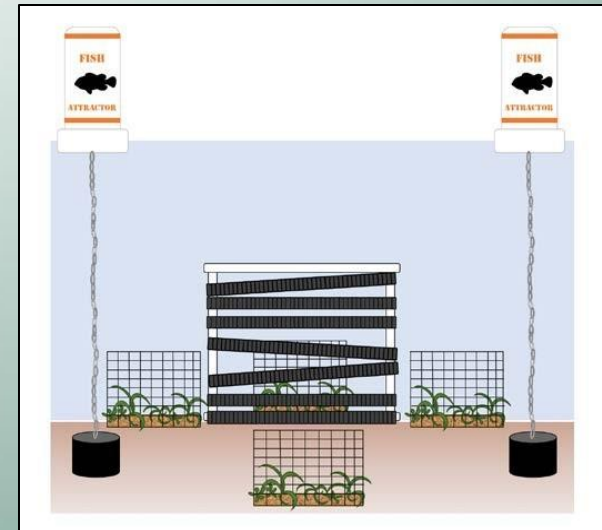


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# 5-Year Management Plan 2021-2026

- Defining success criteria
- Maintain existing exclosures and planted areas
- Identify additional areas (provide competition with Lyngbya)
- Managing Hydrilla in exclosures
- Explore new techniques for establishing vegetation
  - NCSU integrated fish attractor
- Monitoring
  - Annual end of growing season monitoring
  - Quantifying spread outside exclosures using drones every 5 years



# Partners

- LGWCC
  - \$2,500 in 2021 for materials and supplies
  - \$3,500 in annually for materials and supplies
- LGA
  - Volunteers
- NCWRC
  - Technical guidance and assist with planting
- NCSU Lake Gaston Coordinator
  - Coordinates volunteers, technical guidance, planting
- VDWR
  - Planting
- Others?





# Questions?



Upper Poplar - West



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