



Vineyard Marsh Stewards

Martha's Vineyard Coastal Conference

Sakiko Isomichi, Climate Resilience Planner, MV Commission

October 6, 2026

Marshes Matter

Food web nurseries

Shelter habitats

Coastal buffers

Nutrient filters

Carbon storage



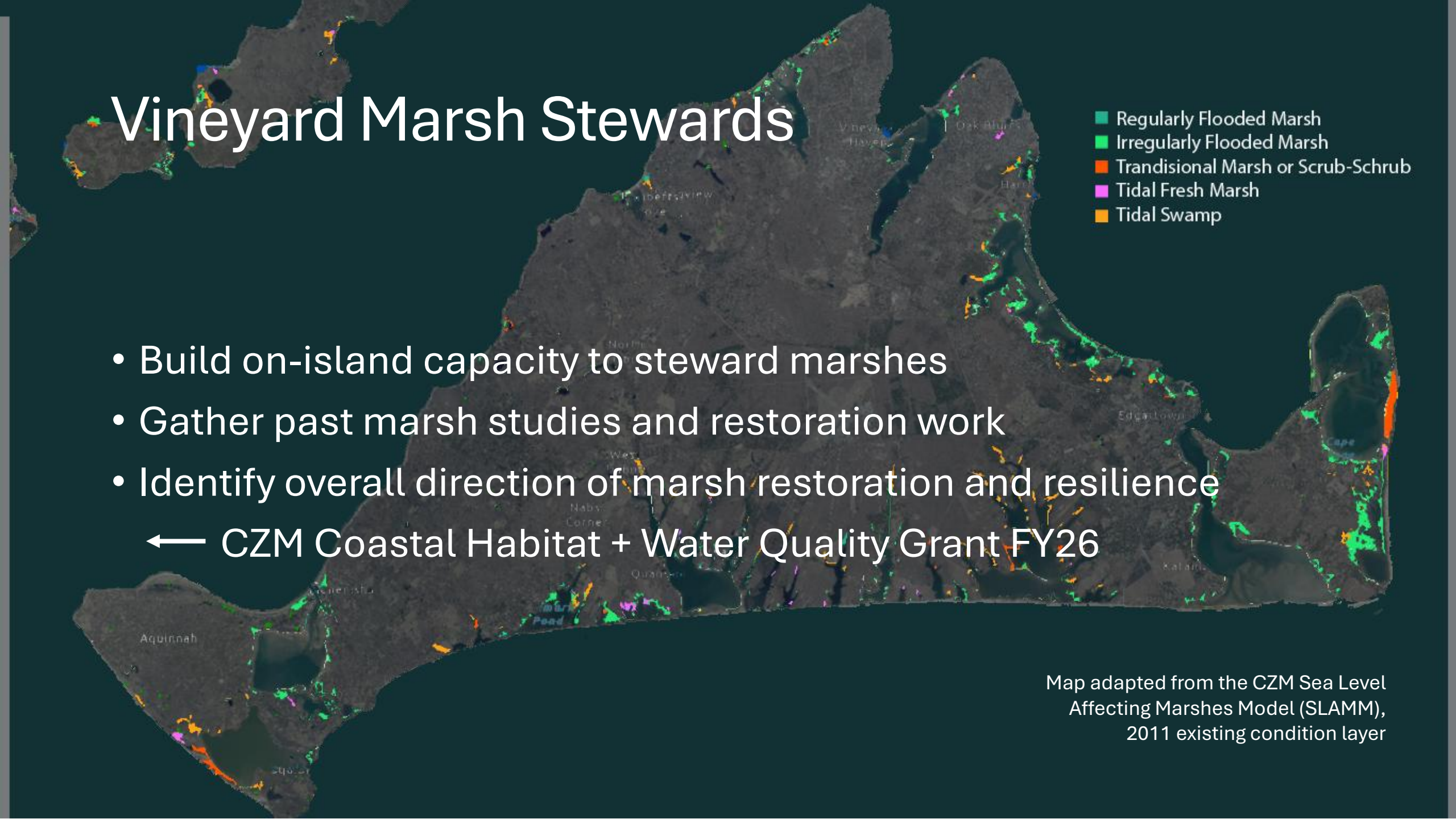
Image: Ray Ewing, "Great Egret (Ardea alba)," Sengekontacket Pond, Edgartown, MA, MV Atlas of Life, iNaturalist, May 11, 2026, <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/361664632>

Salt Marsh Loss

- Sea level rise
- Farming + mosquito ditches
- Problem species
- Development
- Limited capacity to steward on island

Phragmites, a problem species, spreading across the marshes on Chappaquiddick, field trip on October 3, 2025

Vineyard Marsh Stewards

- 
- The map displays the Vineyard Marsh area with various habitats highlighted in different colors. The legend identifies five categories: Regularly Flooded Marsh (teal), Irregularly Flooded Marsh (green), Transitional Marsh or Scrub-Scrub (orange), Tidal Fresh Marsh (purple), and Tidal Swamp (yellow). The map also shows several geographical features and place names, including Vineyard Haven, Oak Bluffs, Harb, Edgartown, Aquinnah, and others.
- Regularly Flooded Marsh
 - Irregularly Flooded Marsh
 - Transitional Marsh or Scrub-Scrub
 - Tidal Fresh Marsh
 - Tidal Swamp

- Build on-island capacity to steward marshes
 - Gather past marsh studies and restoration work
 - Identify overall direction of marsh restoration and resilience
- ← CZM Coastal Habitat + Water Quality Grant FY26

Map adapted from the CZM Sea Level
Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM),
2011 existing condition layer

A landscape photograph showing a wide, flat marshy field with a narrow, winding path of water or mud leading towards a line of bare trees in the distance. The sun is bright and low in the sky, creating a hazy, golden light. The sky is filled with soft, grey clouds. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Questions?

Sakiko Isomichi
isomichi@mvcommission.org