

# NHDES Wetlands Bureau Emergency Authorizations







# **Agenda:**

- 1.) NH Wetlands Law, Jurisdictional Areas**
- 2.) Storm Data**
- 3.) Emergency Authorization Process**
- 4.) Examples of Emergency Authorization Requests**



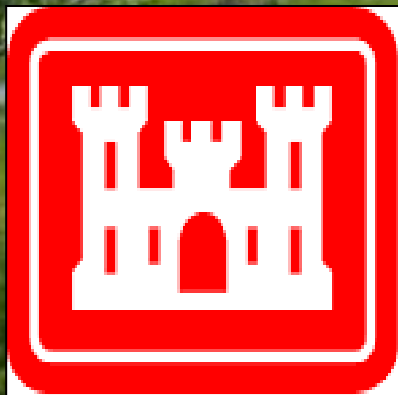
# NH Wetlands Law

NH RSA 482-A





# Section 404 Clean Water Act



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**







# **NH Wetlands Law Jurisdictional Areas**



# Marsh





# Bog





# Scrub Shrub





# Vernal Pool





# Vernal Pool





# Wet Meadow



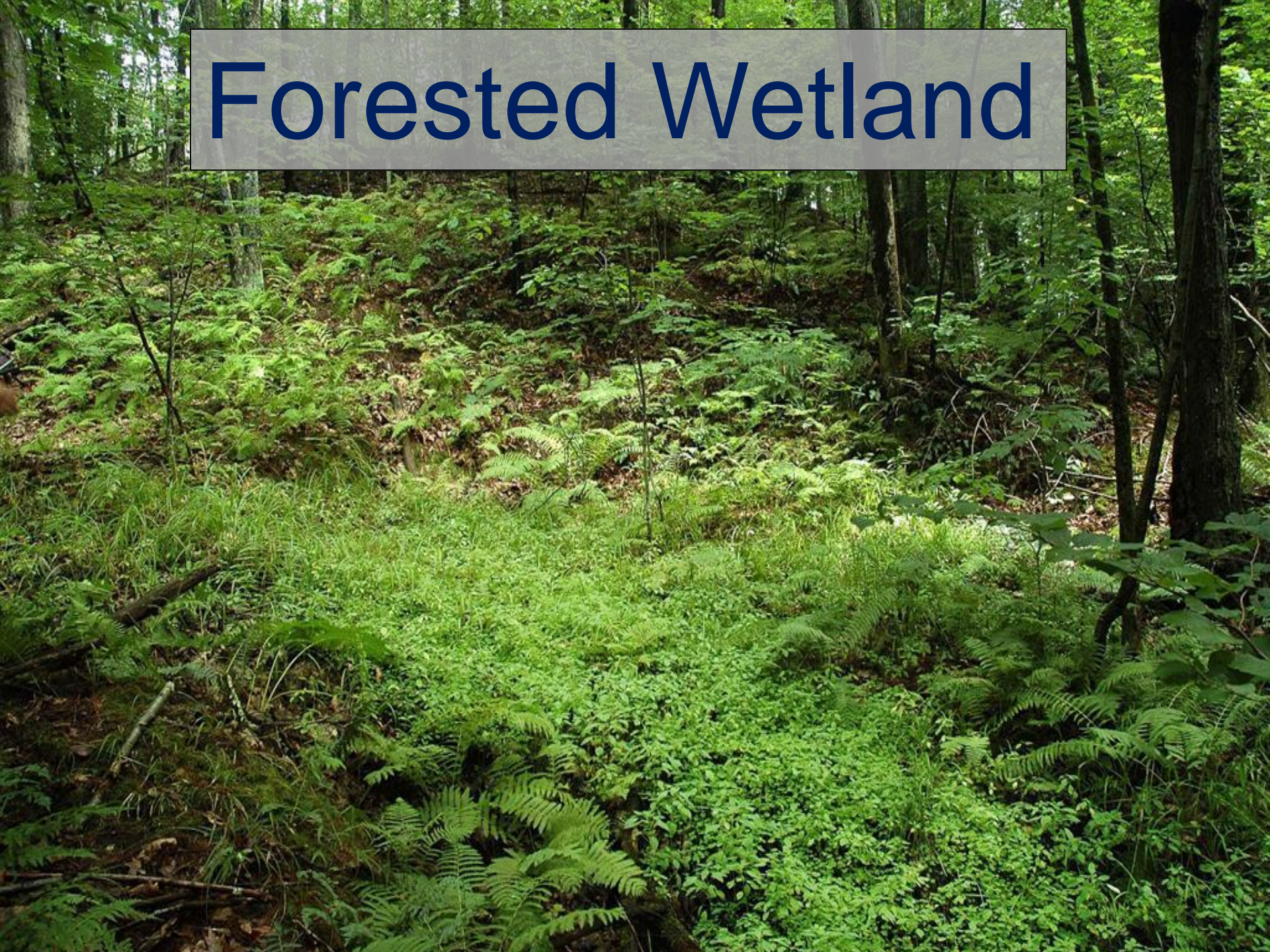


# Wet Meadow





# Forested Wetland



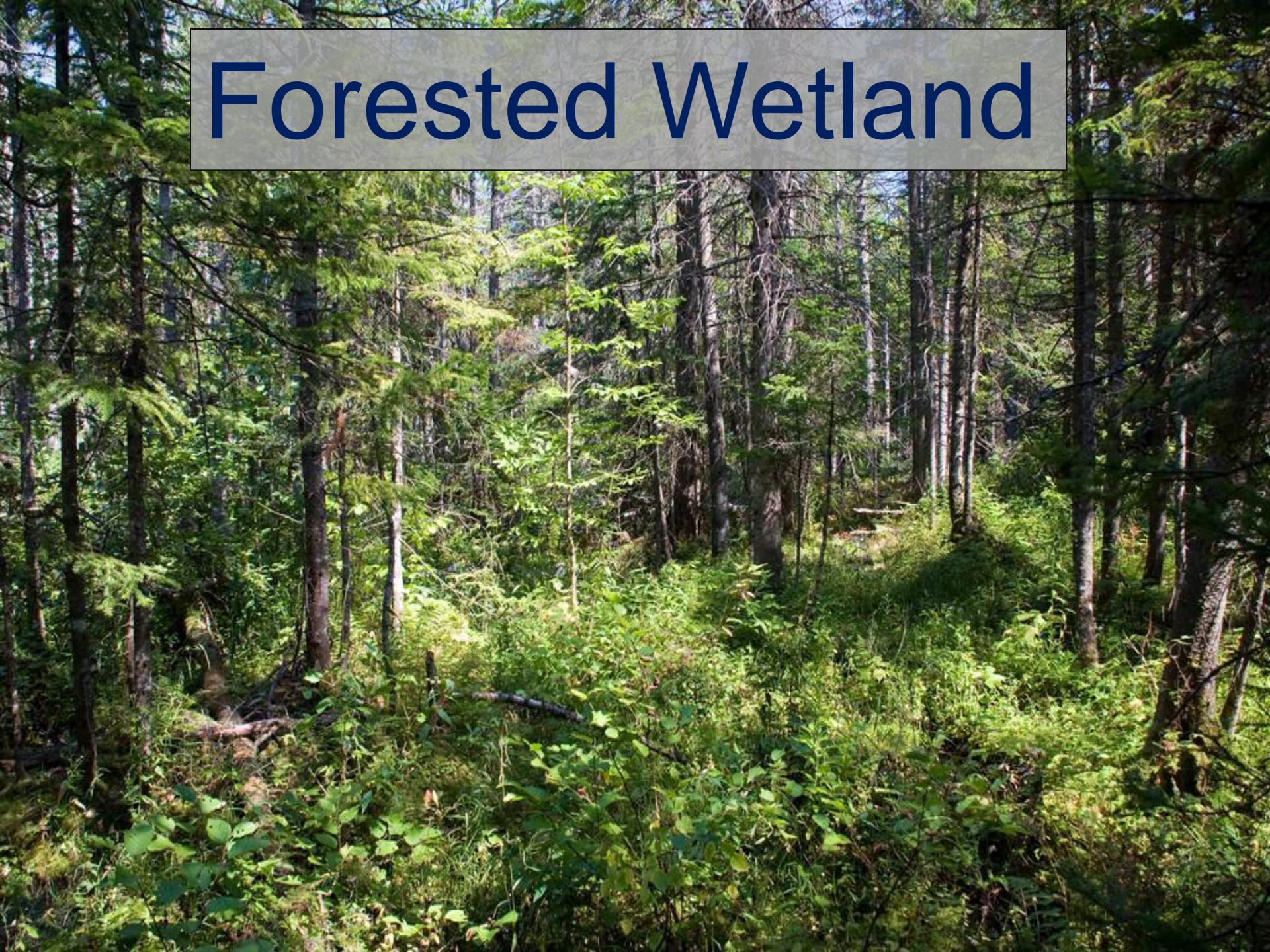


# Forested Wetland





# Forested Wetland





# Forested Wetland





# Seacoast





# Seacoast Shoreline





# Tidal Buffer Zone



100 Foot Tidal Buffer  
Zone

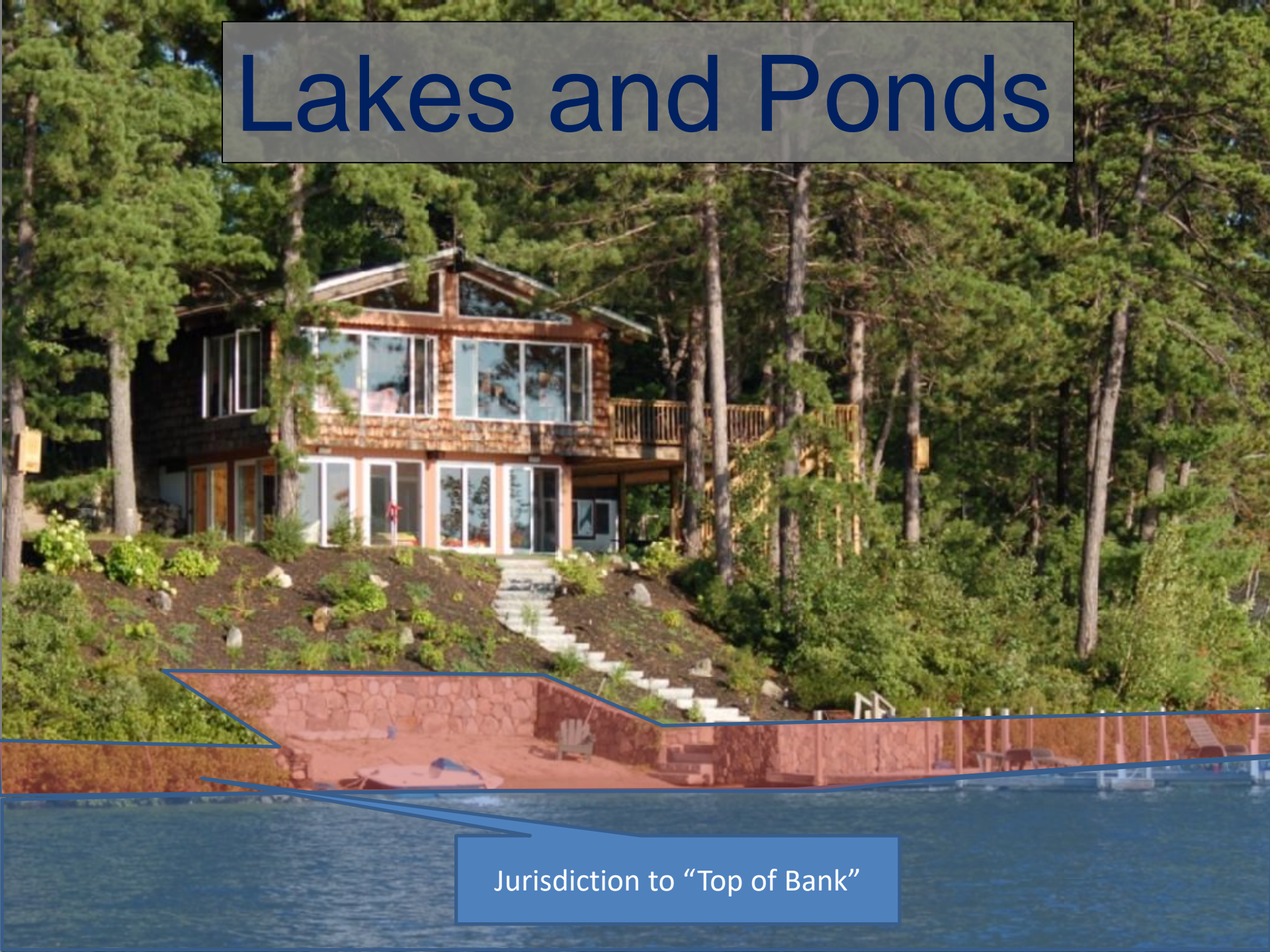


# Salt Marsh





# Lakes and Ponds



Jurisdiction to "Top of Bank"



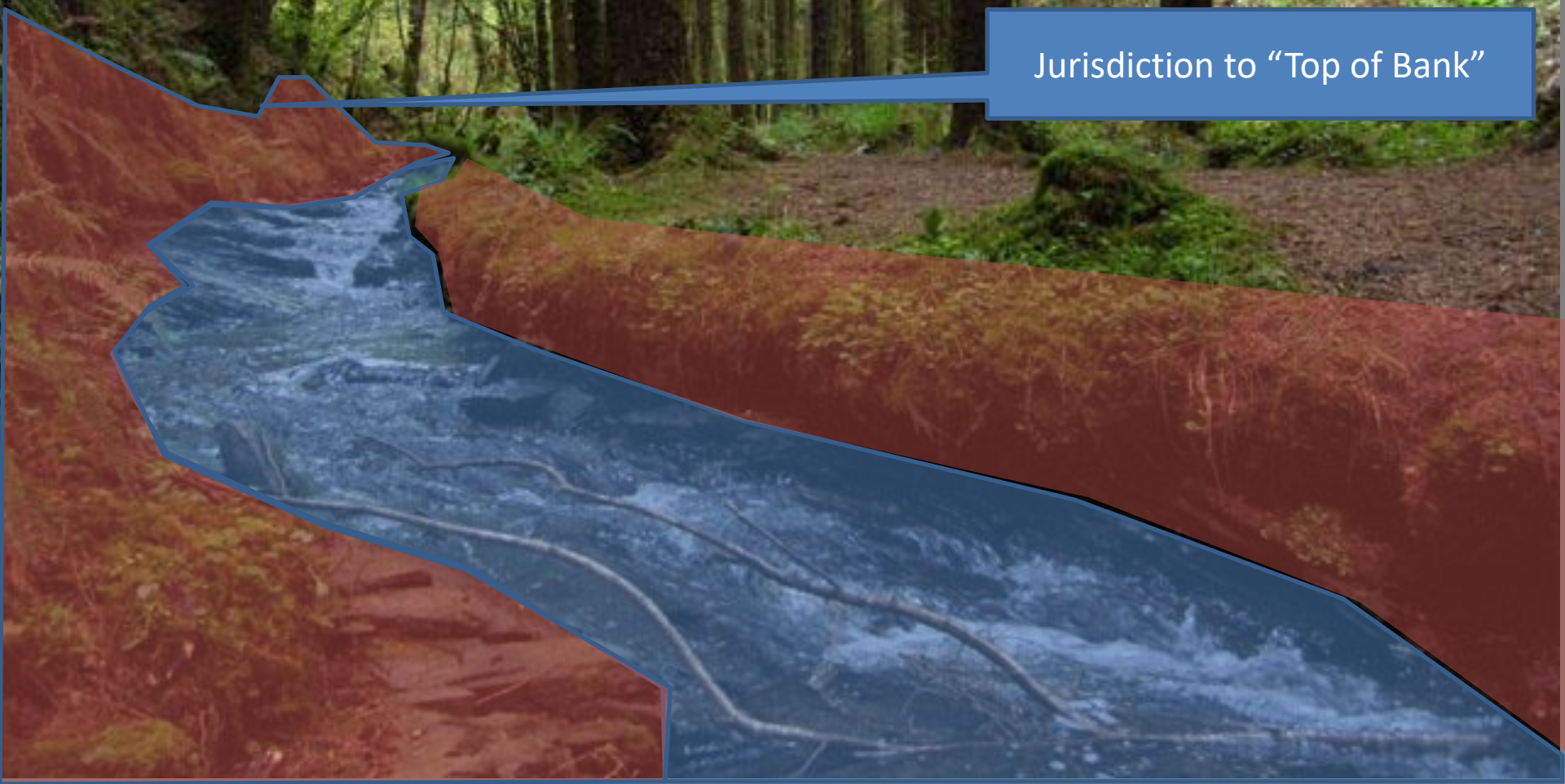
# Lakes and Ponds





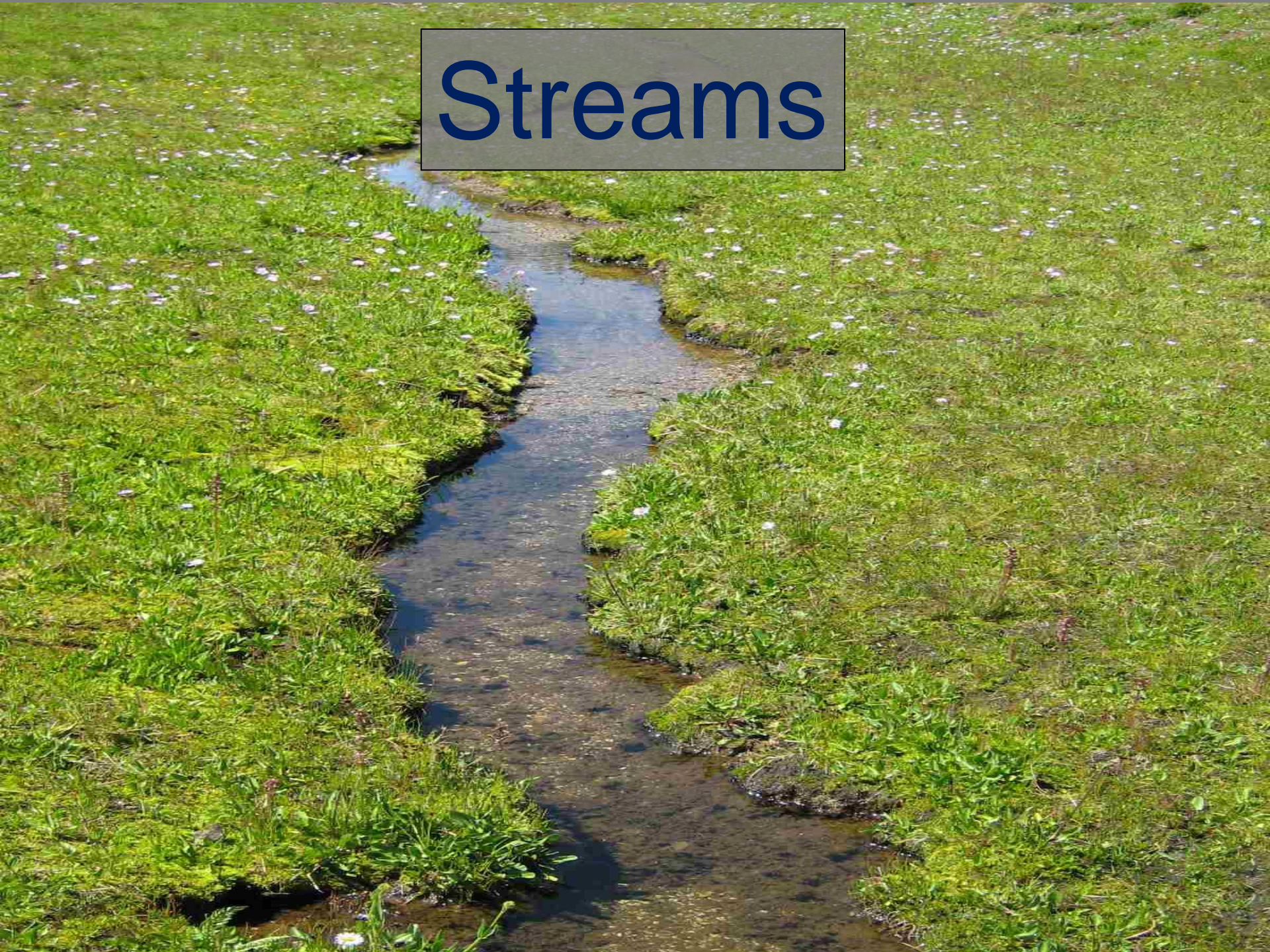
# Streams

Jurisdiction to “Top of Bank”



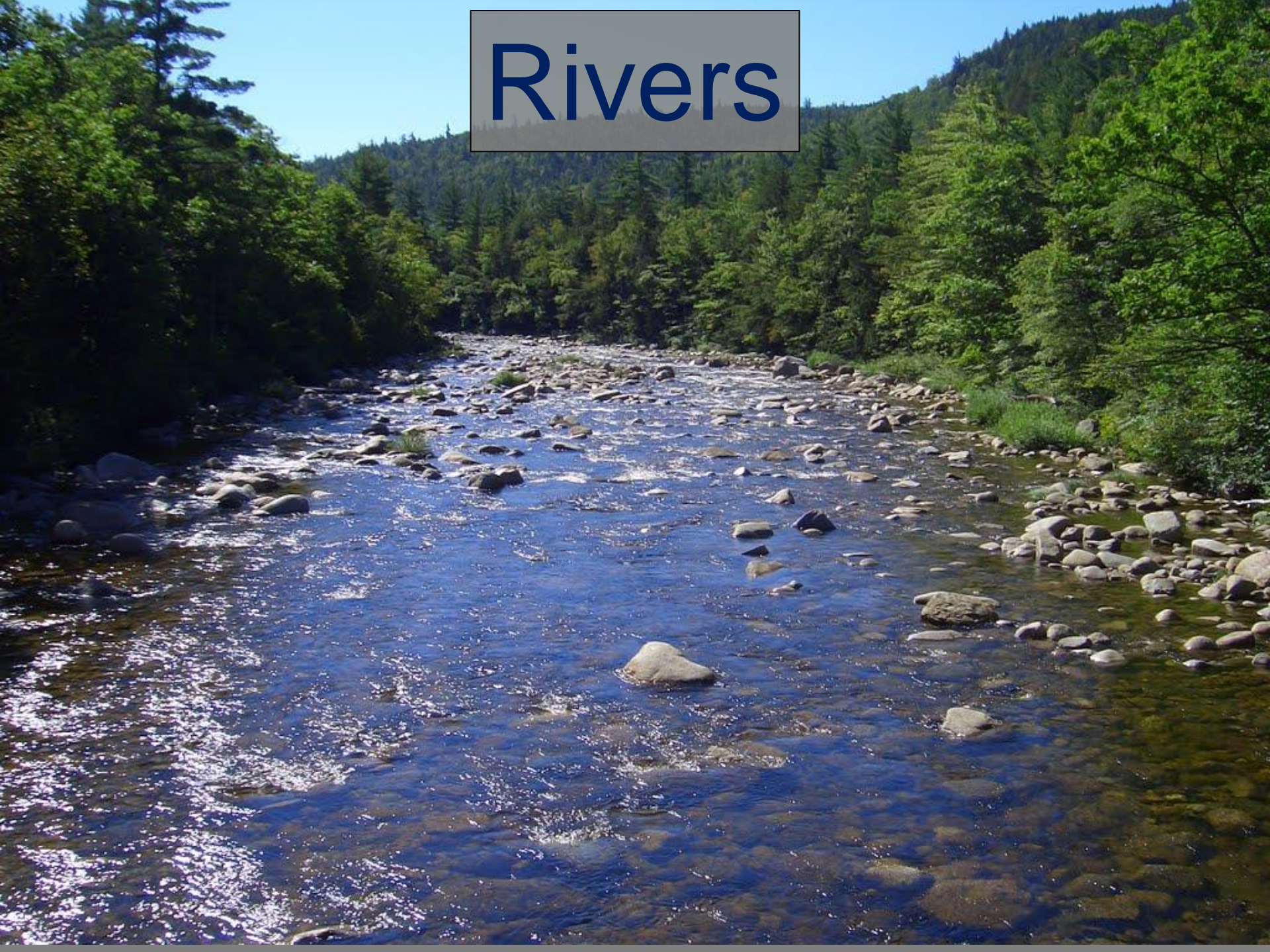


# Streams





# Rivers



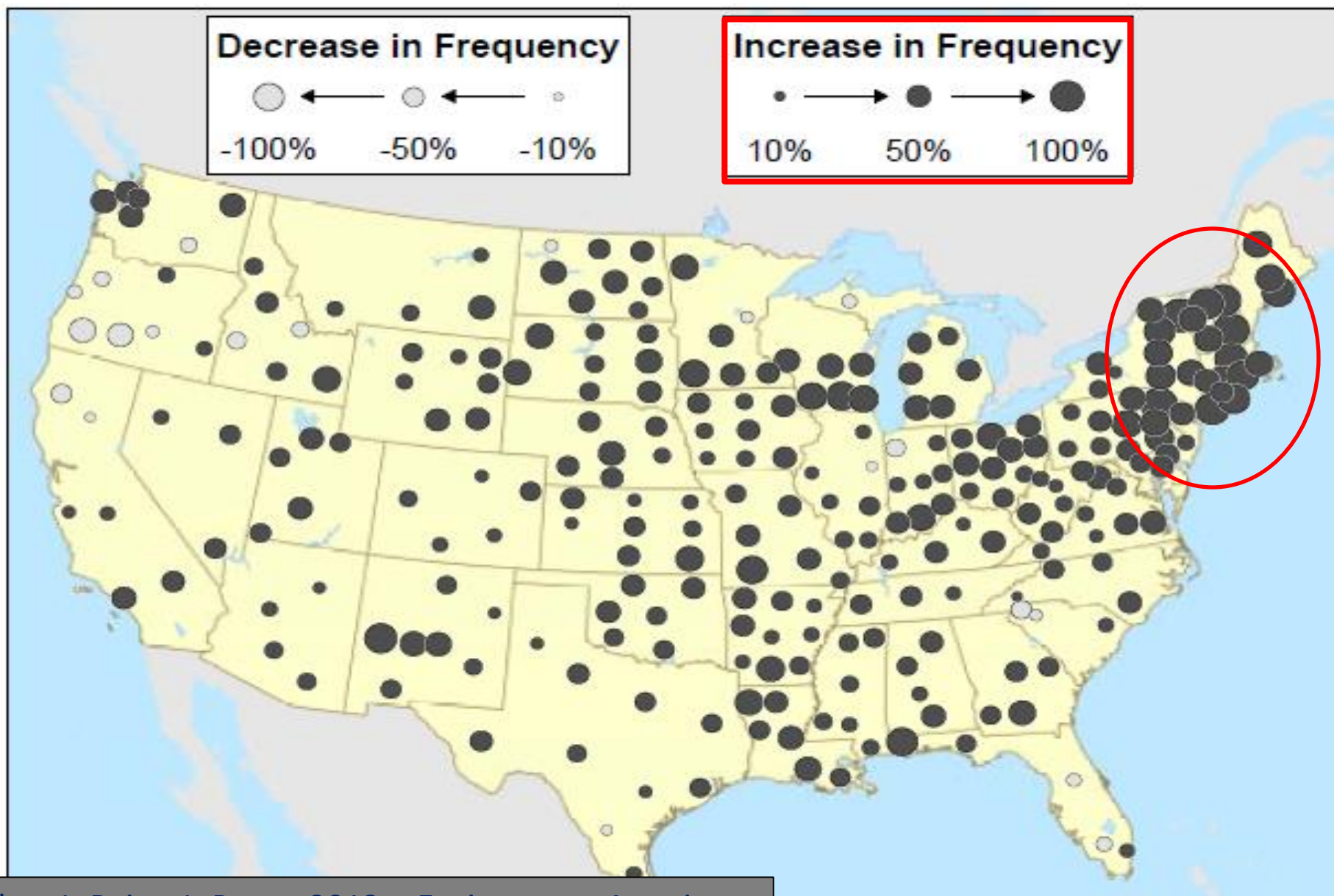


# Storm Data





Figure ES-1: Extreme Downpours Have Become More Frequent Across Much of the United States





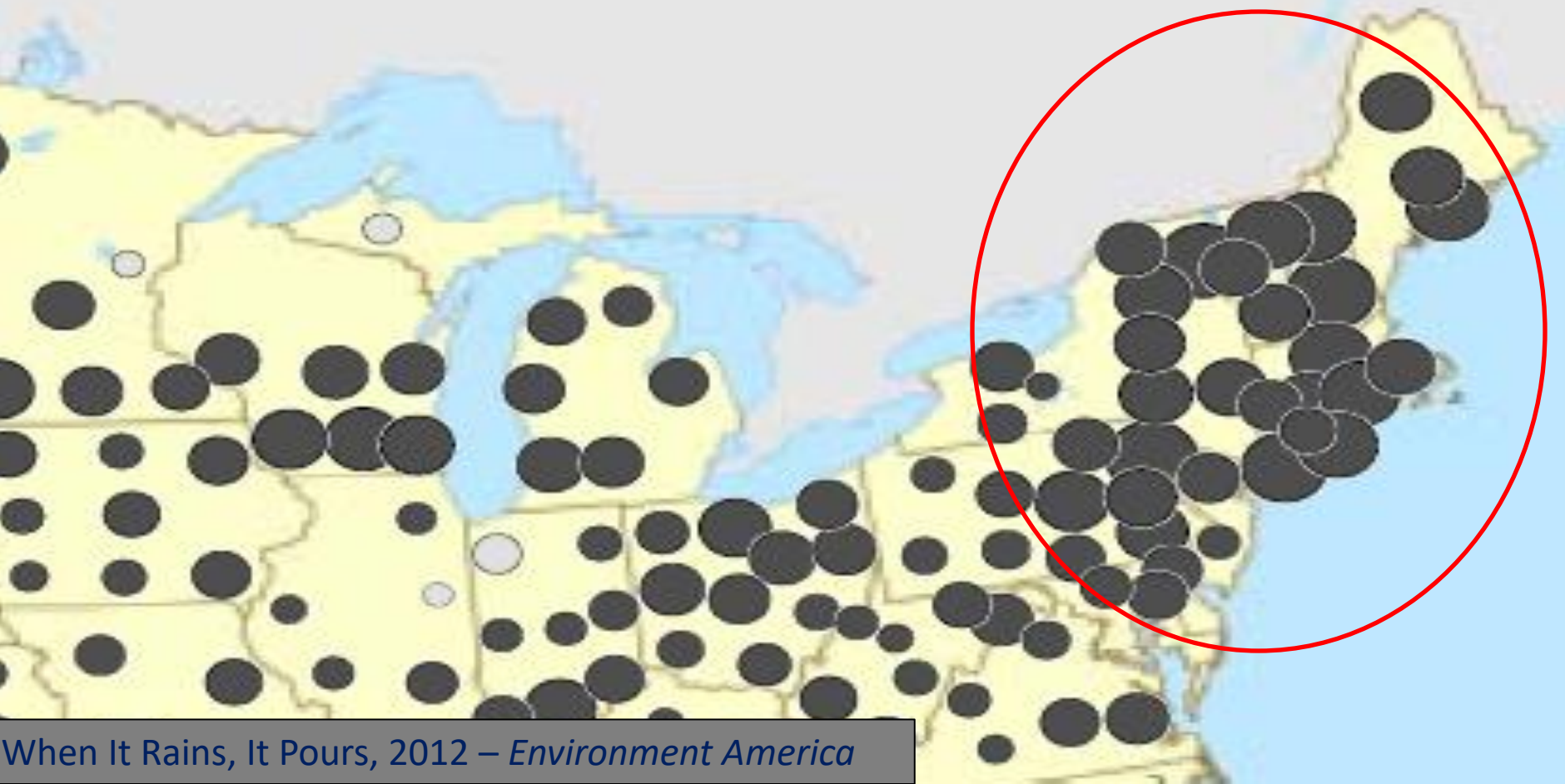
# Increase in Frequency



10%

50%

100%







# NH Presidentially Declared Natural Disasters



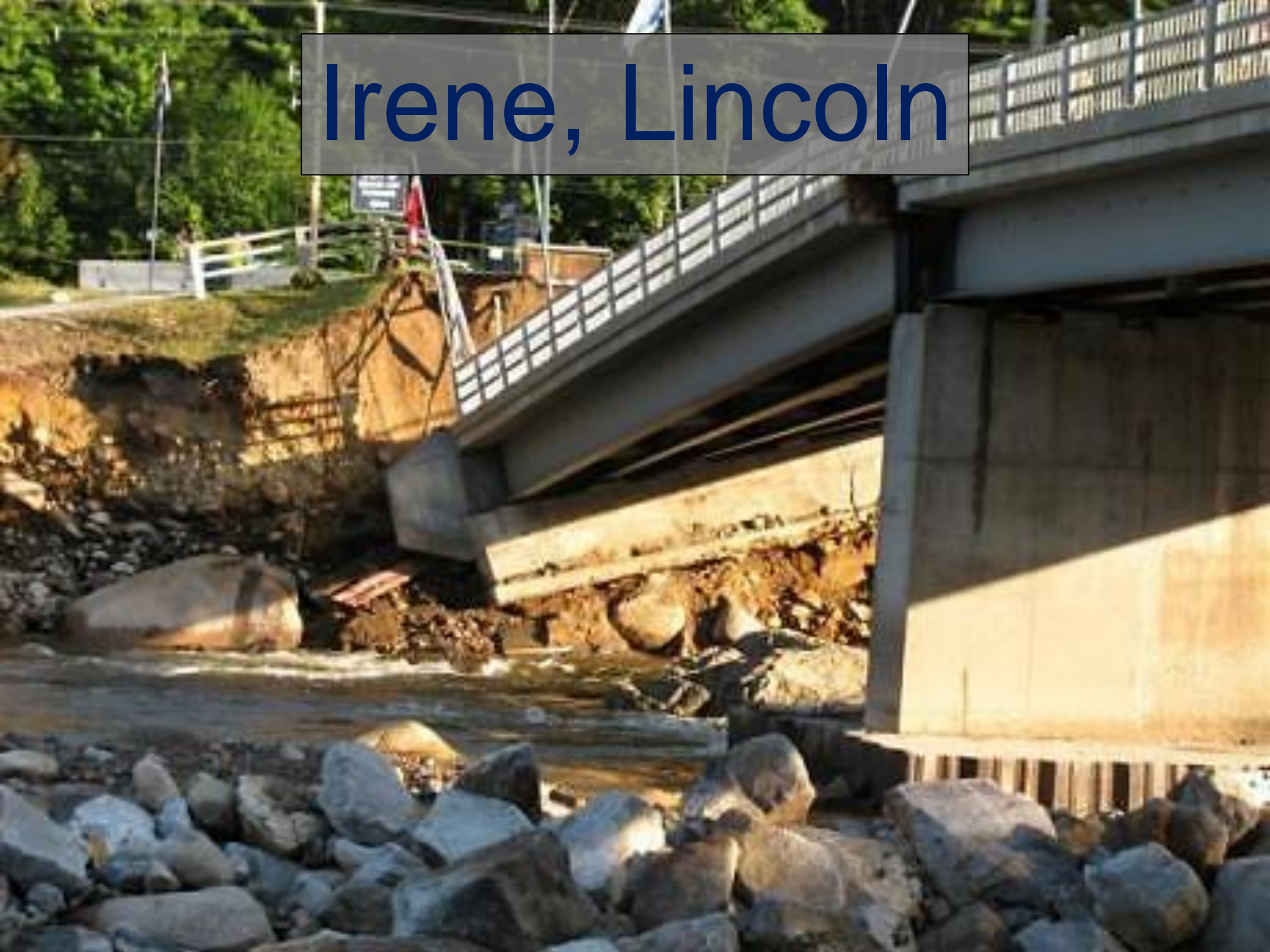
**1953-2003 – 50 years: 15**



**2003-2017 – 14 years: 17**

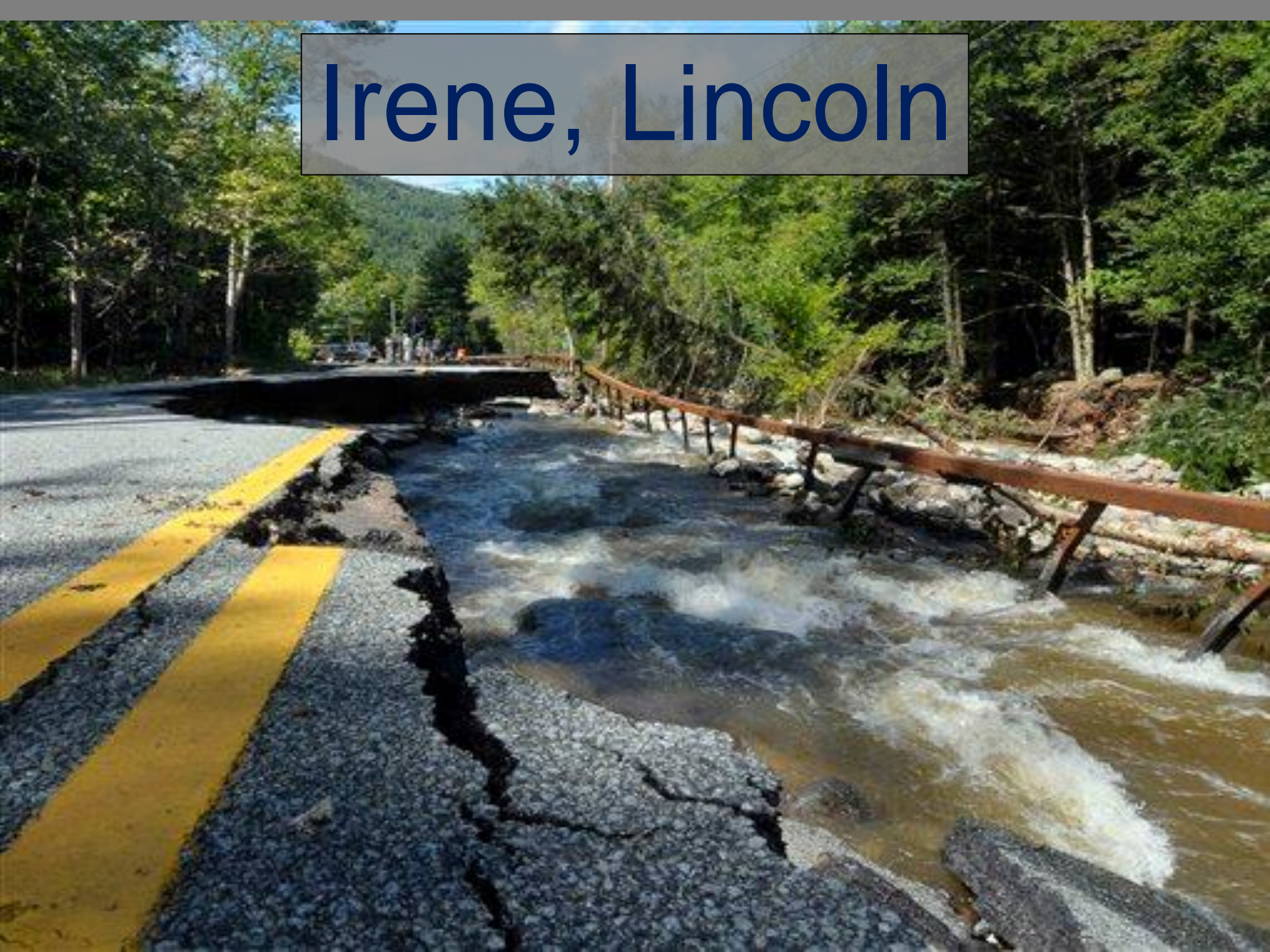


# Irene, Lincoln





# Irene, Lincoln





# Alstead Flood





# Alstead Flood



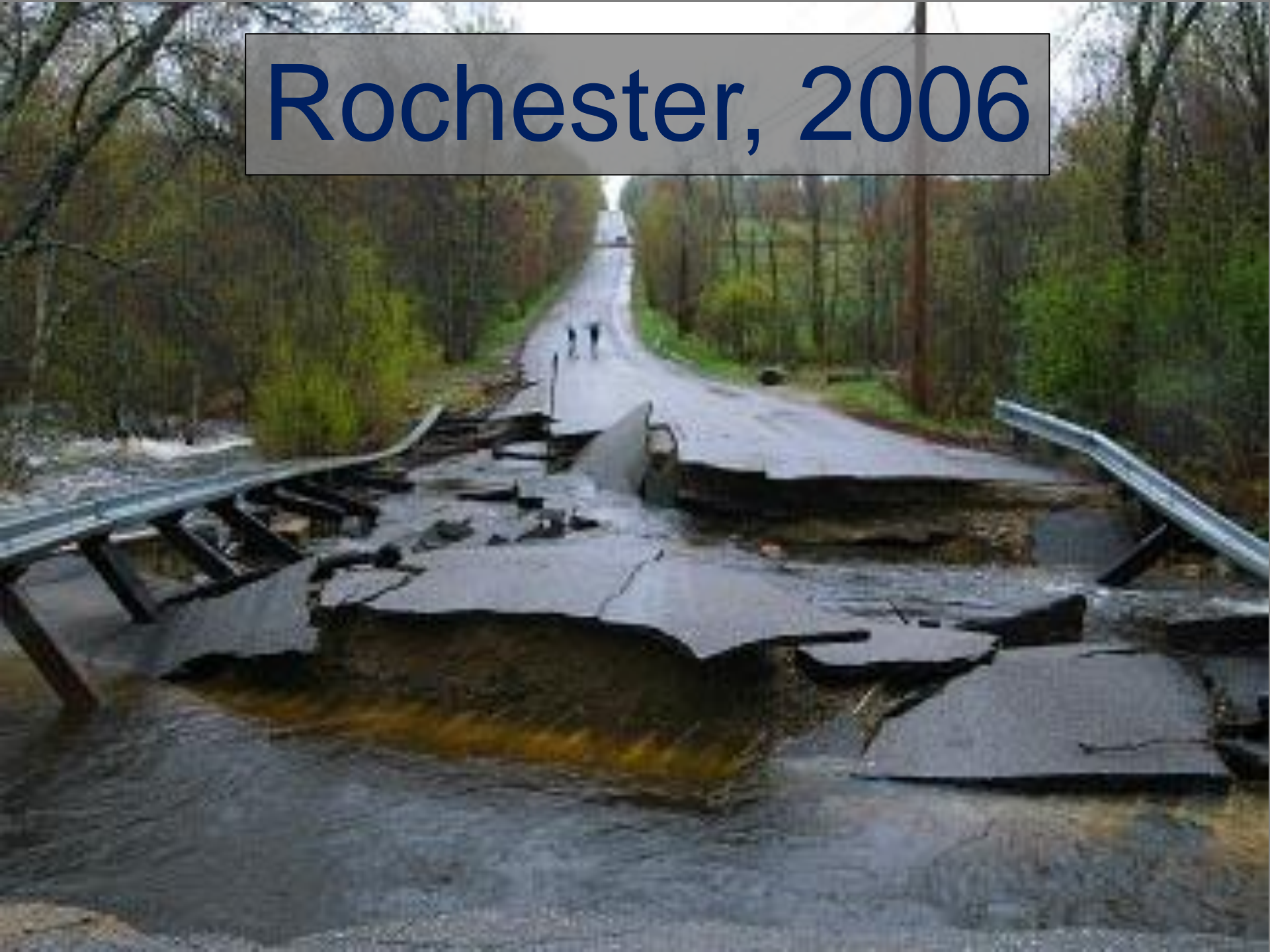


# Keene Flood, 2005





# Rochester, 2006





# **Emergency Authorization Process**





# **What Constitutes an Emergency?**

- a.) Threat to Public Safety**
- b.) Threat to Public Health**
- c.) Significant threat to public property is imminent**
- d.) The event causing the emergency occurred within the previous (5) days.**



The background of the slide is a photograph of a natural landscape. In the foreground, there are lush green trees and foliage. In the background, a body of water is visible, surrounded by a dense forest of evergreen trees under a cloudy sky.

# **Examples of Emergencies:**

- a.) Undermining of Bridge Abutments**
- b.) Weakening Dam Structures**
- c.) Roadway Washouts/ Culvert Blowouts**
- d.) Sea Wall Impacts**



# During an Emergency:

- a.) Contact NHDES Wetlands Bureau – 271-2147
- b.) Property owner name
- c.) Contractor's name and address
- d.) Name of town in which the project is located
- e.) Name of the affected waterbody/ wetland
- f.) Brief description of work to be done
- g.) Primary contact name & phone number



# NHDES *may* Request:

- a.) Photographs of the site
- b.) USGS Map with site located
- c.) A site sketch
- d.) Project narrative
- e.) Construction sequencing



# **When State Offices are Closed:**

- a.) Contact NH Department of Safety,  
Homeland Security and Emergency  
Management Office at: (603) 271-2231.**
- b.) Notify municipalities governing body.**
- c.) Notify NHDES during the next working day.**



# NHDES will Issue:







The State of New Hampshire  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner  
**EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION VERIFICATION**

File Number: 2014-01314  
Owner: NH Dept of Transportation  
Site Location: East Side Road  
Town: Conway  
Agent/Contractor: NHDOT Dist. 3  
Waterbody: adjacent to Saco River  
Tax map/Lot number: ROW

This is to confirm that I have given emergency authorization in accordance with Wt 500 to the owner/agent to conduct the following work in DES Wetlands Bureau jurisdiction (under RSA 482-A):

**Description:** Stabilize an embankment area of approximately 50 Ft. x 30 ft.

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. The owner shall file a follow-up application before July 1, 2014.  
The owner shall file pre-construction photos and post-construction photos within 30 days of the project's completion.
2. The owner shall notify the municipal Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen prior to the start of work.
3. This form shall be posted at the work site in a location that is visible to the public (to the extent possible).
4. Appropriate siltation and erosion controls shall be utilized.
5. Sediment in wetlands exceeding 4 inches in depth shall be removed.

THIS AUTHORIZATION EXPIRES July 1, 2014. All work must be completed by this date.

This authorization has been given file number 2014-01314. Please use that number in all future correspondence.

This form is valid only if signed below by the DES Wetlands Bureau Administrator or his designee.

Signed: Gino Infascelli

Date: May 28, 2014

Gino Infascelli  
Public Works Supervisor



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# ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet

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29 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 • (603) 271-3503 • [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)

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WD-WB-9

2011

## Obtaining Authorization for Emergency Wetlands Impacts

In accordance with Env-Wt 501, applicants may request, and DES may authorize, work within jurisdiction when there is a threat to public safety, public health or significant damage to private property is imminent and the event causing the emergency occurred within the previous five days.

The Emergency Authorization is limited to temporary stabilization of the site or mitigation of the immediate threat and is not to be used to compensate for an applicant's remiss or failure to file a timely application.



State of New Hampshire  
Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management  
State Emergency Operations Center



**WebEOC®**





03. Situational Awareness



06. Situation Report and IAPs



04. Road Closures



01. Activity Log



# Activity Log (ICS-214)

Incident: 2018 - Training

+ Create Record

Actions

Filter by Routing Location:

View All



Search

Clear Search

Type: Public Health Incident

Map

View

Edit

oil spill / drinking water source affected

SA - Environmental Services - Ford.Jana at 13:16:19 on 07/12/2018

Not Reviewed  
H&HS Branch

Record #:  
**12036**

Name: **Jana Ford**

Phone: **603-271-8332**

Date: **07/12/2018 13:16:19**

Position: **SA - Environmental Services**

Attachments:



# Examples of Emergency Authorization Requests





# Conway, Slope Failure

Emergency Authorization GRANTED







05/21/2014 10:10





05/21/2014 10:10

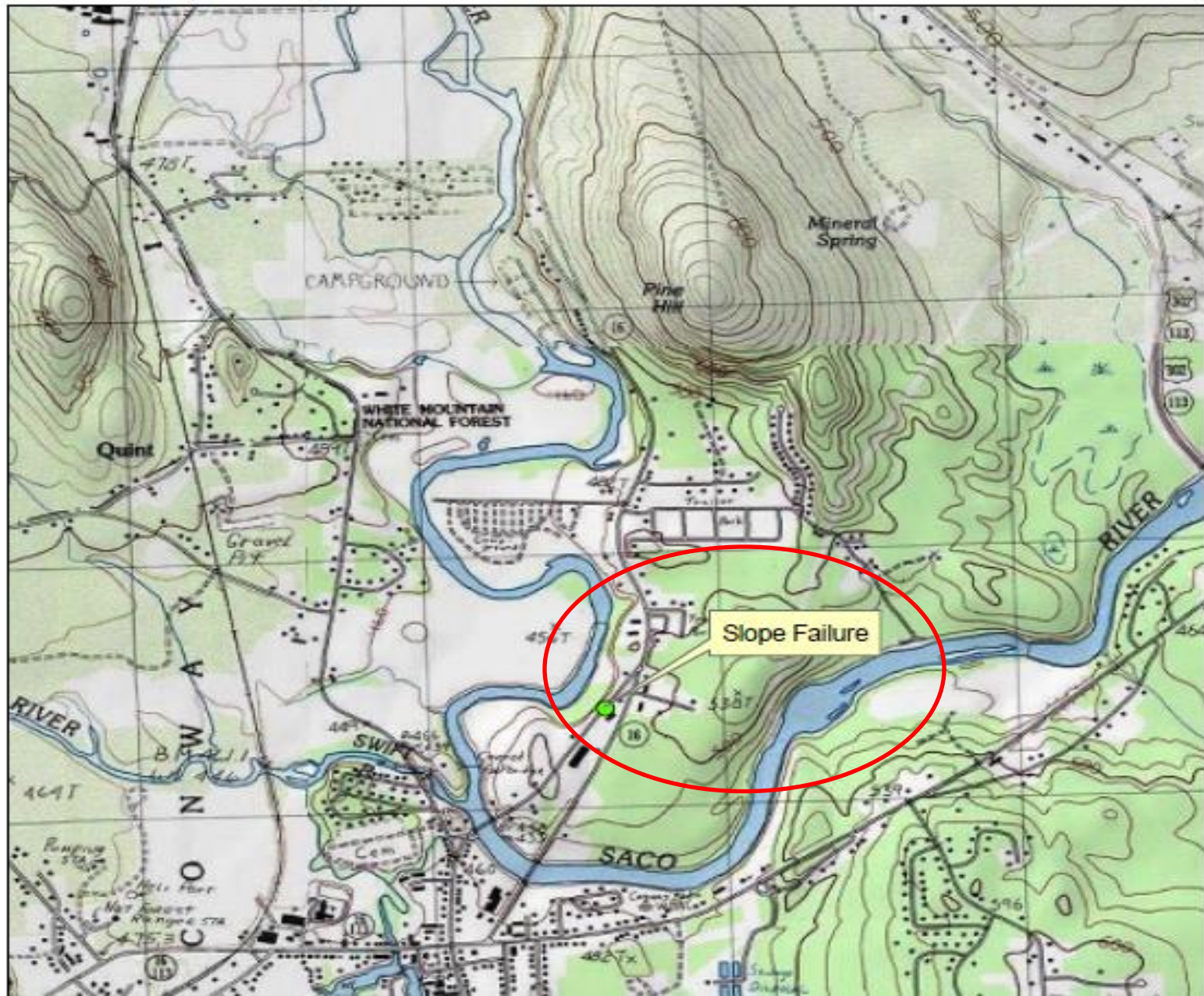




05/21/2014 10:11



# Conway Slope Failure





# Westmoreland, Bridge Abutment

Emergency Authorization GRANTED













# Chichester, Suncook River Bank

Emergency Authorization DENIED



















**Jay Aube**  
**Land Resources Management**  
**(603) 271-4056**  
**[jason.aube@des.nh.gov](mailto:jason.aube@des.nh.gov)**