

# Triple Bottom Line & WATAR



## A Sustainable Restoration Model



Federal Urban Waters Partnership – Brownfields Community of Practice  
March 24, 2015

Todd A Keyser & James M. Poling  
DNREC- Site Investigation and Restoration Section

# Same Goals – Different Approaches



- Site Investigation and Restoration (SIRS) – state level “Superfund” cleanup and oversight
  - Address sites one at a time
  - Develop clean up plan that reduces risk at the site
  - Remedy eliminates off-site transport pathway in most cases
- Watershed Assessment Section (WAS) – state level Clean Water Act implementation
  - Address waterways one at a time
  - Develop Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) that defines point & nonpoint loads to water without exceeding water quality criteria
  - TMDLs not effective in addressing legacy issues
  - TMDLs aren’t self-implementing.

*-To overcome limitations in both programs, we built a bridge-*

# *Let's call it W.A.T.A.R.*



- **Watershed Approach to Toxics Assessment and Restoration**
- A watershed scale approach to the evaluation of contaminant sources, transport pathways, and receptors that will result in management actions that mitigate and/or eliminate the levels of toxins that individual sites release to the State's waterways.
- A mechanism to implement restoration actions (including Natural Resource Damage restoration) based upon site prioritization that considers the level of threat to public health, welfare and the environment and the expected resulting benefit to its watershed.

*Plan Available:* <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/swc/wa/Pages/WatershedAssessment.aspx>  
<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/dwhs/SIRB/Pages/WATAR.aspx>

# WATAR 5 Year Plan Objectives



- Compile existing toxics data for the surface waters, sediments, and biota into Equis database
- Monitor to assess status and trends in priority watersheds; determine need for toxics TMDLs
- Develop Delaware sediment guidance through HSCA using advanced forensic grade methods.
- Identify high priority remediation projects (upland & in water)
- Facilitate technology transfer to incorporate WATAR into management decisions
- Create a culture to address toxics using the WATAR approach

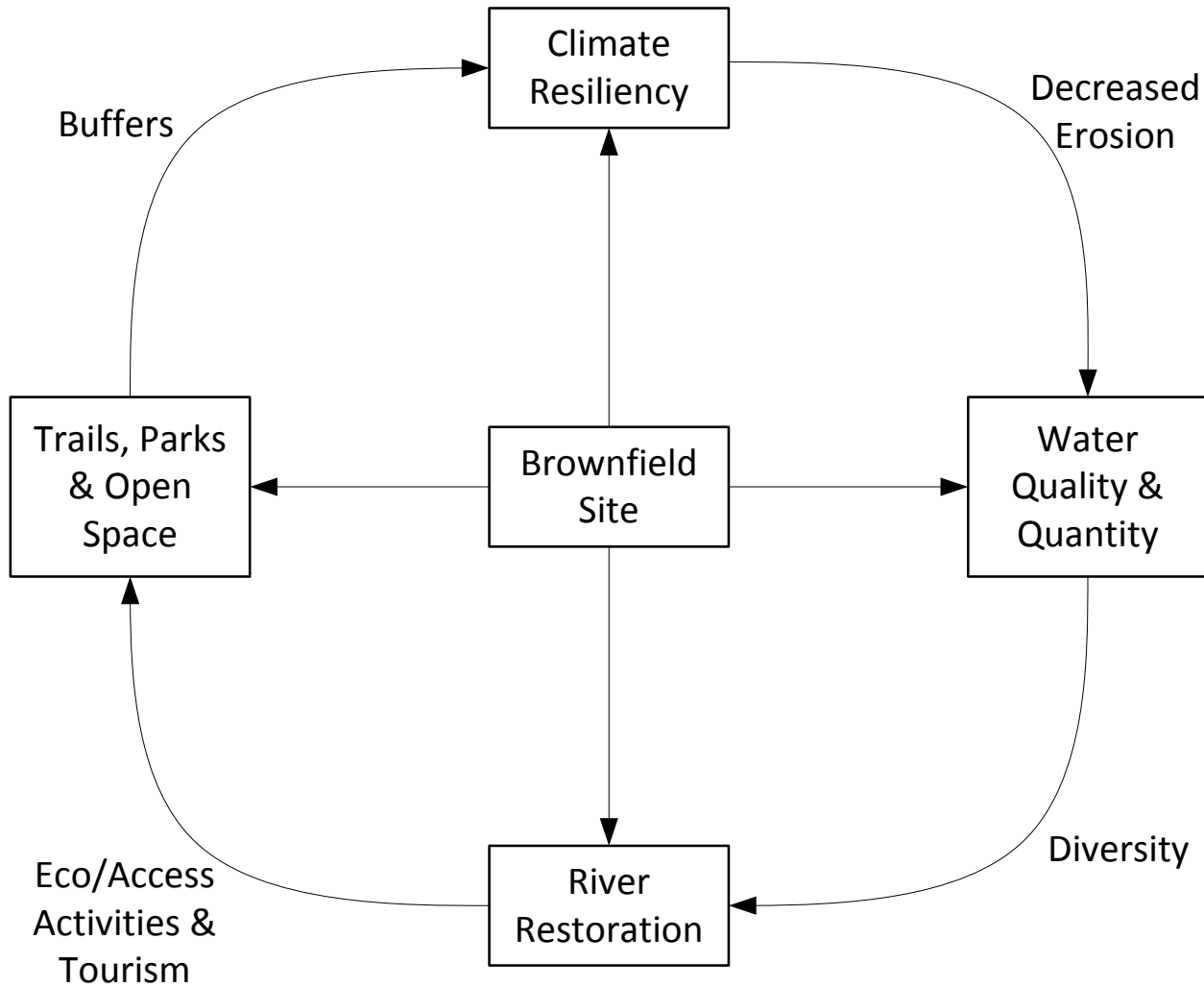
# Expected Benefits of WATAR



- Shorten time frame for removal of fish advisories
- Link contaminant sources (sites, facilities) and sinks (waterways) to compel remediation
- Create a centralized location for ambient and site related toxics data
- Improve transparency and predictability for RPs
- Evaluate and advance state-of-the-art remediation and restoration techniques
- Engage partners – public, private, Federal, state
- Document successes

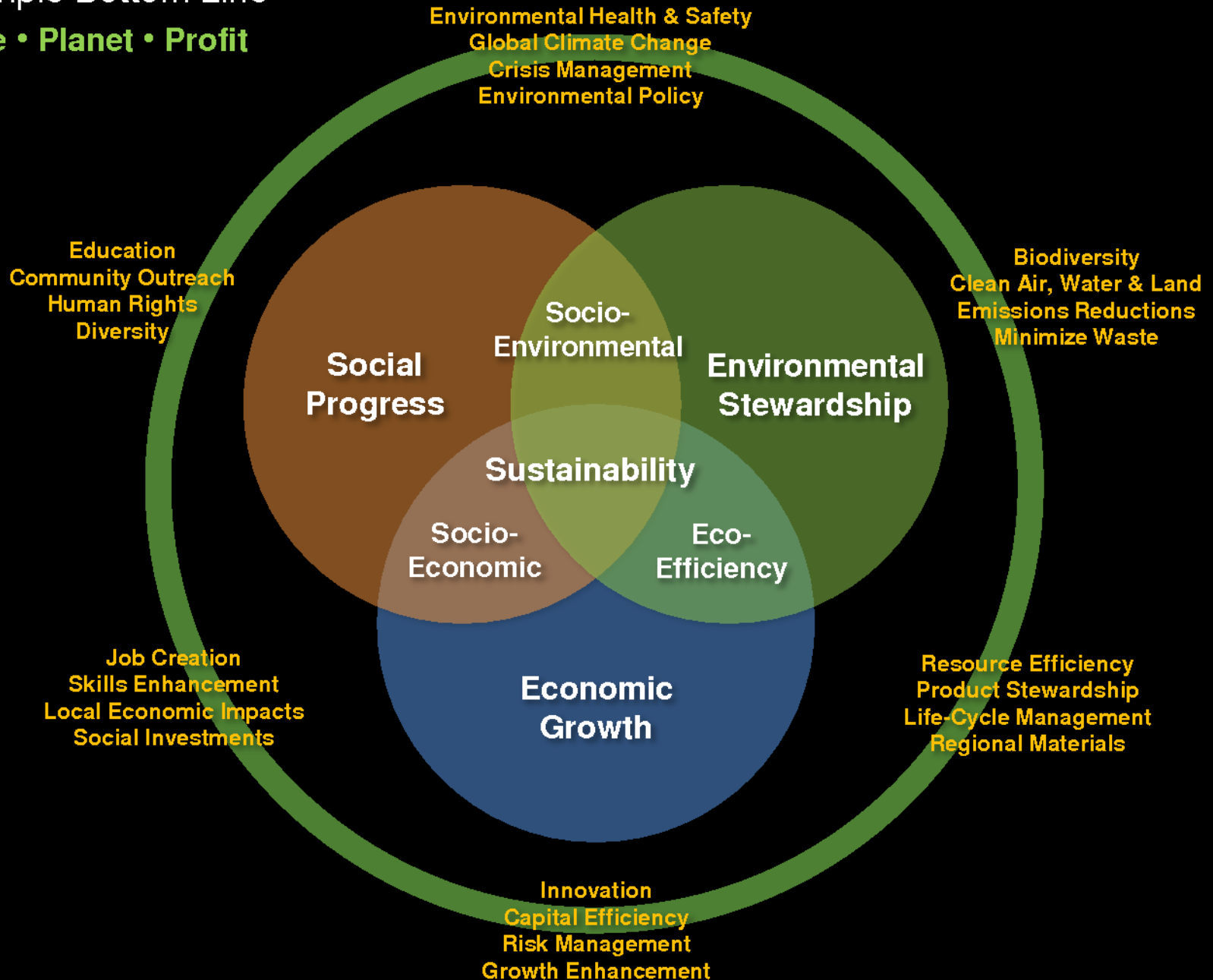


# Urban Waters/BF Ecosystem Service Model



# The Triple Bottom Line

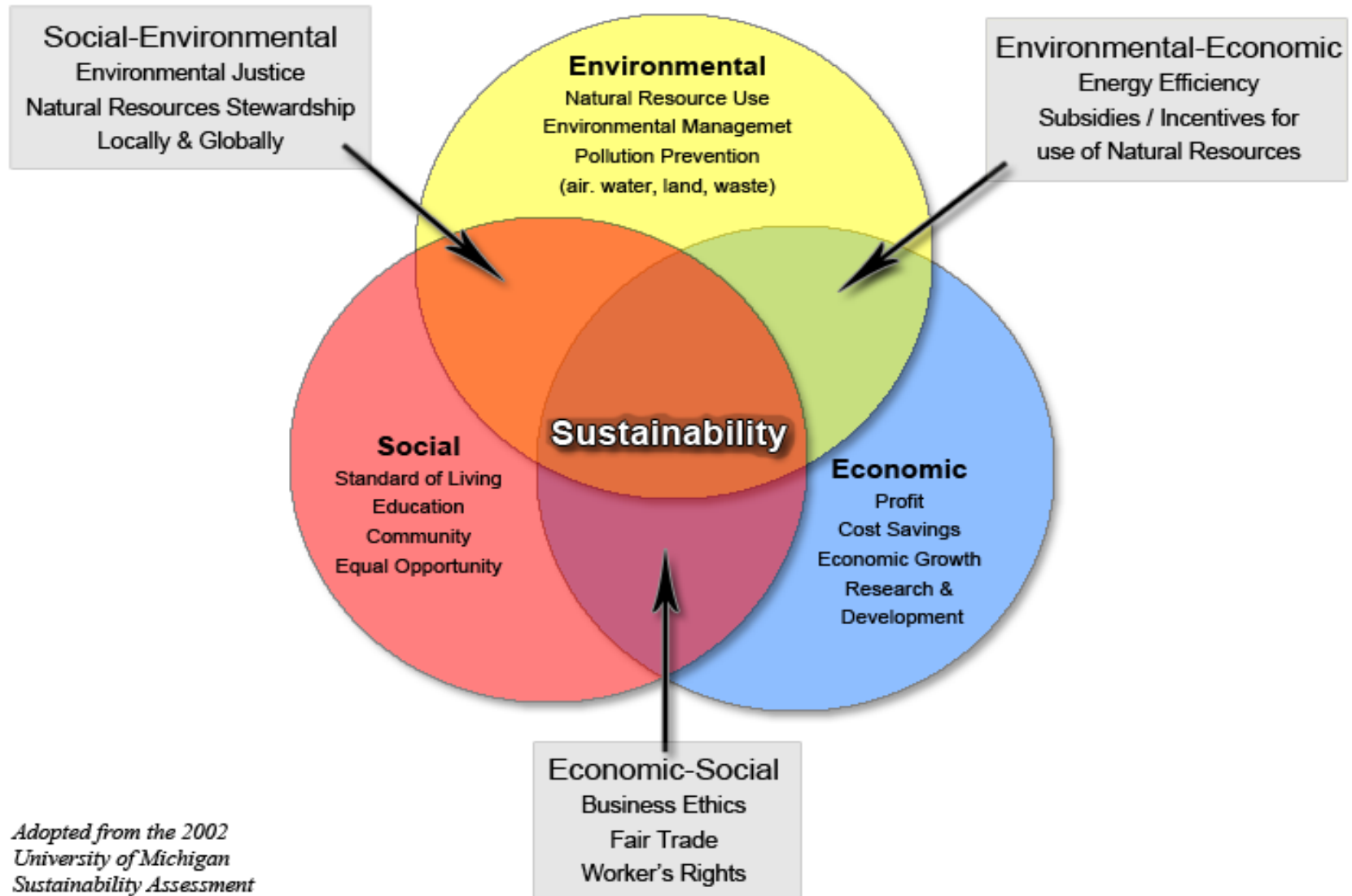
**People • Planet • Profit**



\*TBL diagram adapted from [www.gcbl.org](http://www.gcbl.org)



# *The Three Spheres of Sustainability*



*Adopted from the 2002  
University of Michigan  
Sustainability Assessment*

# Metrics/Performance Measurements

## **Social**

- Safety/Crime Reduction
- Housing/Vacancy/Ownership vs. Rental
- Demography/Displacement
- Community Engagement
- Neighborhood Economy
- Recreational Access
- Public Health Indicators

## **Economic**

- Number of Jobs
- Increased Property Value
- Housing/Ownership / Vacancy
- Neighborhood Economy
- Education

## **Environmental/ Ecological**

- Acres Cleaned
- Sea Level Rise/Resiliency
- Fish Advisory Removal
- Shoreline Restoration
- Watershed Revitalization

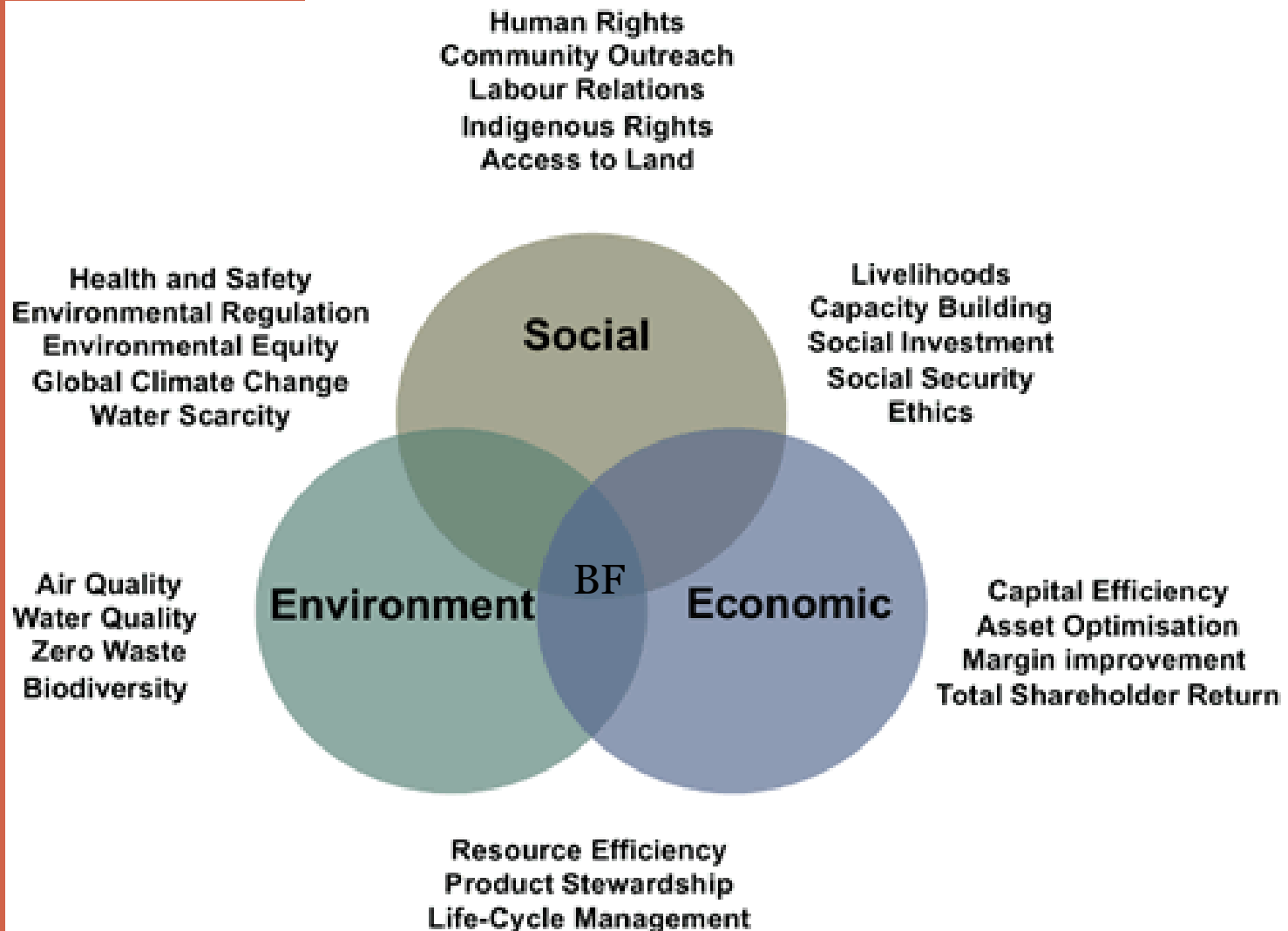
# Detrimental Externalities/External Costs



- Remediation of BF Site
- Eco-Restoration BMPs
- Planting/Landscaping
- Other Upfront Increased Costs



# Triple Bottom Line Venn Diagram





**UWFP\_WATER PROJ:  
 SIRS SITES WITHIN  
 100 YARDS OF A WATERWAY  
 AND THE 1.5 METER  
 SEA LEVEL RISE**

0 1:11,000 0.25  
 Miles

# TBL Discussion



## What Are TBL'S Values and Goals As An Implementation Model?

- Metrics & Assessment
- How to Weigh Negatives/Costs
  - Utility/Application
    - Cost/Benefit Analysis
      - Prioritization
      - Evaluation

# TBL & WATAR



Interested?

Questions?

DNREC-SIRS  
302.395.2600