Social Coast

Stakeholder engagement to inform shoreline protection.

Jessica Tipton

SCDNR Living Shorelines Joint Stakeholder Meeting

1 - Interviews with homeowners

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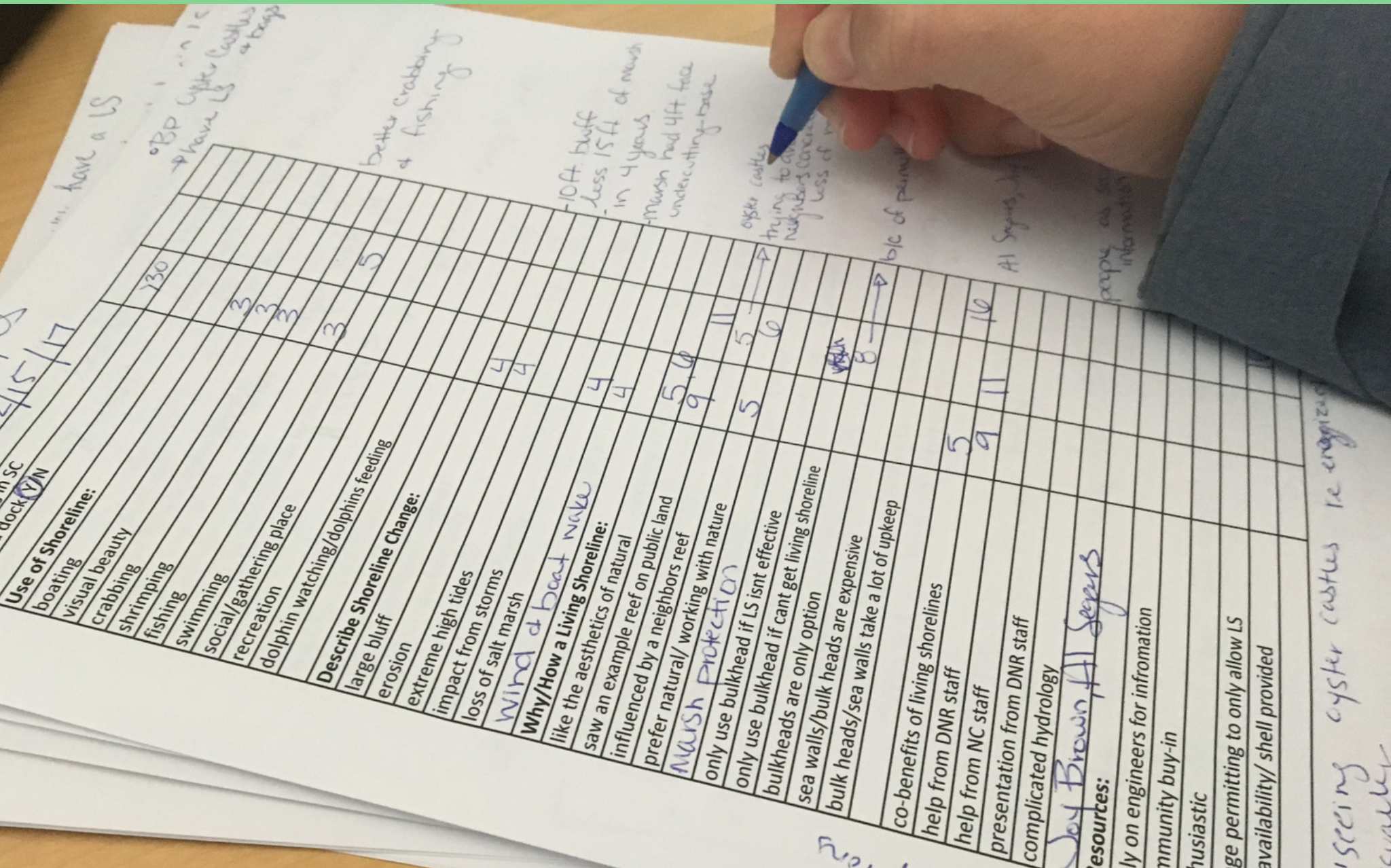
2 - Initial Analysis



Major Themes

01

People as the most important source of information and assistance.

02

Preference for natural shorelines over alternatives.

03

Frustration with a long and financially draining process.

People as a resource.

Assistance from staff members at USFWS, SCDNR, TNC and SCDHEC was the most helpful resource for homeowners.

"Roman was just so easy to work with, he is such a pleasure to be around, has got the knowledge and he just knew exactly what to do."

"Everyone was incredibly helpful and enthusiastic."

Preference for natural shorelines over alternatives.

Prefer:
-aesthetics
-working with nature
-co-benefits of LS

..."aesthetically, I think it is certainly better than a bulkhead or rip rap"

"...the beauty of the marsh in front of my house, plus the sustainability of the marsh. I am into the environment and it's excellent fishing in front of my dock. All of those things made me want to save the marsh, I did not want rip rap on my bluff in ten years and all the marsh to be gone"

Preference for natural shorelines over alternatives.

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“ I would consider it only if the natural approach would fail. I would really have to be in a situation where our house and our well-being was in danger, which it currently is not and won’t be if the natural shoreline (living shorelines) continues like it has.”

"The most appealing part is it (living shoreline) is natural.. a natural living entity that is not only going to serve the purpose of protecting the shoreline but in future years will actually offer an opportunity for us to harvest oysters, which would be spectacular."

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"I think in the long run if you had a big sill of oysters it would clarify the water, there are a lot of positive things to an oyster sill as far as the ecosystem and marsh is concerned.."

" Well I love oyster beds and it's (living shorelines) are a natural way to preserve the marsh compared to stone or bulkhead"

"...if it works, it's much cheaper than a sea wall .... doesn't require maintenance, no challenges but just slow growing"

Frustration with the process.

Permitting is a long and financially draining process.
-over 2 years
-no clear way to get help

"There was no clear cut person to talk to, it seemed like I was constantly getting referred to someone else....nobody had a direct answer for me."

".. prior to getting in touch with him, it felt kind of like I was banging my head against a wall."

"It takes a long time to get any permits or any type of help, not to mention financially it is very draining."

Needs

- Easy step-by-step process
- Online guidance document
- Financial assistance
- Education for Contractors
- Shell Availability
- Contact Lists

".. a streamlined application process for homeowners that would involve minimal paperwork, minimal meetings and not need to include an outside engineer preparing expensive plans of the site."

"... an online process that is clear and straight forward, with a timeline and cost.... who can I call for my particular location."

" ..the process by which I would obtain funding, the process by which I would obtain a permit and it (living shoreline) would get done....I expected or hoped that there was funding available and a process that I could go through with a 1,2,3 and that is not the case."

Questions?

thanks

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL ME!

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