



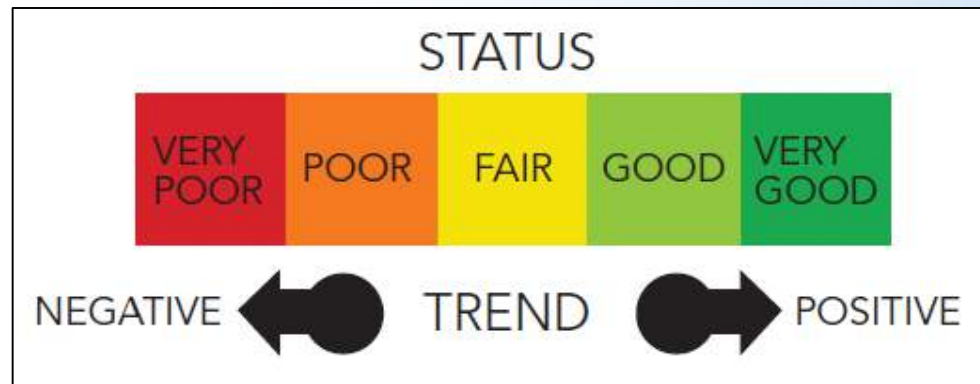
2016
STATE OF THE
DELAWARE
INLAND BAYS



DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE
INLAND BAYS
Research. Educate. Restore.

Assessing the Health of the Bays

- 35 indicators, in six chapters
- Each chapter gets a status & trend bar



1A

1B

3/4 MILE

KEEP RIGHT



ONLY

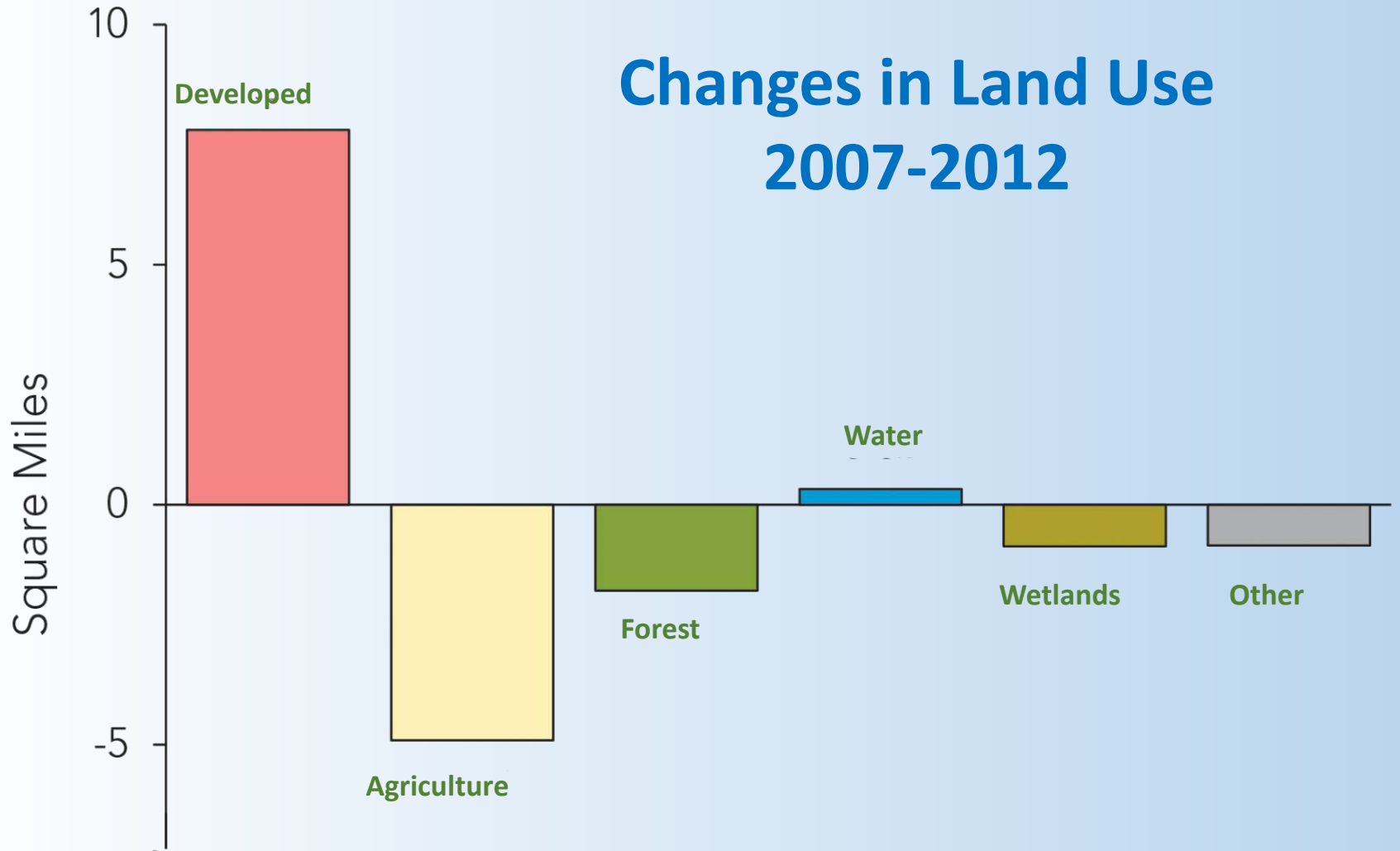
Dewey Beach 2

Bethany Beach 13

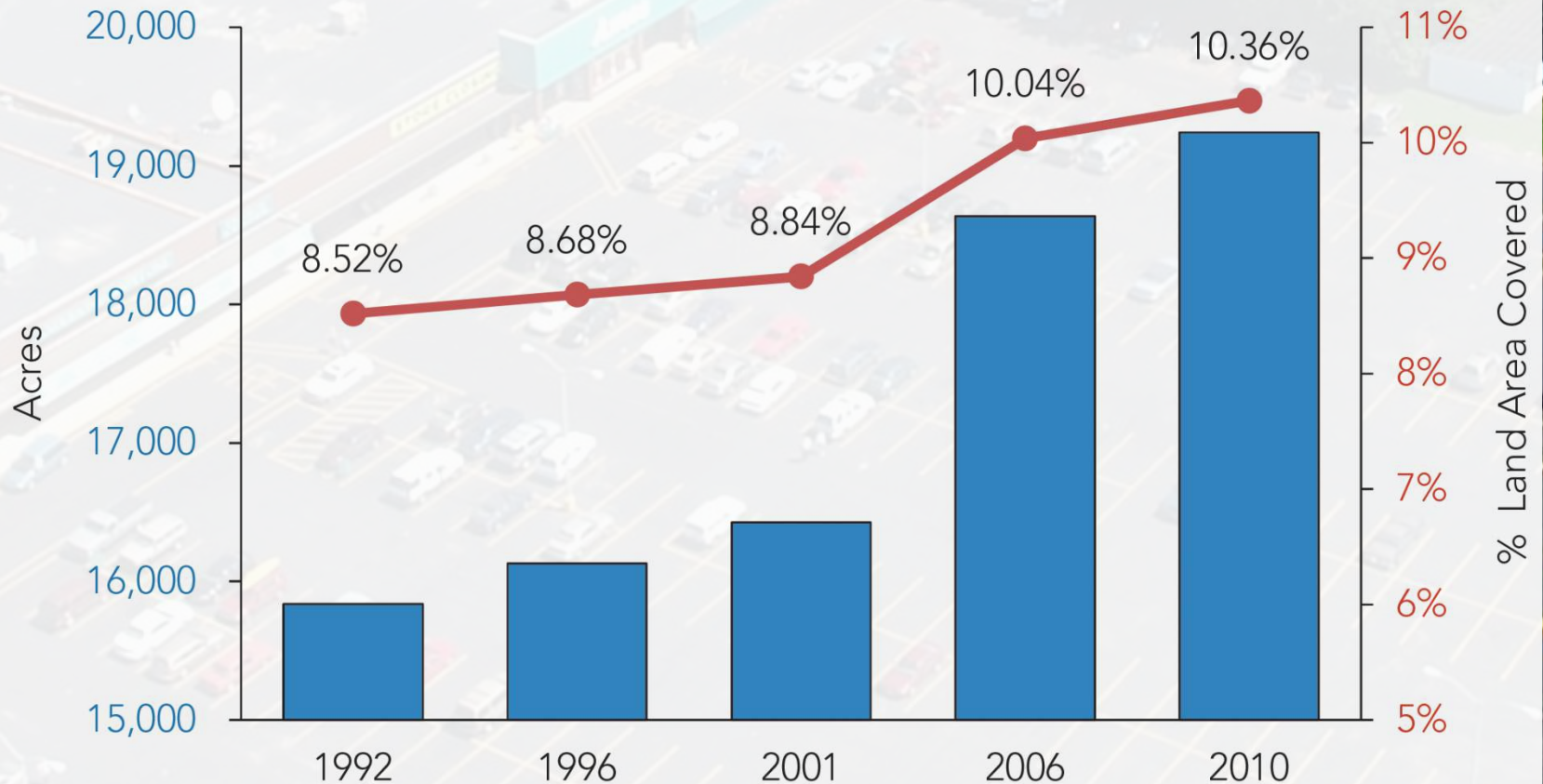
Fenwick Island 18



Changes in Land Use 2007-2012



Land Area Covered By Impervious Surfaces



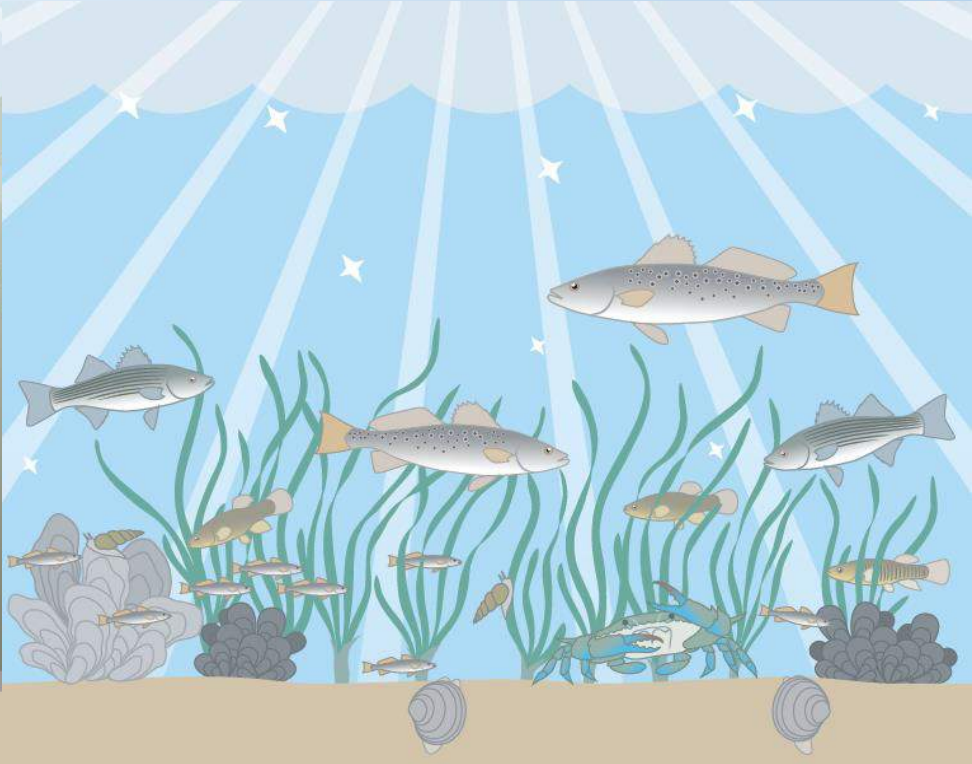
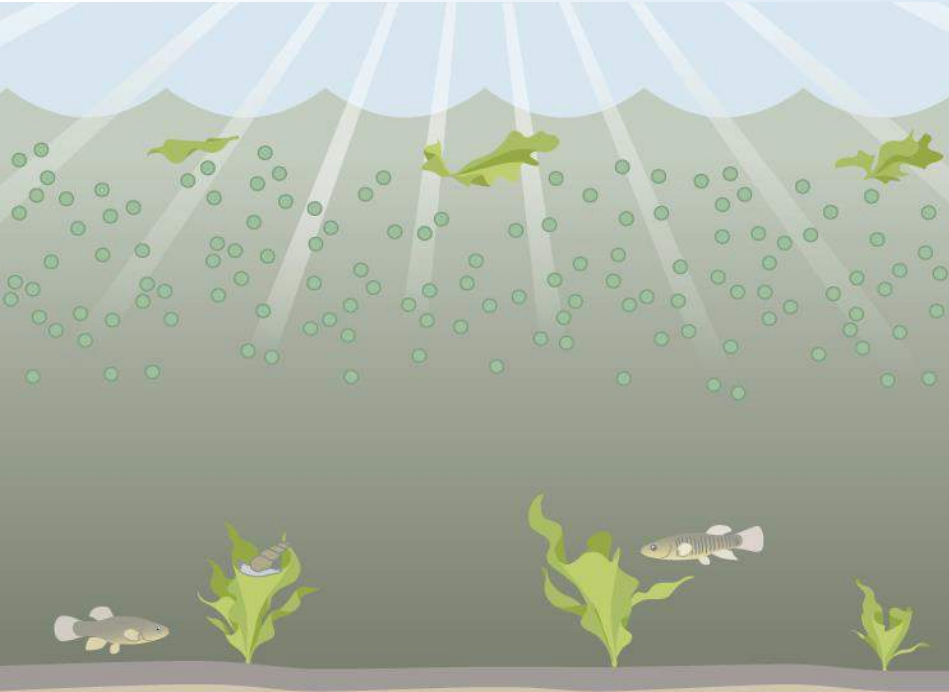
WATERSHED CONDITION



TREND: NEGATIVE



Excessive nutrients pollute our Bays.



Point source nutrient inputs down 80% since 1990. Only two discharges remain.



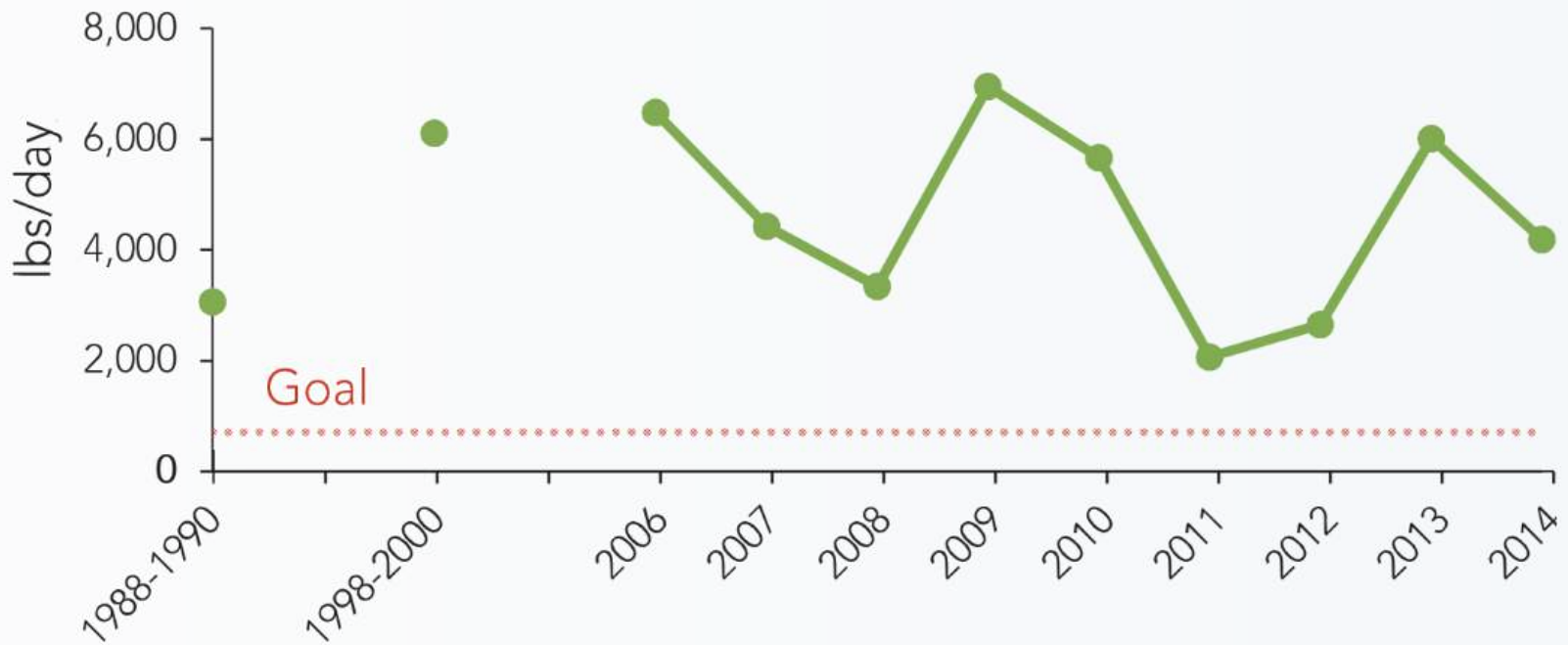
Rehoboth WWTP Outfall

Nonpoint Sources of Nutrient Pollution

- *Fertilizers*
- *Septic systems*
- *Animal wastes*
- *Stormwater runoff*
- *Sediments*

Inputs of nitrogen from nonpoint sources far exceed healthy limits

Loads of Nitrogen from Nonpoint Sources
Indian River Bay





WATER QUALITY



TREND: POSITIVE



LIVING RESOURCES



TREND: NO TREND



The waters of the Inland Bays
may contain organisms that
could be harmful to your health.

Swimming could result in an
increased risk of rashes, infections
or gastrointestinal distress,
especially during and after
rainfall.

For your health and safety, please
swim at beaches with lifeguards
where the water quality is tested
weekly. For information on beach
water quality or to report illnesses
resulting from contact with these
waters, please call 1-800-922-WAVE
or visit www.dnrec.state.de.us



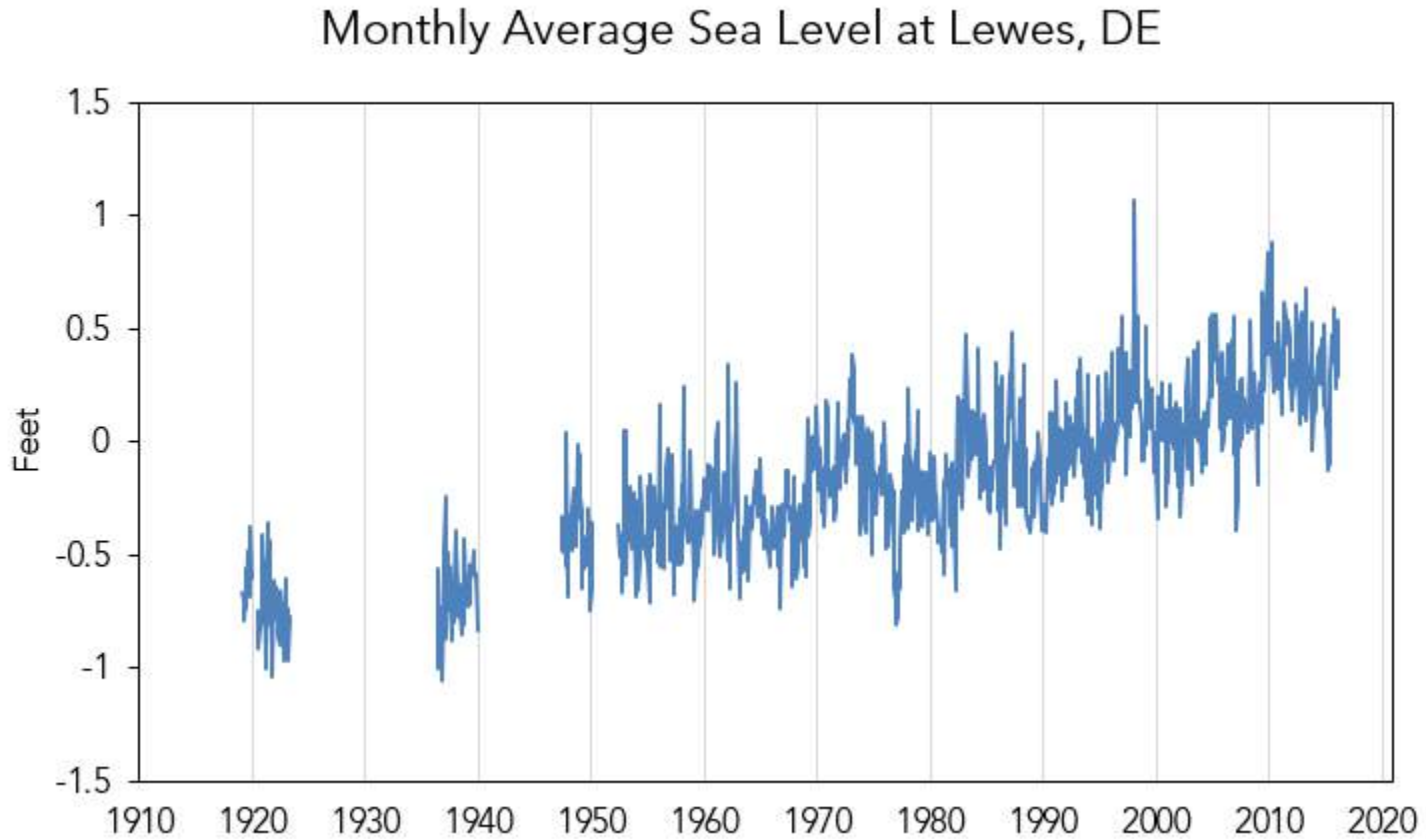
**Most tributaries
and canals are
unsafe
for recreational
contact.**

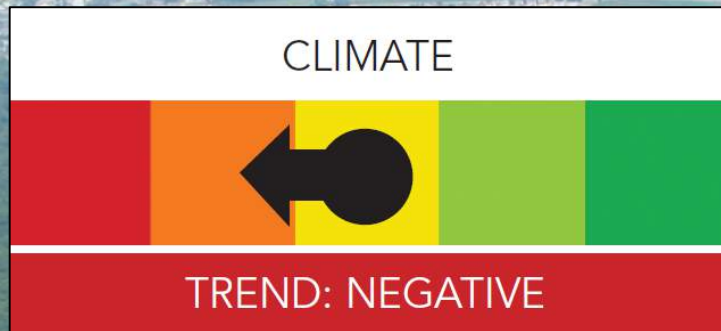
HUMAN HEALTH RISKS



TREND: NO TREND

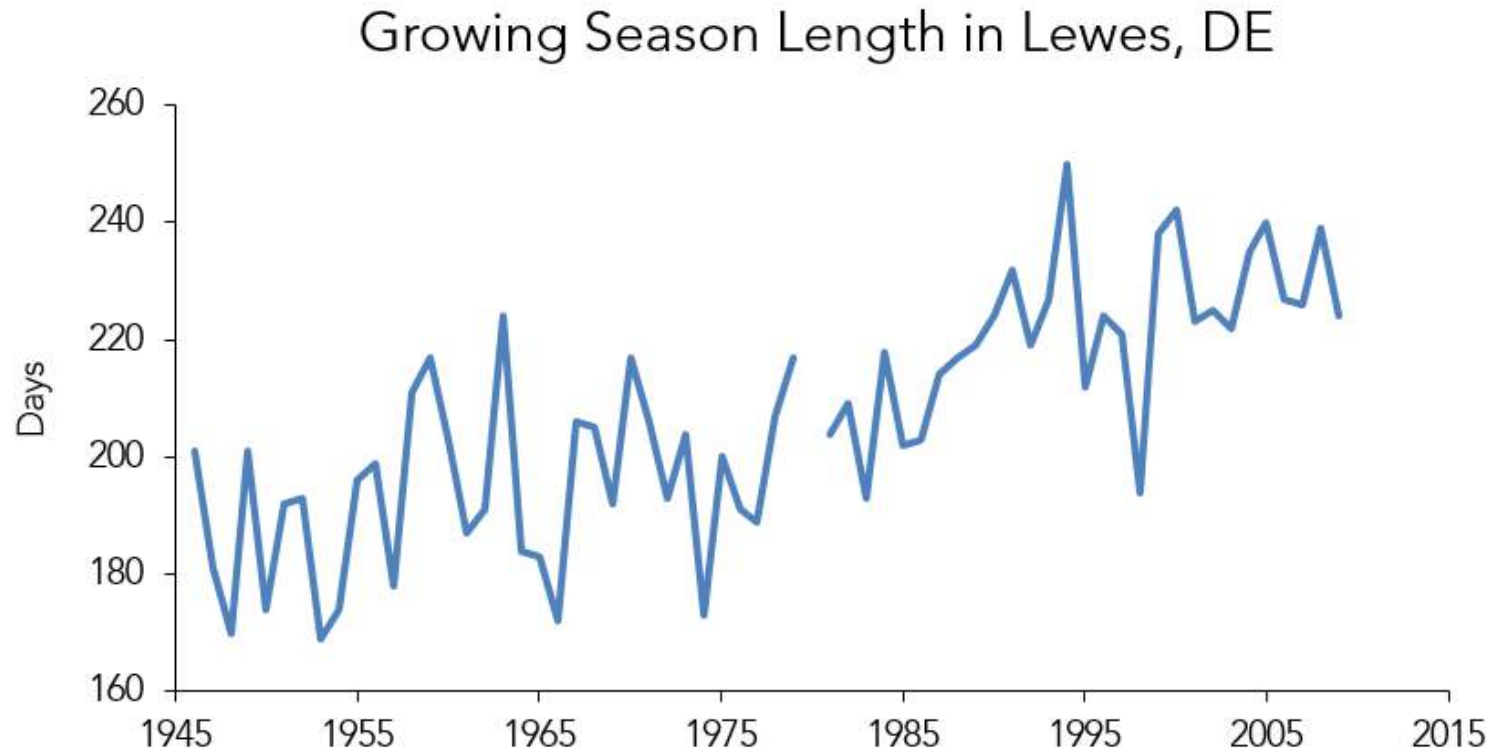
Temperatures are increasing, and sea level is rising

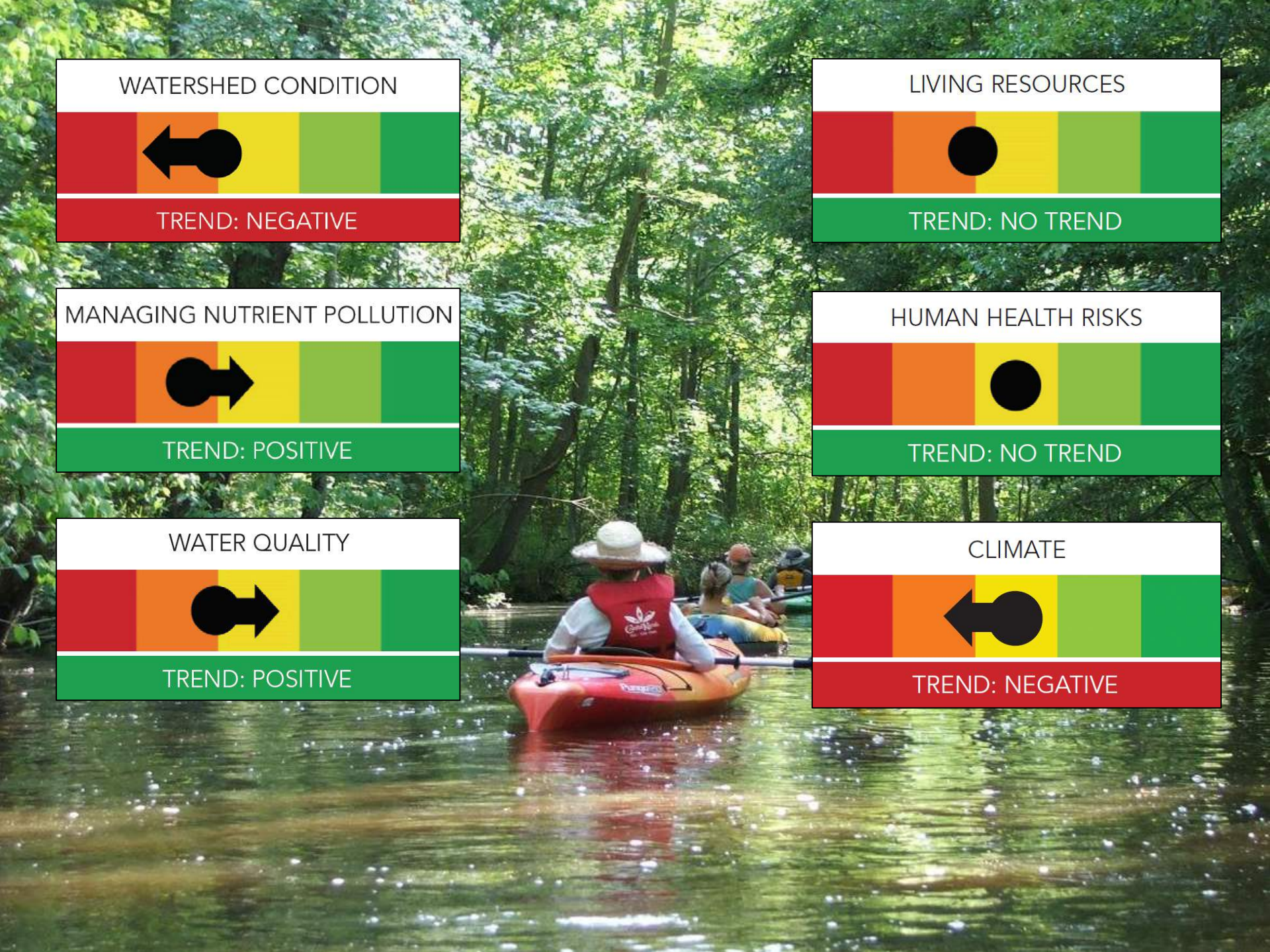
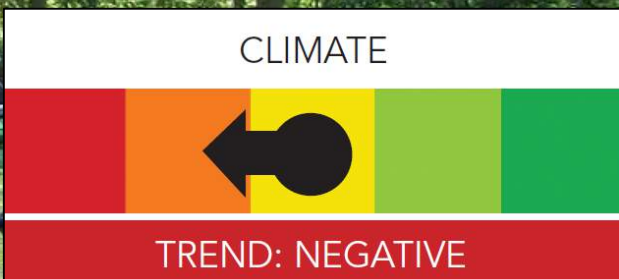




- Increased flooding
- Shoreline erosion
- Drowning of tidal wetlands

Warmer air, warmer Bays





Inland Bays Management Plan Actions for Consideration During the Sussex Comprehensive Plan Process.

- Increase and enhance water quality buffers
- Improve wastewater management and coordinator
- Improve stormwater management
- Preserve open space and improve water access
- Plan for climate change