

Citizen-Led Monitoring of Urban Wetland Restoration in New Orleans

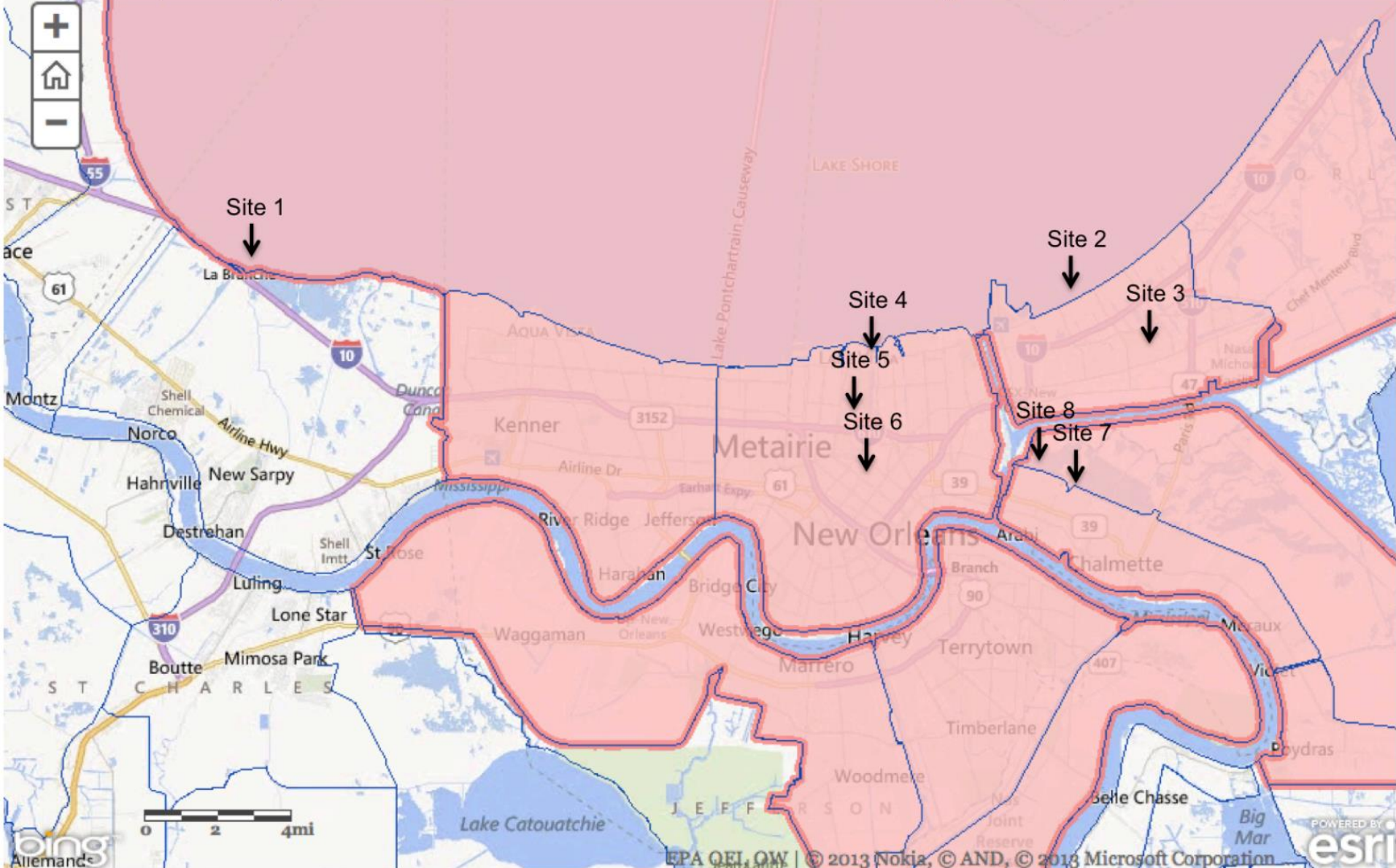


The Public Laboratory
for Open Technology and Science

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Project Purpose

- Build community engagement in assessment and monitoring of urban wetland health and restoration.
- Use innovative technologies in citizen science to introduce residents to simple, inexpensive, environmental monitoring tools and techniques, using urban wetlands restoration projects in their neighborhoods as ongoing research sites for community-led investigation.
- Engage residents in conversations about the importance of aquatic ecosystem health in New Orleans, including implications related to climate change, human health, flood and stormwater management, and recreation.



Site 1: Wetland Watchers Park

Site 2: South Shore Marsh Restoration

Site 3: Louisiana Nature Center

Site 4: Bayou St. John at Lake Pontchartrain

Site 5: Stormwater wetlands in City Park

Site 6: Bayou St. John Scenic Urban Waterway

Site 7: Bayou Bienvenue/ Central Wetlands Treated Biosolids Restoration

Site 8: Bayou Bienvenue Shoreline Restoration

Project Outputs

Outputs:

- 16 maps of 8 restoration sites;
- Near Infrared images for 6 sites;
- Training materials for community led monitoring projects;
- Monthly trainings and meet-ups with a total of 60 new project volunteers, and;
- Sharing results with neighbors and organizations doing wetlands restoration work.

Trainings include:

- Collecting aerial imagery using Public Lab open source tools;
- Building maps with our open source web based platform.

Project Outcomes

- Education, engagement, and empowerment of local communities;
- Cooperation between wetland restoration organizations and the communities;
- Knowledge and experience in environmental monitoring, advocacy, computer science, and mapmaking, and;
- Capacity of community members to monitor and improve urban wetland restoration projects as they relate to community priorities.