

Magness Farm Wetland Restoration

Harford County, Maryland



clockwise from top: After restoration; Amphibians return to site; Initial conditions



This highly visible project enhances water quality, provides vital habitat and offers a unique opportunity to educate the public about how ecological restoration can reverse decades of degradation.

As part of the Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) Environmental Stewardship program, Biohabitats completed the restoration of a 7.5-acre wetland and 1,000-foot erosion gulley. Located on a working farm and agricultural museum, this stream groundwater and wetland restoration project also had the potential to become a powerful demonstration project.

Biohabitats responsibilities included: site assessment; wetland delineation; topographic survey; coordination with regulatory agencies; permitting; development of alternative restoration concepts consistent with Interagency Mitigation Taskforce Guidelines; production of restoration

plans through construction documents; assistance with contractor selection; and construction oversight.

After it was successfully completed the restoration garnered much public attention. It was featured in SHA and county newsletters and visited by representatives of numerous organizations, such as the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Western Shore Tributary Team and Harford County's Departments of Public Works and Planning, have conducted site visits.

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