

The Division of  
**Fish, Wildlife & Marine  
Resources**

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Invasive Species

Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia

State Wildlife Grants

A dramatic landscape photograph featuring a dark, stormy sky with multiple bright, jagged lightning bolts striking down. The foreground shows a flat, green field with a few scattered trees and shrubs on the horizon. The overall mood is intense and urgent.

# New York State Invasive Species Task Force

Assess impacts,  
identify existing actions, and  
report recommendations  
to Governor and Legislature  
by 30 November 2005

# Strategic Elements

Coordination

Prevention

Education

Early detection

Rapid response

Control or management

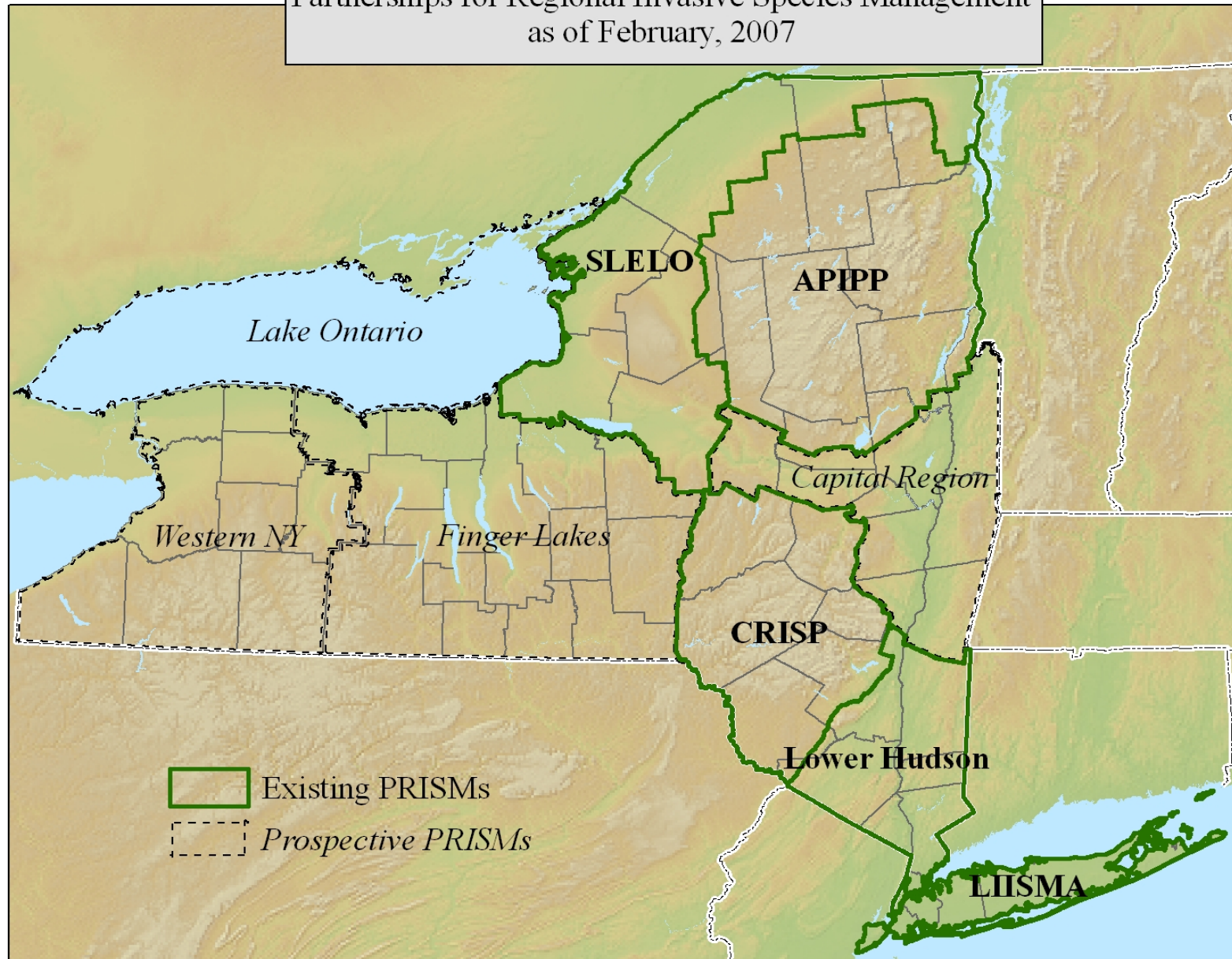
Research

# Regional Partnerships

PRISMs – partnerships for regional  
invasive species management

Principal means of delivering IS  
programs throughout NYS

Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management  
as of February, 2007



# Core Functions

Coordination (among partners)

Volunteers (recruit & train)

Education (identify & meet needs)

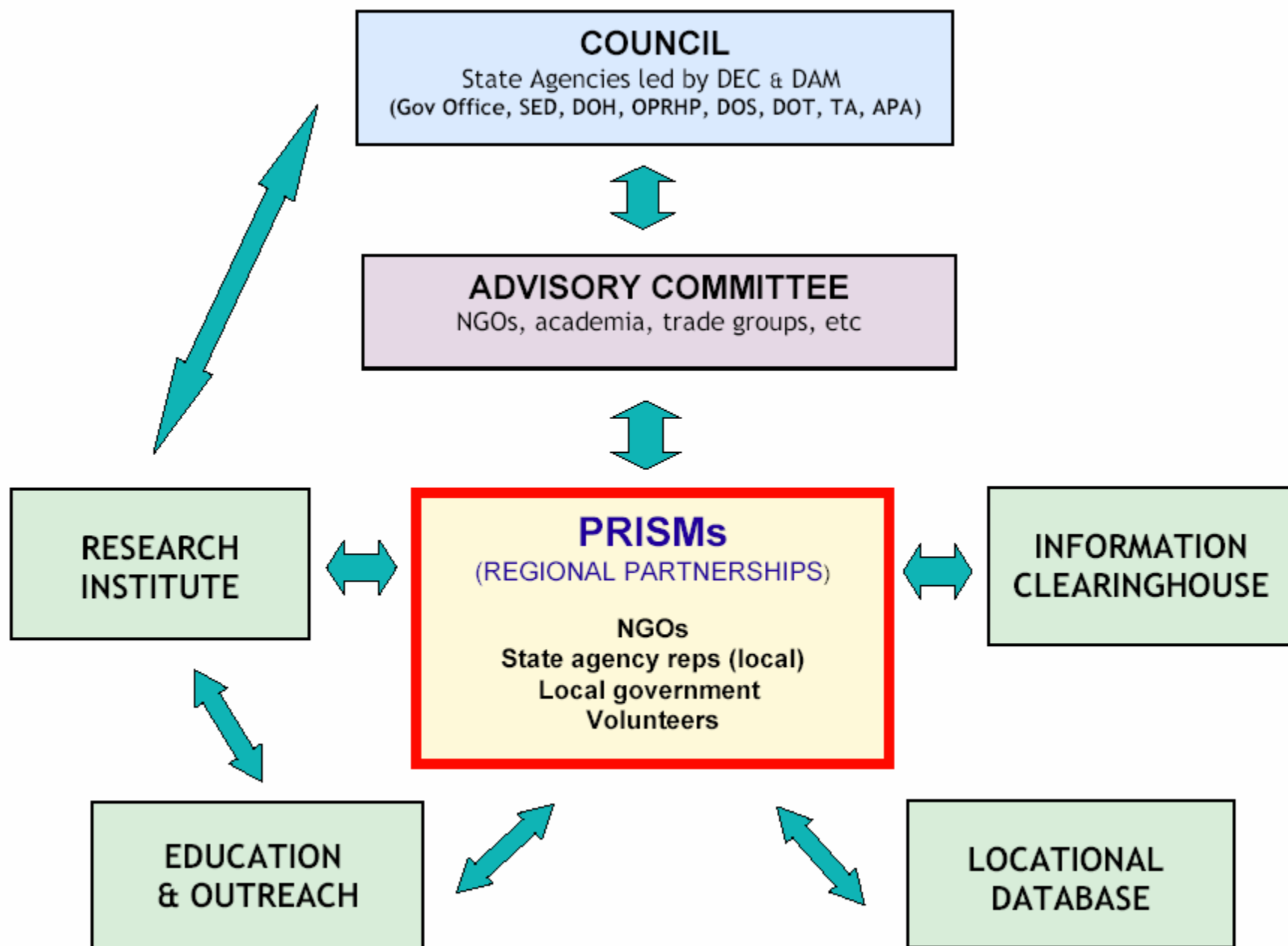
Early Detection (monitoring network)

Rapid Response

Eradication (implement projects)

Research (citizen science)

Planning (integrate existing plans)







Eradication Grants

# \$ 1 million in FY 05-06

- Eradication only
- Aquatic (and wetland) species
- \$ 1 million
- \$ 100,000 cap, 1:2 match
- Municipalities and not-for-profits
- Grants awarded June 2006

# \$ 1 million in FY 06-07

- Eradication only
- Aquatic and Terrestrial species
- \$ 1 million + \$ 1 million (SFY 07-08)
- \$ 100,000 cap, 1:1 match
- Municipalities, NFPs, agencies
- Applications due 29 June 2007

VHS



# Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia is a fish pathogen

No risk to human health

# Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia

- Serious disease of rainbow trout raised commercially in Europe and in marine fish in the North Atlantic and North Pacific waters
- Can kill a significant number of fish
- Can have severe economic consequences
- Reportable disease by the World Organization for Animal Health

# The Virus

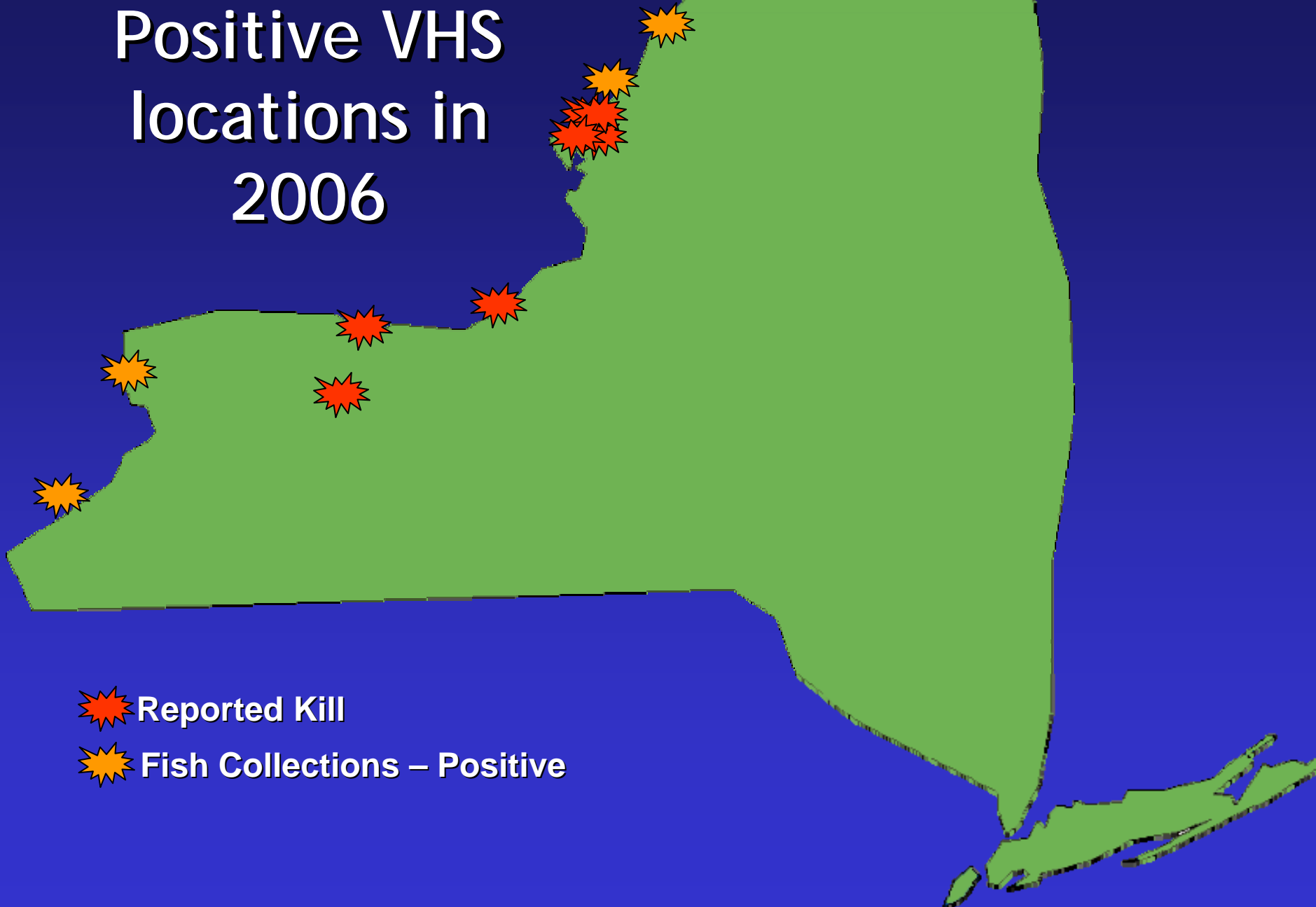
- Transmissible to fish of all ages
- Colder water disease
- Survivors can be lifelong carriers
- Affects a wide range of fish species
- Virus causes disease based on stress

# Diagnosis

- Cannot diagnose on clinical signs alone  
(some fish show severe signs, others no signs)
- Only accepted diagnosis is via cell culture
- Standard methods in accordance as per:
  - ~ American Fisheries Society
  - ~ World Organization of Animal Health



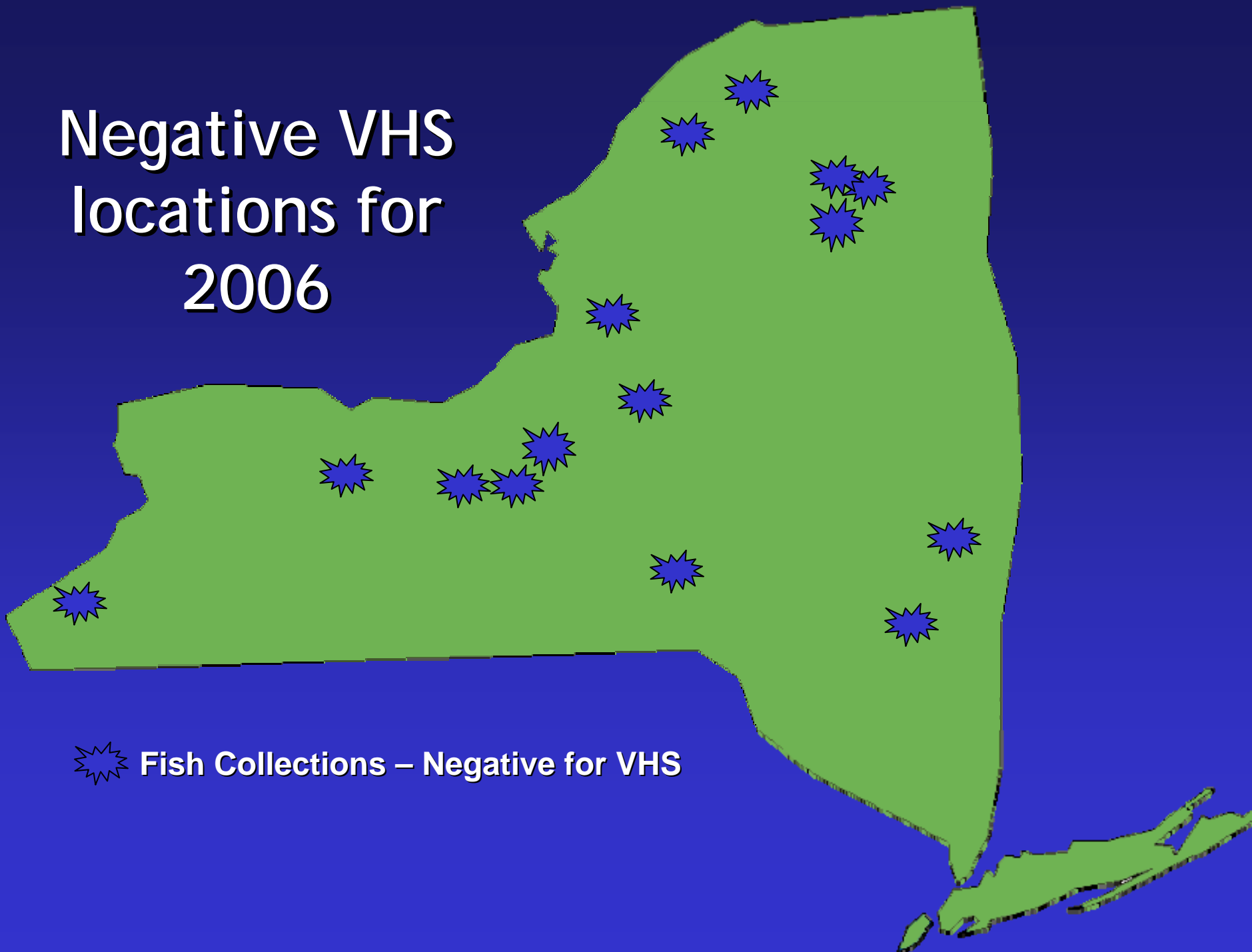
# Positive VHS locations in 2006



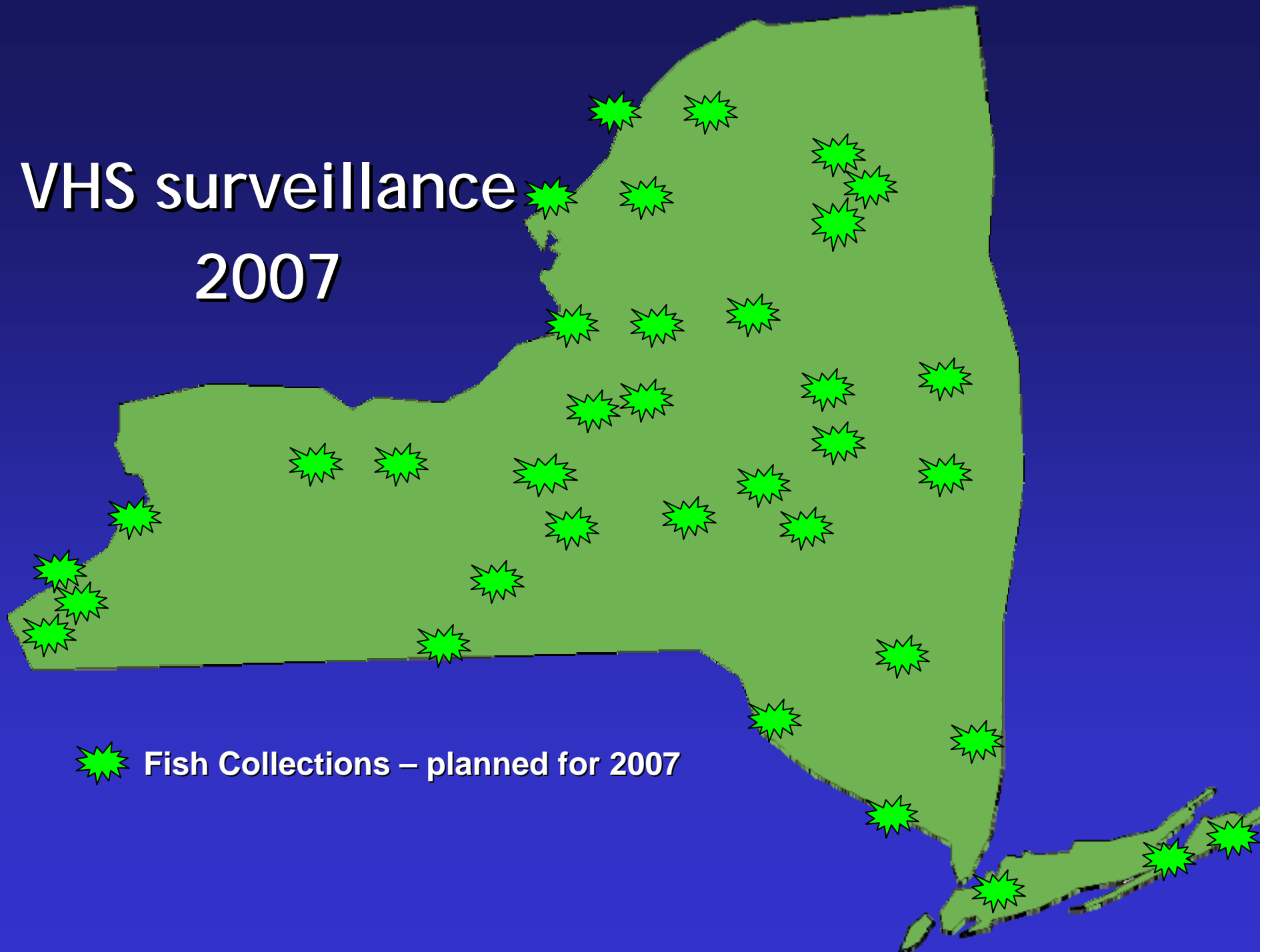
 Reported Kill

 Fish Collections – Positive

# Negative VHS locations for 2006



# VHS surveillance 2007



# Tested positive in Great Lakes

muskellunge  
round goby  
burbot  
freshwater drum  
yellow perch  
walleye  
white bass  
smallmouth bass  
whitefish

bluntnose minnow  
redhorse sucker  
gizzard shad  
northern pike  
emerald shiner  
crappie  
bluegill  
coho salmon  
channel catfish

A scenic photograph of a lake with two people in a canoe, forested hills, and a mountain in the background. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

**How can we best minimize  
the risks posed by VHS?**

**Minimize the movement and  
introduction of infected  
(and potentially infected) fish**

# Goals

- Protect NY's fisheries resources
- Minimize spread of VHS to uninfected waters
- Protect DEC hatchery system
- Determine current distribution in NY waters
- Minimize impacts of DEC actions to recreational fishing and economics
- Learn more about VHS impacts to fisheries resources: fish health, population effects

# Federal Order – USDA-APHIS

- Effective October 2006
- Under authority of Animal Health Protection Act 2002
- For live fish of 37 listed species
  - prohibits importation from Ontario and Quebec
  - prohibits interstate movement from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin

# Regulations

Commercial bait fish collection and  
“on the same water” sale allowed  
(except for 4 waterbodies)

No overland transport of any fish

Certified “disease-free” can be sold  
or transported anywhere (receipts)



# Outreach

Do not move fish from one  
water to another

Use certified bait fish

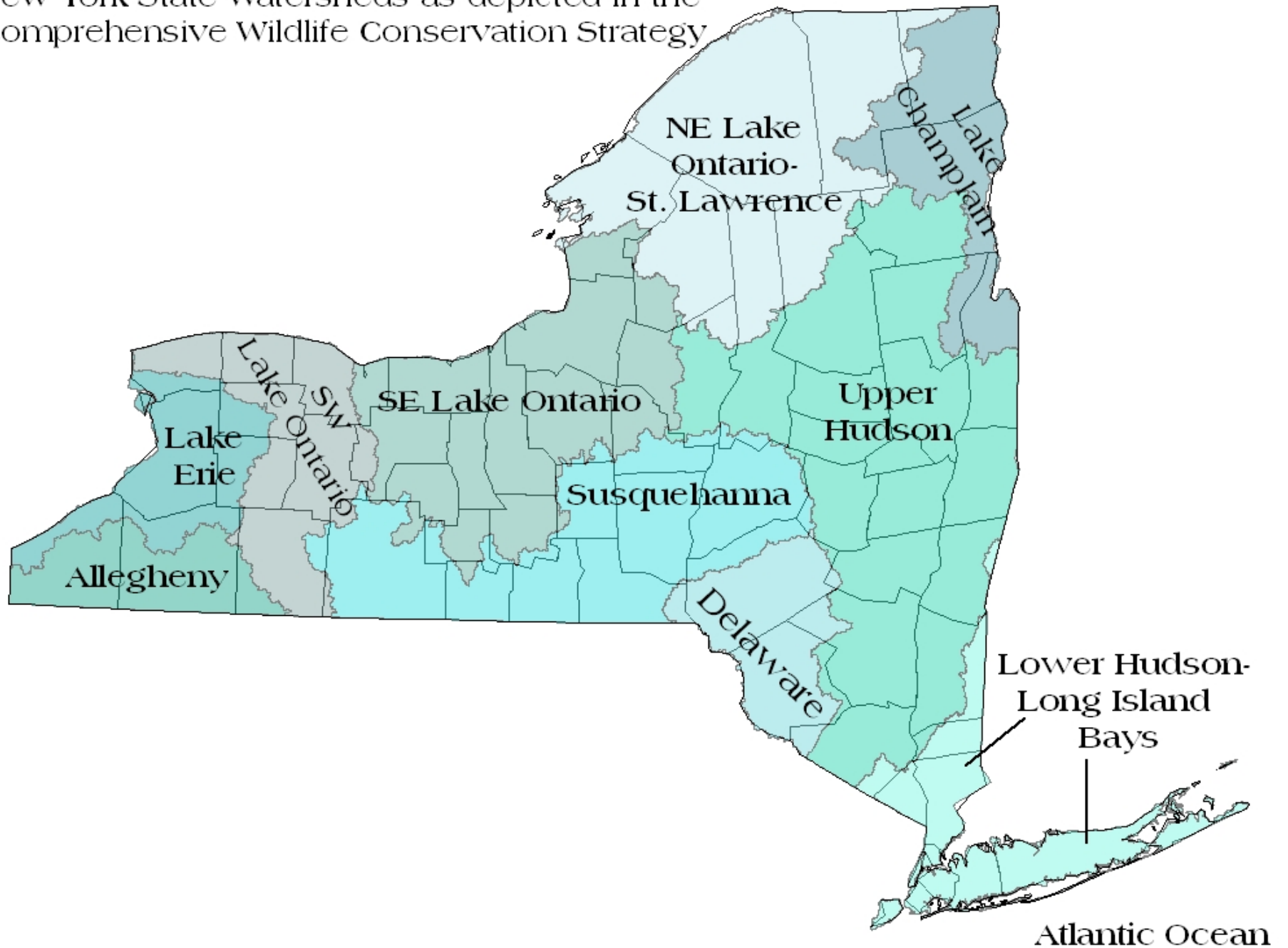
# State Wildlife Grants



# State Wildlife Grants

- Federal \$\$\$ for New York's 537  
"Species in Greatest Conservation Need"
- CWCS = Comprehensive Wildlife  
Conservation Strategy
- Multi-partner teams for each watershed

New York State Watersheds as depicted in the  
Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy



# Watershed Teams

- Comprehensive throughout watersheds
- Identify threats to SGCNs and habitats
- Identify and prioritize actions
- Share resources among partners
- Integrate Statewide and regionally

# Watershed Teams



- Local governments  
(and other local  
conservation groups)
- Regional DEC office
- Natural Resources

# 2007 Grants

- \$2.94 million CWCS actions
- Applications due 31 March 2007
- 93 applications from NYS agencies, local governments, NFPs

# Grant Requirements

- Projects within NYS or use data collected within NYS
- 4 categories:
  - Inventory & Research
  - Planning
  - Management & Restoration
  - Performance Monitoring



# Grant Funding

- \$50,000 to \$150,000
- No more than 5 years in duration
- Contract or MOU with DEC
- All payments on a reimbursement basis
- Subject to federal compliance and SEQRA

# Next Round

- Request for Applications January 2008
- Possible “small grants” to assist local government with natural resource inventories and master planning
- All categories will require 1:1 match

# Questions?

