

<b>Presenter</b>	Lisa A. Wainger University of Maryland, Center for Environmental Science
<b>Type</b>	oral presentation
<b>Category</b>	<b>Cost-Benefit</b>
<b>Title</b>	<i>Getting the Most from Restoration Investments: Assessing Site-Dependent Costs, Benefits and Risks</i>
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>With limited resources for restoration, it is important to ensure that spending is used to generate the highest level of social benefits and that such benefits are effectively communicated to decision makers. This talk will describe tools being developed to demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of restoration projects using performance indicators that characterize functional outcomes and ecosystem service benefits. We use an approach that stresses the importance of location and the variability of outcomes due to location. We examine site characteristics and characteristics of the surrounding landscape that establish the cost-effectiveness of restoration based on 1) the benefits derived from ecosystem services 2) the likelihood of management success and 3) costs. I will discuss preliminary results of a review of the evidence for stream condition metrics and how well they reflect functional improvements in ecosystems. I will demonstrate our methods to translate functional metrics into ecosystem service benefits and show a case study where the cost-effectiveness metrics were used to prioritize restoration to areas of maximum payoff.</p>