



DCR Stewardship Council May 11, 2023

DCR's Research Office

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What was the impetus for the DCR Research Office?

Strategic Readiness Initiative

Create an **agency-wide research agenda** and implement a **knowledge management system** to **share and apply research findings**.

The Agenda would:

1. **Advance climate-based resource management** efforts.
2. Integrate **best management practices**.
3. Develop a **repository** of scientific information.



Guidance

Strategic Readiness Initiative

Create an agency-wide research agenda and implement a knowledge management system to share and apply research findings.

The Agenda would:

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DCR Mission

Protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of **natural, cultural, and recreational** resources for the **well-being** of all.

Core Principles

1. **Access** to recreation and landscapes
2. **Conserve** lands, water, and forests
3. **Advance climate change mitigation/adaptation**
4. Support **healthy communities**
5. **Inspire stewards**



RESEARCH OFFICE INTENT

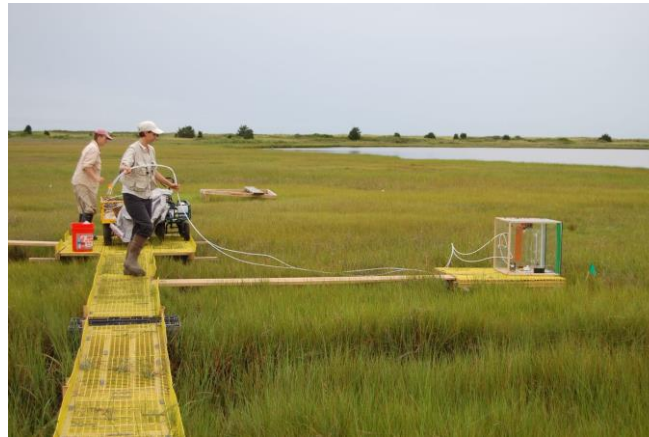


- **Dynamic, proactive, applied, and inclusive**
- Value **collective wisdom** and **diverse perspectives**
- **Coordinate** and **communicate** throughout the agency
- Cultivate **partnerships**

DCR Research is Not New!

Since its inception in 2003, DCR has applied science, conducted research, and developed expertise to support the management of the state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

Some of the research is undertaken by DCR staff and other research is conducted by third parties.



WHAT IS RESEARCH?

A **systematic process** entailing **data collection, analysis, and interpretation** for the **purpose** of establishing **facts** and reaching **new conclusions**.



WHY DOES DCR CONDUCT RESEARCH?

- We face **adaptive challenges**.
- We apply the **scientific method**
 - I have a **need**.
 - **What could meet** that need?
 - This **might work!**
 - Let's **try this**.
 - **Did it work?**

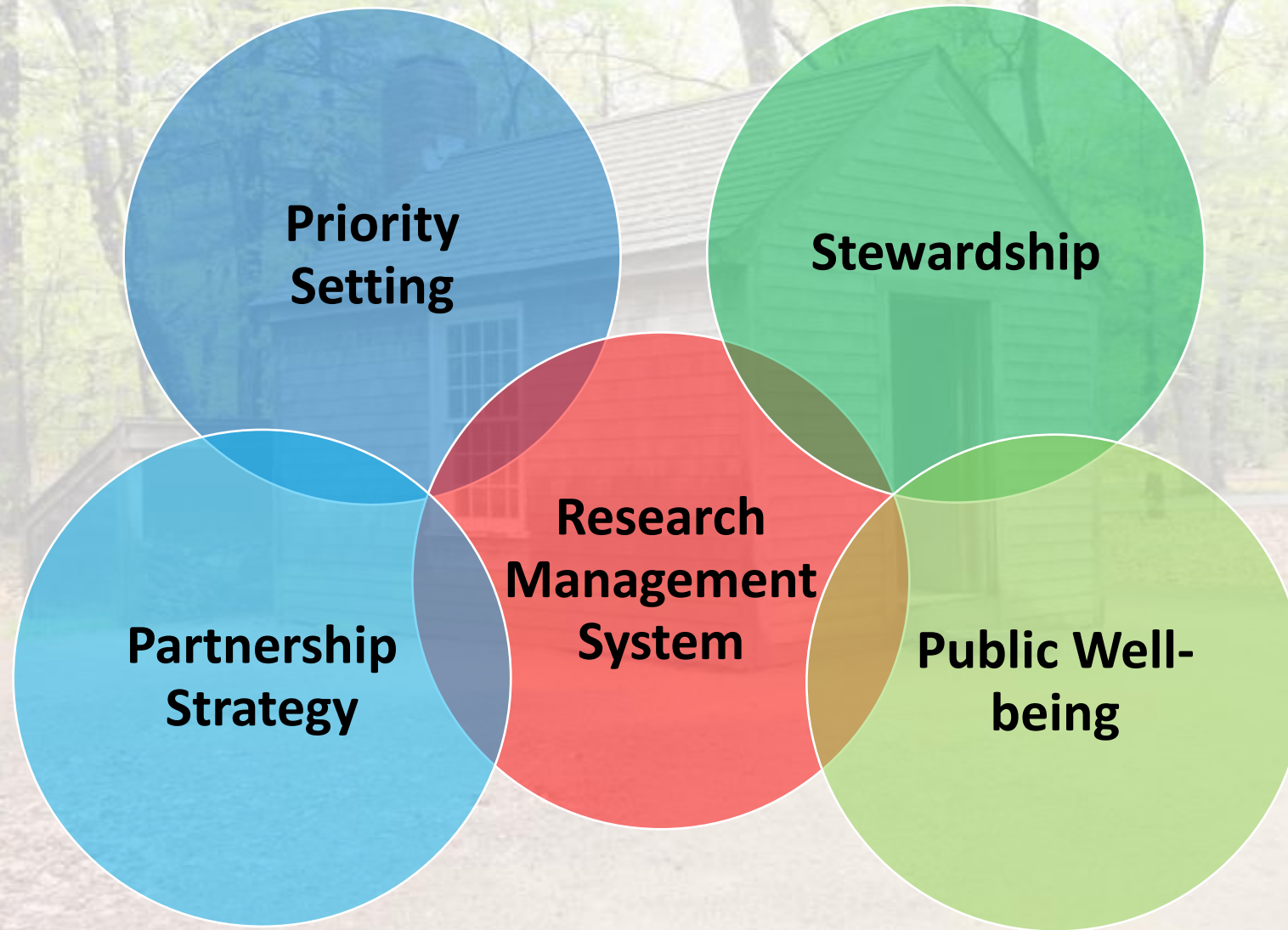


RESEARCH OFFICE BENEFITS?

- **Share findings** with colleagues.
- Expand **capacity**.
- **Align** external research with DCR needs.
- Capture **lessons learned**.
- Eliminate **unauthorized** research.
- Advance **partnerships** and promote **stewardship**.



DCR RESEARCH OFFICE STRATEGY



OPPORTUNITIES

Natural Resource Management

- Stormwater
- Watershed Health
- Cyanobacteria
- Bio-pollution
- Protected Species
- Invasive Species
- Forest Regeneration
- Soil Monitoring
- Wood Utilization
- Resource Condition Indicators

Cultural Resource Management

- Balancing Cultural and Natural Resource Goals
- Preserving Indigenous Sites, Artifacts, and Traditions
- Facility Restoration BMPs
- Recreational Guidelines

Recreational Resource Management

- Visitor Demographics
- Park Carrying Capacity
- Bikes and E-bikes
- Illegal Trails
- Nature-based Wellness Programs
- Visitor Behavior

Climate Change

- Vulnerability Assessments
- Carbon Storage & Sequestration
- Coordinated Mitigation and Adaptation
- Wildfire Occurrence
- Shoreline Migration
- Beach Replenishment

FACILITATORS

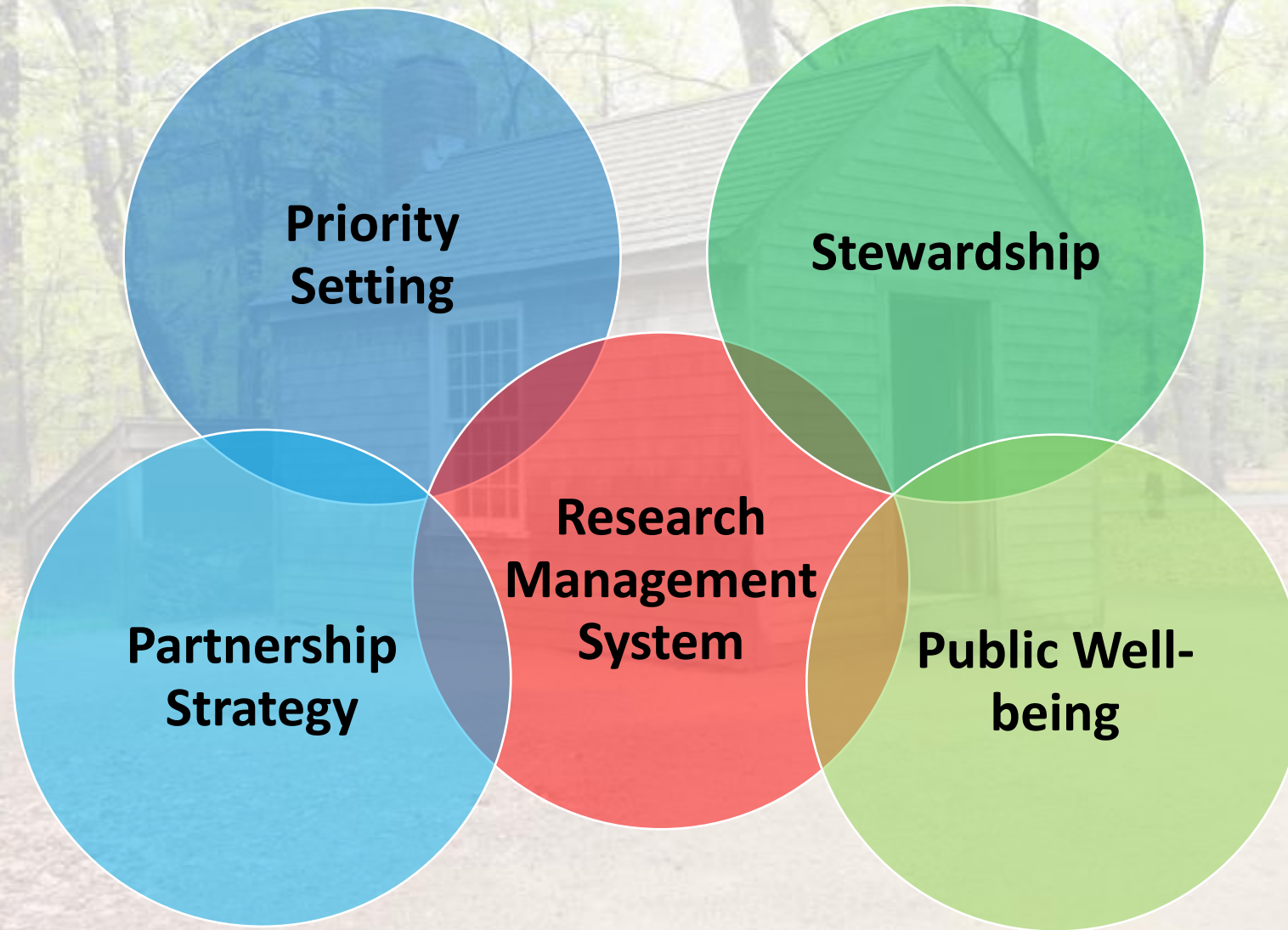
Workforce

- Information Access
- Collaboration
- Clear Decision-making
- Systems and Design Thinking
- Success Metrics

Partnerships

- Enhanced Relationships:
- Other State Agencies
- External Researchers
- Local Communities
- Indigenous Communities

DCR RESEARCH OFFICE STRATEGY



RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OBJECTIVES



A group of six people, including three men and three women, are hiking on a trail in a forest. They are dressed in outdoor gear like jackets, hats, and backpacks. Some are using trekking poles. The scene is set in a wooded area with trees and fallen leaves on the ground. The text "LIVE DEMO" is superimposed in the center of the image.

LIVE DEMO

THANK YOU

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