

RIVER TERRACE WETLAND ENHANCEMENT: YEARS 1-2



Actaeon Team:



ANACOSTIA
WATERSHED
SOCIETY



KRISTA
SCHLYER
conservation photography & writing

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Applying “light touch” approaches to enhance the 11-acre fringe wetland and its upland buffer at River Terrace by:
 - **Significantly reducing and controlling non-native invasive plants**
 - **Promoting the growth of native plants**
 - **Engaging the public throughout the three-year process**



TIMELINE

2024

- Determine Existing Conditions
- Community Outreach & Engagement
- Seed Harvest
- Set up monitoring and solarization plots
- First chemical and mechanical treatments of invasives

2025

- Mudballing
- Earth Day Marsh Clean Up
- American Lotus Germination
- Chemical Treatment
- Mechanical Removal and Solarization
- Phragmites monitoring year 2

2026

- Monitor and treat invasive plant species
- Host MORE seeding and planting events
- Continue Phragmites monitoring plots survey

2024

Existing Conditions

Upland



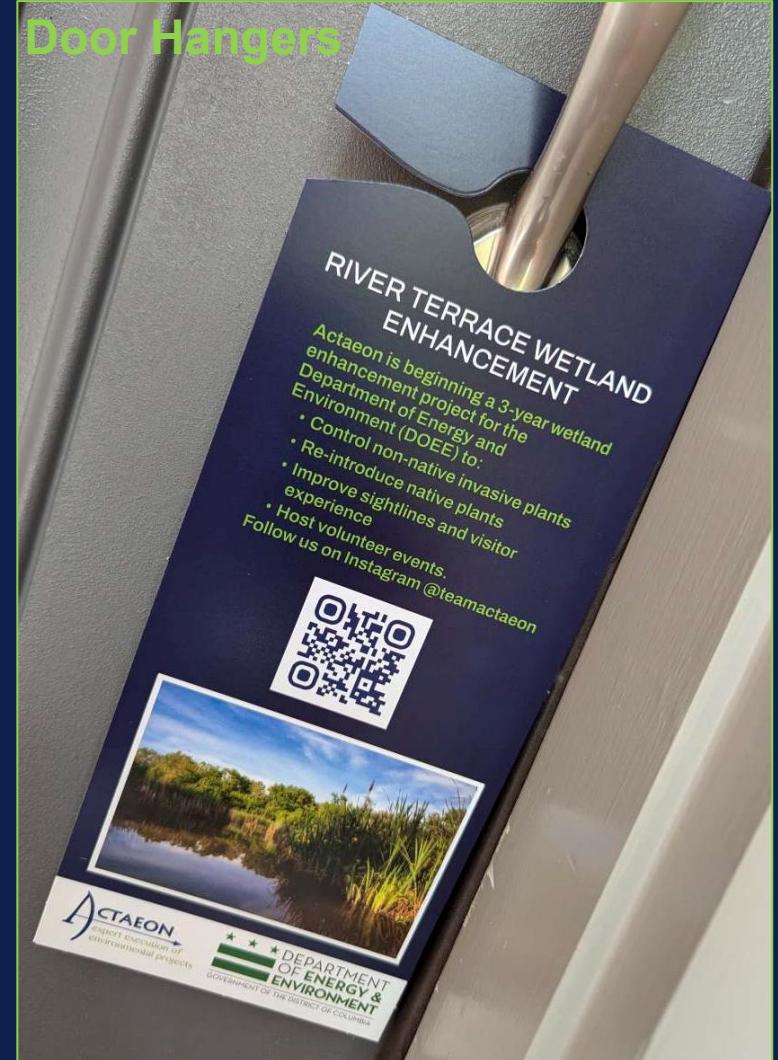
Marsh



2024

Community Outreach & Engagement

Door Hangers



RTCO Garden Tour and Community Meeting



2024

Seed Harvest



Wild Rice Bagging and Harvesting

American Lotus Seed Harvest



2024

Solarization Plots



Plant Growth



Initial Setup



Plant Growth



2024

Invasives Control

Upland



Marsh



2025

Mudballing



← Posts



teamactaeon

River Terrace (Washington, D.C.)

MUDBALLING!

Watch more reels

Watch again



Increase in Pollinators!



2025

Community Engagement: Earth Day Clean Up



2025

American Lotus



2025

Invasives Treatment: Land View



Before Mechanical and Chemical Treatment
2024



After ONE Mechanical and Chemical Treatment
2025

2025

Invasives Treatment: Arial View



**Before Mechanical and Chemical Treatment
2024**



**After ONE Mechanical and Chemical Treatment
2025**

2025

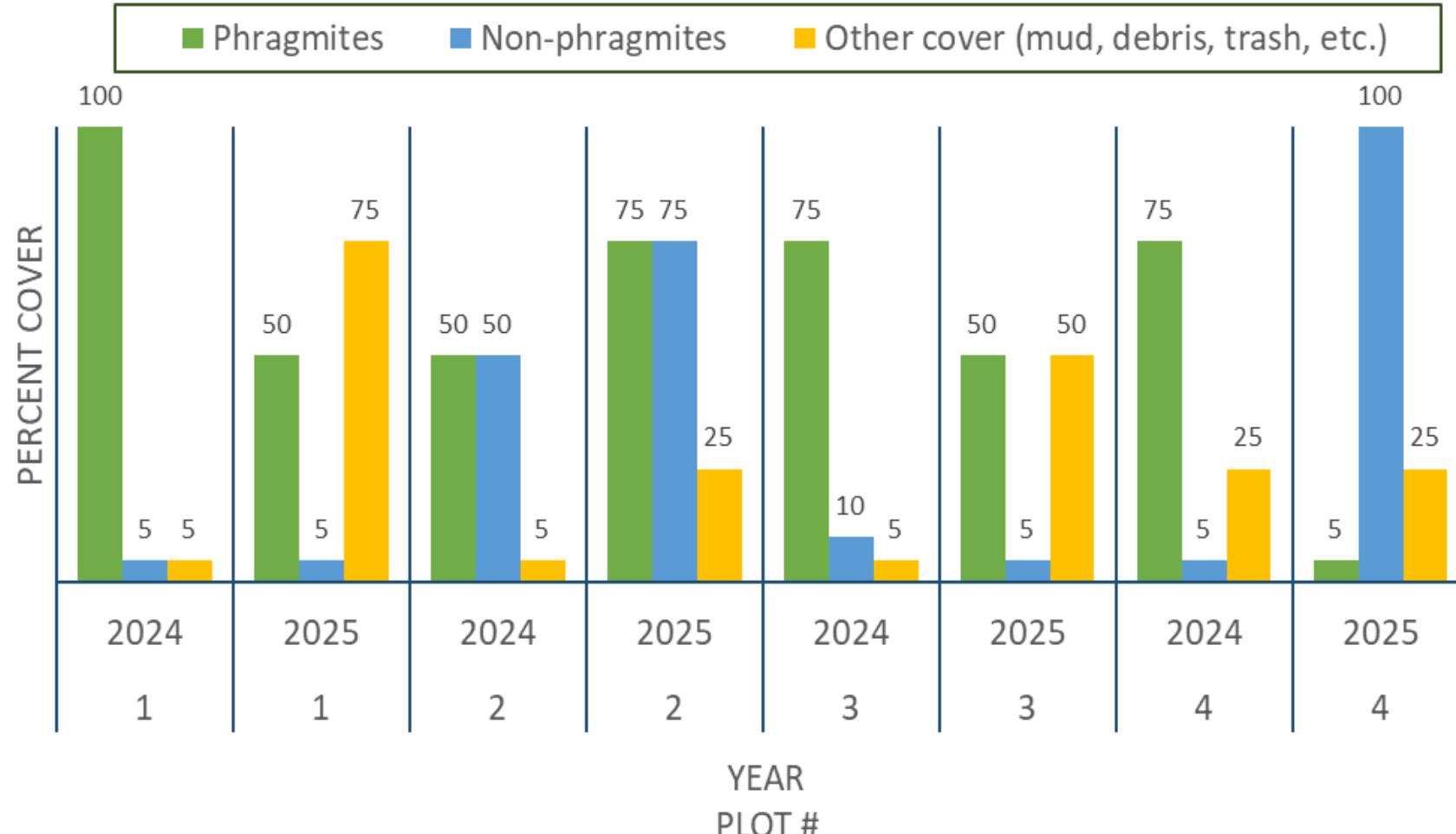
Phragmites Sample Plots



2025

Phragmites Survey Data

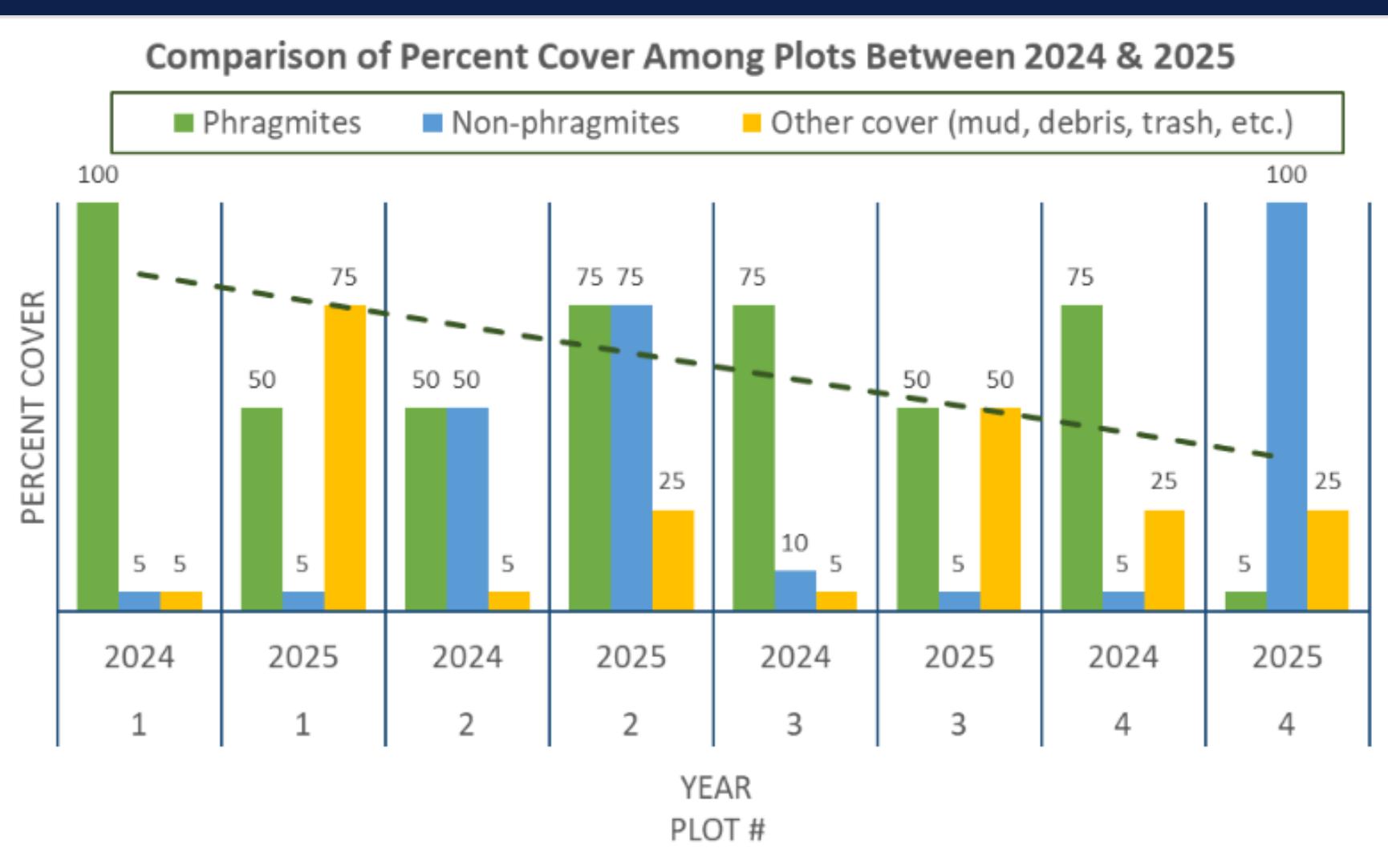
Comparison of Percent Cover Among Plots Between 2024 & 2025



2025

Phragmites Survey Data

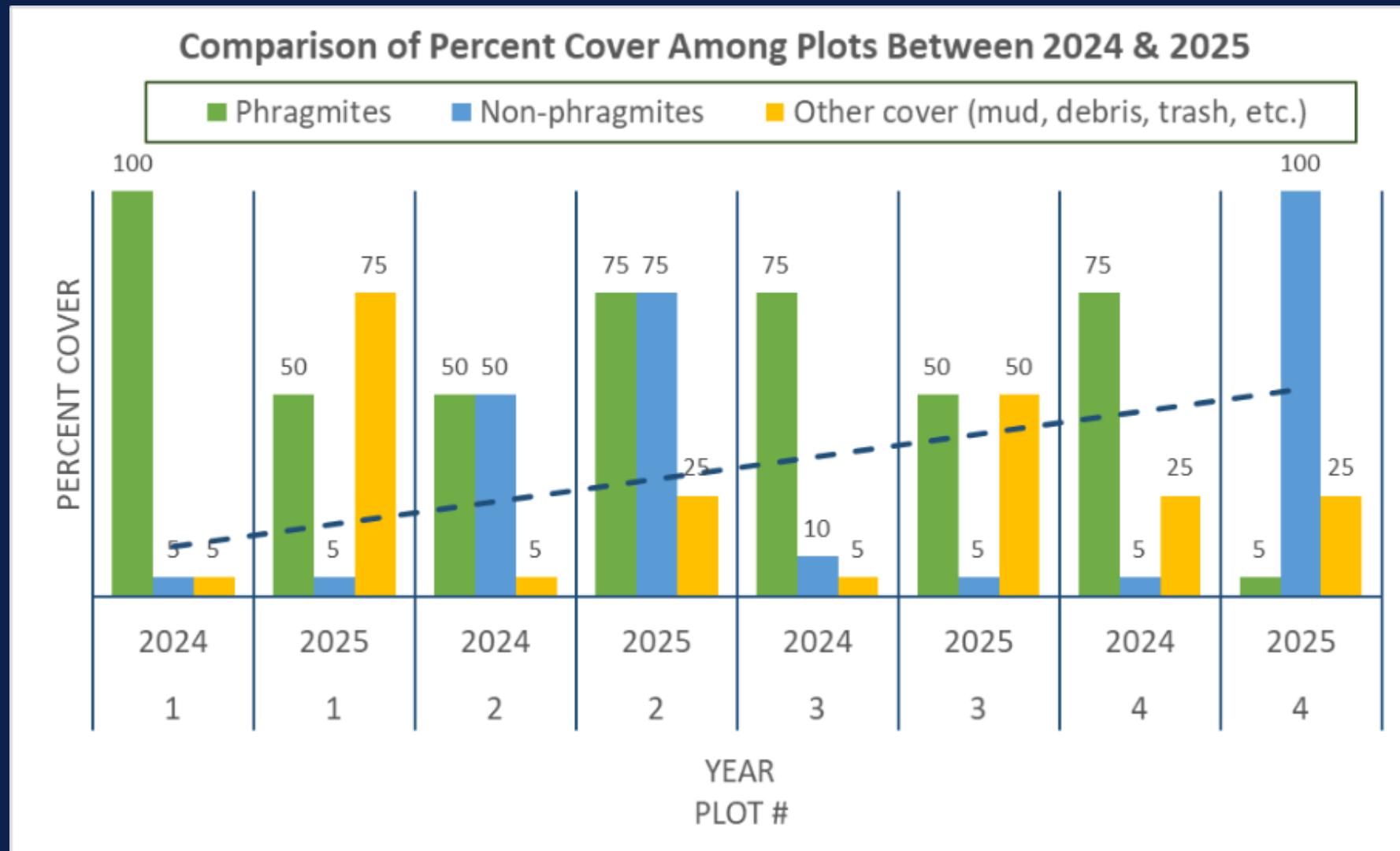
Decreasing Phragmites!



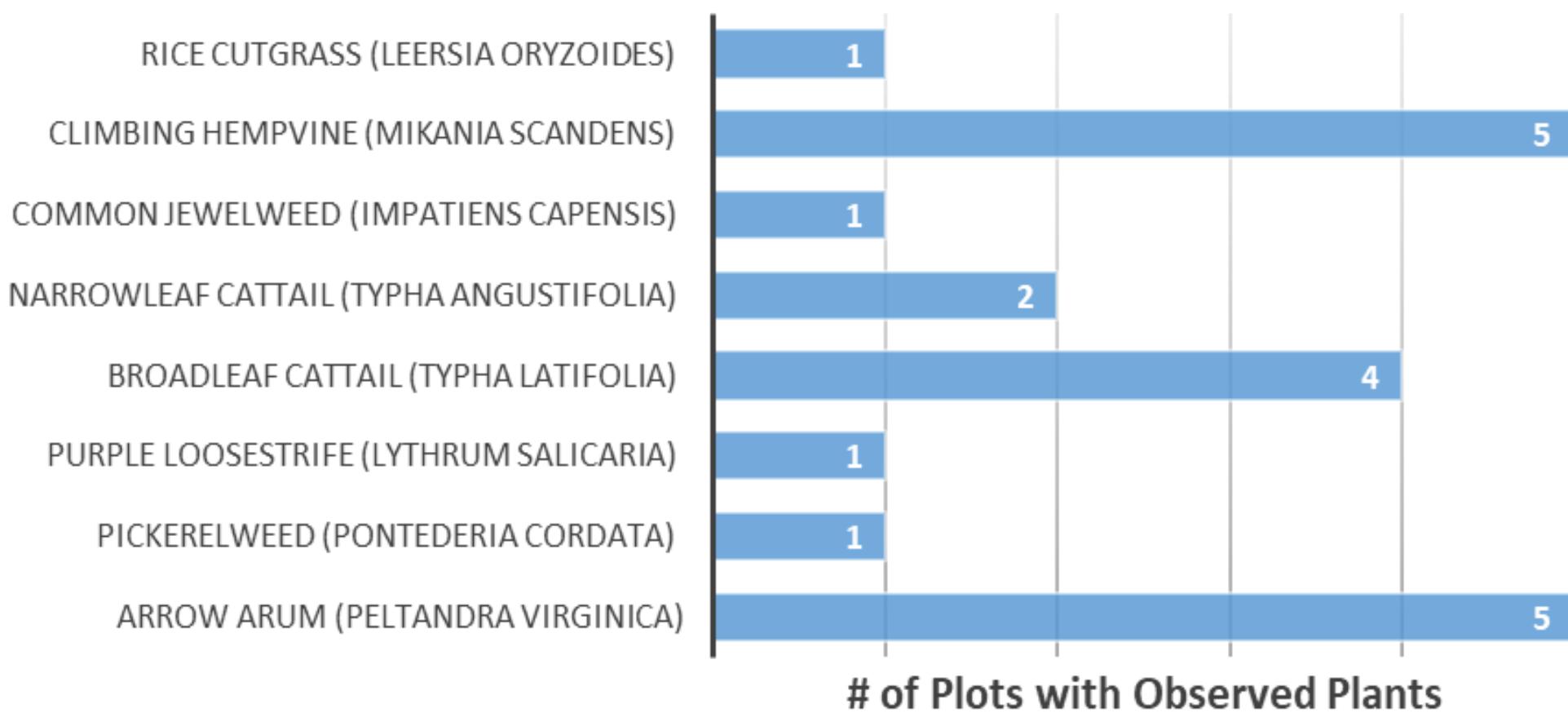
2025

Phragmites Survey Data

Increasing other plants!



Other Plant Species Observed



2025

Phragmites Survey Data



American groundnut



Purple Loosestrife & Arrow Arum



Marsh Mallow

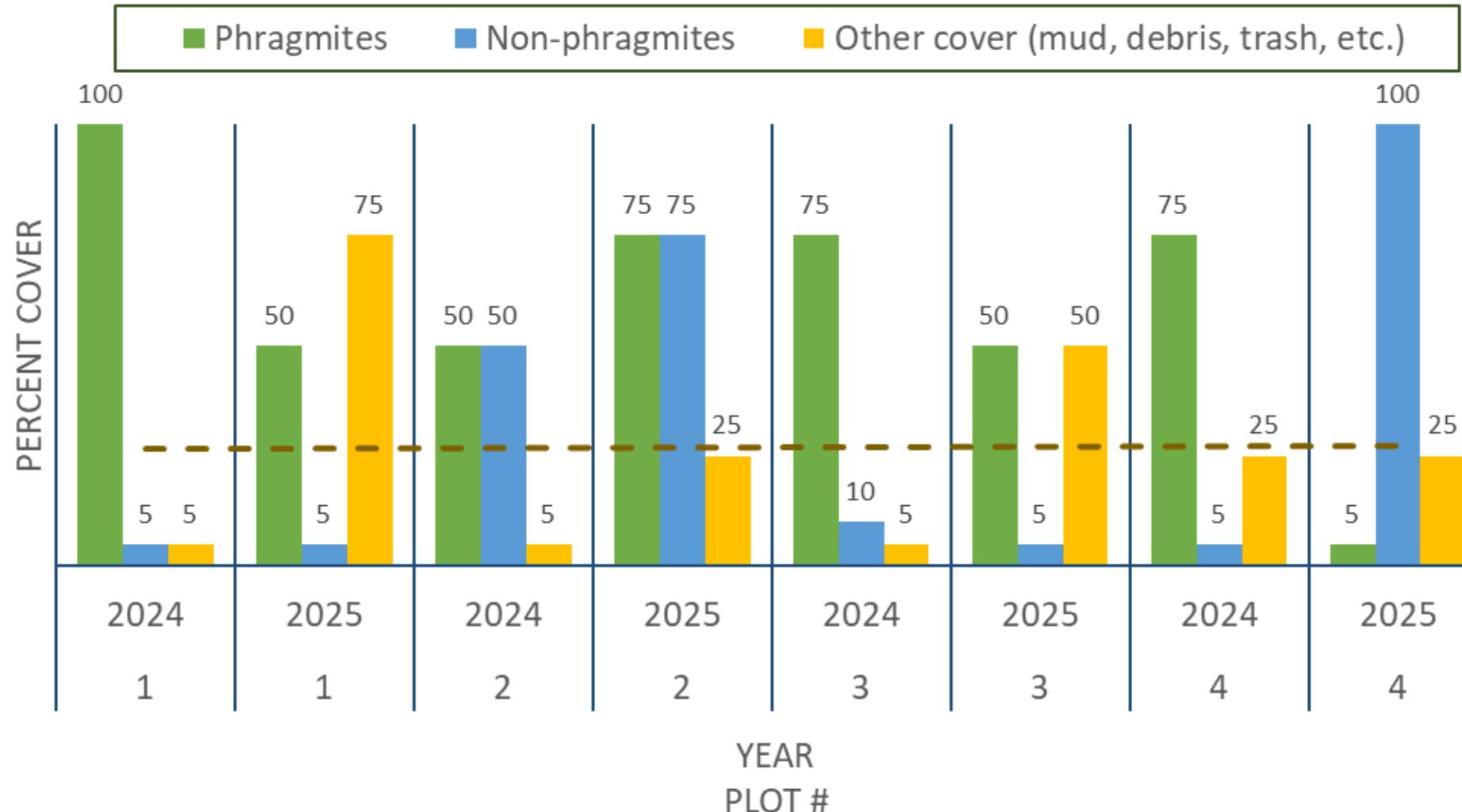


2025

Phragmites Survey Data

Other Cover ~Stable

Comparison of Percent Cover Among Plots Between 2024 & 2025



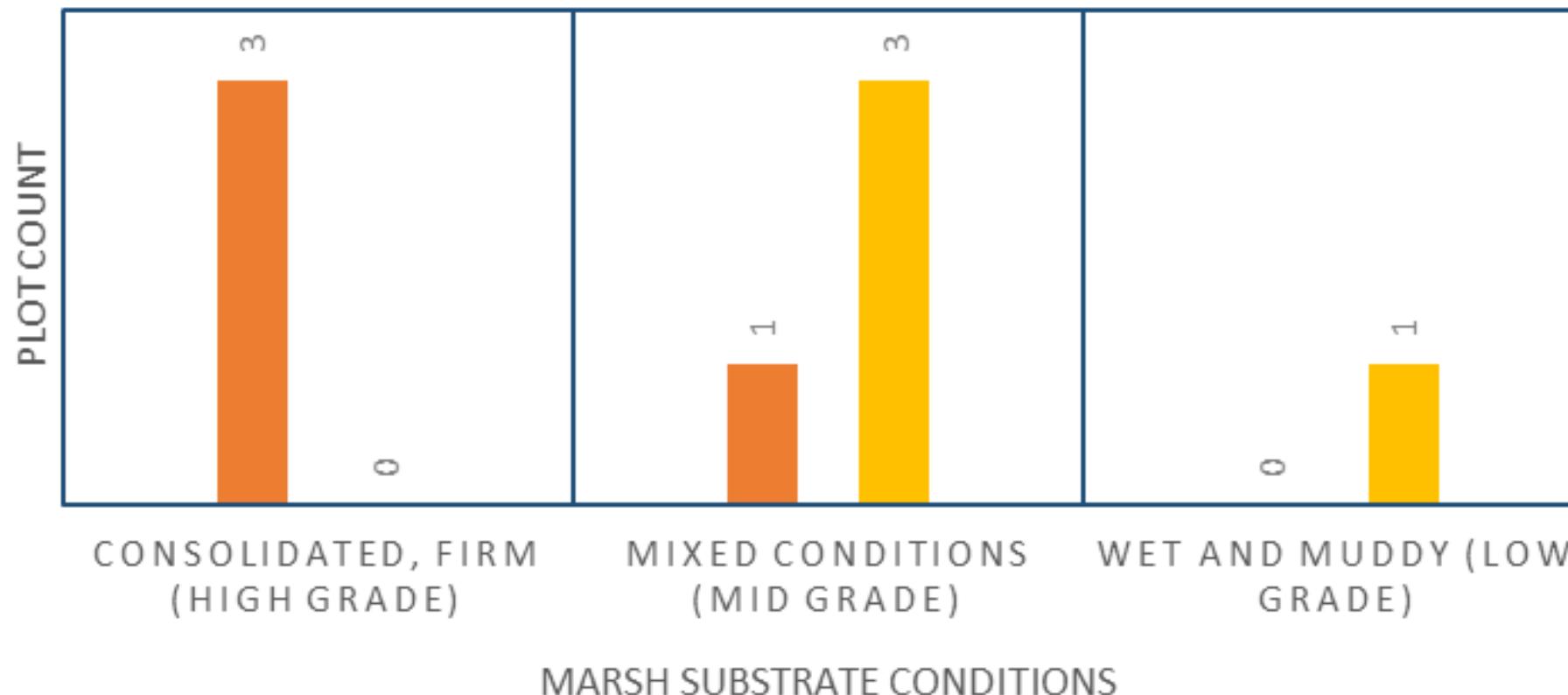
2025

Phragmites Survey Data

Marsh Grade Decreasing,
Wet Conditions Increasing

Marsh Substrate Conditions Per Year

■ 2024 ■ 2025

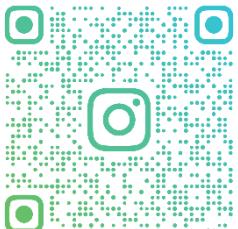


2026

Phragmites Cutting

Gianna?

Ya Can't Stop
the Dancin'
Phragbusters!



TEAMACTAEON



2026

Upcoming Plans

- Continue monitoring and treating invasives
 - Begin collecting outcomes of solarization plots
- Continue hosting annual harvesting, seeding and planting events:
 - Wild Rice
 - American Lotus
 - Native upland species
- Survey monitoring plots
- Build benches (pending approval)
- Stay tuned for subsequent years!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Actaeon

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