

Catskill **E**nvironmental **R**esearch & **M**onitoring Overview

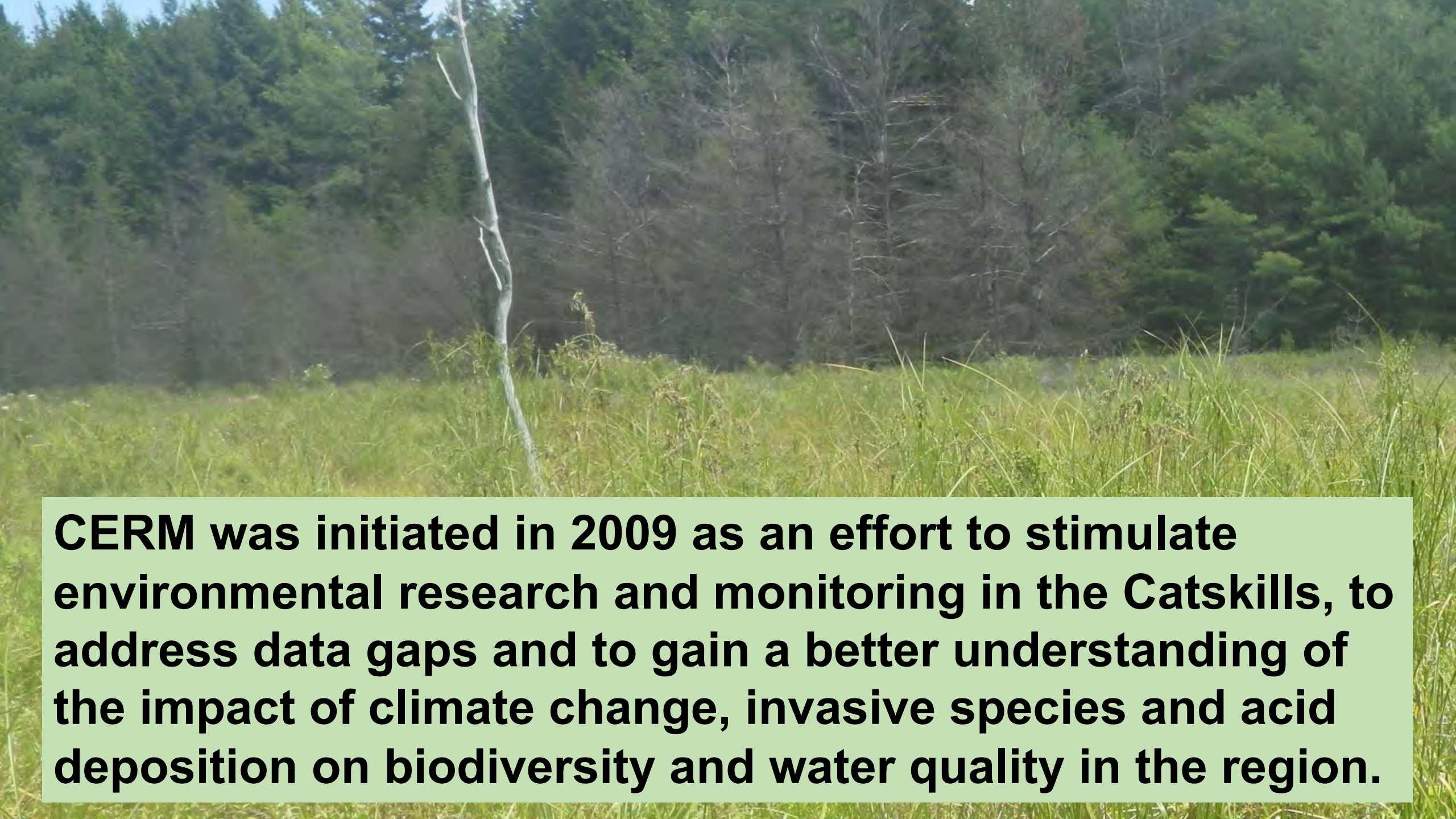
Presented at 4th Biennial CERM Conference

October 27, 2016

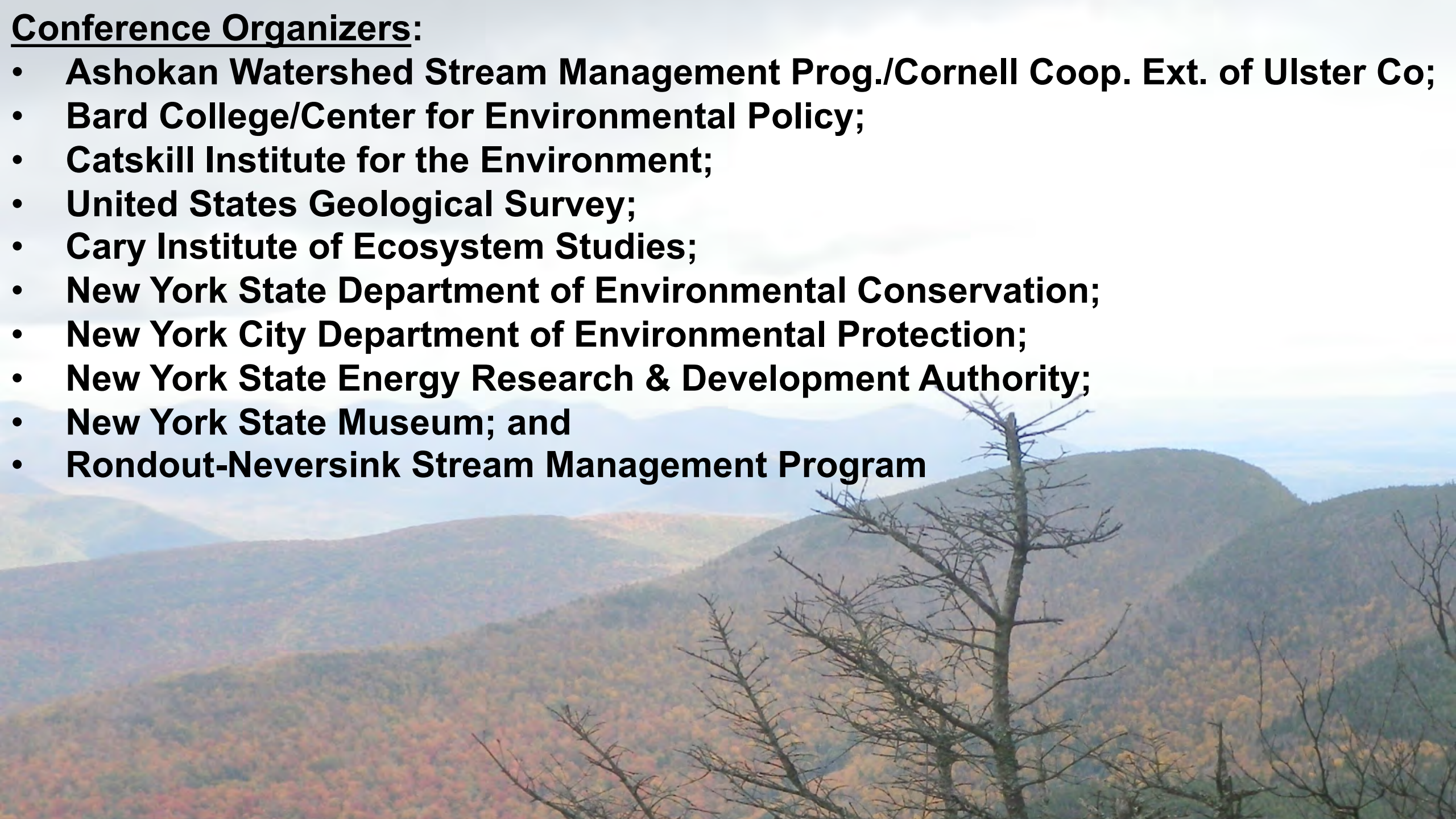
Belleayre Mountain Ski Center, Highmount, N.Y.

by

Steven Parisio, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation




CERM was initiated in 2009 as an effort to stimulate environmental research and monitoring in the Catskills, to address data gaps and to gain a better understanding of the impact of climate change, invasive species and acid deposition on biodiversity and water quality in the region.



Conference Organizers:

- **Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Prog./Cornell Coop. Ext. of Ulster Co;**
- **Bard College/Center for Environmental Policy;**
- **Catskill Institute for the Environment;**
- **United States Geological Survey;**
- **Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies;**
- **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation;**
- **New York City Department of Environmental Protection;**
- **New York State Energy Research & Development Authority;**
- **New York State Museum; and**
- **Rondout-Neversink Stream Management Program**

A photograph of a forest stream. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding greenery. The left bank is covered with large, flat, light-colored rocks and is heavily shaded by dense, vibrant green trees and bushes. The right bank is also covered in green foliage, with some white flowers visible. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

Previous conferences have been well attended and well received, providing a forum for presentation and discussion of well over 100 research topics (37 presentations in 2010, 48 in 2012 and 45 in 2014).

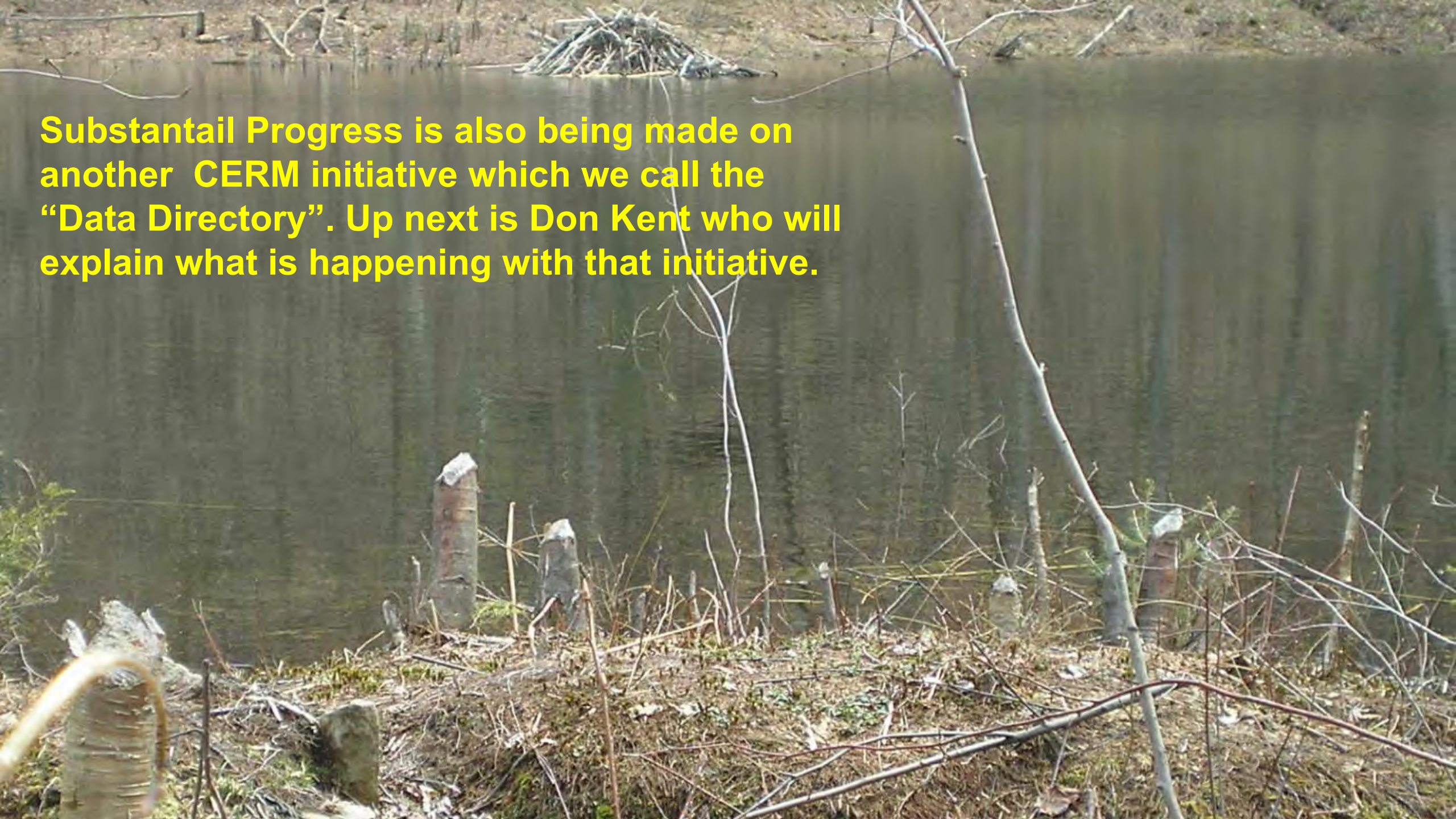
In addition to presentation of the biennial conference, CERM initiatives have included:

- **Creation of a Catskill environmental research bibliography**
- **Identification and ranking of candidate sites for a Catskill research watershed**
- **Recruitment of researchers not previously working in the Catskills for participation in new cooperative research projects designed to address identified data gaps**
- **Increased access and sharing of a Catskill environmental data**





Over the past two years, the CERM cooperative research initiative has been very active with a number of field trips and sampling efforts targeting Catskill soils, bedrock and peat deposits. Results and plans for future research will be presented in Session 6 and in the poster session of this year's conference.

A photograph of a body of water, likely a pond or lake, with a beaver dam visible in the background. The foreground shows a shoreline with several tree stumps and bare branches. The water is calm, reflecting the surrounding environment. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Substantail Progress is also being made on another CERM initiative which we call the “Data Directory”. Up next is Don Kent who will explain what is happening with that initiative.



Thank you for your attention.