Improving Habitat Connectivity in New Jersey

Habitat fragmentation is on the rise…

New Jersey is the **most densely** populated state in the US, and many road crossings, culverts, and bridges degrade river systems. The result is often that fish and other animals lose access to important habitat, an issue called **habitat fragmentation**.
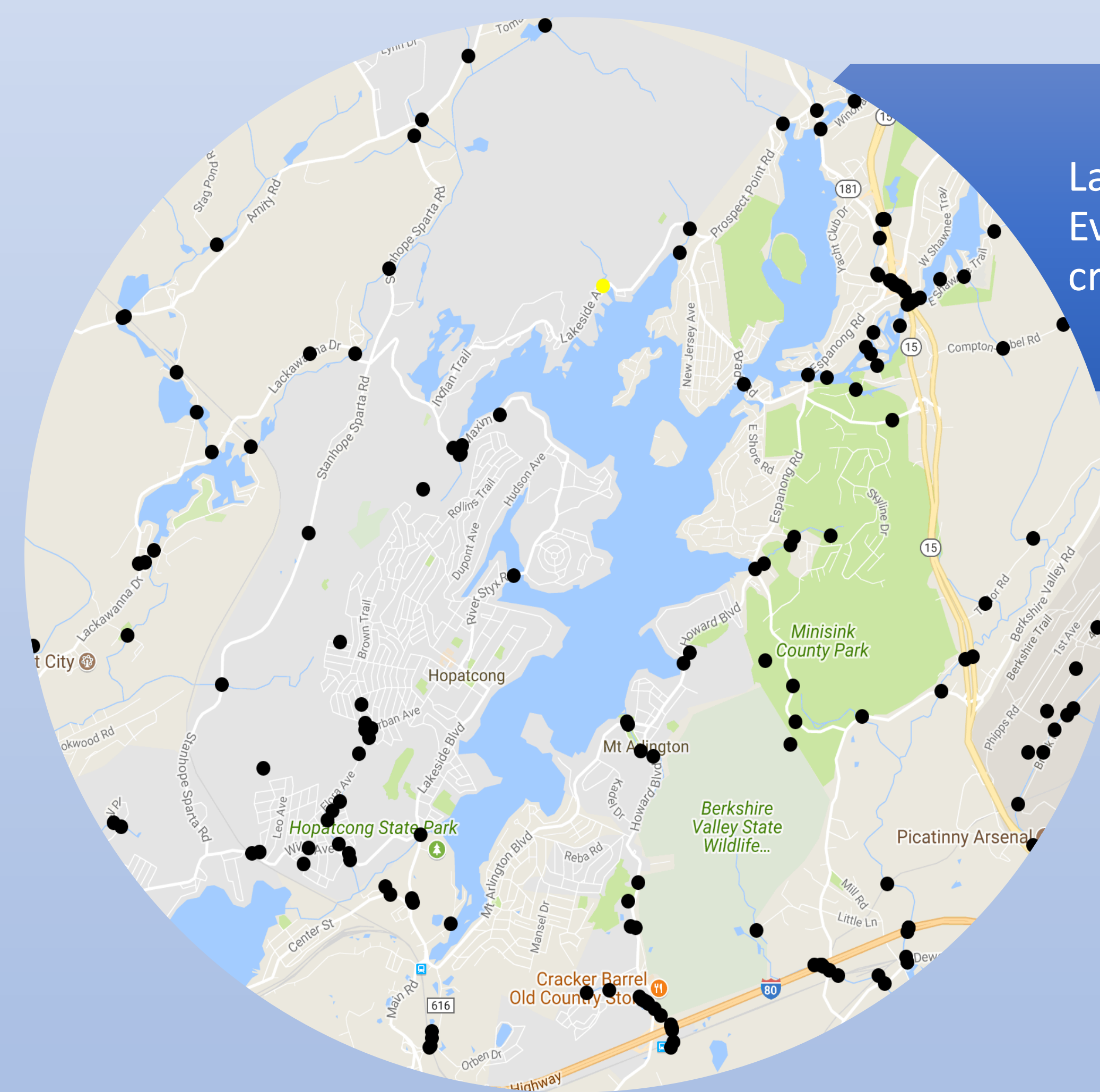
…But we're doing something about it!

The Passaic River Institute (at Montclair State University) is part of a 13-state coalition called the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC), which is tasked with **restoring fragmented habitat** from Virginia to Maine. A major part of this work is conducting stream crossing assessments – field-based surveys to determine the integrity of crossing structures and their effects on stream dynamics. PRI is also collaborating with NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife to assess fragmentation for terrestrial animals, such as deer, bear, and bobcat. With more than 150 individual sites to assess, **we need help** from people like you!

Volunteer With Us!

We are **recruiting volunteers** to conduct stream crossing assessments throughout New Jersey. Your training will include:

- Protocol training online (3 hours)
- In-person field training (4-6 hours)
- Shadowing an experienced observer at 20 sites

Once trained, you will be free to conduct as many assessments as possible.

Lake Hopatcong, NJ. Every black dot is a crossing to be assessed!

For more information, contact David Hsu at the Passaic River Institute, Montclair State University:
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CHANJ — Connecting Habitat Across New Jersey

NAACC — North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative

NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF Fish and Wildlife