

SERPPAS Circular

March/April 2019

The SERPPAS Circular is a bimonthly collection of media coverage, funding opportunities and upcoming events/webinars from SERPPAS Partners across the Southeast. Updates are collected from websites, press releases, and newsletters, and organized according to the focus areas outlined in the 2018 – 2020 SERPPAS Strategic Plan. If you have information to share in the next SERPPAS Circular, please email your input directly to the SERPPAS Coordinator, Addie Thornton, at Addie.Thornton@ag.tamu.edu. You may also contact her at 919-515-3931.

FEATURES

- ▶ **Southeast Fire Tracking/Mapping - Call for Technical Oversight Team:** As a result of the SERPPAS Good Map effort, the SERPPAS at-risk species and prescribed fire work groups identified the need for consistent regional fire tracking annually on public and private lands to achieve their mutual restoration and conservation goals. USDA NRCS has secured funds to pursue the development of a tracking and mapping system that would allow USDA Programs, America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative, SERPPAS, and other partners to identify under-served areas as they exist or emerge, and then prioritize deployment of technical and financial support. To view an overview of the project, including information on funding and the next steps for the project please click here: https://serppas.org/media/2767/sefiremap_status-overview_april-2019.pdf
 - USDA will establish a technical oversight team (TOT) to assist with the assessments in the Scoping Phase, to develop and/or review a project SOW, and to follow this project through all phases of its development, providing technical review and input to ensure success. Please review the following statement of interest and consider volunteering for the TOT of this project: https://serppas.org/media/2768/statement-of-interest-fire-tot-final_4-24-19.pdf
- ▶ **SERPPAS Spring 2019 Steering Committee Meeting:** SERPPAS held the Spring 2019 Steering Committee Meeting on March 21-22, 2019 in Atlanta, GA, and it was well attended by SERPPAS members and partners alike. The first day consisted of an overview of the Good Map effort and outcomes that included information and needs to be presented to the SERPPAS Principals in June. Progress was presented on the compilation of a regional military mission footprint for the Southeast, the development of a region-wide prescribed fire tracking system, and an upcoming Coastal Resilience meeting hosted by SERPPAS and the Sea Grant programs in the Southeast. The meeting also focused on the upcoming SERPPAS Principal's Meeting as well as updates from the five focus area work groups.
- ▶ **SAVE THE DATE:** The 2019 SERPPAS Principals Meeting: *Back to Basics - Investing in Good Maps and Expanding Strong Partnerships* will take place on June 4-5, 2019, in Enterprise, Alabama, at the US Army Aviation Center of Excellence Fort Rucker. Click here for logistics regarding the meeting: https://serppas.org/media/2763/serppas_principals_meeting_04-05june19_logistics_v5.pdf
- ▶ **SERPPAS 101 Webinar:** On May 20, 2019, from 1pm-2pm EST, SERPPAS will host a webinar in advance of the June Principal's Meeting focused on educating partners about the history, current efforts, and future direction of the regional partnership. The webinar will cover the mission and structure of the organization, how it accomplishes this mission, past regional impact and current work group updates. Pre-registration is not required for this webinar and instructions to join the webinar will be posted here: <https://serppas.org/webinars/serppas-101/>

IN THE NEWS

- **Spotlight**

- ▶ (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation released the 2019 Request for Proposals for the National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF). The NCRF grant funding to restore, increase and strengthen natural infrastructure to protect coastal communities, while also enhancing habitats for fish and wildlife. Pre-proposals are due May 20, 2019, with full. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/howeare/mediacenter/pr/Pages/nfwf-announces-release-of-the-national-coastal-resilience-fund-2019-request-for-proposals-2019-0403.aspx>
- ▶ (DoD NR) The Department of Defense Natural Resources Program released the Spring 2019 edition of their newsletter, Natural Selections. This issue focuses on the successes of DoD Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC), recognizing the decade-long research, partnerships, and achievements of DoD PARC that directly support military readiness activities and protect the many herpetofauna species found on DoD lands. To read the newsletter in full, please visit: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/nr/resources/program-information/newsletters1/newsletter/2019/spring-2019-natural-selections-newsletter/>
- ▶ (ALRI) America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative has released their Strategic Priorities and Actions 2019-2021 document. This document is ALRI's second step-down planning document designed to provide a more focused look at short-term activities needed to advance the goals and objectives of the *Range-wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine (2009)*. To read more, please visit: <http://www.americaslongleaf.org/media/42401/lpc-strategies-and-actions-2019.pdf>
- ▶ (SECAS) The Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy has developed a guide for using the Southeast Conservation Blueprint. This guide compiles different examples of real Blueprint uses to provide new ideas to support grants and inform decision-making. To read more, please visit: <http://secassoutheast.org/2019/03/07/Hot-off-the-press-User-guide-for-the-Southeast-Conservation-Blueprint!.html>

- **Sentinel Landscapes**

- ▶ (NRCS) USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) plans to invest \$450 million this year through the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) to help private landowners, tribes, land trusts, and other groups wanting to restore and protect critical wetlands and protect agricultural lands and grasslands. Through ACEP Wetland Reserve Easements, NRCS helps landowners and tribes restore, enhance and protect wetland ecosystems. To read more, please visit: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1450419>
- ▶ (DOD OEA) To better help states and communities understand defense personnel and contract spending in their area, the Office of Economic Adjustment has developed the "Defense Spending by State" report, which combines DoD personnel data with publicly available contracting information. This analysis helps state and local leaders to better respond to the department's mission, while also helping to enhance the resiliency of local economies. To read more, please visit: <http://www.oea.gov/defense-economic-director-military-spending-important-communities>
- ▶ (NLC) The Network for Landscape Conservation released its bimonthly newsletter, The Landscape Conservation Bulletin, sharing timely news, information, topics, and upcoming conferences and opportunities within the field of landscape conservation: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/March-Bulletin-Network-for-Landscape-Conservation.html?soid=1128366788872&aid=vWJm79G5IbE>

- **Threatened, Endangered, and At-Risk Species**

- ▶ (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation recently released their 2018 Annual Report. NFWF achieved remarkable success in fiscal year 2018, investing more than \$324 million to support more than 750 conservation projects that sustain and enhance wildlife and habitats. To read more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/whoweare/mediacenter/Documents/2018-annual-report.pdf>
- ▶ (NWTF) The National Wild Turkey Federation recently published, in their March/April 2019 Turkey Country Magazine, an article describing how the work benefiting quail and wild turkeys in the Southern Piney Woods is aiding red-cockaded woodpeckers. Click here to read the full article: https://editions.mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?i=566217&p&pn&fbclid=IwAR2bc4lagg6V9siDgKYQpqOZBBNThjMbs8PnS9k3_R9Ew2Z1hKzfHMrUN7o#{%22issue_id%22:566217,%22page%22:22}
- ▶ (CLO) The recovery efforts for red-cockaded woodpeckers in the North Carolina Sandhills is featured in the Spring 2019 issue of Living Bird Magazine from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. The article details the history of red-cockaded woodpecker recovery, especially on Fort Bragg, and how artificial nest cavities are helping to increase populations. Click here to read more: <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/bringing-back-the-red-cockaded-woodpecker-are-prescribed-fire-and-artificial-nests-enough/>
- ▶ (USFWS) Thirty-plus partners recently celebrated the first conservation easement in what will ultimately be the Coastal Headwaters Longleaf Forest, a transformation of up to 200,000 acres across Florida and Alabama to critical longleaf habitat. Federal and state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private entities all contributed to the effort to reestablish longleaf to these lands in order to protect and restore the many at-risk and endangered species within the longleaf ecosystem. To read more, please visit: <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/articles/coastal-headwaters-project-in-florida-is-a-major-step-for-longleaf-pine-restoration/?fbclid=IwAR1IfLjWnD-yKBYQG4LtTf5g6mrbsZZoPbUnRf38MWO6YkZJEMrfRhD1MQ>

- **Southeast Prescribed Fire Initiative**

- ▶ (NAA) A new research article, “Prescribed Fire Effects on Water Quality and Freshwater Ecosystems in Moist-Temperate Eastern North America”, is featured in the Natural Areas Association’s Natural Areas Journal. To read the full publication, please visit: <https://tnc.app.box.com/s/khsk9y9kp6fn0tp4m2ahqridtyc3j383>
- ▶ (NPS) The National Park Service has a new story map detailing the activities and accomplishments of the Southeast Region Wildland Fire and Aviation Management Program in 2018. The Wildland Fire and Aviation Management Program manages wildland fire to protect the public, park communities, and infrastructure; conserve natural and cultural resources; and maintain and restore natural ecosystem processes. To view the story map, click here: <https://ncsu.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=ab9c7a20edac43a1af5e56645e3fe7f>
- ▶ (NC WRC) A recent photo essay from NC Wildlife Resources Commission’s biologist and photographer Brady Beck illustrates how rapidly longleaf pine forests recover and resume normal activity after a prescribed burn. Click here to view the behind-the-scenes photos of how quickly life resumes following a controlled burn: <https://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Learning/documents/WINC/Sample-2019/WINC-Mar->

[April-2019-Burn1.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0gJ2LCv9YyyJB-OOokqip6d0OTDuYBJIughxcYFxo0ggfdLWA87ZuOmhTK8](#)

- ▶ (U.S. Army) Fort Jackson in Mississippi heavily utilizes prescribed burning as part of their conservation efforts. Each year, Fort Jackson conducts controlled burns between November and July and covers an average of 12,000-15,000 acres over 70-80 days, effectively managing their RCW population and the other fire dependent species within their boundaries. To read more, click here:
https://www.army.mil/article/218625/prescribed_burning_part_of_jackson_conservation_efforts
- ▶ (SERPPAS) The SERPPAS Prescribed Fire Work Group published the 30 and 31 editions of the Driptorch Digest, which contains prescribed fire news, events, articles and more from across the region. Learn more here:
 - March: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/March-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=PRFMnE1Rco4>
 - April: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/April-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=V0Y7uBPdiGA>
- ▶ (SFE) The Southern Fire Exchange released its bimonthly newsletter sharing research, resources, news and upcoming events from around the Southeast and nationwide:
<https://mailchi.mp/05861fb934fd/fire-lines-volume-9-issue-1-now-available>. SFE also released a new fact sheet: [“An Introduction to Fire and Soil Carbon”](#).

- **Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation**

- ▶ (GA DNR) An annual survey released today by the Coastal Resources Division (CRD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources shows the state’s coastal environment improved its ecological health in 2018. The Coastal Georgia Ecosystem Report Card scored the state’s coastal environment at an “A-”, an improvement from last year’s score of “B+”. This is the highest score the report has garnered since its creation in 2014. A suite of indicators represented in the report card cover key marine fisheries, threatened and endangered birds, marine wildlife and water quality. To read more, please visit: <https://coastalgadnr.org/georgias-coastal-environment-improves-health-new-report-card>
- ▶ (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation released the 2019 Request for Proposals for the National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF). The NCRF grant funding to restore, increase and strengthen natural infrastructure to protect coastal communities, while also enhancing habitats for fish and wildlife. Pre-proposals are due May 20, 2019, with full. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/howeare/mediacenter/pr/Pages/nfwf-announces-release-of-the-national-coastal-resilience-fund-2019-request-for-proposals-2019-0403.aspx>
- ▶ (ASBPA) The American Shore & Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) 2019 National Coastal Conference, “Where Coasts and Rivers Meet”, on October 22-25, 2019, in Myrtle Beach, SC, has released a call for abstracts. The National Coastal Conference provides an opportunity for coastal stakeholders to develop collaborative networks to promote best management practices, while learning the latest science, engineering and policy needed to maintain and improve the health of our beachfront and estuarine shorelines and ecosystems. Technical, policy-oriented, and coastal floodplain resource and flood risk management presentations or posters are invited for a broad range of coastal & estuarine ecology, science, engineering, economics, and policy. The deadline to submit abstracts is May 4, 2019. To learn more, click here: <http://asbpa.org/2019/02/07/call-for-abstracts-2019-conference-where-coasts-and-rivers-meet-due-may-4/>

- ▶ (SACB) The South Atlantic Conservation Blueprint released its March and April Newsletters, listed below. SERPPAS's Good Map Effort is featured in the April newsletter. To read the full blog post written by Addie Thornton, please visit:
<https://www.southatlanticlcc.org/2019/04/16/developing-the-good-map-for-the-southeast-regional-partnership-for-planning-and-sustainability/>
 - March: <https://mailchi.mp/f2326ebb9953/pmx0j3o71h-2959973?e=df1686bc3d>
 - April: [https://mailchi.mp/1a968e480373/pmx0j3o71h-2972513?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/1a968e480373/pmx0j3o71h-2972513?e=[UNIQID])
 - ▶ (SECASC) The SE Climate Adaptation Science Center released its March and April Newsletters, which includes climate related news, resources, publications, webinars and more for the Southeast region:
 - March: <https://globalchange.ncsu.edu/march-2019-newsletter/>
 - April: <https://globalchange.ncsu.edu/april-2019-newsletter/>
 - **Energy Development and Siting**
 - ▶ (U.S. Army) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office released the April 2019 edition of their Southern Review of Legislative & Regulatory Actions. This newsletter includes environmental and energy related developments for DoD/Army leaders and installation staff, giving early notice of legislative and regulatory activities relevant to DOD interests. To read more, please visit: <https://serppas.org/media/2766/southern-review-04-2019.pdf>
 - **Military Services News**
 - ▶ (DoD) Eglin Air Force Base has been named a winner of the 2019 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards. The SECDEF Environmental Awards honor installations, teams and individuals for outstanding conservation achievements, innovative environmental practices and partnerships that improve quality of life and promote efficiencies that support, without compromising, DoD's mission success. Eglin AFB was awarded in the Natural Resources Conservation, Large Installation category particularly for the work being done in gopher tortoise relocation and prescribed burning. To read more, click here:
https://www.afmc.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1820546/eglin-afb-named-air-force-2019-secdef-environmental-award-recipient/fbclid/IwAR0qLZArQO9Q95UoyKswgn_CZWTZ4-6ll02turztPLbiiAW4_-YQ9g8qjgQ/
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UPCOMING WEBINARS

- ▶ Archived: [Identifying and Managing Woodland Threats](#) by Woodland Stewards Webinar Series
- ▶ Archived: [Leveraging DOI and USDA Funds as a Match to REPI Funds: A Case Study](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [An Online Guide to Using the Southeast and South Atlantic Blueprints](#) by SA LCC
- ▶ Archived: [Western Regional Partnership \(WRP\) Energy Committee Webinar](#) by WRP
- ▶ Archived: [Guiding Your Team Through the TELE Process](#) by Sustaining Family Forests Initiative
- ▶ Archived: Planning Your Landowner Engagement Strategy to Reach Your Big Goals, [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) by Sustaining Family Forests Initiative
- ▶ **May 20, 2019: [SERPPAS 101 Webinar](#) by SERPPAS**
- ▶ May 22, 2019: [Nutrient Management in Coastal Communities](#) by EPA
- ▶ May 28, 2019: [Managing Oak Forests for Northern Bobwhite Quail](#) by NBCI
- ▶ June 5, 2019: [Leveraging the New REPI Installation Resiliency Authority](#) by REPI
- ▶ June 20, 2019: [Developing Adaptation Strategies to Address Climate Change and Uncertainty](#) by SERDP-ESTCP
- ▶ July 10, 2019: [How to Obtain Regulatory Relief for Endangered Species without Purchasing a Real Estate Interest](#) by REPI
- ▶ August 28, 2019: [REPI and the National Defense Strategy: Rebuilding Readiness by Protecting Key Capabilities](#) by REPI
- ▶ October 9, 2019: [Measuring Impacts: Developing Mission Benefit Metrics](#) by REPI
- ▶ November 14, 2019: [Installation Energy and Water Webinar](#) by SERDP-ESTCP
- ▶ November 27, 2019: [REPI and the Farm Bill](#) by REPI
- ▶ January 8, 2020: [How to Introduce Local Businesses into your REPI Partnership](#) by REPI

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ May 14-16, 2019: [Longleaf Academy: Longleaf 101](#) (Milton, FL)
- ▶ May 18, 2019: [10th Annual Longleaf Festival](#) (New Hill, NC)
- ▶ **June 4-5, 2019: [2019 SERPPAS Principals Meeting](#) (Fort Rucker, AL)**
- ▶ June 11-13, 2019: [Climate Prediction Applications Science Workshop](#) (Charleston, SC)
- ▶ June 11-12, 2019: [Longleaf Academy: Herbicides & Longleaf 201](#)
- ▶ June 17-20, 2019: [2019 Southern Group of State Foresters Summer Meeting](#) (Franklin, TN)
- ▶ June 24-28, 2019: [2019 Conservation Finance Boot Camp](#) (Portland, OR)
- ▶ July 16-18, 2019: [Longleaf Academy: Longleaf 101](#) (Brooksville, FL)
- ▶ August 11-13, 2019: [National Association of Conservation Districts 2019 Southeast Region Meeting](#) (Gatlinburg, TN)
- ▶ August 13-15, 2019: [Longleaf Academy: Fire & Longleaf 201](#) (Woodworth, LA)
- ▶ **September 9-10, 2019: SERPPAS Fall 2019 Steering Committee Meeting (Atlanta, GA)**
- ▶ September 24-26, 2019: [Longleaf Academy: Understory Diversity 201](#) (Talladega, AL)
- ▶ October 22-24, 2019: [Longleaf Academy: Groundcover Restoration 201](#) (Gainesville, FL)
- ▶ October 22-25, 2019: [American Shore & Beach Preservation Association \(ASBPA\) 2019 National Coastal Conference](#) (Myrtle Beach, SC)
- ▶ October 30-November 3, 2019: [Society of American Foresters 2019 Convention](#) (Louisville, KY)
- ▶ October 27-29, 2019: [73rd Annual SEAFWA Conference](#) (Hilton Head, SC)
- ▶ November 13-15, 2019: [Southeast CASC Regional Science Symposium](#) (New Orleans, LA)
- ▶ November 18-20, 2019: [9th Mid-Atlantic Stream Restoration Conference](#)
- ▶ November 18-22, 2019: [8th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress](#) (Tuscon, AZ)

For more information about SERPPAS, visit www.serppas.org, or email info@serppas.org.