

SERPPAS Circular

January/February 2020

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.

FEATURE

- **SAVE THE DATE:** The 15 year Anniversary and 2020 SERPPAS Principals Meeting, *The Power of Unconventional Partnering: SERPPASing Expectations*, will take place on May 12-13, 2020, in Beaufort, NC, hosted by MCI East. May 11th will be a travel day and optional prescribed fire work group meeting, with the official meeting on May 12th-13th. Be on the lookout for logistical information to be sent out soon!



- **SERPPAS Spring 2020 Steering Committee Meeting:** The SERPPAS Steering Committee met for their spring meeting on March 4-5, 2020, in Atlanta, Georgia, with wonderful attendance from members and partners alike. During the meeting, the group discussed, among other topics, the results of the recent SERPPAS Survey, plans for the upcoming 15 year anniversary of SERPPAS at the May Principals Meeting in Beaufort, NC, unmanned aerial systems, and new habitat suitability maps for at-risk herpetofauna species in the longleaf ecosystem. The group also received updates on progress being made on the SERPPAS Good Map and projects in the work groups, including NFWF opportunities, the 2020 Sentinel Landscape designation process, and updates from federal agency partners.

IN THE NEWS

- **Spotlight**

- ▶ (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announced the release of the 2020 Request for Proposals for the [National Coastal Resilience Fund](#) (NCRF) which provides grant funding to restore, increase, and strengthen natural infrastructure to protect coastal communities while also enhancing habitats for fish and wildlife. NCRF pre-proposals are due April 8, 2020. A pre-proposal webinar will be held on March 12, 2020, at 3:00pm ET. To register for the webinar here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3812614148680493313>. For more information and application guidance, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/national-coastal-resilience-fund/national-coastal-resilience-fund-2020-request-proposals>
- ▶ (NCWRC) The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is currently searching for a new Executive Director. Among other duties, the Director provides overall strategic leadership, vision, and operational structure, including commitment of staffing and budgetary resources and courses of action such that agency administrators can successfully develop and implement the programs and policies of the NCWRC, as well as represents NCWRC and the State of North Carolina on various boards and association, including SERPPAS. The application deadline is March 31, 2020. To view the full job description, click here: <https://serppas.org/media/2996/ncwrc-job-description-final.pdf>
- ▶ (LLA) The Longleaf Alliance is currently accepting speaker and poster abstracts for the 13th Biennial Longleaf Conference in Wilmington, NC, on October 22-23, 2020. This year's theme is *Longleaf: The Resilient Landscape*, and abstracts are welcomed on topics of longleaf restoration, including pertinent topics of management, fire, ecological services, understory restoration, economics, conservation, education, or policy. The deadline to submit abstracts is April 15, 2020. To read more, please visit: https://longleafalliance.org/events/CallforAbstracts2020_final.pdf?fbclid=IwAR15mjp5I7pSoNAaWrpmvehhqdpshuEqDdli9 BDhQ6 FEfADvmauG Wj4w
- ▶ (REPI) The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program has created a new fact sheet for the REPI Interactive Map, designed to help users navigate through the web mapping application and customize as needed. The REPI Map provides partners with GIS representation of the information tracked as part of the REPI Program and is the mapping system used for the SERPPAS Good Map. To view the fact sheet, click here: https://serppas.org/media/2997/rep_i_factsheet_whatisrepimap.pdf

- **Sentinel Landscapes**

- ▶ (REPI) The DoD's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program's annual report to Congress is now available to the public. The 2020 REPI Report to Congress summarizes and reviews the achievements of the Program through Fiscal Year 2019: to date, the REPI Program has protected 688,258 acres in 109 locations across 33 states. To read the full report, click here: https://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/Documents/Reports_to_Congress/REPI2020RTC.pdf
- ▶ (NCDA&CS) The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has recently partnered with the USDA NRCS and the U.S. Air Force to record five conservation easements in eastern North Carolina. This marks the first ever easements to use funding from these three sources at the state and federal levels, and a first for a streamlined approach to

conservation restrictions. These easements are also part of the federal Sentinel Landscape program. To read more, please visit:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/nc/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1532427>

- ▶ (NLC) The Network for Landscape Conservation's Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund is accepting pre-proposals for projects that aim to accelerate the pace of conservation at a landscape scale through targeted support of collaborative landscape conservation. Pre-proposals are due by March 13, 2020. To learn more, please visit: <http://landscapeconservation.org/catalyst-fund/>
 - ▶ (APAFR) The Central Florida Regional Planning Council visited Avon Park Air Force Range in January to learn about the importance of the Range and its mission, environmental stewardship, public use opportunities, and the need to ensure compatible development surrounding the Range. To read more about what the day's activities entailed, click here: <https://serppas.org/media/2991/central-florida-regional-planning-council-field-day-at-avon-park.pdf>
 - ▶ (REPI) The January and February REPI Newsletters are now available, providing exciting news and announcements related to the REPI community:
 - January: <https://repiprogram.createsend1.com/t/ViewEmail/d/93A226DC6D8BF1CE2540EF23F30FEDED>
 - February: <https://repiprogram.createsend1.com/t/ViewEmail/d/242E3C96A3A3ABAD2540EF23F30FEDED>
 - ▶ (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:
 - January: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/January-Bulletin-Network-for-Landscape-Conservation.html?soid=1128366788872&aid=kssdOJOW49s>
- **Threatened, Endangered, and At-Risk Species**
 - ▶ (SERPPAS) The SERPPAS RCW Translocation Project 2019 Annual Report is now available. It was another successful year working on RCW recovery. This now long-term project has set a standard of how conservation partners can achieve incredible success by sharing resources, funding and personnel. To read the full report, click here: https://serppas.org/media/2984/2019_serppas-rcw-translocation-project_final.pdf
 - ▶ (LLA) The Longleaf Alliance recently created a new Spark Story that highlights the changes in a longleaf forest located on Moody Forest Preserve in southeastern Georgia over the course of one year. To view to visual diary, *The Perennial Forest: A Visual Account of One Year in the Life of a Longleaf Pine Forest*, click here: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/cbo8UjjRthSyd/?fbclid=IwAR07fPnmfApjew8pzn3JmSPKZYoTeztHo1mxqPgUeX8AVt92T8ptDpzy-UY>
 - ▶ (PBS) Florida ecosystems were the subject of a recent documentary on PBS. Wild Florida tells the story about how Florida's ecosystems continue to weather a growing human population, climate change, and threats to the wildlife with the help of pioneering scientists and ongoing conservation efforts. To watch the full episode, please visit: <https://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/wild-florida-zgfc1/21102/>

- ▶ (NCFS) The North Carolina Forest Service has released six new videos in its “Longleaf on the Short” series. The new videos cover topics including fire, Venus flytraps, fox squirrels, and gopher frogs. To view all the videos in the series, please visit: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRH23-39ZgpQxw4IHNCr-4aAWjGqcDJug&fbclid=IwAR3nmT9m0buLruva1xLD99DfPN7IQ5CpiCNenKljNgybIWTv3wa3urEhjIM>
- ▶ (UGA) A team from the University of Georgia has, through a massive collaborative effort with Federal, State, and other partners, completed range-wide habitat suitability models (also called species distribution models) for five at-risk species of herpetofauna associated with the longleaf pine ecosystem –gopher tortoise, gopher frog, striped newt, southern hognose snake, and Florida pine snake. To read more about the models, please visit: http://secassoutheast.org/2020/01/24/Habitat-suitability-maps-for-at-risk-herpetofauna-species-in-the-longleaf-pine-ecosystem.html?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
- ▶ (KF) The Keeping Forests Partnership, previously Keeping Forests as Forests, released its latest update, providing information on recent projects and goings on of the partnership: <https://mailchi.mp/b272b79917f5/a-2020-vision-for-keeping-forests?e=7487115e12>
- **Southeast Prescribed Fire Initiative**
 - ▶ (NCSU) Southeast Prescribed Fire Initiative Work Group Lead Jenn Fawcett was recently interviewed as part of Women’s History Month to discuss her work with women in fire and forestry. To read the full interview, please visit: <https://cnr.ncsu.edu/news/2020/03/women-in-forestry-and-fire-empowering-women-through-land-management-education/>
 - ▶ (SCFC) The South Carolina Forestry Commission has released a smartphone app that allows users to view current wildfires and burn notifications, check the latest fire weather, and receive notifications about burning bans and red flag fire alerts, among others. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.state.sc.us/forest/releases/release-scfwildfireapp.pdf>
 - ▶ (FSG) The Forest Stewards Guild released a new report, *Insights and Suggestions for Certified Prescribed Burn Manager Programs*, that reviews certified burn manager programs and provides recommendations applicable to states considering new programs or revising existing programs. Several experts from the SERPPAS state forestry programs provided valuable input to the report. To view in full, click here: <https://foreststewardsguild.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/InsightsRecommendationsCPMBprograms.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3ANyj2ARMJsQFq7dil69JR7AoW8MI9VzmfngcsXSUngU2t0tcuWW-YTIQ>
 - ▶ (SERPPAS) The SERPPAS Prescribed Fire Work Group published the 40th, 41st, and 42nd editions of the Driptorch Digest, which contains prescribed fire news, events, articles and more from across the region. Learn more here:
 - January: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/January-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=Wc619QiXSew>
 - February: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/February-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=Acue5kCVW20>
 - March: https://myemail.constantcontact.com/March-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=KTJK_E6KhPg
 - ▶ (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/southernfireexchange/fire-lines-newsletter-volume-9-issue->

[1229461?e=bb53816d54](#). This issue contains a new fact sheet: “[Terrestrial Invasive Plants and Fire](#)”.

- **Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation**

- ▶ (USACE-SACS) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently held a webinar detailing 2020 Quarter 1 updates of the South Atlantic Coastal Study. The webinar provided an update on the progression of SACS, updates from district project managers, and questions from attendees. To view the slides from the webinar, click here: https://serppas.org/media/2990/2020_q1_sacs-webinar_final.pdf
- ▶ (SACB) The South Atlantic Conservation Blueprint released its January and February 2020 Newsletters, listed below. To learn more, please visit:
 - January: <https://mailchi.mp/c1e23226a9d3/pmx0j3o71h-3093653?e=e86655520f>
 - February: <https://mailchi.mp/865449d0966f/pmx0j3o71h-3101717?e=e86655520f>
- ▶ (SECASC) The SE Climate Adaptation Science Center released its January and February 2020 Newsletters, which includes climate related news, resources, publications, webinars and more for the Southeast region:
 - January: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2020/01/16/january-2020-newsletter/>
 - February: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2020/02/25/february-2020-newsletter/>
- ▶ (PGCLC) The Partnership for Gulf Coast Land Conservation is a coalition of more than two dozen land conservation organizations whose shared mission is to increase the pace, quality and permanence of voluntary land and water conservation in the Gulf of Mexico region. The Gulf Partnership’s releases newsletters with a round-up of news from the gulf region states:
 - January 9th: https://serppas.org/media/2992/pgclc_january-9th-newsletter.pdf
 - January 22nd: https://serppas.org/media/2993/pgclc_january-22nd-newsletter.pdf
 - February 6th: https://serppas.org/media/2994/pgclc_february-6th-newsletter.pdf
 - March 5th: https://serppas.org/media/2995/pgclc_march-5th-newsletter.pdf
- ▶ (NCSSC) The North Carolina Sentinel Site Cooperative released its quarterly newsletter, providing coastal communities and resource managers of North Carolina with news and information on the potential impacts of sea level rise on coastal habitats and communities. To read the February 2020 newsletter, please visit: http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=2b3ba3a6-00aa-478d-8c9b-637ddc526e51&groupId=18766252

- **Energy Development and Siting**

- ▶ (REEO) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office released its January and February editions of the 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.
 - January: <https://serppas.org/media/2999/southern-review-01-2020.pdf>
 - February: <https://serppas.org/media/3000/southern-review-02-2020.pdf>
- ▶ (REEO) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental and Energy Office released its bi-monthly publication, Southeast Energy Monitor. The Monitor contains current legislative and regulatory activity and state public services commission dockets pertinent to military interests for Region 4.
 - February: <https://serppas.org/media/2998/southeast-energy-monitor-feb-2020.pdf>

- **Military Services News**

- ▶ (Ft. Stewart) Seven months out of the year, large tracts of Fort Stewart training areas are intentionally set ablaze. The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Forestry Branch works around the year to manage the largest forestry program in the Army. Management of these lands result in improved training areas for the installation's Soldiers, improved wildlife habits and a reduction of wildfire hazards. To read more about Fort Stewart's efforts, please visit: <https://home.army.mil/stewart/index.php/about/news/controlled-burns-improve-local-training-areas-prevent-wildfires-protect-endangered-species>

UPCOMING WEBINARS

- ▶ Archived: [SERPPAS 101 Webinar](#) by SERPPAS
- ▶ Archived: [NCA4, Volume II: The Southeast; Key Message 3 Natural Ecosystems will be Transformed](#) by SECASC
- ▶ Archived: [NCA4, Volume II: The Southeast; Key Message 4 Economic and Health Risks for Rural Communities](#) by SECASC
- ▶ Archived: [Scenarios and Projections for the USDA Forest Service 2020 RPA Assessment](#) by U.S. Forest Service
- ▶ Archived: [How to Introduce Local Businesses into your REPI Partnership](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [Collaboratively Developing Decision-quality Species Distribution Models](#) by SA LCC
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Air Quality 101](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Archived: [How Decision-makers View the Evolution of Wildlife Conservation Challenges in the Southeast](#) by SA LCC
- ▶ March 24, 2020: [Resilient Design Assistance in the Mid-Atlantic](#) by EPA Office of Water
- ▶ March 25, 2020: [Vulnerability and Adaptation Planning](#) by GOMA
- ▶ April 8, 2020: [REPI and the National Defense Strategy](#) by REPI
- ▶ May 20, 2020: [Annual REPI Help Session for FY21](#) by REPI
- ▶ June 17, 2020: [Leveraging GIS to Identify New Partnership Opportunities](#) by REPI
- ▶ September 9, 2020: [Effective Community Engagement](#) by REPI
- ▶ November 4, 2020: [Preparing for Extreme Weather: Improving Installation Resilience](#) by REPI
- ▶ December 9, 2020: [Exploring Endangered Species Crediting Strategies](#) by REPI

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ March 18-20, 2020: [Southeast Land Conservation Conference](#) (Chattanooga, TN)
- ▶ March 25-28, 2020: [81st Annual Meeting Of the Association of Southeastern Biologists](#) (Jacksonville, FL)
- ▶ March 28, 2020: [Sandhill Fire Festival](#) (Keystone Heights, FL)
- ▶ March 30-April 10, 2020: [4th Women-in-Fire Prescribed Fire Training Exchange](#) (southeastern VA)
- ▶ March 31-April 1, 2020: [Longleaf Academy: Herbicides & Longleaf](#) (Andalusia, AL)
- ▶ April 18, 2020: [Party for the Pine Festival](#) (Southern Pines, NC)
- ▶ April 20-24, 2020: [3rd International Smoke Symposium](#) (Raleigh, NC)
- ▶ May 3-6, 2020: [Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals \(ANREP\) 2020 Conference](#) (Sunriver, OR)
- ▶ **May 11-13, 2020: 2020 SERPPAS Principals Meeting (Beaufort, NC)**
- ▶ May 12-14, 2020: [Longleaf Academy: Longleaf 101](#) (Florence, SC)
- ▶ June 23-25, 2020: [GOMA 2020 All Hands Meeting](#) (Biloxi, MS)



- ▶ August 3-5, 2020: [1st National Stream Restoration Conference: Stream Restoration 2020 Sharing Visions for the Future](#) (Nashville, TN)
- ▶ August 9-11, 2020: [2020 National Association of Conservation Districts Southeast Region Meeting](#) (Gulf Shores, AL)
- ▶ August 10-13, 2020: [2020 Sustaining Military Readiness Conference](#) (San Antonio, TX)
- ▶ September 13-16, 2020: [Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies 110th Annual Meeting](#) (Sacramento, CA)
- ▶ September 14-16, 2020: [Gulf Coast Conservation Conference](#) (Gulfport, MS)
- ▶ October 8-10, 2020: [Land Trust Alliance Rally 2020](#) (Portland, OR)
- ▶ October 13-16, 2020: [Natural Areas Conference](#) (Reno, NV)
- ▶ October 20-23, 2020: [The Biennial Longleaf Conference](#) (Wilmington, NC)
- ▶ October 25-28, 2020: [74th Annual SEAFWA Conference](#) (Springfield, MO)
- ▶ October 26-30, 2020: [4th Annual National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop](#) (Asheville, NC)
- ▶ October 28-November 1, 2020: [Society of American Foresters National Convention](#) (Providence, RI)

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