



Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) Regulatory Needs and Best Practices Sub-Work Group

of the Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation Work Group

Purpose: Identify best practices and policy alternatives for efficient, coordinated, transparent, and successful project review and permitting by local, state, and federal agencies for nature-based infrastructure and restoration projects within the SERPPAS geography.

Need: Project development teams and funders have repeatedly found that regulatory review and permitting can create challenges for implementation of nature-based solutions in the SERPPAS region along timelines and at scales that key stakeholders need. Reviews and permits ensure important resources are protected, therefore looking for a path to address a more efficient and effective process will promote better outcomes for restoration and climate resilience.

Participating Organizations

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division (co-lead)	
EPA Region 4	University of Georgia – GA Sea Grant
Georgia DNR-Coastal Resources Division	University of Georgia (IRIS, DCRP, N-EWN)
North Carolina DEQ-Division of Coastal Management	Brooks Pierce/SERPPAS support
Florida Department of Environmental Protection	North Carolina Coastal Federation
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources	Eastern NC Sentinel Landscape Coordinator
Navy Region Southeast	Environmental Defense Fund
OSD REPI Program	South Carolina Sea Grant

Work to Date

- Quarterly meetings (November, February, April)
- Resources collected and organized
- Interviews with key experts
- Participation in national NBS Policy Forum (National Academies) and NBS regulatory workshop
- Panels at the UGA Southeastern Defense Community Resilience workshop
- Developed Questionnaire
- Living Shorelines State-by-State Report