

# SERPPAS Circular

May/June 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](mailto:Addie.Thornton@ag.tamu.edu). You may also contact her at 919-515-3931.*

## **FEATURE**

- ▶ **2019 SERPPAS Principals Meeting:** The 2019 SERPPAS Principals Meeting, chaired by DoD Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Environment and the Commissioner of Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GADNR), was held on June 4-5, 2019, at the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence at Fort Rucker, Alabama. This meeting included updates on the progress of the SERPPAS Good Map and work group actions based on the 2018 – 2020 Strategic Plan, as well as gave the Principals an opportunity to share their priorities for the coming year. There was also a break out meeting for the Energy Development and Siting work group within SERPPAS. A mobile meeting portion of the agenda gave attendees the chance to see on-the-ground conservation actions on Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ALDCNR) and Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC) lands, as well as Black Hawk helicopter training on a remote training field enabled by the partnership between these state agencies and Fort Rucker. At this meeting, the State Co-Chair, GADNR, passed this role to ALDCNR for the next two year term, and all the Principals expressed their commitment to and appreciation of the SERPPAS partnership to advance their missions in the region. To view more pictures from the meeting and field tour, please visit: <https://serppas.org/photo-gallery/>



## IN THE NEWS

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- **Spotlight**

- ▶ (ALRI) The America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative released its 2018 Range-wide Accomplishment Report. This report celebrates the achievements associated with ALRI over the past decade based on data and success stories compiled from partners across the longleaf range from southern Virginia to eastern Texas. Since 2010, there have been over 1.2 million acres of longleaf planted, over 10 million acres of prescribed burns and over 200,000 acres of land protected. SERPPAS has been a supporter of the America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative since its inception, and will continue to support it through their focus on prescribed fire and threatened, endangered and at-risk species. Please take the time to review and share this great report which demonstrates the effectiveness of Shared Stewardship through collaboration, leveraging of resources and jointly setting management priorities between public and private partners. To read the full report, please visit: <http://www.americaslongleaf.org/resources/2018-range-wide-accomplishment-report/>
- ▶ (USDA) The USDA National Agroforestry Center is requesting proposals to create regionally-applicable and practice-specific agroforestry educational materials based on producer production information, experiences and testimonies. The agreements awarded under this announcement will support the USDA goal to strengthen the stewardship of private lands through technology and research. These materials will also address natural resource professionals' need for more information that supports producer adoption of agroforestry. Proposals must be submitted by July 15, 2019. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/nac/resources/grants/2019-request-for-proposals.shtml>
- ▶ (NFWF) Partners at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation assessed coastal resilience in five regions and eight watersheds in the contiguous United States to create a new interactive mapping tool and reports to help understand coastal resilience, the [Coastal Resilience Evaluation and Siting Tool \(CREST\)](#). CREST can be used to make informed decisions about the siting of restoration and resilience projects. The tool identifies Resilience Hubs, which are areas of open space where projects may have the greatest potential to benefit both human community resilience and fish and wildlife. Resilience Hubs incorporate multiple indices, which can also be explored through CREST. To read more, please visit <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/new-interactive-mapping-tool-reports-help-understand-coastal-resilience> and <https://www.nfwf.org/coastalresilience/Pages/regional-coastal-resilience-assessment.aspx>.

- **Sentinel Landscapes**

- ▶ (TELE) The TELE team has developed a new resource in collaboration with the Aldo Leopold Foundation – [Engaging Landowners in Conservation: A Complete Guide to Designing Programs and Communications](#). This guide is designed to be a comprehensive reference manual for practitioners, distilling what the TELE team has learned over the past decade of working with natural resource professionals on hundreds of outreach projects. It is organized into short, easy-to-digest sections so practitioners can easily find the information they need to make good decisions. To see the full guide, click here: <https://www.engaginglandowners.org/sites/default/files/documents/resources/EngagementGuide-Complete.pdf>
- ▶ (USDA NRCS) A directive from USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service states that at least 10 percent of the total funds available for conservation programs each year beginning in

FY2019 through FY2023 are to be used for source water protection. NRCS will track compliance with the requirement to dedicate 10 percent of conservation program funds based on agency investments within identified local priority areas. To learn more, click here:

<https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/viewerFS.aspx?hid=43499>

- ▶ (U.S. Endowment) Nearly 5,500 acres of wetlands, critical pocosin, Carolina bay, bottomland hardwood forests, and Long Bay and Salters Creek water frontage have been acquired by the North Carolina Coastal Land Trust (NCCLT) in partnership with Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC). The project was made possible thanks to the support of a multiple funding entities, including the Enviva Forest Conservation Fund and is located within the geographical boundary of the [Eastern NC Sentinel Landscape](#). To read more, please visit: <https://mailchi.mp/18956830685b/north-carolina-coastal-land-trust-and-partners-protect-important-habitat-in-carteret-county-north-carolina?e=c675155e5c>
- ▶ (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/May-Bulletin-Network-for-Landscape-Conservation.html?soid=1128366788872&aid=0XbVCB-xK0Q>

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

- ▶ (ALRI) America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative released the first in what will be a series of informational fact sheets illustrating longleaf pine's resiliency. This first fact sheet focuses on longleaf pine's resistance to insects and diseases including bark beetles, pine regeneration pests, and fungal pests. To read more, click here: <https://serppas.org/media/2848/longeaf-resiliency-to-insects-and-diseases.pdf>
- ▶ (FLFWC) Fifteen eastern indigo snakes, listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, have just been released in northern Florida as part of a continuing collaborative plan to return the important apex predator to the region. This effort marks the third year in a row that snakes raised specifically for recovery of the species have been released at The Nature Conservancy's Apalachicola Bluffs and Ravines Preserve. The eastern indigo species recovery effort in North Florida is the long-term joint commitment of multiple nonprofit, agency, and academic partners including the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Nature Conservancy, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. To read more, click here: [https://myfwc.com/news/all-news/indigo-release-619/?fbclid=IwAR1CYJA12tPVSpsHfQ8M7TG\\_x-80BSg5WgUTfsG1XoqI5qE\\_bnPSvKcYFLg](https://myfwc.com/news/all-news/indigo-release-619/?fbclid=IwAR1CYJA12tPVSpsHfQ8M7TG_x-80BSg5WgUTfsG1XoqI5qE_bnPSvKcYFLg)
- ▶ (USFWS) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducting five-year status reviews of 53 endangered or threatened fish, wildlife, and plants found in the Southeastern United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, among them the threatened gopher tortoise. This process is mandated by the Endangered Species Act to ensure listing classifications under the ESA are accurate and recommend changes in status where appropriate based on the latest science and analysis. To read more, please visit: <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/news/2019/06/us-fish-and-wildlife-service-conducts-five-year-status-reviews-of-53-southeastern-species/>

- **Southeast Prescribed Fire Initiative**

- ▶ (Tall Timbers) Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy released its Spring 2019 newsletter featuring a compilation of Tall Timbers' activities from the last several months. To read more, click here: <https://talltimbers.org/category/spring-2019-vol-12-no-2/>
- ▶ (GPB) Georgia Public Broadcasting recently published a story on the success of prescribed fire in Georgia and Florida. To read the entire article, please visit: <https://www.gpbnews.org/post/how-south-fights-fire-fire-and-what-west-can-learn?fbclid=IwAR03jodw0G448-CKlq8IgjCgikz7n9BdFVA6wFYffI1eKk6lMByT-kwBWo>
- ▶ (NCFS) The North Carolina Forest Service debuted a new webpage on Good Fires (<https://www.ncforestservice.gov/goodfire/>) with many helpful links to additional prescribed fire resources. NC Forest Service also released a new fact sheet on the benefits of prescribed fire: <https://www.ncforestservice.gov/publications/Forestry%20Leaflets/FM11.pdf>
- ▶ (SERPPAS) The SERPPAS Prescribed Fire Work Group published the 32<sup>nd</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> editions of the Driptorch Digest, which contains prescribed fire news, events, articles and more from across the region. Learn more here:
  - May: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/May-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=L3KB87rOUyw>
  - June: [https://myemail.constantcontact.com/June-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=rrDdR\\_3q2KQ](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/June-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=rrDdR_3q2KQ)
- ▶ (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/f87f83189ca4/fire-lines-newsletter-volume-9-issue-2?e=bb53816d54>.

- **Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation**

- ▶ (CCOP) The Southeast & Caribbean Climate Community of Practice held its fifth workshop in Wrightsville, North Carolina, on April 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>. The workshop aimed to address coastal climate related issues and opportunities to increase resilience in the region by bringing together individuals from different agencies and organizations. SERPPAS Coordinator Addie Thornton spoke on a panel about strategic partnerships and collaborations for climate resilience and ongoing work in the region. To read the full meeting report, please visit: <https://seaccop.wordpress.com/2019-workshop/>
- ▶ (WCS) The Wildlife Conservation Society's (WCS) Climate Adaptation Fund, in collaboration with the Climate Resilience Fund (CRF), has released a new report providing practical guidance to foundation and public agency funders, and natural resource managers for reducing their investment risk in the era of climate change. This document asks funders to take the lead on advancing a more adaptive, forward-looking approach to conservation. To read more, please visit: [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59775f896b8f5b54f7106ff8/t/5d0912b344d4fb00012b059a/1560875703097/2019WCS+GuideForFunders+FINAL\\_Rev+Singes\\_Low.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59775f896b8f5b54f7106ff8/t/5d0912b344d4fb00012b059a/1560875703097/2019WCS+GuideForFunders+FINAL_Rev+Singes_Low.pdf)
- ▶ (NC DEQ) In June, the North Carolina Coastal Federation and North Carolina Division of Coastal Management hosted the North Carolina Coastal Resilience Summit to solicit ideas and potential strategies for inclusion in the North Carolina Resiliency Plan. At the summit scientists, local and state government officials, engineers, contractors, community members and interested attendees discussed lessons learned and strategies for making the coast more resilient to extreme weather events and climate change. SERPPAS Coordinator Addie Thornton participated in a

panel discussion regarding strategies to reduce climate impacts on military operations in coastal North Carolina. To read more about the summit and view pictures, click here:

<https://www.nccoast.org/2019/06/summit-discusses-the-future-of-north-carolinas-coastal-resilience/>. To view presentations from the summit, click here: <https://www.nccoast.org/2019-coastal-resilience-summit-presentations/>.

- ▶ (NOAA) A new online tool from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration is helping communities prepare for and manage the effects of coastal flooding. The Coastal Inundation Dashboard brings together real-time water level information, 48-hour forecasts of water levels, storm surge and historic flooding information into one online tool to help decision makers as well as coastal residents understand both short-term and longer-term risks. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/new-online-tool-helps-communities-prepare-for-coastal-flooding>
- ▶ (SACB) The South Atlantic Conservation Blueprint released its May and June Newsletters, listed below. The May issue includes an update from Rua Mordecai on how the SERPPAS Good Map and the South Atlantic Conservation Blueprint work hand in hand supporting each other. To learn more, please visit:
  - May: <https://mailchi.mp/6b2611cca732/pmX0j3o71h-2980129?e=e86655520f>
  - June: <https://mailchi.mp/1d47f8b31074/pmX0j3o71h-2989005?e=e86655520f>
- ▶ (SECASC) The SE Climate Adaptation Science Center released its May Newsletter, which includes climate related news, resources, publications, webinars and more for the Southeast region:
  - May: <https://globalchange.ncsu.edu/may-2019-newsletter/>

- **Energy Development and Siting**

- ▶ (U.S. Army) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office released its May and June 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.
  - May: <https://serppas.org/media/2849/southern-review-05-2019.pdf>
  - June: <https://serppas.org/media/2850/southern-review-06-2019.pdf>

- **Military Services News**

- ▶ (SCMBTF) On April 30, 2019, Governor McMaster of South Carolina signed legislation to create a new cabinet level agency, the South Carolina Department of Veteran Affairs. The mission of the new cabinet agency, also incorporates the South Carolina Military Base Task Force to enhance the value of our state's military installations, as well as the quality of life for military personnel and their families. To read more, click here: [https://serppas.org/media/2851/sc-military-base-task-force\\_veterans-affairs-now-a-cabinet-level-agency\\_5319.pdf](https://serppas.org/media/2851/sc-military-base-task-force_veterans-affairs-now-a-cabinet-level-agency_5319.pdf)
- ▶ (DoD/NWF) With support from the Department of Defense, the National Wildlife Federation has developed a guide designed to help DoD installation managers prepare for and reduce climate-related vulnerabilities and risks. The guide provides an overview of how climatic changes may impact military lands and resources, and offers a structured process for incorporating climate considerations into Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMP). To view the full

guide, click here: <https://www.nwf.org/-/media/Documents/PDFs/NWF-Reports/2019/DoD-Adaptation-Guide.ashx>

- ▶ (ERCD) The USACE Engineer Research and Development Center release a new publication, “Pulverized Paper as a Soil Carbon Source for Degraded Training Lands: User Guide,” a demonstration and validation project for the utilization of pulverized classified paper waste as a soil amendment to improve de-graded training lands. To read in full, click here: <https://erdc-library.erd.c.dren.mil/xmlui/handle/11681/33083>

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## UPCOMING WEBINARS

- ▶ Archived: [An Online Guide to Using the Southeast and South Atlantic Blueprints](#) by SA LCC
- ▶ Archived: [SERPPAS 101 Webinar](#) by SERPPAS
- ▶ Archived: [Nutrient Management in Coastal Communities](#) by EPA
- ▶ Archived: [Managing Oak Forests for Northern Bobwhite Quail](#) by NBCI
- ▶ Archived: [Leveraging the New REPI Installation Resiliency Authority](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Mapping Burned Areas From the Landsat Archive](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Fire History Paradigms in North America](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Archived: [Nature-based Resilience for Gulf Coast Communities](#) by EESI
- ▶ July 2, 2019: [A Toolkit for Managing Cultural Resources in Marine Protected Areas](#) by NOAA
- ▶ July 10, 2019: [How to Obtain Regulatory Relief for Endangered Species without Purchasing a Real Estate Interest](#) by REPI
- ▶ August 1, 2019: [SFE Webinar: Influences of Prescribed Fire on the Ecology of Wild Turkeys](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ August 15, 2019: [Impacts of Prescribed Fire and Longleaf Restoration on Water Supply in the Southeast](#) by South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- ▶ 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

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ 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 14-16, 2019: [Longleaf Academy: Fire & Longleaf 201](#) (Woodworth, LA)
- ▶ **September 9-10, 2019: SERPPAS Fall 2019 Steering Committee Meeting (Atlanta, GA)**
- ▶ September 9-11, 2019: [2019 Annual Gulf Coast Land Conservation Conference](#) (Point Clear, AL)
- ▶ September 24-26, 2019: [Longleaf Academy: Understory Diversity 201](#) (Talladega, AL)
- ▶ October 8-10, 2019: [2019 Natural Areas Conference](#) (Pittsburgh, PA)
- ▶ October 17-19, 2019: [Land Trust Alliance Rally](#) (Raleigh, NC)
- ▶ 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: [73<sup>rd</sup> Annual SEAFWA Conference](#) (Hilton Head, SC)
- ▶ November 13-15, 2019: [Southeast CASC Regional Science Symposium](#) (New Orleans, LA)
- ▶ November 18-20, 2019: [9<sup>th</sup> Mid-Atlantic Stream Restoration Conference](#)
- ▶ November 18-22, 2019: [8<sup>th</sup> International Fire Ecology and Management Congress](#) (Tuscon, AZ)

*For more information about SERPPAS, visit [www.serppas.org](http://www.serppas.org), or email [info@serppas.org](mailto:info@serppas.org).*