



# SERPPAS Circular

January/February/March 2022

The SERPPAS Circular is a quarterly 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 [2021+ 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@aq.tamu.edu](mailto:Addie.Thornton@aq.tamu.edu).

## FEATURED

- ▶ **New Sentinel Landscapes Designations:** The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership, comprised of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of Defense, and Department of Interior announced three new areas designated as sentinel landscapes, where natural and working lands thrive alongside military installations and ranges. These landscapes play a key role in strengthening the nation's military readiness while addressing natural resources concerns like climate change and contributing to the [America the Beautiful initiative](#). The three new sentinel landscapes are the Camp Bullis Sentinel Landscape in Texas, Southern Indiana Sentinel Landscape, and Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape (in the SERPPAS region).
  - [New Sentinel Landscapes to Strengthen Military Readiness, Address Climate Change and Other Natural Resource Challenges](#)
  - [Conservation, Military Join Forces to Preserve FL Panhandle](#)
  - [Sentinel Landscapes Spotlight Webinar Recording](#)
- ▶ **SERPPAS Spring 2022 Steering Committee Meeting:** The SERPPAS Steering Committee met in person on March 24-25, 2022, in Atlanta, GA, after two years of virtual meetings. The purpose of this meeting was to reconnect the Steering Committee in person, continue partnership engagement and advance the implementation of the 2021+ SERPPAS Strategic Plan, and prepare for the May 2022 SERPPAS Principals Meeting Anniversary Celebration.
  - *The summary of this meeting is still in development.*
- ▶ **South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative Workshop:** The South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative (SASMI) engaged over 170 interested partners in a virtual workshop (March 28 – April 1) to discuss the foundational topics and strategies that will inform a region-wide conservation plan to conserve and restore approximately one million acres of salt marsh and allow for its future migration. To learn more about the initiative, please visit: <https://serppas.org/focus-areas/south-atlantic-salt-marsh-initiative/>

## IN THE NEWS

- ▶ **Spotlight**
  - (Pew) The Pew Charitable Trusts recently conducted an interview with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Environment and Energy Resilience Richard Kidd, the SERPPAS DoD Principal Co-Chair, on the importance of salt marsh to the military and surrounding



communities. To read more, click here: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2022/03/25/high-ranking-defense-official-explains-why-salt-marsh-is-critical-for-military-and-communities>

- (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's National Coastal Resilience Fund is now open for proposals. NFWF will award approximately \$140 million in grants to create and restore natural systems in order to increase protection for communities from current and future threats from coastal hazards and improve habitats for fish and wildlife species. The DoD REPI Program is contributing up to \$15 million to this year's fund to support projects that enhance military installation resilience. This year, the National Coastal Resilience Fund will invest in projects in four project categories: 1) Community Capacity Building and Planning; 2) Site Assessment and Preliminary Design; 3) Final Design and Permitting; and 4) Restoration Implementation. **Pre-proposals are due Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> and invited full proposals are due Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.** To learn more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/national-coastal-resilience-fund/national-coastal-resilience-fund-2022-request-proposals>
- (DOE) The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the Deploying Solar with Wildlife and Ecosystem Services Benefits (SolWEB) funding opportunity, which will award \$10 million for innovative solutions and strategies that maximize benefits and minimize impacts to wildlife and ecosystems from solar energy infrastructure. Topic areas include: 1) Wildlife-Solar Energy Interactions and 2) Ecosystem Services from Solar Facilities. **Concept paper submissions are due on April 11<sup>th</sup> and full applications are due on June 20<sup>th</sup>.** To learn more, please visit: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/articles/funding-notice-deploying-solar-wildlife-and-ecosystem-services-benefits-solweb>
- (NLC) The Network for Landscape Conservation's Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund is now open for applications for 2022. The Catalyst Fund strives to accelerate the pace and practice of landscape conservation across the U.S. by making strategic investments in strengthening the collaborative infrastructure and coordination capacity of place-based, community-grounded Landscape Conservation Partnerships. **Proposals are due on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.** To learn more, please visit: <https://landscapeconservation.org/catalyst-fund/>
- (ALRI) The Longleaf Partnership Council released the America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative Strategic Priorities and Actions 2022-2024, the fourth and final iteration of the step-down planning document that details a more focused look at short-term activities needed to advance the goals and objectives of the Range-wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine. This document lays out priority actions designed to maintain and build upon the substantial momentum towards the goal of 8 million acres of longleaf pine restored by 2025, as well as ensure success for ALRI beyond 2025. To read more, please visit: <https://americaslongleaf.org/news/2022/lpc-establishes-priorities-for-next-three-years/>

#### ► Sentinel Landscapes in the Southeast

- (GASL) The Georgia Sentinel Landscape was recently highlighted in a video released by the Longleaf Alliance on prescribed burning on private lands. This video provides an overview of the benefits of prescribed burning and how to conduct burns safely. It also references the ongoing Georgia Sentinel Landscape Pilot Project that has helped outfit a prescribed burn trailer for private landowners to use to conduct burns on their land, a project partially funded by SERPPAS. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFPcelTlc8Q>



- (NCCF) The Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape has added a second coordinator for resilience and climate adaptation and has hired Chris Bailie to serve in this role. Mr. Baillie will work with the ENCSL coordinator to test the three-year pilot project to determine if the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership would benefit from a second coordinator focused solely on resilience and climate adaptation projects. To read more, click here: <https://coastalreview.org/2022/03/baillie-pilots-new-climate-resilience-adaption-position/>
  - (Pew) The Pew Charitable Trusts released an article highlighting the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership and its work to marshal resources to protect lands and waters near military installations. To read more, click here: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2022/02/04/how-the-pentagon-and-partners-are-working-together-to-combat-climate-change>
  - (REPI) The REPI office released the 2022 REPI Report to Congress. This year's Report outlines the program's accomplishments through fiscal year 2021, highlights successful regional climate resilience initiatives, and showcases REPI projects across the country. To read more, please visit: [https://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/Documents/Reports to Congress/REPI2022RTC.pdf](https://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/Documents/Reports%20to%20Congress/REPI2022RTC.pdf)
  - (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=HJpnhWJgShQ>
  - (REPI) The January 2022 REPI Newsletter is now available, providing exciting news and announcements related to the REPI community.
    - January: <https://bit.ly/3tldnyk>
- **Threatened, Endangered, and At-Risk Species**
- (FNAI) The Southeast Longleaf Ecosystem Occurrences Geodatabase version 1.2 (LEO GDB v1.2) is now available. This version is the culmination of LEO Phase 1 which focused on gathering partner data range wide and collecting new Rapid Assessment field data within 14 Local Implementation Team (LIT) areas outside of Florida. The [Quick Summary](#) provides a snapshot of the results, and the [Final Report](#) provides a more comprehensive analysis. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.fnai.org/species-communities/southeast-longleaf>
  - (NFLT) Partners helped to preserve approximately 157 acres in Putnam County, FL, located in the O2O wildlife corridor. The property is located adjacent to Etoniah Creek State Forest and within the priority area for conservation for Camp Blanding and the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) program designed to secure buffers around military installations. The property sits within the O2O wildlife corridor which provides important habitat for the Florida Black Bear and numerous endangered species, including the red-cockaded woodpecker, indigo snake, and gopher tortoise. To read more, click here: <https://www.nflt.org/2022/01/12/north-florida-land-trust-has-acquired-a-parcel-of-land-for-conservation-from-the-weyerhaeuser-corporation/>
  - (WABE) The Amphibian Foundation successfully bred the frosted flatwoods salamander in captivity for the first time. The frosted flatwoods salamander, found in the longleaf pine ecosystem, is one of the world's most imperiled species and difficult to breed in the laboratory because of its secretive nature and the limited information about its lifestyle. To read more, click here: <https://www.wabe.org/a-win-in-the-work-to-save-a-super-rare-georgia-animal/> and



[http://amphibianfoundation.org/docs/AF\\_Press\\_Releases/Amphibian\\_Foundation\\_Frosted\\_Flatswoods%20Salamander\\_Press%20Release.pdf](http://amphibianfoundation.org/docs/AF_Press_Releases/Amphibian_Foundation_Frosted_Flatswoods%20Salamander_Press%20Release.pdf)

- (AL WFF) For only the second time in more than 60 years, a wild-hatched Eastern indigo snake has been found in Alabama. The discovery of a wild-born Eastern indigo snake marks the success of an intensive program to reintroduce the reptiles to the state. To read more, click here: <https://www.cnn.com/2022/03/20/us/rare-snake-alabama-trnd/index.html>
- (TT) The latest edition of Tall Timbers eNews is now available. The quarterly newsletter provides the latest news and stories from Tall Timbers on prescribed fire, wildlife management, and land conservation: <https://talltimbers.org/category/spring-2022-vol-15-no-1/>
- (SPFFW) The Southeastern Partnership for Forests & Water released their Winter 2021 newsletter containing news surrounding the pursuit of healthy Southeastern forested watersheds:
  - Winter 2021: <https://mailchi.mp/7897ef5a5d2b/se-partnership-for-forests-and-water-8852706?e=af775ac18d>
- (KF) Keeping Forests has released the first edition of For Our Forests, a newsletter focused on keeping partners and stakeholders up to date.
  - January: <https://mailchi.mp/keepingforests.org/for-our-forests-newsletter-january-2022?e=7487115e12>

#### ► Southeast Prescribed Fire Initiative

- (USFS) The U.S. Forest Service Chief sent out a letter in December 2021 for direction on wildland fire management and response related to prescribed and managed fire. The Chief encourages and promotes using all of the tools available to reduce destructive wildfires and to be proactive by using mechanical fuels treatments and using fire to reduce fuels and risk to communities in the right place, at the right time, and for the right reasons. The letter confirms the commitment to use practices supported by science and to increase communication with communities to reduce controversy and gain public acceptance in the use of managed fire and prescribed fire for reducing fuels and creating resilient communities. To read more, click here: <https://serppas.org/media/101610/chief-s-wildland-fire-direction-december-2021.pdf>
- (NC WRC) A video from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commissions explains their objectives for employing to restore and maintain wildlife habitat on most of the 2 million acres of state game lands used by hunters, anglers, and wildlife watchers throughout North Carolina. To view the video, click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s29i6cpNczk>
- (SERPPAS) The SERPPAS Prescribed Fire Work Group published the 63<sup>rd</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup> editions of the Driptorch Digest, which contains prescribed fire news, events, articles and more from across the region. Learn more here:
  - January: <https://bit.ly/3IONbmn>
  - February: <https://bit.ly/3CmdGgz>
- (SFE) The Southern Fire Exchange released its bimonthly newsletter, Fire Lines, sharing research, resources, news and upcoming events from around the Southeast and nationwide: <https://mailchi.mp/southernfireexchange/fire-lines-newsletter-volume-12-issue-1?e=c849c85f26>. This issue contains a new fact sheet: “[Accessing Wildland Fire Research: A Guide for Fire Practitioners](#)”





- (TEA) The Ember Alliance released their newsletter, The Broadcast, sharing fire-related news around the country, as well as the group's work with partners nationwide to create a more fire resilient society through fire management and community engagement.

- January: <https://bit.ly/3qJezv9>
- February: <https://bit.ly/3qOrSue>

#### ► Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation

- (TNC) The Nature Conservancy facilitated the creation of a guidebook to help support potential applicants as they develop nature-based solutions projects. [\*Promoting Nature-Based Hazard Mitigation Through FEMA Mitigation Grants\*](#) is a resource for those pursuing FEMA HMA grants for nature-based solutions to mitigate risks associated with flooding (riverine and coastal) and wildfire. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-priorities/tackle-climate-change/climate-change-stories/nature-based-fema-hazard-mitigation-guidebook/> and <https://www.fema.gov/case-study/partner-developed-guidance-connects-use-nature-based-solutions-femas-mitigation-programs>
- (NOAA) New [\*2022 State Climate Summaries\*](#) from NOAA have been released offering up-to-date, local perspectives on climate in each state, covering the entire U.S. plus Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The State Climate Summaries spell out recent local conditions for each state and provide insights about the state's climate outlook based on historical trends. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/news/noaa-addresses-climate-each-state>
- (SELC) The Southern Environmental Law Center released [\*The Changing Coast\*](#), a unique, interactive web site and mapping tool that shows how a changing climate will reshape the coast in the coming years. To learn more, please visit: <https://thechangingcoast.org/>
- (SRP) The [\*State Resilience Partnership\*](#) (SRP) has released new statewide flood planning research developed by SRP partner Urban Institute. [\*State Flood Resilience and Adaption Planning: Challenges and Opportunities\*](#) is first-of-its-kind research on the challenges hindering states from successfully adopting meaningful and effective resilience plans and suggests steps that can be taken to address them. The report includes a deeper look at approaches in five states that are currently working on resilience plans: North Carolina, Colorado, Iowa, Florida, and Washington. To learn more, please visit: <https://stateresilience.org/planning/>
- (GT) Georgia Tech received a \$5 million funding request for a Coastal Equity and Resilience Hub (CEAR) at NSB Kings Bay and along the Georgia coast which will the fundamental knowledge and tools to design adaptive coastal infrastructure and equitable resilience strategies under projected future sea level rise scenarios along the vulnerable Georgia coastline. To read more, click here: <https://buddycarter.house.gov/legislation/communityfundingrequests.htm>
- (SACB) The South Atlantic Conservation Blueprint released its January and February Newsletters, listed below. To learn more, please visit:
  - January: <https://mailchi.mp/b22cc29afd2f/pmx0j3o71h-5736485?e=e86655520f>
  - February: <https://mailchi.mp/c092d34a0946/pmx0j3o71h-5755393?e=e86655520f>
- (SECASC) The SE Climate Adaptation Science Center released its February Newsletter, which includes climate related news, resources, publications, webinars and more for the Southeast region:
  - February: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2022/02/21/february-2022-newsletter/>
  - March: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2022/03/21/march-2022-newsletter/>



- (SECAS) The Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy released its January and February Newsletters, which combines all the blogs written on the SECAS website during the previous month:
  - January: <https://bit.ly/3tVWJHm>
  - February: <https://bit.ly/36KXlqf>
  - March: <https://bit.ly/3K0buOL>
  
- ▶ **Energy Development and Siting**
  - (NRI/TMPC) The Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute (NRI), in partnership with the Texas Military Preparedness Commission (TMPC) and with a grant from the DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC), developed several reports and web tools that assist installation personnel and community stakeholders in addressing various aspects of encroachment issues facing Texas installations. To learn more, please visit: <https://nri.tamu.edu/blog/2022/january/new-military-land-use-compatibility-tools-to-shape-the-future-of-action-plans-across-the-nation/>
    - Web Tool: [Texas Early Notification Tool](#)
    - Web Tool: [Texas Airspace Planning and Forecasting Tool](#)
    - Report: [Texas Military Airspace & Land Use Projections](#)
    - Report: [Military Land Use Compatibility in Texas: 2021](#)
    - Guidebook: [Threatened and Endangered Species Forecast](#)
  - (REEO) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office released its January, February and March editions of the Southern Review of Legislative & Regulatory Actions for Federal Region 4. 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/101614/southern-review-1-2022.pdf>
    - February: <https://serppas.org/media/101615/southern-review-02-2022.pdf>
    - March: <https://serppas.org/media/101616/southern-review-03-2022.pdf>
  - (REEO) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental and Energy Office released the Eastern Energy Monitor, a monthly publication of energy-related developments for Army leaders and installation staff. The Eastern Energy Monitor provides early notice of state dockets and legislative and regulatory activities relevant to military energy interests for Regions 1-5.
    - January: <https://serppas.org/media/101611/eastern-energy-monitor-01-2022.pdf>
    - February: <https://serppas.org/media/101612/eastern-energy-monitor-02-2022.pdf>
    - March: <https://serppas.org/media/101613/eastern-energy-monitor-03-2022.pdf>
  
- ▶ **Military Services News**
  - (MCAS Beaufort) DoD and Beaufort County, South Carolina, have purchased a conservation easement on 2,068 acres near Beaufort – including several miles of waterfront in a pristine estuary – for \$5.8 million, permanently protecting the land. Securing the property has long been a priority for Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort because the land is off the north end of a runway. To learn more, please visit: <https://oldcc.gov/beaufort-county-land-protected>



## UPCOMING EVENTS

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- ▶ April 23, 2022: [Party for the Pine](#) (Southern Pines, NC)
- ▶ April 25-28, 2022: [Gulf of Mexico Conference](#) (Baton Rouge, LA)
- ▶ April 30, 2022: [Savannah River Fire Festival](#) (Guyton, GA)
- ▶ **May 3-4, 2022: 2022 SERPPAS Principals Meeting (Beaufort, NC)**
- ▶ May 15-18, 2022: [2022 National Extension Energy Summit & National Sustainability Summit](#) (State College, PA)
- ▶ May 23-27, 2022: [IAWF Fire & Climate Conference](#) (Pasadena, CA)
- ▶ June 6-9, 2022: [Southern Group of State Foresters 2022 Annual Meeting](#) (Greenville, SC)
- ▶ June 13-16, 2022: [Southern Area Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Session](#) (Chattanooga, TN)
- ▶ September 6-8, 2022: [Natural Areas Conference](#) (Duluth, MN)
- ▶ September 19-21, 2022: [2022 SE CASC Science Symposium](#) (Gulf Shores, AL)
- ▶ October 23-26, 2022: [SEAFWA Annual Conference](#) (Charleston, West Virginia)
- ▶ October 25-28, 2022: [Biennial Longleaf Conference](#) (Wilmington, NC)

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

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- ▶ Archived: [Marsh Forward: Manage Climate Risks While Protecting Multiple Missions](#) by REPI/Sentinel Landscapes
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Overview of the US National Fire Danger Rating System Version 4.0 \(2016\): Lessons learned from the Southeast US implementation](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Herbert Stoddard and the Origins of Ecosystem Management](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Early Implementation of the US Forest Service's Shared Stewardship Strategy in the Eastern US](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Tools for Hosting Online Fire Courses](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Archived: [The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership: Advancing Sustainable Management of Private Lands at the Landscape Scale](#) by The Network for Landscape Conservation
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Tools for Hosting Online Fire Courses](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Ongoing: [Sustainable Infrastructure: Putting Principle into Practice](#) by Duke University Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions
- ▶ April 20, 2022: [New Maps of Imperiled Species Distributions Can Support Landscape Conservation in the Conterminous United States](#) by Network for Landscape Conservation
- ▶ May 3-24, 2022: [Fire and Climate Change Webinar Series](#) by South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center
- ▶ May 11, 2022: [Engaging with Underserved Communities](#) by REPI
- ▶ May 19, 2022: [DoD Natural Resource Management Through Unmanned Aircraft System Technology](#) by SERDP-ESTCP
- ▶ May 24, 2022: [Climate-focused Strategies and Opportunities for All-lands Practitioners](#) by Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition
- ▶ May 26, 2022: [Accelerating the Use of Prescribed Fire through Policy and Partnerships](#) by Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition
- ▶ June 8, 2022: [Complementary Federal Conservation and Resilience Programs](#) by REPI
- ▶ July 13, 2022: [Landowner Assistance Opportunities](#) by REPI
- ▶ August 24, 2022: [2022 Sentinel Landscapes Achievements](#) by REPI



- ▶ October 12, 2022: [2022 REPI Challenge Project Spotlight](#) by REPI
- ▶ November 9, 2022: [Managing Community Interests and Concerns](#) by REPI
- ▶ December 14, 2022: [Legal Case Studies](#) by REPI

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