



SERPPAS Circular

October/November/December 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 SERPPAS: info@serppas.org.

2022, What A Year! SERPPAS celebrated its 17-year anniversary with the first in person Principals Meeting since 2019, a welcome return from a few virtual years. SERPPAS also improved the [website](#) and developed a [story map](#) to commemorate the accomplishments of this unconventional partnership. The [SERPPAS work groups](#) advanced the SERPPAS Strategic Plan and continue to look for new and innovative ways to collaborate across the region. We hope you all had an enjoyable holiday season and look forward to working together in 2023! – Addie Thornton, SERPPAS Coordinator

FEATURED

► Advancing Coastal Resilience in the Southeast Defense Communities

- The Advancing Coastal Resilience in Southeast Defense Communities workshop, hosted by SERPPAS and Sea Grant, was held on August 29-30, 2022, in Beaufort, SC, at MCRD Parris Island. Its purpose was to foster military-community partnerships focused on building coastal resilience to support military readiness and the wellbeing of the defense community. Over 45 participants from across the SERPPAS region heard informational sessions on funding opportunities and examples of successful military-community projects. Four state-based breakout groups discussed ways to align projects with Sea Grant programs and Sentinel Landscapes.
 - Workshop Report: <https://serppas.org/media/tbmgkbzp/advancing-coastal-resilience-in-the-southeast-defense-communities.pdf>

IN THE NEWS

► Spotlight

- (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is soliciting proposals to restore, enhance and conserve longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood forests within the historical longleaf pine range. The application period is open **until February 9, 2023**. The Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund is a funding opportunity for on-the-ground conservation projects. It represents a public-private partnership supported with Federal funding from USDA's Forest Service (USFS) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and additional private funders. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/forestland-stewards/longleaf-landscape-stewardship-fund>
- (FEMA) The FY 2022 application period for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Notices of Funding Opportunities for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program and



the new Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant programs are now open **until January 27, 2023**. FEMA's two competitive mitigation grant programs provide states, local communities, tribes, and territories funding to address high-level future risks to natural disasters such as wildfires, drought, hurricanes, earthquakes, extreme heat, and increased flooding to foster greater community resilience and reduce disaster suffering. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/fy2022-nofo> The REPI program is specifically called out in the FEMA BRIC NOFO as a non-federal cost-share opportunity. In addition to providing funding, the BRIC program offers help to communities in the form non-financial Direct Technical Assistance that can provide holistic hazard mitigation planning and project support. For more information on BRIC, please visit:

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>

- (REPI/NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is offering free technical and application assistance to installations and partners to prepare for the 2023 [National Coastal Resilience Fund](#) (NCRF) Request for Proposals. This technical assistance may include discussing project ideas, reviewing NCRF eligibility and application requirements, and drafting a narrative for the NCRF pre-proposal, which will likely be due in April 2023. If you are interested in this free technical assistance, please email the REPI Program Office at osd.repi@mail.mil.

► Sentinel Landscapes

- (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) joined its public- and private-sector partners today in announcing nearly \$91 million in grants through the new America the Beautiful Challenge (ATBC). ATBC grants support projects that conserve, restore and connect habitats for wildlife while improving community resilience and access to nature. The [America the Beautiful Challenge](#) is a partnership between NFWF and the U.S. Department of the Interior through the Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Forest Service, the U.S. Department of Defense, and Native Americans in Philanthropy. The Georgia Sentinel Landscape was the recipient of a grant to perform habitat management, wildfire mitigation, and engage underserved communities. To read more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/media-center/press-releases/nfwf-federal-agencies-and-private-partners-announce-91-million-grants-america-beautiful-challenge>
- (NWFL SL) Kent Wimmer, the coordinator of the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape, has written the first of two articles that seeks to capture insights and lessons learned from the emergence of the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape. This first piece highlights the key factors and successes that allowed agencies and non-governmental organizations to come together to build a broad coalition of partners-and sustain that coalition through the rest of the onset of the pandemic-to successfully realize the designation of this new Sentinel Landscape. To read more, click here: <https://landscapeconservation.org/knowledge-center/stories/insights-from-the-building-of-the-northwest-florida-sentinel-landscape-partnership/>
- (SLP) The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership released the Fall 2022 edition of its newsletter that shares success stories, announcements, and opportunities to the sentinel landscapes network and public.
 - Fall 2022: https://serppas.org/media/vtgd2o22/sentinel-landscapes-partnership-newsletter_fall-2022-edition.pdf



- (NWFL SL) The Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape released the October, November, and December 2022 Updates newsletter that provides news, resources, partner collaboration, and partnership progress:
 - October: <https://serppas.org/media/rnrmsmwu/northwest-florida-sentinel-landscape-update-october-2022.pdf>
 - November: <https://serppas.org/media/c2ddaufa/northwest-florida-sentinel-landscape-update-november-2022.pdf>
 - December: <https://serppas.org/media/h1jftb2/northwest-florida-sentinel-landscape-update-december-2022.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:
 - September: <https://conta.cc/3LUd7iM>
 - November: <https://conta.cc/3VhyRc9>
- (REPI) The December Newsletter is now available, providing exciting news and announcements related to the REPI community.
 - December: <https://bit.ly/3HTJnCK>

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

- (USFS) The U.S. Forest Service will provide up to \$40 million to Trout Unlimited as part of a five-year agreement to improve watersheds on national forests and grasslands – home to many of America’s most important trout and salmon species. Projects include clean-up of abandoned mines and removing barriers to improve fish passage, as well as stream habitat improvements. Made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, this five-year National Watershed and Aquatic Restoration Initiative aims to increase the pace and scale of watershed restoration on national forests and grasslands, with priority given to projects that use local employees and contractors to improve water quality in underserved communities and on Tribal lands. To read more, please visit: <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2022/11/16/biden-harris-administration-trout-unlimited-invest-40-million>
- (USFWS) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service launched the [Center for Pollinator Conservation](#) to address the decline of pollinator populations across North America. The national center will contribute science, provide decision support, and coordinate and share best practices with land managers for overcoming some of the biggest challenges facing pollinators. To learn more, click here: <https://www.fws.gov/press-release/2022-12/us-fish-and-wildlife-service-launches-center-pollinator-conservation>
- (NRI) Researchers at the Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute recently recorded footage of the gopher tortoise hatchlings emerging from burrows as part of relocation efforts to Northwest Florida that began in 2016. These hatchlings are proof of reproduction success and a positive indicator that the tortoises are adjusting well to their new home. To learn more, please visit: <https://nri.tamu.edu/blog/2022/november/first-steps-gopher-tortoise-hatchlings-indicate-relocation-success/>



- (TT) The November 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:
 - November: <https://serppas.org/media/xukdt3ak/tall-timbers-november-2022.pdf>
- (SPFFW) The Southeastern Partnership for Forests & Water released their Winter 2022 newsletter containing news surrounding the pursuit of healthy Southeastern forested watersheds:
 - Winter 2022: <https://mailchi.mp/33731b0e1100/trees-to-tap?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.
 - November: <https://mailchi.mp/keepingforests.org/for-our-forests-newsletter-november?e=7487115e12>

► Southeast Prescribed Fire Initiative

- (USGS) A new USGS story map describes new LANDFIRE updates that adjust vegetation and fuels products based on the latest events and disturbances detected by image analysts. These updates ultimately help provide more recent data to assist agencies and organizations on the front lines in fire management and firefighting. To view the story map, click here: <https://geonarrative.usgs.gov/the-new-age-of-landfire/>
- (USFS) A comprehensive, open access book on smoke from wildland fires across the U.S. is now available. *Wildland Fire Smoke in the United States: A Scientific Assessment* synthesizes the physical, chemical, biological, social, and policy issues critical to mitigating the impacts of smoke from wildland fires. To read more, click here: <https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/compass/2022/10/13/new-synthesis-of-wildland-fire-smoke-science/>
- (SERPPAS) The SERPPAS Prescribed Fire Work Group published the 72nd, 73rd, and 74th editions of the Driptorch Digest, which contains prescribed fire news, events, articles and more from across the region. Learn more here:
 - October: <https://bit.ly/3jMHYUo>
 - November: <https://bit.ly/3i1w3St>
 - December: <https://bit.ly/3vvs5Vh>
- (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://bit.ly/3VG19wr>. This issue contains a new fact sheet from UF IFAS Extension, “[Fire and Invasive Plant Interactions](#)”.
- (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.
 - November: <https://bit.ly/3CehsK4>
 - December: <https://bit.ly/3vw1JST>

► Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation

- (NOAA/NFWF) NOAA and NFWF announced the recipients of the National Coastal Resilience Fund with a record investment in projects that will help communities prepare for increasing



coastal flooding and more intense storms, while improving thousands of acres of coastal habitats. The funding provides more than \$136 million to support 88 natural infrastructure projects in 29 states and U.S. territories including in all six of the SERPPAS states. Additionally, five projects neighboring DoD installations in the SERPPAS footprint received an additional \$7 million in matching funds from the NOAA to be coupled with \$7 million in partner contributions. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/media-center/press-releases/nfwf-noaa-announce-record-136-million-coastal-resilience> and <https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2022-12/NFWF-NCRF-20221129-Nov-GS.pdf>

- Marine Corps Air Station New River and Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Designing Living Shorelines to Protect Critical Infrastructure and Estuarine Habitat
- Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, Increasing Resilience of Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island Through Living Shorelines
 - To learn more: <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/news/2022/dec/dec6-shorelines.php>
- Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Building Resilience Capacity to Protect Coastal Communities at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay
- Naval Air Station Pensacola, Implementing a Living Shoreline along Magazine Point at Naval Air Station Pensacola
- Keesler Air Force Base, Living Shoreline Restoration in Back Bay to Enhance Community and Military Resilience
- (WH) The White House released the [Nature-Based Solutions Roadmap](#), an outline of strategic recommendations to put America on a path that will unlock the full potential of nature-based solutions to address climate change, nature loss, and inequity. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/11/08/fact-sheet-biden-%E2%81%A0harris-administration-announces-roadmap-for-nature-based-solutions-to-fight-climate-change-strengthen-communities-and-support-local-economies/>
- (WITN) As more and more news comes out surrounding climate change and the impacts we could see due to sea levels rising, scientists are springing into action to try and determine what needs to be done. One of their goals is to restore critical habitats like salt marshes along the coast that are some of the most vulnerable to climate change. To read more, click here: <https://www.witn.com/2022/09/20/really-critical-save-experts-voice-concerns-over-protecting-salt-marshes-sea-levels-rise/>
- (SECASC) The SE Climate Adaptation Science Center released its October, November, and December Newsletters, which includes climate related news, resources, publications, webinars and more for the Southeast region:
 - October: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2022/10/18/october-2022-newsletter/>
 - November: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2022/11/15/november-2022-newsletter/>
 - December: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2022/12/12/december-2022-newsletter/>
- (SECAS) The Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy released its November and December Newsletters, which combines all the blogs written on the SECAS website during the previous month:
 - October: <https://bit.ly/3GyMM93>
 - November: <https://bit.ly/3Z6ZCTe>
 - December: <https://bit.ly/3i1SHKt>



► Energy Development and Siting

- (REEO) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office released its October and November 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.
 - October: <https://serppas.org/media/zvkbsad4/southern-review-10-2022.pdf>
 - November: <https://serppas.org/media/q4lkorsu/southern-review-11-2022.pdf>

► Military Services News

- (DoD) 2022 National Defense Strategy (NDS) is now available, including the Nuclear Posture Review and Missile Defense Review. The NDS outlines the department's path forward for the "decades to come" to advance U.S. "defense and security goals." To read the full NDS, please visit: <https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3202438/dod-releases-national-defense-strategy-missile-defense-nuclear-posture-reviews/>
- (Camp Shelby) A recent Garden & Geun article highlights the gopher tortoise head starting program at Camp Shelby and the efforts of its many partners (The Nature Conservancy, USFWS, USFS, DoD, and others). To read more, please visit: <https://gardenandgun.com/articles/the-tortoises-of-camp-shelby/>
- (Fort Stewart) The Conservation Fund, Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield and the Georgia-Alabama Land Trust announced the protection of 3,800 acres along the Altamaha River that will preserve a corridor of undeveloped land within Fort Stewart's Army Compatible Use Buffer. A working forest conservation easement funded by the REPI program ensures that the property will remain protected from any development that could hinder training operations, while supporting sustainable timber harvesting and providing wildlife habitat, recreation and climate benefits. To read more, click here: https://www.albanyherald.com/news/altamaha-river-conservation-improves-fort-stewart-military-readiness/article_4eb2f62c-5de9-11ed-8fa0-0b38e90bc310.html

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 4-8, 2022: [Restore America's Estuaries 2022 Coastal & Estuarine Summit](#) (New Orleans, LA)
- January 28, 2023: [Partner Event: Flatwoods Fire and Nature Festival](#) (Gainesville, FL)
- February 2-3, 2023: [The Stewardship Network Conference](#) (virtual event)
- **March 8-9, 2023: SERPPAS Spring 2023 Steering Committee Meeting (Atlanta, GA)**
- March 20-25, 2023: [NMFWA Annual Meeting & Workshop](#) (Saint Louis, MO)
- **May 17-18, 2023: 2023 SERPPAS Principals Meeting (Jacksonville, FL)**

UPCOMING WEBINARS

- Archived: [2022 Sentinel Landscapes Achievements](#) by REPI
- Archived: [Creating a Disaster-Ready Nation Through Resilience Planning](#) by Pew Charitable Trusts
- Archived: [Managing Community Interests and Concerns](#) by REPI
- Archived: [Forecasting Dryland Ecosystem Vulnerability to Change](#) by SERDP-ESTCP
- Archived: [USFWS Virtual Public Meeting for the Gopher Tortoise](#) by USFWS



- ▶ Archived: [Legal Case Studies](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: UAS / Drones for Prescribed Fire Ignitions](#) (Southern Fire Exchange)
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Strategic Burning with a Simple Prioritization Model](#) (Southern Fire Exchange)
- ▶ January 17, 2023: [Do MPAs matter for climate change mitigation and adaptation?](#) by NOAA
- ▶ January 19, 2023: [Fire and Wildlife](#) by Fueling Collaboration
- ▶ February 16, 2023: [Prescribed Burning in the Eastern WUI](#) by Fueling Collaboration
- ▶ March 16, 2023: [Fire and Water](#) by Fueling Collaboration

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