



SERPPAS Circular

July/August/September 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.

FEATURED

- ▶ **SERPPAS Fall 2023 Steering Committee Meeting:** The SERPPAS Fall 2023 Steering Committee Meeting was held on September 21-22, 2022, in Atlanta, GA. The purpose of the meeting was to connect the Steering Committee following the 2022 SERPPAS Principals meeting, to debrief on outcomes and actions from the Principals Meeting and to continue partnership engagement and advance the implementation of the 2021+ SERPPAS Strategic Plan.
 - [Meeting Attendees](#) and [Presentations](#)
 - *The summary of this meeting is in development.*
- ▶ **New Publication from Michelle Covi:** As part of her position as Coastal Resilience DoD Liaison, Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation Work Group Lead Michelle Covi has developed [Best Practices Guidance for Engaging with Military Installations for Climate Resilience in Defense Communities](#) from interviews throughout the Sea Grant network. The guide is intended to help partners get started with developing projects with the military to assist defense communities and those working with them to build climate resilience. The [Coastal Resilience DoD Liaison Program](#) is a partnership between Sea Grant and DoD, working with SERPPAS and the REPI Program to support the work of both programs through leadership in their coastal resilience programs.
- ▶ SERPPAS has a [new website](#)! The website was redesigned to better communicate about the partnership, its goals, and its actions across the region. The website transition will come with new processes for login which will be communicated in the coming months. The new website also features the [SERPPAS Story Map](#) which tells the story of how the partnership formed, its value and its accomplishments over the years!

IN THE NEWS

- ▶ **Spotlight**
 - (USFWS) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reached a final listing decision regarding the gopher tortoise after completing its review. USFWS has determined that the eastern population no longer meets the criteria for ESA listing and is withdrawing it as a candidate. The western population (western Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana) will retain its threatened status. State protections for the gopher tortoise remain in place range-wide. Partnerships between multiple state, federal, local, and NGO stakeholders contributed greatly to the conservation of this species. To read more, please visit:



- Press Release: <https://www.fws.gov/press-release/2022-10/us-fish-and-wildlife-service-completes-gopher-tortoise-review>
- FAQs: <https://www.fws.gov/story/2022-10/gopher-tortoise-notice-findings-faqs-1>
- Story Map: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/87bcb9112f024488a817d5edd1482c42>
- Project page: <https://www.fws.gov/project/gopher-tortoise>
- (USFWS) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is accepting proposals for its FY22/23 Recovery Challenge Fund. The overall goal of Recovery Challenge is to enhance and increase partnerships with agencies and organizations implementing high priority recovery actions, in particular for genetically-sound breeding, rearing, and reintroduction programs, as well as to develop or update recovery plans. **The deadline to apply is November 15, 2022.** To learn more, please visit: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=F23AS00310> and <https://www.fws.gov/service/recovery-challenge-grants>
- (USFS) The USDA Forest Service Southern Region is accepting proposals for the FY23 Southern Region Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) competitive grant program. The LSR encourages collaborative, science-based restoration of priority forest landscapes, leverages public and private resources, and supports priorities identified in State Forest Action Plans. **The deadline to submit proposals is November 18, 2022.** To learn more, please visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r8/workingtogether/grants/?cid=fseprd770030>
- (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.
- (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

- (REPI) Complementing the 12-minute video released in 2020, the DoD REPI program also produced a 30-minute short-documentary that tells the inspirational stories of the farmers, ranchers, conservationists, and military bases that are working together to create a more sustainable future. This documentary explores collaborative efforts at Avon Park Air Force Range Sentinel Landscape in Florida, Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape in Minnesota, and Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape in Arizona. It is available for viewing until April 19, 2023: <https://www.pbs.org/video/the-sentinels-7kgpnn/>



- (NWFL SL) The Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape released the July, August, and September Updates newsletter that provides news, resources, partner collaboration, and partnership progress:
 - July: <https://bit.ly/3VaYbkD>
 - August: <https://bit.ly/3CciiWW>
 - September: <https://bit.ly/3ymDJne>
- (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:
 - July: <https://conta.cc/3yp7eV8>
- (REPI) The June and August REPI Newsletters are now available, providing exciting news and announcements related to the REPI community.
 - June: <https://bit.ly/3E14oV1>
 - August: <https://bit.ly/3M5aeM6>
- (AFT) The American Farmland Trust released its latest report entitled “Farms Under Threat 2040: Choosing an Abundant Future.” This report builds on their farmland loss report in 2020 and provides a projection of farmland loss in the United States by the year 2040. To learn more, please visit: <https://farmlandinfo.org/publications/farms-under-threat-2040/>

► Threatened, Endangered, and At-Risk Species

- (ALRI) America’s Longleaf released the [2021 Range-wide Accomplishment Report](#), which highlights 2.29 million acres of longleaf management activities across the Southeast – the most acreage since America’s Longleaf formed in 2010. This annual report provides a snapshot of the progress being made towards the Range-wide Conservation Plan (2009) and how strategic priorities are being accomplished. It is a reflection on the collective efforts made by public and private partners to restore this iconic forest and highlights the benefits of longleaf to our Southeastern communities. To read more, please visit: <https://americaslongleaf.org/news/2022/america-s-longleaf-celebrates-banner-year/> and <https://americaslongleaf.org/resources/2021-range-wide-accomplishment-report/>
- (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, through the Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund, announced \$7.5 million will go toward 22 grant projects to restore, enhance, and protect longleaf pine forests in nine southern states. An additional \$9 million in matching partner contributions brings the total conservation impact for longleaf pine to \$16.5 million, the largest grant slate in the program’s history! To read more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/media-center/press-releases/nfwf-announces-75-million-conservation-grants-restore-iconic-longleaf-pine-ecosystem>
- (TNC) Longleaf pine is front and center The Nature Conservancy’s Fall 2022 edition of Nature Conservancy magazine. The longleaf ecosystem's incredible history, rich biodiversity, hardy nature, and extraordinary beauty are on full display in this incredible article. To read the article, click here: <https://www.nature.org/en-us/magazine/magazine-articles/longleaf-pine/>
- (FL DEP) In August, the Florida Governor and Cabinet invested more than \$56 million to acquire seven properties across the state that will be designated for conservation. The seven parcels total nearly 20,000 acres, more than 98% of which are within the Florida Wildlife Corridor, a



recently designated network of connected lands that are crucial for wildlife habitat. To learn more, please visit: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEP/bulletins/32950ef>

- (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 Summer 2022 newsletter containing news surrounding the pursuit of healthy Southeastern forested watersheds:
 - Summer 2022: <https://mailchi.mp/743992c4e424/swp-week-09-25-2022?e=af775ac18d>
- (KF) Keeping Forests has released the latest edition of For Our Forests, a newsletter focused on keeping partners and stakeholders up to date. Keeping Forests also announced the new executive director, Laura Calandrella: <https://www.keepingforests.org/blog/keeping-forests-selects-laura-calandrella-as-new-executive-director>
 - August 2022: <https://bit.ly/3edZK0q>

► Southeast Prescribed Fire Initiative

- (NWS) The National Weather Service has started a YouTube series describing the work their meteorologists do in and out of the office. In their first episode of the series, they collaborate with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources to talk about fire weather and the impacts of weather on prescribed fire. To watch, please visit: https://youtu.be/0v-G8rVp_Pg
- (UF/IFAS) A new fire science fact sheet synthesizes the science on the relationships between native bees and fire in the longleaf pine ecosystems of the southeastern US. Developed by the University of Florida / IFAS, the full-color fact sheet includes species-specific profiles for some of the most common bees in the region. To read more, click here: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/FR454>
- (USFS) The Office of the Chief of the USDA Forest Service announced in September that the prescribed fire program will resume after pausing prescribed burning on National Forest System lands for 90 days and the completion of a national review. The [National Prescribed Fire Program Review](#) was also released along with this announcement. To learn more, click here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/news/releases/usda-forest-service-chief-randy-moores-statement-announcing-actions-forest-service>
- (SERPPAS) The SERPPAS Prescribed Fire Work Group published the 68th, 69th, and 70th editions of the Driptorch Digest, which contains prescribed fire news, events, articles and more from across the region. Learn more here:
 - June: <https://bit.ly/3Mdqivy>
 - July: <https://bit.ly/3rsEpDJ>
 - August: <https://bit.ly/3fHxgg6>
- (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-3>. This issue contains a new fact sheet: "[An Introduction to Fire and Soil Carbon](#)".

► Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation



- (REPI/FEMA) The REPI Program’s updated fact sheet, *Managing Climate Change Risks with REPI and the Federal Emergency Management Agency*, highlights how collaboration among government agencies is critical to enhancing and preserving military readiness and improving resilience to climate change. The fact sheet also provides additional information on the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program’s background, timing, eligibility, and other FEMA programs. To view the fact sheet, click here: https://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/Documents/Resilience/REPI_FEMA_FactSheet.pdf
- (SFRPC) Site visits are underway for the South Florida Military Installation Resilience Review. OLDCC has awarded the South Florida Regional Planning Council \$1.1 million to conduct a regional Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) of four key military installations during the next 18-months. The SFRPC, along with the South Florida Defense Alliance and Jacobs, and with the assistance of the counties, adjacent municipalities, and military installations, will study “outside the gate” resilience issues. To read more, please visit: <https://sfregionalcouncil.org/south-florida-military-installation-resilience-review/>
- (SASMI) The Florida News Connection published a story on the South Atlantic Salt Marsh and the regional conservation plan to protect salt marsh. To read more, please visit: <https://www.publicnewsservice.org/2022-08-08/environment/multistate-conservation-plan-to-protect-salt-marshes/a80190-1>
- (NOAA) A new story map from NOAA, *Building a Climate-Ready Nation*, shows how NOAA is developing the knowledge, tools, and techniques needed to maximize future climate risks and build a healthy, safe, and thriving nation. To read more, click here: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f78824cd71af4dc09b02aac1e99207e8> and <https://www.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-03/PDF-Building-a-Climite-Ready-Nation-032222.pdf>
- (NCCF) Construction began in July on the first of three living shorelines along N.C. 24 between Cedar Point and Swansboro, NC. The combined \$3.6 million project is a partnership with the North Carolina Coastal Federation and the state Department of Transportation, with support of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. To learn more, please visit: <https://coastalreview.org/2022/07/living-shoreline-work-starts-on-n-c-24-in-western-carteret/>
- (EPA) EPA researchers are using social science approaches—which involve analyzing social behavior of people—to better understand the needs of those impacted from a hurricane or severe storm and providing outreach and education that promotes community resilience following a disaster. To read more, click here: <https://www.epa.gov/sciencematters/getting-know-communities-and-cultures-epa-using-social-science-protect-human-health>
- (RAP) The Resilient America Program released the [proceedings in brief](#) on the workshop *Benefits, Applications, and Opportunities of Natural Infrastructure* held on May 10-11, 2022. The proceedings in brief summarizes key topics discussed in the workshop including natural hazard resilience, climate change adaptation, and sustainable, multi-purpose infrastructure. To read more, please visit: <https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/05-10-2022/workshop-on-benefits-applications-and-opportunities-of-natural-infrastructure>
- (SACB) The South Atlantic Conservation Blueprint released its July, August, and September Newsletters, listed below. To learn more, please visit:
 - July: <https://bit.ly/3EoZDKf>
 - August: <https://bit.ly/3V6Xmt8>



- September: <https://bit.ly/3McZ9sw>
 - (SECASC) The SE Climate Adaptation Science Center released its August-September 2022 Newsletter, which includes climate related news, resources, publications, webinars and more for the Southeast region:
 - July 2022: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2022/07/19/july-2022-newsletter/>
 - August-September 2022: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2022/08/31/august-september-2022-newsletter/>
 - (SECAS) The Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy released its July, August, and September Newsletters, which combines all the blogs written on the SECAS website during the previous month:
 - July: <https://bit.ly/3SKMnUH>
 - August: <https://bit.ly/3T5fCRA>
 - September: <https://bit.ly/3CEAEkQ>
- **Energy Development and Siting**
- (REEO) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office released its July, August, and September 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.
 - July: <https://serppas.org/media/fmnhjzz/southern-review-07-2022.pdf>
 - August: <https://serppas.org/media/jebg411u/southern-review-08-2022.pdf>
 - September: <https://serppas.org/media/hmspm4tu/southern-review-09-2022.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.
 - July: <https://serppas.org/media/m3cdsmwk/eastern-energy-monitor-07-2022.pdf>
 - August: <https://serppas.org/media/1iqo02o0/eastern-energy-monitor-08-2022.pdf>
- **Military Services News**
- (OLDCC) The DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation awarded 19 grants under the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program (DCIP), a competitive program for states and communities to undertake infrastructure enhancements to support military value, installation resiliency, and/or military family quality of life that benefits their local installations. Four of the 19 grant projects are in the SERPPAS region: Eglin AFB and Naval Station Mayport in Florida, and Camp Lejeune and Military Ocean Terminal, Sunny Point in North Carolina. To learn more, click here: <https://oldcc.gov/defense-community-infrastructure-program-dcip>
 - (Camp Shelby) The gopher tortoise head starting efforts on Camp Shelby in Mississippi are the subject of an article in Garden & Gun. To date, Camp Shelby's program has raised and released 584 gopher tortoises at three restored sites. To learn more, please visit: <https://gardenandgun.com/articles/the-tortoises-of-camp-shelby/> and <https://www.fs.usda.gov/features/head-start-tortoises>



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ October 11-12, 2022: [2022 Florida SAF / UF SFFGS Fall Symposium: "Hot Topics in Prescribed Fire"](#) (Gainesville, FL)
- ▶ October 23-26, 2022: [SEAFWA Annual Conference](#) (Charleston, West Virginia)
- ▶ October 25-28, 2022: [Biennial Longleaf Conference](#) (Wilmington, NC)
- ▶ November 10, 2022: [2022 Mississippi Restoration Summit](#) (Biloxi, MS/Virtual)
- ▶ November 11-13, 2022: [44th Annual Gopher Tortoise Council Meeting](#) (Freeport, FL)
- ▶ November 14-18, 2022: [5th National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop](#) (Asheville, NC)
- ▶ November 17, 2022: [2022 RCP Network Gathering to Focus on How to Advance Climate Justice and Resilience](#) (Virtual)
- ▶ December 4-8, 2022: [Restore America's Estuaries 2022 Coastal & Estuarine Summit](#) (New Orleans, LA)
- ▶ **March 2023: SERPPAS Spring 2023 Steering Committee Meeting (Atlanta, GA)**
- ▶ **May 17-18, 2023: 2023 SERPPAS Principals Meeting (Jacksonville, FL)**

UPCOMING WEBINARS

- ▶ Archived: [Marsh Forward: Manage Climate Risks While Protecting Multiple Missions](#) by REPI/Sentinel Landscapes
- ▶ Archived: [Engaging with Underserved Communities](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [Complementary Federal Conservation and Resilience Programs](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [Landowner Assistance Opportunities](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [2022 Sentinel Landscapes Achievements](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [Creating a Disaster-Ready Nation Through Resilience Planning](#) by Pew Charitable Trusts
- ▶ October 12, 2022: [Aligning Southern Forest Management with Carbon Market Opportunities](#) by Clemson University
- ▶ October 12, 2022: [2022 REPI Challenge Project Spotlight](#) by REPI
- ▶ November 9, 2022: [Managing Community Interests and Concerns](#) by REPI
- ▶ November 17, 2022: [Forecasting Dryland Ecosystem Vulnerability to Change](#) by SERDP-ESTCP
- ▶ December 13, 2022: [USFWS Virtual Public Meeting for the Gopher Tortoise](#) by USFWS
- ▶ December 14, 2022: [Legal Case Studies](#) by REPI

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