

# SERPPAS Circular

July/August 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**

- ▶ **SERPPAS/Sea Grant Collaborating Towards Coastal Resilience in the Southeast Meeting:** On August 27, 2019, SERPPAS joined with the Georgia Sea Grant Law Program at the University of Georgia to host *Collaborating Towards Coastal Resilience in the Southeast*. The meeting focused on a series of in-depth briefings and discussions on approaches to building coastal resilience to mitigate sea level rise and natural disaster threats to coastal installations. The briefings included: funding options (REPI, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Office of Economic Adjustment), mitigation efforts at Tyndall Air Force Base, Army Corps of Engineers coastal resilience efforts, and state program efforts as well as legal and engineering perspectives on the issue. The meeting culminated in a focused session during which participants broke into state (Alabama-Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina) working groups to come up with proposed near term projects to address coastal resilience. A full meeting summary will be distributed at a later date.

## **IN THE NEWS**

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- **Spotlight**
  - ▶ (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announced the Emergency Coastal Resilience Request for Proposals (RFP). The ECRF was established to increase the resilience of coastal communities located within federally declared disaster areas impacted by hurricanes Florence and Michael, and wildfires in 2018. Eligible projects must be located within the outlined [National Coastal Resilience Fund \(NCRF\) Coastal Areas](#) and be within counties that received a federal disaster declaration as a result of hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the wildfires of 2018. The deadline to submit proposals is November 12, 2019. To read more about a, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/coastalresilience/emergency/Pages/ecrf-2019rfp.aspx>
  - ▶ (EPA) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has developed the Regional Resilience Toolkit, five steps to build large scale resilience to natural disasters. EPA, FEMA, and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission/Association of Bay Area Governments (MTC/ABAG) have partnered to create this toolkit with the goal to promote regional collaboration across jurisdictional boundaries. To read more, please visit: [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-07/documents/regional\\_resilience\\_toolkit.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-07/documents/regional_resilience_toolkit.pdf)
  - ▶ (NRCS) An update on the SEFireMap was recently released, including a list of experts in the fire community that will make up the Technical Oversight Team (TOT). The eleven members of the TOT will act as an advisory body for the project, with effective feedback and guidance from within the fire community playing a vital role in aligning outcomes with current efforts, top science, and partner objectives. Final applications received from the RFP are currently under

review. To read more, please visit: [https://serppas.org/media/2886/longleaf-ecosystem-occurrence-geodatabase-progress-report\\_july-2019.pdf](https://serppas.org/media/2886/longleaf-ecosystem-occurrence-geodatabase-progress-report_july-2019.pdf)

- **Sentinel Landscapes**

- ▶ (REPI) The 2019 Sentinel Landscapes Accomplishments Report is now available from the REPI Program. The report summarizes the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership's achievements through FY2018, demonstrating that the USDA's, DoD's, and DOI's aligning of federal conservation funding to projects within sentinel landscapes allows the agencies to mitigate internal resource constraints and advance their collective objectives. To read the full accomplishment report, click here: [https://serppas.org/media/2875/2019-sentinel-landscapes-accomplishments-report\\_final\\_07252019.pdf](https://serppas.org/media/2875/2019-sentinel-landscapes-accomplishments-report_final_07252019.pdf)
- ▶ (NC DEQ) North Carolina has purchased over 2,200 acres in Tyrrell County to be added to the Emily and Richardson Preyer Buckridge Coastal Reserve through a partnership between the U.S. Air Force, The Nature Conservancy, and the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management. The reserve provides habitat and serves as a wildlife corridor for many rare, threatened, and endangered species including bald eagle, Atlantic sturgeon, shortnose sturgeon, red-cockaded woodpecker, and American alligator. To read more, please visit: <https://deq.nc.gov/news/press-releases/2019/07/19/state-acquires-2224-acres-emily-and-richardson-preyer-buckridge>
- ▶ (NLC) The Network for Landscape Conservation is pleased to announce 14 inaugural Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund grant awards for partnerships working to implement community-grounded conservation at the necessary landscape scale. One of the grant awards is going towards the Ocala to Osceola Wildlife Corridor Partnership to support the creation of a dedicated coordinator position. The Partnership will also work toward Sentinel Landscape designation during the grant period. To read more, please visit: <http://landscapeconservation.org/catalyst-fund/2019-catalyst-fund-grant-awards/>
- ▶ (LTA) The Land Trust Alliance recently released their 2018 Annual Report, reflecting how the Alliance continues to make land protection possible through its programs, resources, and staff. To view the report, please visit: <https://www.landtrustalliance.org/2018-annual-report>

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

- ▶ (NFWF) The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Longleaf Stewardship Fund awarded \$6.3 million in grants to 24 conservation projects to restore, enhance and protect longleaf pine forests in the Southeast. Every state in the historic longleaf range will receive grant money that will support efforts to conserve more than 316,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat and recover populations of at-risk wildlife. To read more, please visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/howeare/mediacenter/pr/Pages/nfwf-announces-6-3-million-in-grants-to-benefit-longleaf-pine-habitat-and-wildlife-in-southeastern-states-2019-0827.aspx>
- ▶ (NFLT) A red-cockaded woodpecker captured at Camp Blanding was shown to have migrated from the Osceola National Forest 27 miles away, evidence that a project to preserve land within the O2O wildlife corridor is working. The bird captured at Camp Blanding was the first time this endangered species had moved between one of the national forests and the military installation since they began banding and recording the birds over 25 years ago. To read the full story, click here: <https://www.nflt.org/north-florida-land-trust-says-little-bird-has-given-hope-for-a-big-vision-in-o2o-corridor/?fbclid=IwAR2hDv1eIIj1frPwHNPnMh3ZwPmk8aeqaaOwq80imUUo-NVhcvRzNdpek3A>

- ▶ (USFWS) The USFWS is proposing to list two North Carolina species, the Carolina madtom and the Neuse River waterdog, as endangered species throughout each's range with a 4(d) rule. They are also proposing designation of critical habitat for both species and are releasing a draft economic analysis. To read more, please visit: <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/faq/proposed-endangered-species-act-findings-for-the-carolina-madtom-and-neuse-river-waterdog/> and <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/05/22/2019-10379/endangered-and-threatened-wildlife-and-plants-threatened-species-status-with-section-4d-rule-for>
- ▶ (FNAI) The July 2019 progress report on the Longleaf Ecosystem Occurrence Geodatabase, being created by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, is now available. Funded by USDA NRCS, this project will result in the first range-wide map of longleaf ecosystems and longleaf pine occurrence. To read the progress report, click here: [https://serppas.org/media/2886/longleaf-ecosystem-occurrence-geodatabase-progress-report\\_july-2019.pdf](https://serppas.org/media/2886/longleaf-ecosystem-occurrence-geodatabase-progress-report_july-2019.pdf)
- ▶ (USFWS) The U.S. Army and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are working together on Fort Stewart to save red-cockaded woodpeckers and military training. USFWS has grown the RCW population on Fort Stewart to more than 550 potential breeding groups through the partnership with the army installation. To read the full story, please visit: <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/articles/joining-forces/>
- **Southeast Prescribed Fire Initiative**
  - ▶ (FL DEP) The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Park Service is celebrating a record year for prescribed fires burned across Florida State Parks. In fiscal year 2018-19, the Florida Park Service applied prescribed fire to more than 96,000 acres across the state. To read more, please visit: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEP/bulletins/252a2d2#.XTtRsgDs9ls.email>
  - ▶ (FL Cabinet) Florida Governor DeSantis and the Florida Cabinet approved the acquisition of an additional 717 acres within the Wakulla Springs Protection Zone Florida Forever project. The acquisition represents a successful multi-agency public and nonprofit partnership between the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Forest Service, Florida Forest Service and Conservation Florida Inc. to protect water quality within the Wakulla Springs Basin. The 717-acre property is an integral part of the protection zone that connects the 632,890-acre Apalachicola National Forest with the 6,000-acre Wakulla Springs State Park and its national natural landmark spring, featuring 300 acres of longleaf pine trees. To read more, please visit: <https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190725/cabinet-oks-land-purchase-to-help-protect-wakulla-springs>
  - ▶ (NCSU) The Prescribed Burn Contractor Databases maintained by NC State University have recently been updated. For each Southern state, the updated site links to an online vendor database maintained by the state's forestry agency if one is available. Most states also include a link to a separate list of prescribed burn vendors that we have compiled. For more information, please visit: [https://research.cnr.ncsu.edu/blogs/southeast-fire-update/prescribed-burn-contractors/?fbclid=IwAR3e\\_JicKmK9rIjKdngzh6nptbSgnJ2bUa0LmX\\_fVna9nfUG2XXM2d7UHHY](https://research.cnr.ncsu.edu/blogs/southeast-fire-update/prescribed-burn-contractors/?fbclid=IwAR3e_JicKmK9rIjKdngzh6nptbSgnJ2bUa0LmX_fVna9nfUG2XXM2d7UHHY)
  - ▶ (SERPPAS) The SERPPAS Prescribed Fire Work Group published the 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> editions of the Driptorch Digest, which contains prescribed fire news, events, articles and more from across the region. Learn more here:

- July: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/July-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=NBtUYMb99vk>
- August: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/August-Driptorch-Digest-Now-Available.html?soid=1117561491017&aid=KJJ-ZGz4Ecg>
- ▶ (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/9d4ccd24a6fc/fire-lines-newsletter-volume-9-issue-1229369?e=bb53816d54>.
- **Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation**
  - ▶ (USACE-SAD) The South Atlantic Coastal Study Tier 1 Risk Assessment is now available. The SACS Tier 1 Risk Assessment was developed as a screening level tool using national level datasets to initiate the conversation about coastal risks associated with increased storm damages as a result of sea level rise within South Atlantic Division's (SAD) Area of Responsibility (AOR). To view, please visit:  
<https://sacs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=c54beb5072a04632958f2373eb1151cf>
  - ▶ (USACE-SAD) Based on stakeholder feedback, the final Shared Vision Statement for the South Atlantic Coastal Study is, "The SACS vision is to provide a common understanding of vulnerabilities to coastal storms and sea level rise to support resilient communities and habitats. This collaborative effort will leverage stakeholders' actions to plan and implement cohesive coastal storm risk management strategies along the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast shorelines, including the territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands." To read more about SACS, please visit: <https://www.sad.usace.army.mil/SACS/>
  - ▶ (UN) The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently released a report about land use and climate change. The report confirms that, from a scientific standpoint, land conservation and management are central to how the world can mitigate climate change and adapt to its impacts. To read the full report, click here: <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/srccl/>
  - ▶ (Pew Trust) The Pew Charitable Trust's Conserving Marine Life in the United States program is searching for a new North Carolina-based team member for their coastal habitat and federal fisheries conservation work. The senior associate position is responsible for the development and implementation of outreach and campaign strategies to support Pew's conserving marine life in the U.S. conservation policy objectives along the Atlantic coast, with a focus in North Carolina and other south Atlantic states. To learn more, please visit: <https://jobs-pct.icims.com/jobs/6015/job?mobile=false&width=990&height=500&bga=true&needsRedirect=false&jan1offset=-300&jun1offset=-240>
  - ▶ (SACB) The South Atlantic Conservation Blueprint released its July and August Newsletters, listed below. The August newsletter includes information about how to apply for NFWF's Emergency Coastal Resilience Fund to assist coastal communities impacted by hurricanes Florence and Michael last year. To learn more, please visit:
    - July: <https://mailchi.mp/1f14c975fbc6/pmx0j3o71h-2997725?e=e86655520f>
    - August: <https://mailchi.mp/74e79af79ce5/pmx0j3o71h-3004253>
  - ▶ (SECAS) The Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy released its July and August Newsletters, which combines all the blogs written on the SECAS website during the previous month:
    - July: <https://serppas.org/media/2889/secas-july-newsletter.pdf>



- August: <https://serppas.org/media/2890/secas-august-newsletter.pdf>
  - **Energy Development and Siting**
    - ▶ (NC DEQ) The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has requested public comment regarding the state's draft Clean Energy Plan. The Clean Energy Plan lays out a path for the state to become a leader in clean energy innovation, with goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, create economic opportunities, and foster affordability. The comment deadline is September 9, 2019. A copy of the notice can be found here: [http://services.statescape.com/ssu/Regs/ss\\_8586351985303565916.pdf](http://services.statescape.com/ssu/Regs/ss_8586351985303565916.pdf) and a copy of the draft plan can be found here: [http://services.statescape.com/ssu/Regs/ss\\_8586351985303565916.pdf](http://services.statescape.com/ssu/Regs/ss_8586351985303565916.pdf)
    - ▶ (U.S. Army) The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office released its July and August 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.
      - July: <https://serppas.org/media/2883/southern-review-07-2019.pdf>
      - August: <https://serppas.org/media/2884/southern-review-08-2019.pdf>
  - **Military Services News**
    - ▶ (FL Senate) On June 28, 2019, the Florida governor signed an amendment to Florida SB 620 – Military Installation Protection. The amended version of the bill would allow for better cooperation between military bases and local government related to school districts, land development and easements by prohibiting construction of structures or other activities that are incompatible with the mission of a military installation when the land lies within an area identified as a clear zone or an accident potential zone or within Military Influence Planning Area 1 or 2. To read the amendments to the bill, please visit: <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2019/620/BillText/er/PDF>
    - ▶ (NCMF) The North Carolina Military Foundation and North Carolina Defense Business Association are combining forces to create the Defense Alliance of North Carolina (The Alliance). The Alliance combines the powerful leadership of distinguished military officers and industry executives, a large and active membership base, and an impressive set of standing forums and events to support North Carolina's government, military, business, and academic communities with the mission to grow North Carolina's defense economy in a way that generates new long term investment and job opportunities. Paul Friday will serve as Executive Director of the Alliance. To read more, please visit: <https://send.email2contacts.com/t/ViewEmail/r/ADC83110C2F42A282540EF23F30FEDED/64DB15A685EBBD38DCC9454293137CA2>
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## UPCOMING WEBINARS

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- ▶ Archived: [An Online Guide to Using the Southeast and South Atlantic Blueprints](#) by SA LCC
- ▶ Archived: [SERPPAS 101 Webinar](#) by SERPPAS
- ▶ Archived: [Leveraging the New REPI Installation Resiliency Authority](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [Nature-based Resilience for Gulf Coast Communities](#) by EESI
- ▶ Archived: [How to Obtain Regulatory Relief for Endangered Species without Purchasing a Real Estate Interest](#) by REPI
- ▶ Archived: [SFE Webinar: Influences of Prescribed Fire on the Ecology of Wild Turkeys](#) by Southern Fire Exchange
- ▶ Archived: [Impacts of Prescribed Fire and Longleaf Restoration on Water Supply in the Southeast](#) by SA LCC
- ▶ September 19, 2019: [Preview of Recent Trends in Southeastern Ecosystems and the Next Version of the Southeast Blueprint](#) by SA LLC
- ▶ October 9, 2019: [Measuring Impacts: Developing Mission Benefit Metrics](#) by REPI
- ▶ November 27, 2019: [REPI and the Farm Bill](#) by REPI
- ▶ January 8, 2020: [How to Introduce Local Businesses into your REPI Partnership](#) by REPI

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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- ▶ **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 19, 2019: [South Atlantic Coastal Study Field Workshop](#) - Wilmington District Team (Wanchese, NC)
- ▶ September 24, 2019: [South Atlantic Coastal Study Field Workshop](#) - Wilmington District Team (Wilmington, NC)
- ▶ 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 18, 2019: [Red Hills Fall Field Day](#) (Boston, GA)
- ▶ 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 27-29, 2019: [73<sup>rd</sup> Annual SEAFWA Conference](#) (Hilton Head, SC)
- ▶ October 30, 2019: ALRI Longleaf Partnership Council Meeting (Hilton Head, SC)
- ▶ October 30-November 3, 2019: [Society of American Foresters 2019 Convention](#) (Louisville, KY)
- ▶ November 2, 2019: [Fire On The Mountain](#) (Danbury, NC)
- ▶ 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)
- ▶ December 3, 2019: [SERDP-ESTCP Symposium](#) (Washington D.C.)
- ▶ April 18, 2020: Party for the Pine Festival (Southern Pines, NC)
- ▶ April 20-24, 2020: [3<sup>rd</sup> International Smoke Symposium](#) (Raleigh, NC)

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