



South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative

South Atlantic Salt Marsh

*Between land and sea lie the ecological guardians of the coast
– salt marshes.*

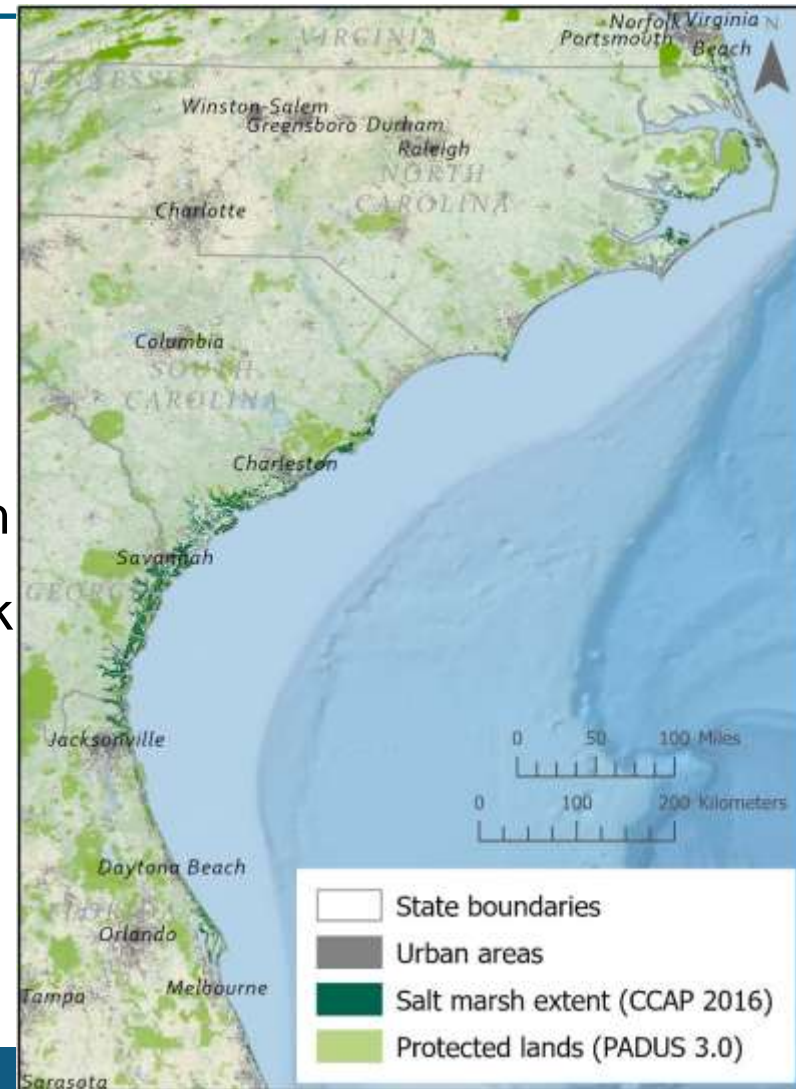


South Atlantic Salt Marsh



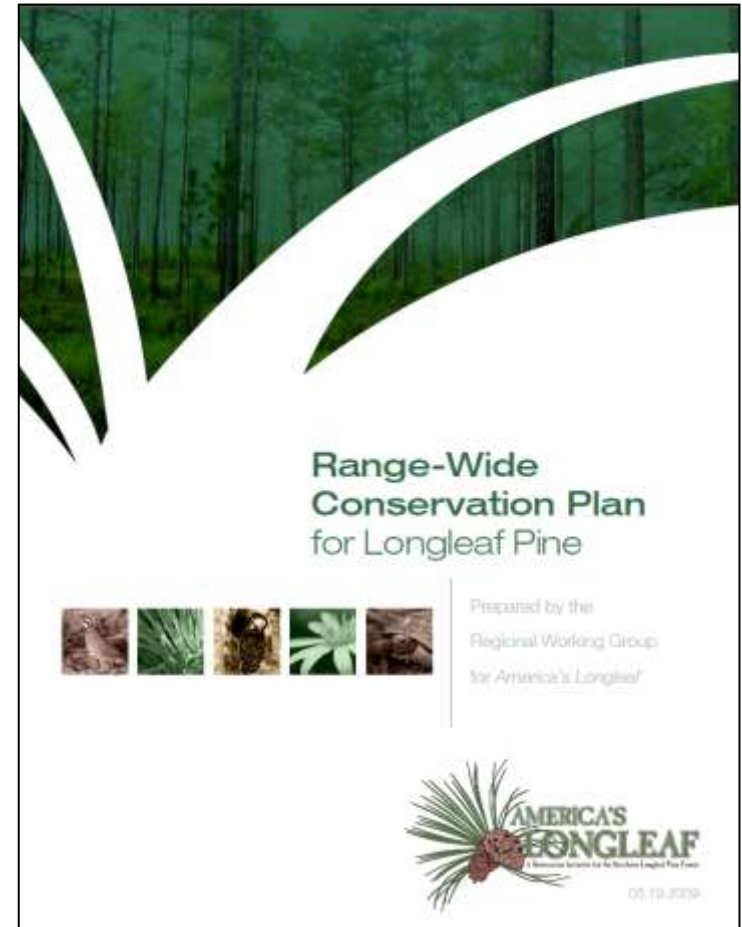
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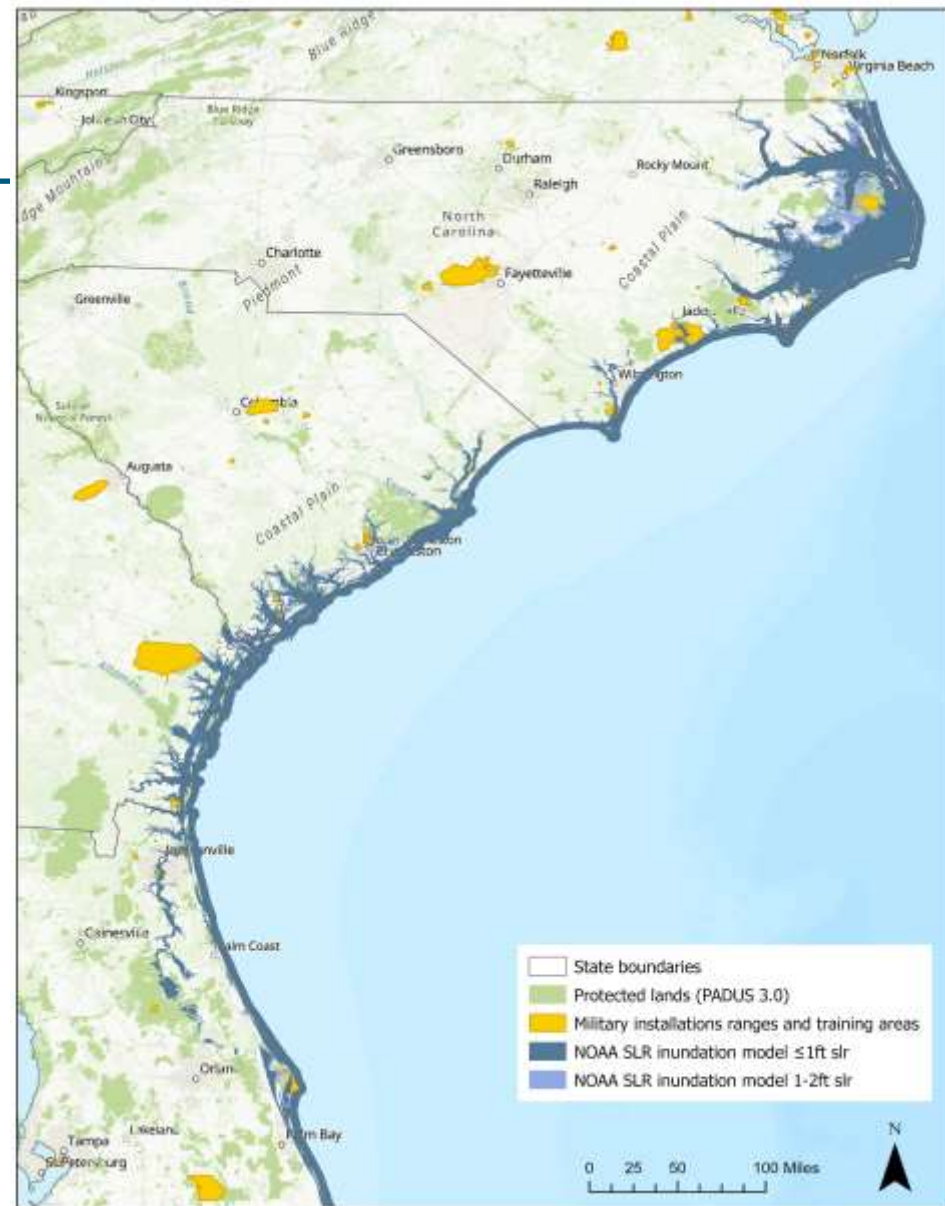
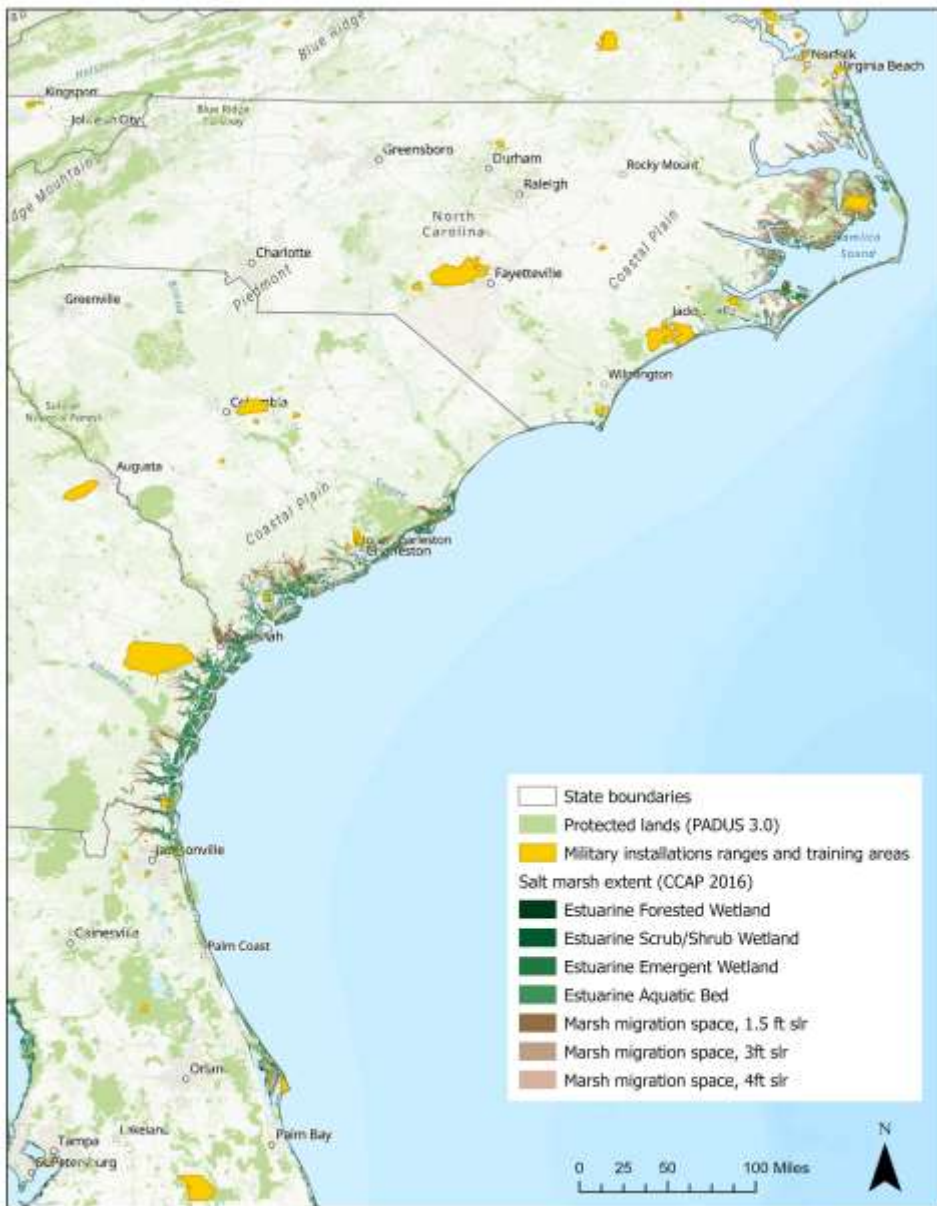
- Voluntary and non-regulatory
- Stakeholder driven
- Guiding Principles:
 - Partnership & Collaboration
 - Strategic, Science-based approach
 - Conservation Plan as a Framework and Catalyst
- Diverse Coalition and Steering Committee
 - ~300 person network



Model: America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative

- Successful landscape scale conservation effort to protect 5 million acres from Virginia to Texas in 15 years
- Partnership between DoD, state and federal resource agencies, and many NGOs
- Plan development was led by partners, including the Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS)





Path to a Regional Conservation Plan

Workshop

Virtual workshop March 28 – April 1
Comprised of the Salt Marsh Coalition

Review

Draft plan shared with workshop participants for review.

Revision

Conservation Plan revised based on feedback and reviews.

Draft Plan

Plan created by Writing Team based off of input from the workshop

Conservation Plan

Formal debut of the SASMI Regional Salt Marsh Conservation Plan
Spring 2023

Conservation Plan

GOAL: Conserve approximately one million acres of salt marsh within the South Atlantic states for the benefit and well-being of the wildlife, people and communities that depend on it.

- **Strategies:**

1. **Conserve** existing salt marshes as long as possible, with a focus on those at greatest risk and of the highest ecological and cultural importance
2. **Restore** the health and function of degraded salt marshes now and into the future
3. Protect **migration** corridors and remove barriers to ensure salt marsh can expand as sea levels rise

- **Cross-Cutting Approaches:**

- Ensure diverse **culture and community** engagement, and collaboration.
- Build upon existing **policy** at the state, local and federal levels.
- Pursue **funding** opportunities necessary to accomplish generational, landscape-scale actions in a critical ten-year timeframe.
- Seek opportunities to improve **communication, education, and outreach.**

Conservation Plan

- **GOAL:** conserve approximately one million acres of salt marsh within the South Atlantic states for the benefit and well-being of the wildlife, people and communities that depend on it.
- **Strategies**
 - Objectives and associated key actions
- **Cross-Cutting Approaches**
 - Objectives and associated key actions
- **Implementation**

SASMI Recipe for Success

- *Partnership*
- *Planning*
- *Implementation*





Marsh Forward!

For more information, please contact

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