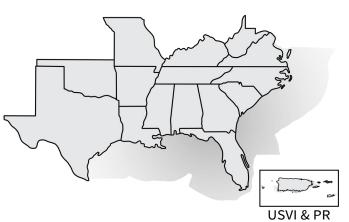


A Bold Vision

A connected network of lands and waters that supports thriving fish and wildlife populations and improved quality of life for people



An Ambitious Goal

A 10% or greater improvement in the health, function, and connectivity of Southeastern ecosystems by 2060

A Blueprint for Action

A data-driven spatial plan that helps accelerate conservation action in the places where it will make the biggest impact

"Year after year, SECAS continues to deliver on its promise of supporting a conservation vision for connected

lands and waters across the Southeast and Caribbean."

—Nicole Angeli, Chair of the SECAS Executive Steering Committee & Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife at the U.S. Virgin Islands Dept. of Planning and Natural Resources

Who We Are

SECAS is a regional conservation partnership that spans the U.S. Southeast and Caribbean. SECAS was started in 2011 by the states of the Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies and the federal agencies of the Southeast Natural Resource Leaders Group.

SECAS serves as a forum for collaboration and a hub for science and decision support. We help the conservation community rise to the challenges facing our natural and cultural resources by coordinating action and investment around a shared strategy.

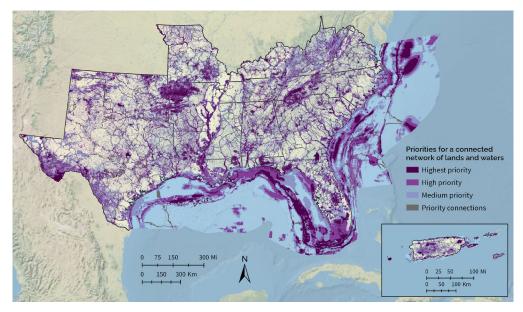
What We Do

- We bring together state, federal,
 Tribal, nonprofit, private, and
 academic organizations to work
 toward a shared vision for the future
- We use regional metrics of ecosystem health, function, and connectivity to track and report on progress toward achieving the SECAS 10% goal
- We develop and support the Southeast Conservation Blueprint, a living, spatial plan that identifies priorities for a connected network of lands and waters

Latest Accomplishments

- Helped partners bring in \$400+ million in conservation funding to the region by using the Blueprint to strengthen grant proposals
- Helped 11 states and 2 territories revise their Wildlife Action Plans, including aligning Conservation Opportunity Areas across state lines and improving regional coordination
- Worked with states to better include mammal, reptile, and amphibian Regional Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Blueprint

The Southeast Conservation Blueprint



Blueprint Version 2025 identifies priority areas for achieving the SECAS vision of a connected network of lands and waters. Get started at <u>secassoutheast.org/blueprint</u>.

The Southeast Conservation Blueprint is the primary product of SECAS. The Blueprint is more than just a map. It's a living spatial plan to achieve the SECAS vision of a connected network of lands and waters across the Southeast and Caribbean. The Blueprint identifies priority areas based on a suite of

natural and cultural resource indicators representing terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems. A connectivity analysis identifies corridors that link inland, coastal, and marine areas and span climate gradients. You can use these underlying layers to find your part of the Blueprint!

- The Blueprint identifies potential areas for a range of conservation actions, like landowner incentives, management, education, or protection.
- It's a work in progress that regularly incorporates new data, partner input, and information about on-the-ground conditions.
- The Blueprint provides a regional perspective and is intended to be used in combination with local data and knowledge.

Get Help Using the Blueprint

Staff are available to answer questions and help you use the Blueprint to support a proposal or inform a decision. Your experience will guide future improvements and ensure the Blueprint reflects on-the-ground conditions.

We also welcome feedback on the Blueprint data and methods!

- Find contact information for Blueprint user support staff at secassoutheast.org/staff
- Or, contact Adam Malcomb at adam_malcomb@fws.gov and he'll put you in touch with the best person to help

For More Information

- Visit <u>secassoutheast.org</u>
- Subscribe to the monthly newsletter at the bottom of any page of the SECAS website
- Contact the Interim SECAS
 Coordinator: Rua Mordecai
 rua mordecai@fws.gov

Who's Using the Blueprint?



The TN Wildlife Resources Agency explores using the Southeast Blueprint in their 2025 State Wildlife Action Plan. Photo by Ricky Martini with Walnut House event venue, used with permission.

The Blueprint is helping 500 people from 200 organizations bring in new funding and inform decisions, including:

- A state wildlife agency strengthening a grant proposal to protect coastal wetlands and improve public access
- A broad coalition of military and conservation partners establishing a new Sentinel Landscapes Partnership
- A nonprofit supporting the reauthorization of a critical state conservation funding source

- A Tribe seeking funds to restore grasslands, rivercane, and aquatic connectivity on ancestral lands
- Longleaf pine partnerships prioritizing restoration and management actions
- A Council of Government helping a town refine its comprehensive plan
- A local Black heritage organization communicating the natural resource benefits of a cultural trail
- A watershed partnership developing a land protection strategy