

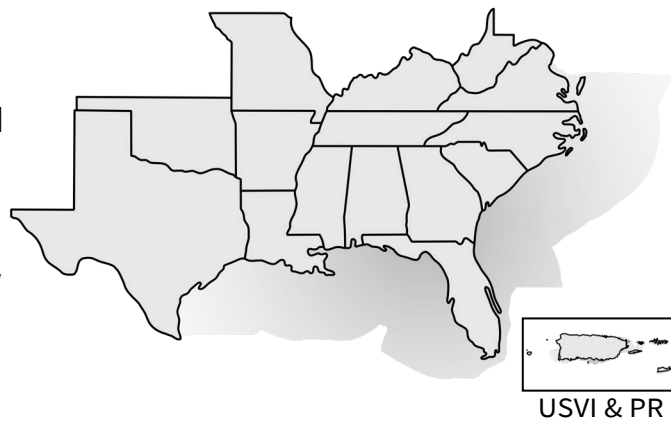


**Southeast
Conservation
Adaptation Strategy**

Photo by Gary Hartley, National Park Service

A Bold Vision

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



USVI & PR

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



“For more than a decade, SECAS has been a regional force for voluntary collaborative conservation, working across

jurisdictions while recognizing individual conservation missions to achieve the landscape conservation outcomes needed to sustain ecosystems and communities.”

—Robert Boyles, Director of the SC Dept. of Natural Resources & Chair of the SECAS Executive Steering Committee

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.

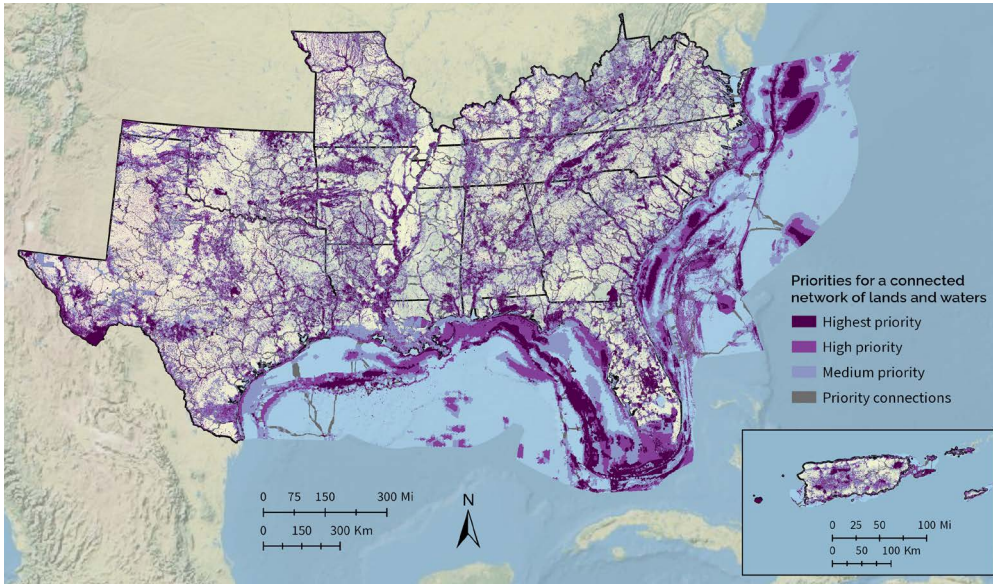
What We Do

- We bring together state, federal, Tribal, nonpro it, 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

- Over the last two years, the Blueprint helped bring \$190+ million in conservation funding to the region by strengthening grant proposals
- SECAS is supporting nine states and two territories with Wildlife Action Plan updates by writing a new chapter on regional alignment and helping identify focus areas
- SECAS co-hosted the Landscape of the Future Summit in February 2024, a meeting focused on sustaining nature and society in the Southeast

The Southeast Conservation Blueprint



Blueprint Version 2024 identifies priority areas for achieving the SECAS vision of a connected network of lands and waters. Get started at secassoutheast.org/blueprint.

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 secassoutheast.org
- 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 450+ people from 180+ 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