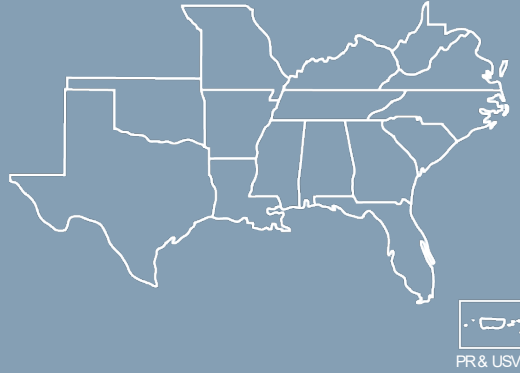


SECAS in Action

The Southeast Blueprint supports state coastal wetlands grant proposals



- State wildlife agencies in GA, SC, and NC have all used the Blueprint to support coastal wetlands grant applications.
- The \$6.35 million awarded through these grants has, in combination with partner match, secured ~7,400 acres of land and supported shoreline restoration on 10 acres!
- Support staff can help YOU use the Blueprint to reinforce the regional importance of your project and communicate the natural and cultural resource benefits!

Learn more:

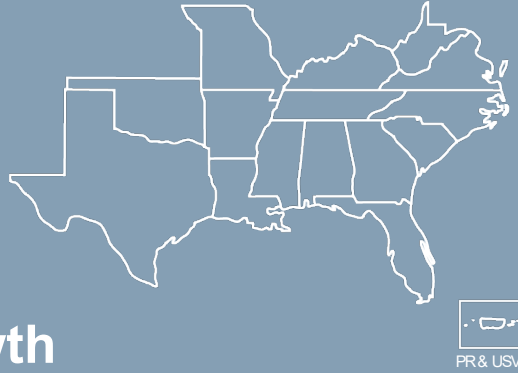
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Christine Ellis, Winyah Rivers Foundation

SECAS in Action

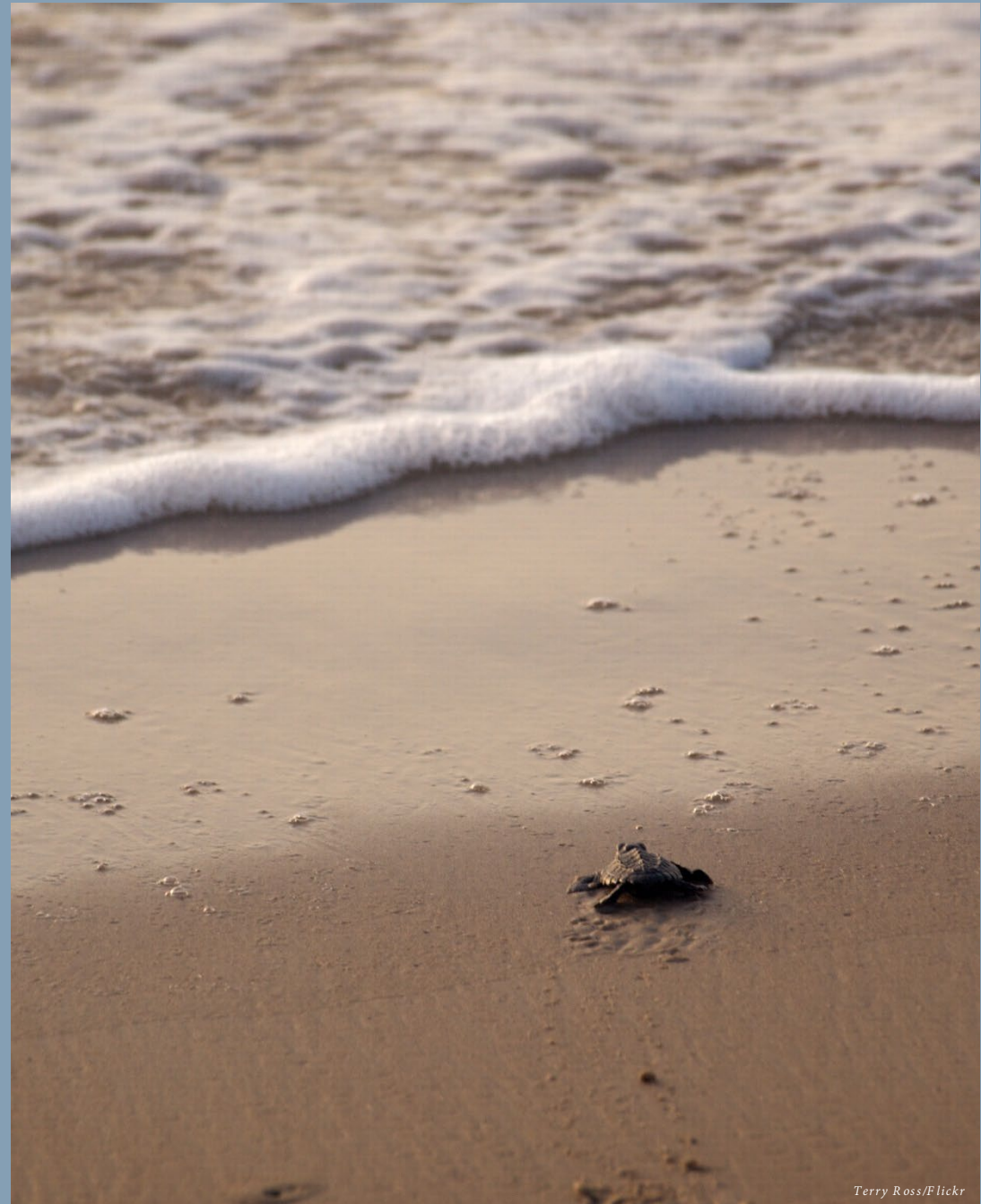
The Gulf Coast Vulnerability Assessment evaluates impacts of sea-level rise and urban growth



- Support staff can help you use the Gulf Coast Vulnerability Assessment, a product of SECAS that evaluates the effects of climate change, sea-level rise, and urban growth on 4 Gulf ecosystems and 11 species that depend on them.
- Nesting habitat loss due to sea-level rise, erosion, and urbanization makes birds and sea turtles particularly vulnerable.
- The assessment has given managers greater confidence implementing targeted restoration projects.

Learn more:

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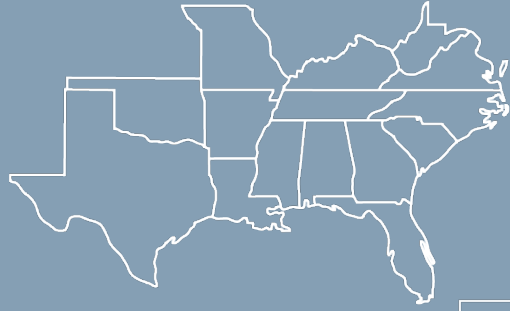


Terry Ross/Flickr

Foundation

SECAS in Action

Multiple organizations in South Carolina use the Southeast Blueprint to guide conservation



- The Blueprint is helping organizations across different sectors of SC align their conservation efforts and make a bigger collective impact.
- The Nature Conservancy in SC used the Blueprint as the foundation for an update to their statewide Conservation Vision, and the SC Department of Natural Resources is also exploring using the Blueprint to inform their next SWAP focus areas map.
- Support staff can help YOU filter down the Blueprint to find your part of this larger strategy!

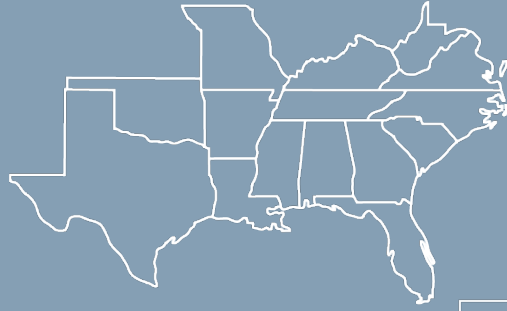
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SECAS in Action

The Southeast Blueprint helps support the reauthorization of the South Carolina Conservation Bank



- The SC chapter of The Nature Conservancy used the Blueprint to support the successful reauthorization of the SC Conservation Bank, a critical funding source from the state legislature.
- The Blueprint helped demonstrate that the conservation community has come together around a shared strategy, and showed how a data-driven conservation plan can target funding in a rigorous way.
- The Blueprint is likely to be a core part of the Bank's ultimate funding prioritization strategy!

Learn more:

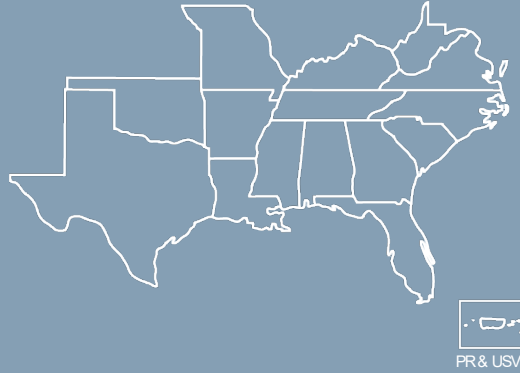
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Steve Hillebrand, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SECAS in Action

The Southeast Blueprint helps bring in new longleaf fire funds



- The Blueprint and strong partner relationships in SECAS helped bring in ~\$3 million dollars for prescribed fire from the Department of Interior's Wildland Fire Resilient Landscapes program.
- This funding supported prescribed burning in priority longleaf pine focus areas on federal, state, private, and non-profit lands.
- SECAS played an important role in bringing some of these resources to the Southeast, and helped break prescribed fire records in the South Atlantic subregion!

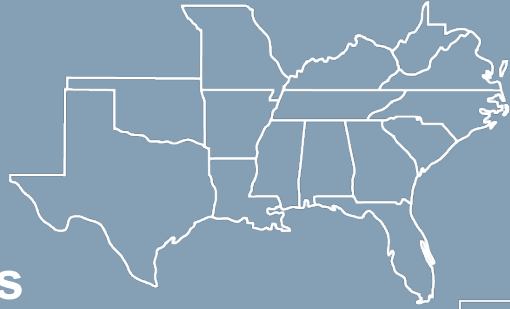
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SECAS in Action

The Southeast Blueprint benefits threatened salamanders in the Big Bend of Florida



- The Blueprint helped support a successful Cooperative Recovery Initiative grant proposal to conserve threatened frosted flatwoods salamander populations on St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge.
- Funding went toward prescribed burning, salamander surveys, feral hog control, and water quality monitoring.
- The Blueprint also helped bring in Wildland Fire Resilient Landscapes funds to support growing season burns that short-term monitoring suggests benefitted the salamanders.

Learn more:

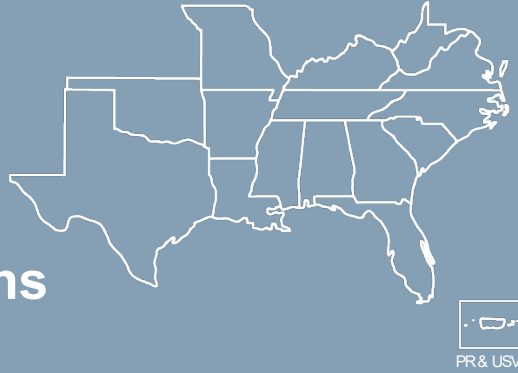
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Pierson Hill, FL FWC/Flickr

SECAS in Action

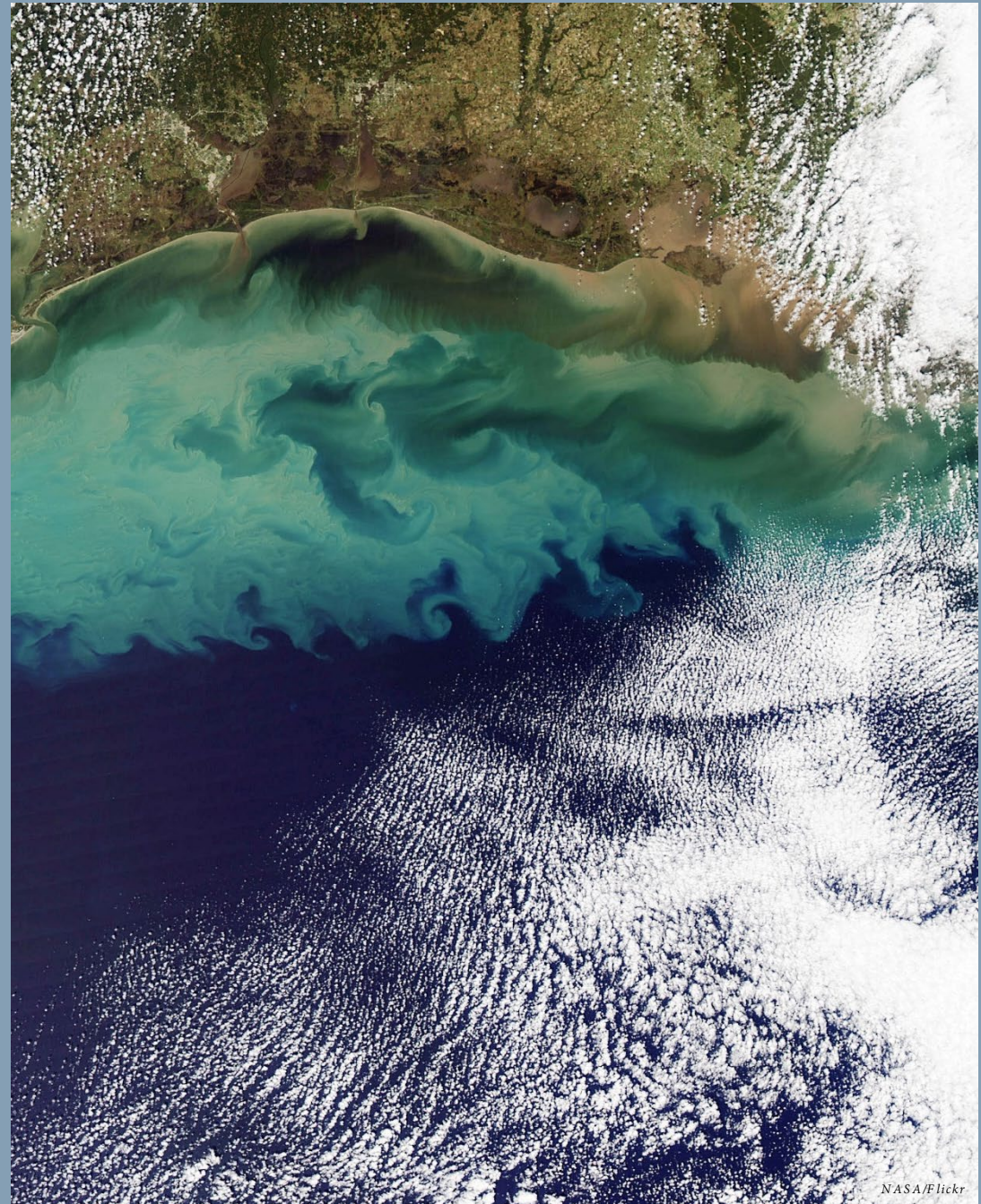
The Southeast Blueprint helps shape conservation actions in the Mississippi River Basin



- Some complex problems, like the Gulf of Mexico “dead zone”, require coordinated action across multiple parts of the country.
- In Missouri, the Blueprint integrates with the conservation priorities of the Gulf Hypoxia Initiative (GHI), which helps move closer to a unified conservation approach for the entire Mississippi River Basin.
- The Middle Mississippi River Partnership is using data from the Southeast Blueprint, GHI, and other sources to prioritize restoration efforts for wetlands, grasslands, and forests.

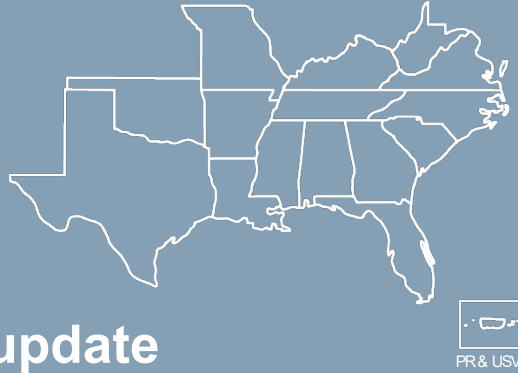
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SECAS in Action

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission uses the Blueprint in its State Wildlife Action Plan update



- The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission is using the Southeast Blueprint and other complementary datasets to delineate their Conservation Opportunity Areas.
- These maps are part of an update of the Arkansas State Wildlife Action Plan and will help guide plan implementation.

Learn more:

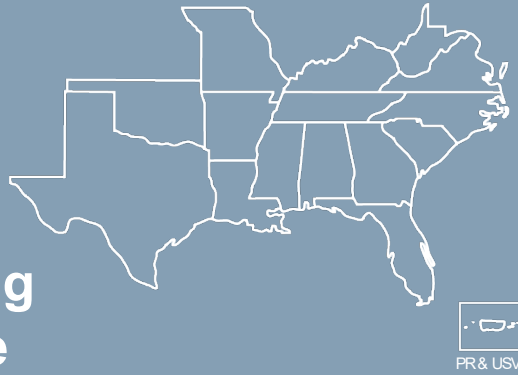
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Beau Rodgers/Flickr

SECAS in Action

The Southeast Blueprint helps identify priority areas for keeping forests as forests into the future



- The U.S. Forest Service's Keeping Forests as Forests (KFAF) initiative is identifying priority watersheds where partners will focus efforts to preserve and restore forestland in the Southeast.
- KFAF is using the Blueprint to depict regional conservation priorities alongside complementary data about protected lands, threats, economic value, water quality, and restoration potential.
- By informing these focus areas, the Blueprint is helping KFAF achieve its goal of conserving 70% of historic Southeast forestlands.

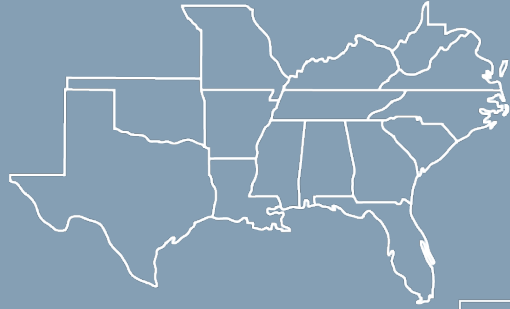
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SECAS in Action

The Southeast Blueprint helps facilitate aquatic connectivity within a priority watershed in Puerto Rico



PR & USVI

- The Blueprint highlights the Rio Grande de Arecibo as the primary focal watershed in Puerto Rico due to its important water resources and its potential for improving land-water connectivity.
- Partners identified enhancing aquatic connectivity as a key conservation action within the watershed, and SECAS facilitated the identification of problematic dams and culverts.
- The process of removing a high-priority dam is now underway for a project scheduled for summer 2019.

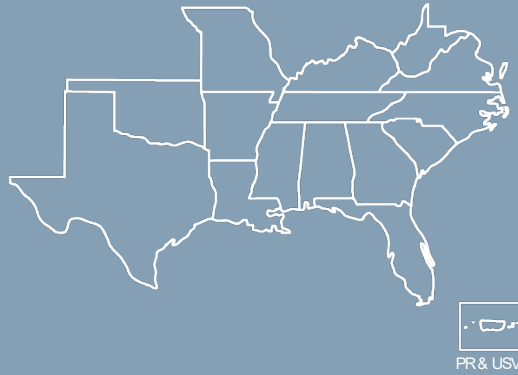
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SECAS in Action

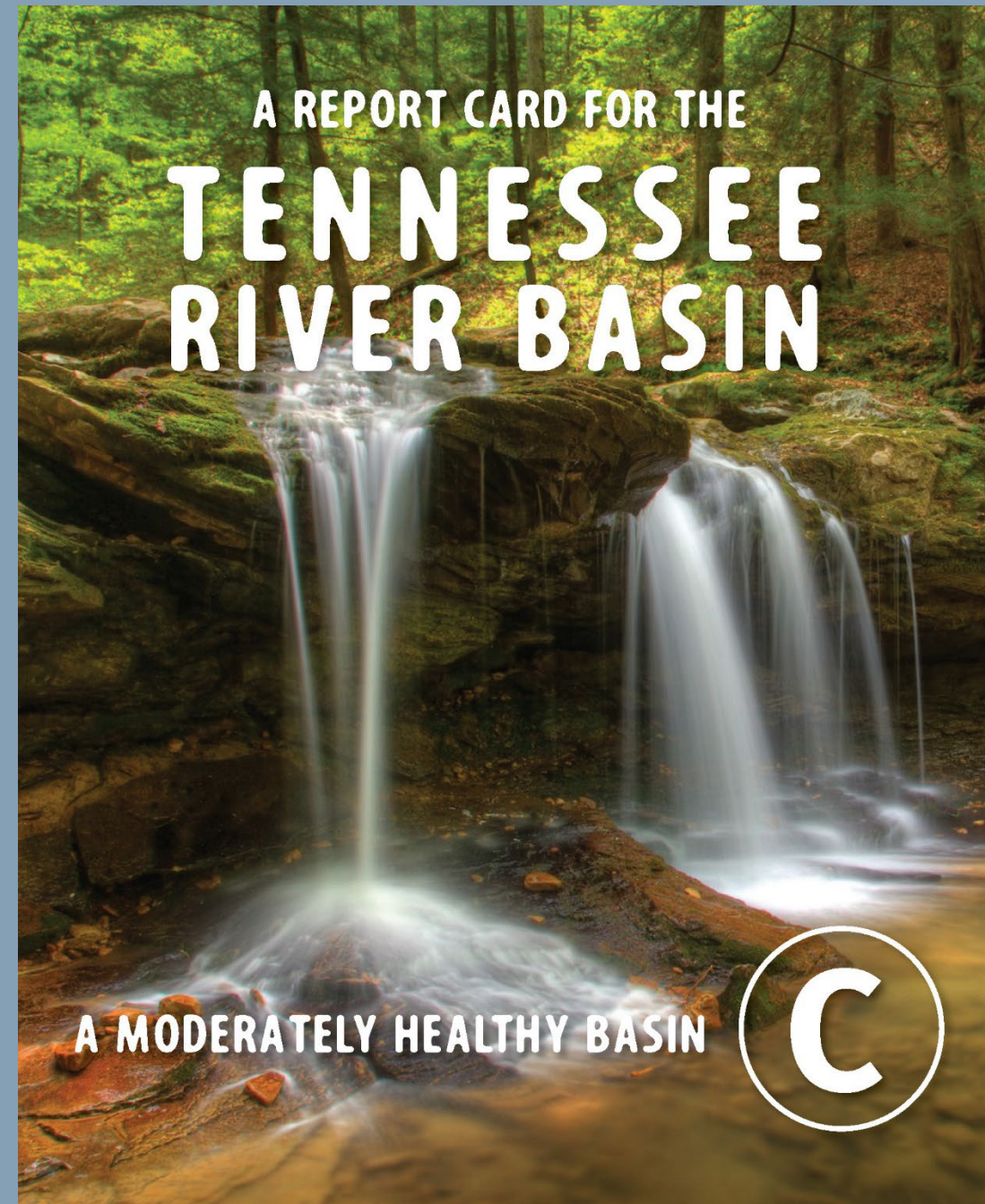
Ecosystem report cards are helping develop an explicit goal for SECAS



- Several regions within SECAS have developed ecosystem report cards to assess the health of our lands and waters, such as the *Tennessee River Basin Report Card* and *2015 State of the South Atlantic*.
- SECAS is using these and other regional and national assessments to inform an explicit goal for ecosystem condition that defines what we're working together to achieve through this partnership.
- An overarching goal will help partners bring in new funding, defend existing funding sources, and align ongoing work more efficiently.

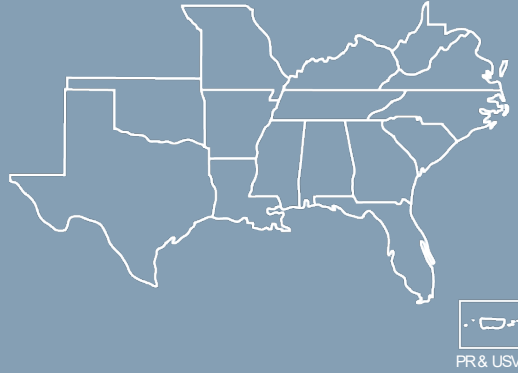
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SECAS in Action

The Southeast Blueprint helps restore the longleaf pine ecosystem



- The Blueprint is contributing to the restoration of longleaf pine across its historic range by helping Longleaf Implementation Teams (LITs) prioritize their conservation and management efforts.
- The Blueprint proved instrumental in identifying potential high-quality habitat areas for open pine systems outside of partner lands, and also supported data compatibility across the range.
- Support staff can help YOU use the Blueprint to map your conservation targets and support your planning efforts!

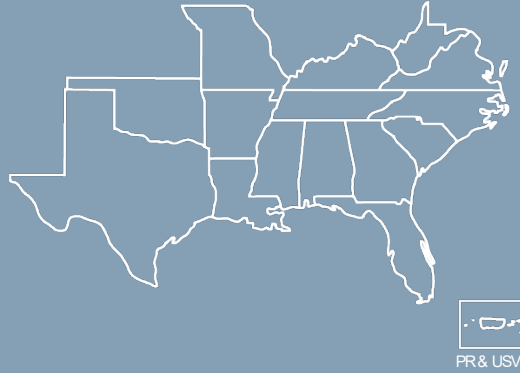
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SECAS in Action

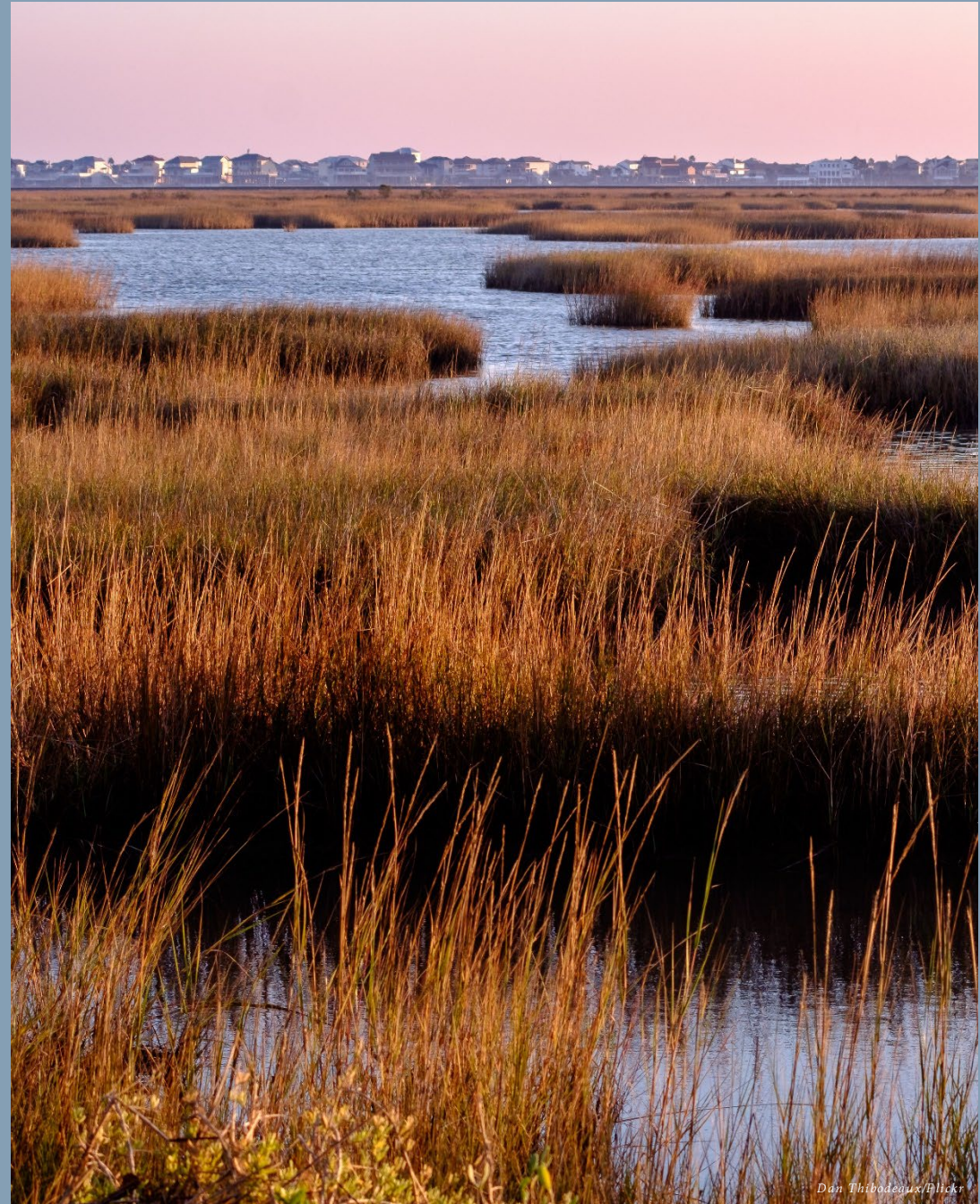
SECAS helps coastal communities build resilience by planning for wetland migration



- In support of SECAS, and to better integrate coastal adaptation efforts across the Gulf, the U.S. Geological Survey developed a dataset predicting where inland migration of tidal saline wetlands is expected to occur in response to sea-level rise and urban growth.
- People from 41 cities and 26 Gulf counties and parishes attended workshops to learn how to use this and other resilience data to protect open space and wetland migration corridors.
- A living shoreline restoration project in Charlotte Harbor emerged out of these workshops.

Learn more:

secassoutheast.org/story-map



Dan Thibodeaux/Black & Veatch