North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Committee

JUNE 9, 2025



Agenda

1:00 PM	Welcome and Introduction Committee Member Roll Call • Steve Troxler, Commissioner, NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services • Rick Long, Installation Coordinator, NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs • Jeff Michael, Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources • Kyle Briggs, Executive Director, NC Wildlife Resources Commission • Dr. Myron F. Floyd, Dean, College of Natural Resources, NC State University • Chester Lowder, Sentinel Landscape Partnership Liaison • Jeremy Goodwin, State Roadside Environmental Engineer, NC Department of Transportation	David Smith *Chief Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture* Veronica Jamison *Farmland Preservation Office Manager*
1:05 PM	Reading of Ethics Reminder *ETHICS REMINDER: Under the State Government Ethics Act, the chairman is required to remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest or appearances of conflicts of interest. If you have any conflict or appearance of conflict of interest with respect to any item on the agenda, please state this for the record and refrain from inappropriate participation on that item.*	David Smith
1:06 PM	Approval of Minutes for February 25, 2025	David Smith
1:10 PM	Committee Member Reports on NC Sentinel Landscape Activities • NCDA&CS Report • NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Report • NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources Report • NC Wildlife Resources Commission Report • College of Natural Resources - NCSU Report • Sentinel Landscape Partnership Report • NC Department of Transportation	 Evan Davis *Farmland Preservation Director* Rick Long *Installation Coordinator* Jeff Michael *Deputy Secretary* Kyle Briggs *Executive Director* Dr. Myron F. Floyd *Dean* Chester Lowder *Sentinel Landscape Partnership Liaison* Jeremy Goodwin *State Roadside Environmental Engineer*
2:20 pm	Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Partner Spotlight • Working Lands Trust • North Carolina Coastal Federation	Mikey Fulk *Executive Director* Jacob Boyd *Salt Marsh Program Director*
2:50 PM	Additional Sentinel Landscape Committee Business Items	David Smith
2:55 PM	Public Comments	Public Attendees
3:00 PM	Next Meeting, Assignments, and Adjournment	David Smith

Committee Member Roll Call

- Steve Troxler, Commissioner, NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Rick Long, Installation Coordinator, NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Jeff Michael, Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
- Kyle Briggs, Executive Director, NC Wildlife Resources Commission
- Dr. Myron F. Floyd, Dean, College of Natural Resources - NCSU
- Chester Lowder, Sentinel Landscape Partnership Liaison
- Jeremy Goodwin, State Roadside Environmental Engineer, NC Department of Transportation

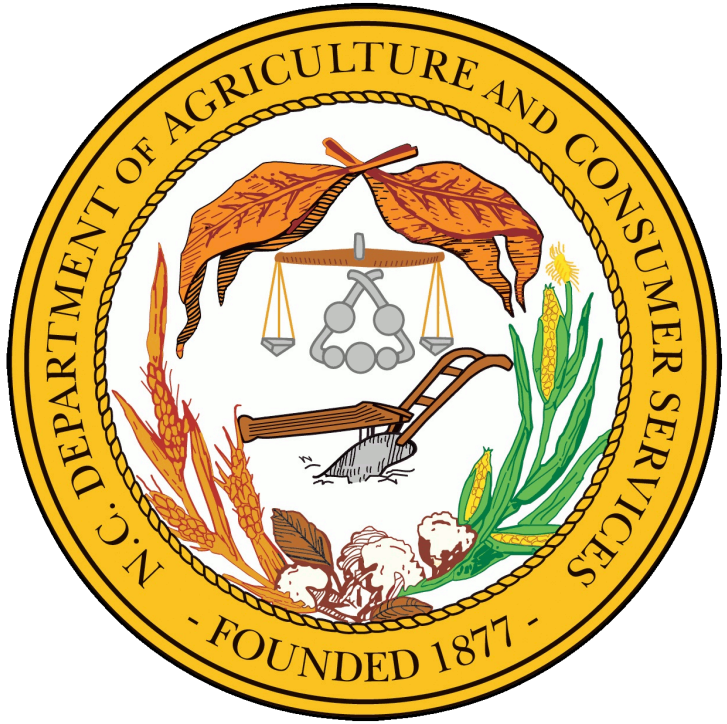
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Approval of Minutes

- February 25, 2025

NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Report



Military Partnership Agricultural Conservation Easements – Open Contracts

Farm Name	Military Partner	County	Grantee	Length	Acres
Boyd Farm	USAF-SJAFB	Washington	Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	1,164.00
Futral Farm	MCIEAST-MCB Camp Lejeune	Onslow	Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	485.01
Jenkins Farm	MCIEAST-MCAS Cherry Point	Jones	Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	197.30
McCotter Farm 2	MCIEAST-MCAS Cherry Point	Pamlico	Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	1,568.43
				Total Acres	**3,414.74**

Military Partnership Agricultural Conservation Easements – Withdrawn Contracts

Farm Name	Military Partner	County	Grantee	Length	Acres
Small Farm 1	MCIEAST-MCAS Cherry Point	Jones	Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	138.68
Small Farm 2	MCIEAST-MCAS Cherry Point	Jones	Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	31.04
				Total Acres	**169.72**

Completed Military Partnership Agricultural Conservation Easements Since 2016

Military Partner	Acres Conserved	Easements Recorded	Counties
USAF	10,905.124	20	Bertie, Hyde, Tyrrell, Washington
Navy/USMC	2,214.591	3	Jones, Pamlico
Totals	**13,119.715**	**23**	**6**

Easement Purchase Funding Summary for Completed Military Partnership Agricultural Conservation Easements

NCDA&CS Easement Purchase Funds	REPI (Military) Easement Purchase Funds	USDA Easement Purchase Funds	Landowner Donation of Easement Value	Total Easement Purchase Value
$9,400,969.34	$10,805,881.21	$5,063,613.78	$3,038,641.24	**$28,309,105.57**

MOU with NC MAC

Project	Award	Expenses thru April 2025	Balance
NCDA&CS Project	$40,100.00	$19,345.64	$20,754.36
Coordinator Position	$120,305.60	$0.00	$120,305.60
WLT Project	$53,467.00	$22,412.27	$31,054.73
NCFSWC Project	$53,467.00	$35,280.95	$18,186.05
TOTAL	**$267,339.60**	**$77,038.86**	**$190,300.74**

NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Report



NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources Report



North Carolina Land and Water Fund (NCLWF)
2025 Grant Application Summary

NCLWF received $132.7 million in requests for 2025 grants:

- 138 applications
  - 89 land acquisition
  - 31 restoration
  - 5 innovative stormwater
  - 13 planning
- 29 applications in ENCSL counties
  - Requesting $18.2 million
  - 2,975 acres

<u>Funding decisions will be made in October.</u>

NCLWF 2024 applications in ENCSL counties

Project Name	County	Request	Total Budget
2025-031 - Morehead City - Spooner Creek Nature Park	Carteret	$3,558,198	$6,866,698
2025-038 - NCCF - North River Headwaters	Carteret	$644,635	$873,135
2025-039 - NCCF - Silver Dollar Road - Nature Park	Carteret	$320,764	$356,885
2025-417 - NCCF - Living Shoreline Cost Share Program - 2025	Carteret	$540,542	$963,775
2025-806 - NCCF - Oyster Blueprint for Action - Restoration and Protection Plan Update	Carteret	$75,000	$158,750
2025-063 - NCWRC - Welch Tract - Chowan Swamp Game Land	Chowan	$66,600	$123,100
2025-807 - New Bern - Duffyfield Canal - Restoration Plan	Craven	$150,000	$367,500
2025-812 - Sound Rivers - Southwest Prong Slocum Creek - Watershed Plan	Craven	$54,415	$80,260
2025-1004 - Sound Rivers - Constructed Stormwater Wetland for Education and Maintenance	Craven	$243,200	$294,900
2025-016 - CWHF - Sierra Tract - Currituck Banks Wildlife Corridor	Currituck	$283,550	$367,662
2025-017 - CWHF - Swan Tracts - Currituck Banks Wildlife Corridor	Currituck	$544,050	$767,742
2025-041 - NCCLT - Powells Point - Albemarle Sound	Currituck	$1,065,395	$1,465,395
2025-023 - Kill Devil Hills - Fresh Pond - Nags Head Woods	Dare	$1,570,735	$3,082,735
2025-035 - TNC - Scarborough Tracts - Kitty Hawk Woods Reserve	Dare	$610,835	$1,009,055
2025-416 - NCCF - Jockey's Ridge - Living Shoreline Phase 2	Dare	$319,603	$561,687
2025-048 - NCDPR - Mill Creek - Raven Rock State Park	Harnett	$1,890,556	$7,849,054
2025-053 - NCWRC - Cape Fear River Tributary - Game Land	Harnett	$1,110,000	$1,612,000
2025-408 - CWA - Stony Run - Corridor Riparian Restoration	Harnett	$270,500	$2,943,953
2025-080 - TLC - Neuse Islands Wilderness	Johnston	$2,610,055	$4,687,055
2025-1003 - Smithfield - College Pond Retrofit	Johnston	$783,351	$1,395,771
2025-1005 - Trenton - Comprehensive Stormwater Management - Pilot Project	Jones	$110,650	$137,084
2025-811 - Sound Rivers - Adkin Branch - Watershed Plan	Lenoir	$62,064	$80,166
2025-036 - TNC - Thomas Tract - Horse Swamp	Onslow	$63,117	$120,789
2025-040 - NCCF - Turkey Creek Riparian Buffer	Onslow	$116,365	$1,604,865
2025-805 - NCCF - Ocean City Jazz Festival Park - Stormwater Plan	Onslow	$42,032	$51,468
2025-1002 - NCSU - Stormwater Infrastructure Maintenance Robot Development	Onslow	$234,241	$247,177
2025-033 - TNC - King Tract - Holly Shelter	Pender	$262,857	$519,779
2025-034 - TNC - Saus Tract - Holly Shelter	Pender	$492,507	$979,179
2025-061 - NCWRC - Shutt Tract - Rocky Ford Branch	Richmond	$188,100	$383,100
	Total	**$18,283,917**	**$39,950,719**

NC Wildlife Resources Commission Report



NC State University College of Natural Resources Report



Eastern NC Sentinel Landscape Partnership Report



SENTINEL LANDSCAPES

ENCSL Partnership Updates

North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Committee Meeting
June 9, 2025

Christopher Baillie

Partnership Coordinator (Interim)

Resilience Coordinator

Chris@legacyworksgroup.com

EASTERN
NORTH CAROLINA
SENTINEL LANDSCAPE

ENCSL Partnership Updates

1. Grant Proposals Submitted

2. Near-term Submissions

3. Near Term Priorities



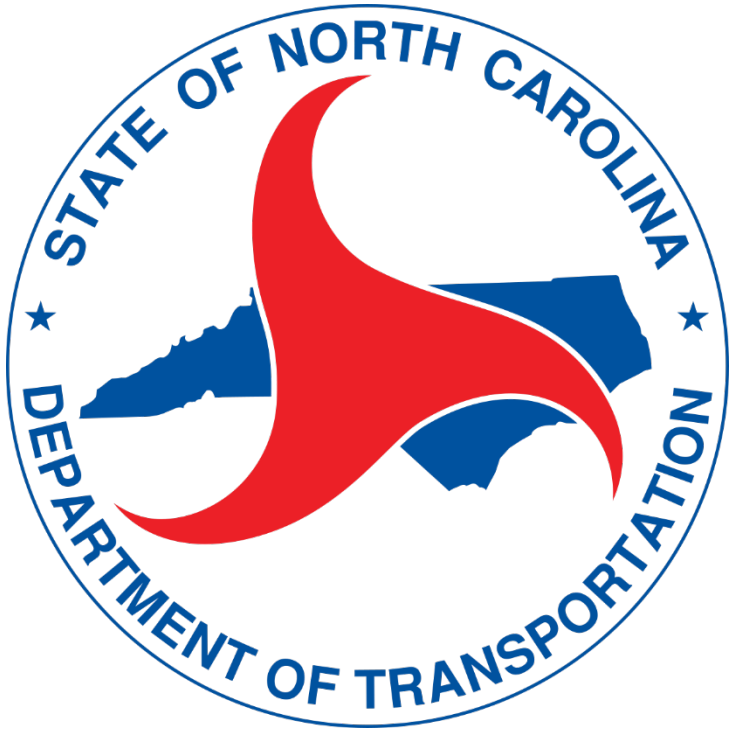
Image Credit: Lance Cpl. Gomez

ENCSL Administrative Items

- ENCSL Strategic Plan
- NC Sentinel Landscape Committee Quarterly Report



NC Department of Transportation Report



Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Partner Spotlight



WORKING LANDS **TRUST**

CONSERVING WORKING LANDS

in The Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape

Michael "Mikey" Fulk, Executive Director
Working Lands Trust



Overview

- Organizational Background
- Projects to Date
- Working within the ENCSL
- Closed Easement Projects
- Active Easement Projects
- Current Conservation Projects
- Looking Forward

Working Lands Trust

The Working Lands Trust is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of North Carolina's farms, forests, and military readiness.



Working Lands Trust

- Founded in 2013 from a collaboration between North Carolina Forestry Association, North Carolina State Department of Agriculture and community conservation leaders.
- Increasing interest among farm and forest landowners in exploring conservation options for working lands.





Working Lands Trust

- Educates landowners about working lands conservation tools, programs, and practices;
- Secures land protection funding from public and private partners;
- Works closely with landowners and funding agencies to achieve an aligned set of conservation outcomes memorialized through perpetual conservation agreements;
- Develops a diverse slate of future conservation projects and funders that help to fulfill our mission and enhance the economic and environmental well-being of the landowners and communities we serve.

WORKING LANDS **TRUST**



WLT Protected Lands 2013-2024
33 properties in 14 counties
Total of 17,489 acres

2024 Active Projects
20 projects in 10 counties
Total of 2,977 acres

2024 Project Applications
80 projects in 35 counties
Total of 27,978 acres

0 25 50 100 Miles

Scale: 1:3,000,000

Work within the ENCSL

- Collaborate with NC Foundation for Soil and Water to assist SWCD to establish farmland preservation programs
  - Application Assistance
  - Shadowing Program
  - Stewardship

- Landowner Events FY 24
  - 13 workshops and events
  - 100+ landowners and industry partners reached

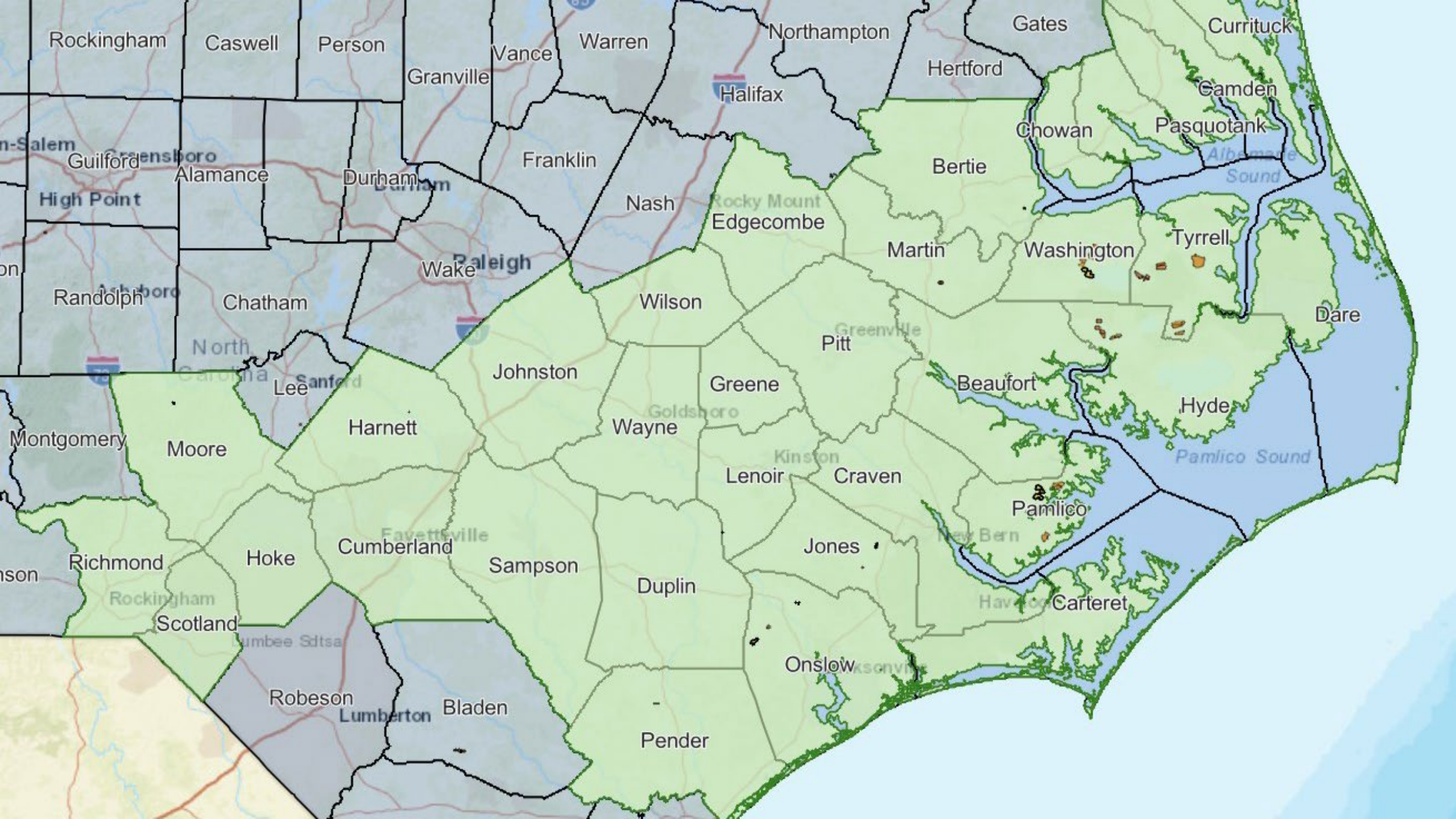




Completed Projects within the ENCSL

- ADFP
  - 321 Acres
  - 4 Landowner
  - 4 Counties
- ADFP/NRCS/USAF
  - 5,728.96 Acres
  - 8 Landowners
  - 2 Counties
- ADFP/Navy/MCIEast
  - 2,214.59 Acres
  - 3 Landowners
  - 2 Counties
- ADFP/USAF
  - 4,540.89 Acres
  - 11 Landowners
  - 4 Counties

TOTAL ACRES – 12,806.35 Conserved Acres


Rockingham
Caswell
Person
Vance
Warren
Granville
Northampton
Gates
Currituck
Hertford
Halifax
Camden
Chowan
Pasquotank
Guilford
Alamance
Durham
Franklin
Bertie
High Point
Nash
Edgecombe
Martin
Washington
Tyrrell
Dare
Randolph
Chatham
Wake
Raleigh
Wilson
Pitt
Johnston
Greene
Beaufort
Hyde
Lee
Harnett
Wayne
Montgomery
Moore
Lenoir
Craven
Pamlico
Richmond
Hoke
Cumberland
Sampson
Jones
Duplin
Scotland
Carteret
Onslow
Robeson
Bladen
Pender
Lumberton
Rocky Mount
Greensboro
Durham
Raleigh
Goldsboro
Kinston
New Bern
Albemarle Sound
Pamlico Sound


Wilson
587
Farmville
Greenville
Gum Neck
Pantego
Washington
Belhaven
Fairfield
Winterville
Chocowinity
Mattamuskeet
National
Wildlife
Refuge
Ayden
Bath
Snow Hill
42
Goldsboro
Pamlico River
Grifton
La Grange
Vanceboro
Aurora
Kinston
Hobucken
Mt Olive
Bayboro
New Bern
Pink Hill
Oriental
Cedar Island
Kenansville
Croatan
National Forest
Beulaville
Richlands
Atlantic
Rose Hill
Davis

Projects in Process

- REPI funded easements:
  - Navy/MCIEast/ADFP
    - 3 Counties
    - 3 Landowners
    - 2,100 Acres
    - Closing 2025
  - USAF/ADFP
    - 1 Counties
    - 1 Landowner
    - 1,164 Acres
    - Closing 2025

Total 3,264 ACRES



Current Conservation Projects

- Forest Legacy + REPI Challenge
  - Near Havelock
  - 9,000+ acres
  - Protects working timber, agriculture, and sensitive habitats.

- Partner with NC Foundation for Soil and Water to increase farmland preservation outreach in seven counties within the ENCSL.





Looking Forward

- Continue landowner outreach events.
- Expand programs to increase landowner options for land conservation.
- Continue to cultivate our close partnership with our military installations.
- Ensure we are a resource for landowners who wish to protect their land and their legacy.

WORKING LANDS **TRUST**

Questions?

Mikey Fulk

336-460-2562

mikey@workinglandstrust.org

NC Salt Marsh Action Plan



Jacob Boyd

Salt Marsh Program Director

NC Coastal Federation

NC Sentinel Landscape Committee | June 9, 2025

NC COASTAL FEDERATION
SALT MARSH PROGRAM

North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Overview

- Salt Marsh Program
- South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative
- NC Salt Marsh Action Plan
- Living Shoreline Projects 2025
- SASMI Community Engagement Project
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grant



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Programs



Salt Marsh



Oysters



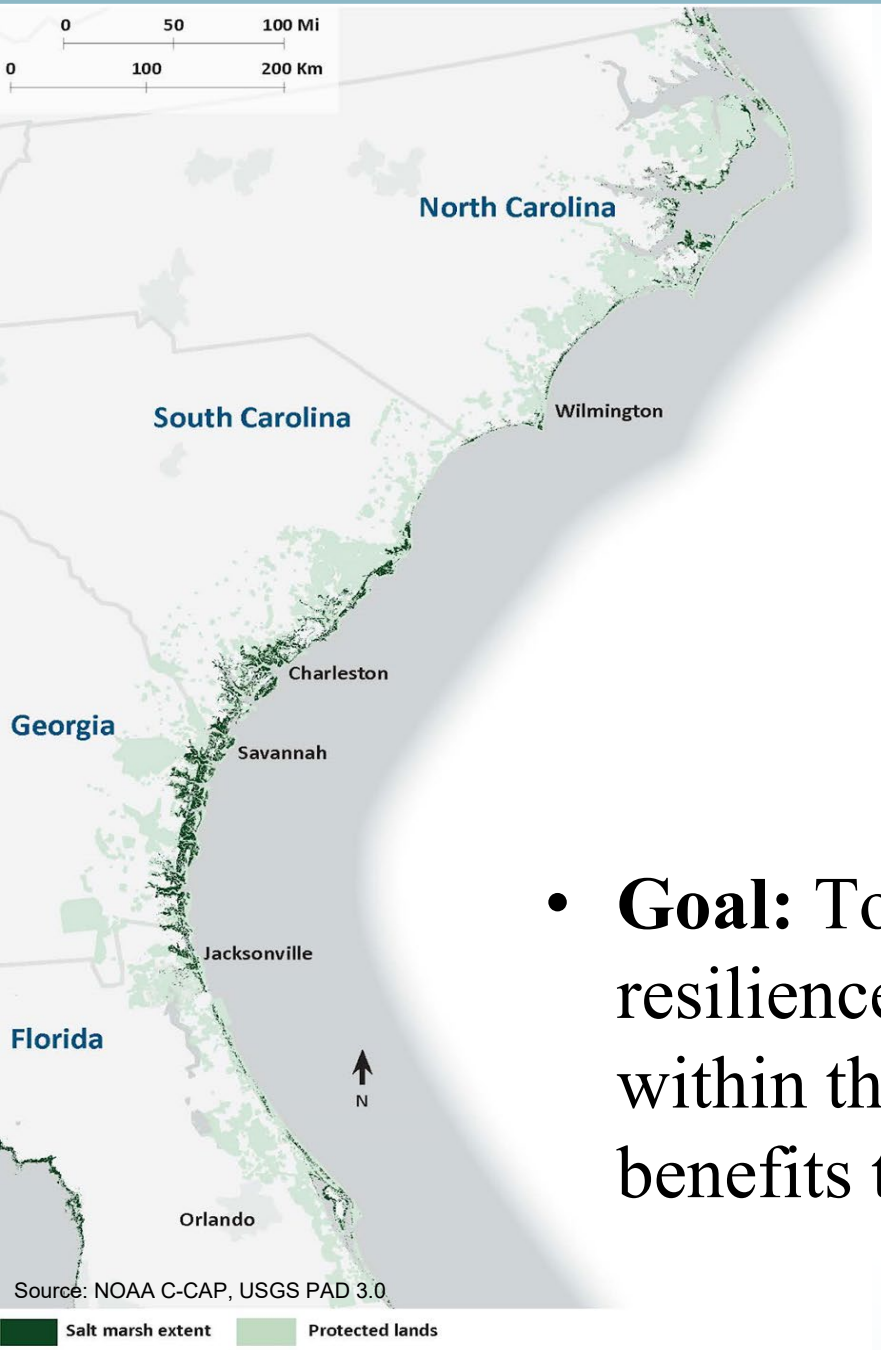
Water Quality



Marine Debris


NC Salt Marsh Action Plan
South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative
Salt Marsh Program
Living Shorelines
Blue Carbon

South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative



- **Goal:** To enhance the long-term abundance, health, and resilience of the approximately 1 million acres of salt marshes within the South Atlantic states to ensure no overall loss of the benefits these wetlands provide to fish, wildlife, and people

North Carolina Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

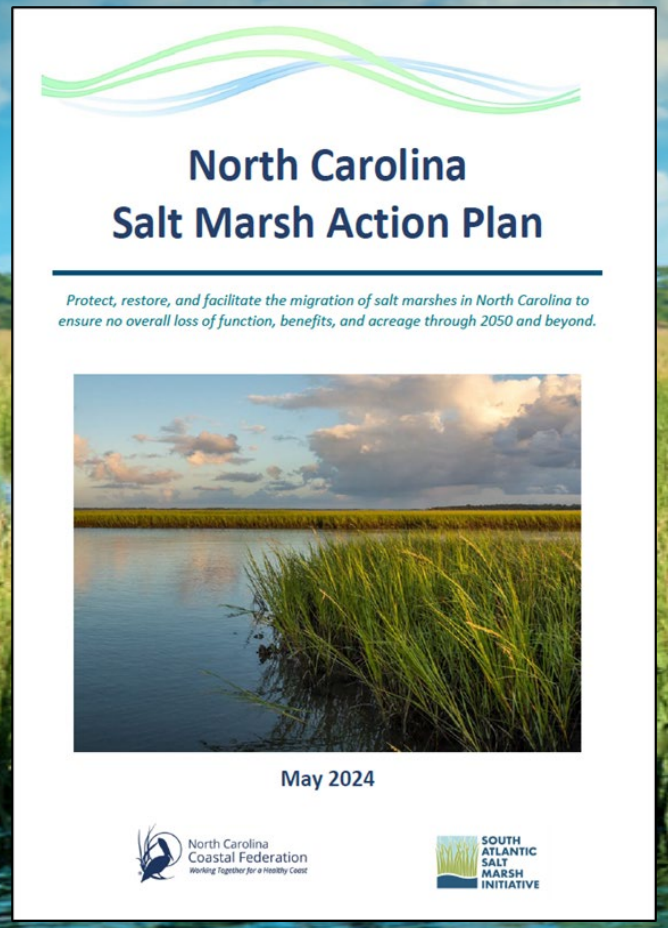
Strategy 1:
Advance salt marsh conservation & restoration

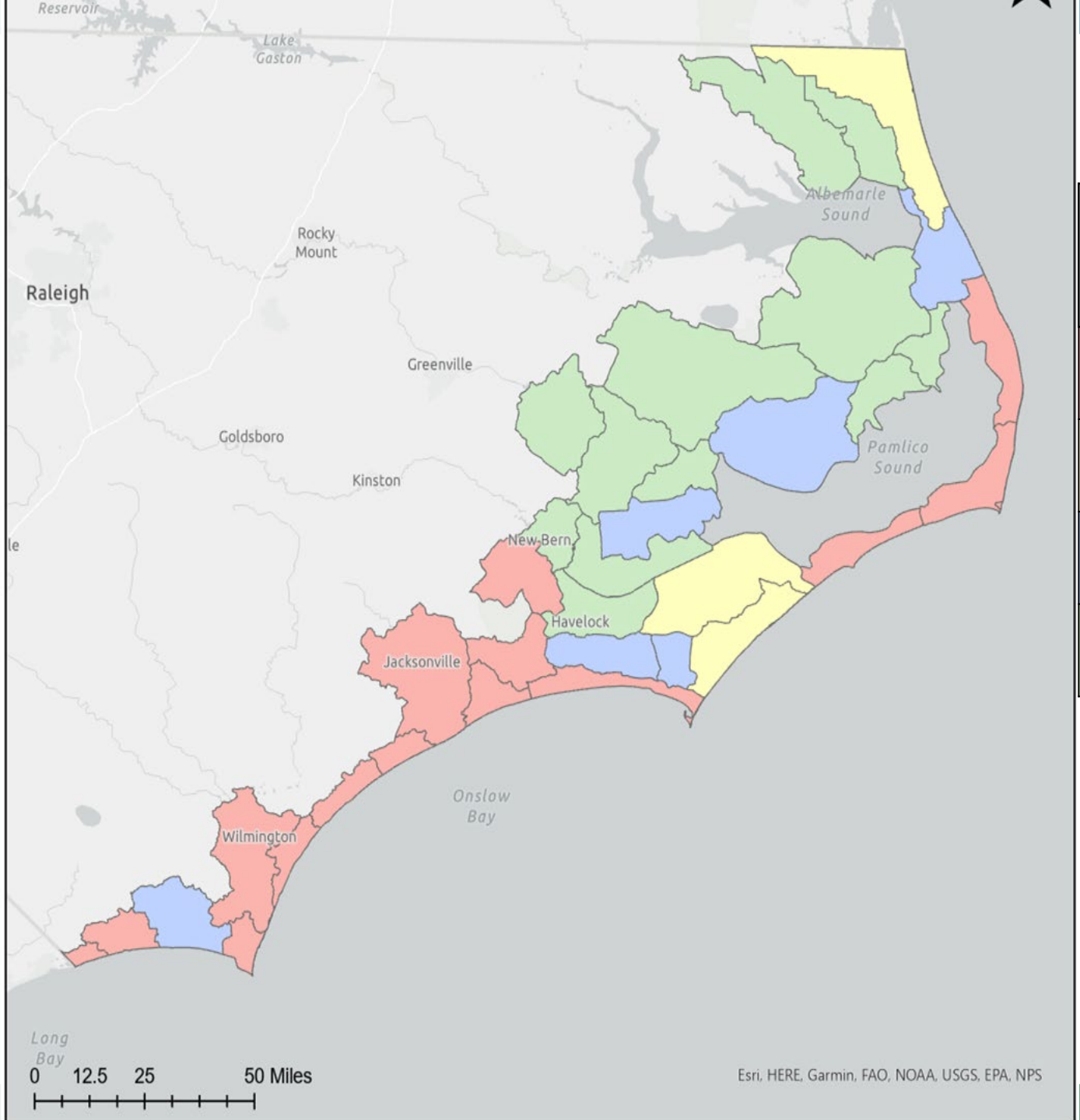
Goal:

Minimize loss of the function, benefits, and acreage through 2050 and beyond

Strategy 2:
Facilitate salt marsh migration

Strategy 3:
Incorporate cross-cutting approaches





Priority Action Per CPU

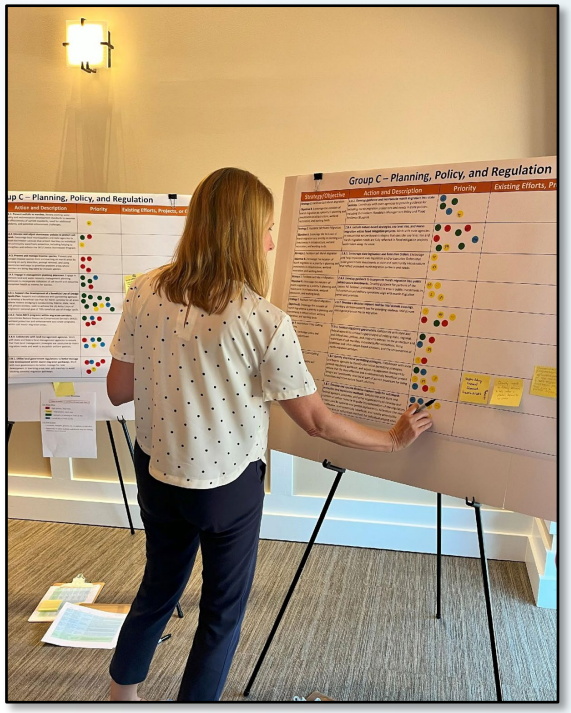
Cluster	*Net Gain or Loss	Protection/ Restoration	Facilitate Migration
Red	**Loss**	**X**	
Yellow	**Loss**	**X**	**X**
Blue	**Gain**	**X**	**X**
Green	**Gain**		**X**

*Net loss or gain refers to the difference in salt marsh acreage per CPU between now and 2050 under intermediate SLR scenario (1.5ft) - assuming current levels of development. Developed from data by Warnell, Olander, and Currin (2022).

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Implementation

- Collaboration is key to:
  - Incorporate actions into existing efforts and programs
  - Develop priorities and ensure effective progress
  - Identify new pathways to implement actions

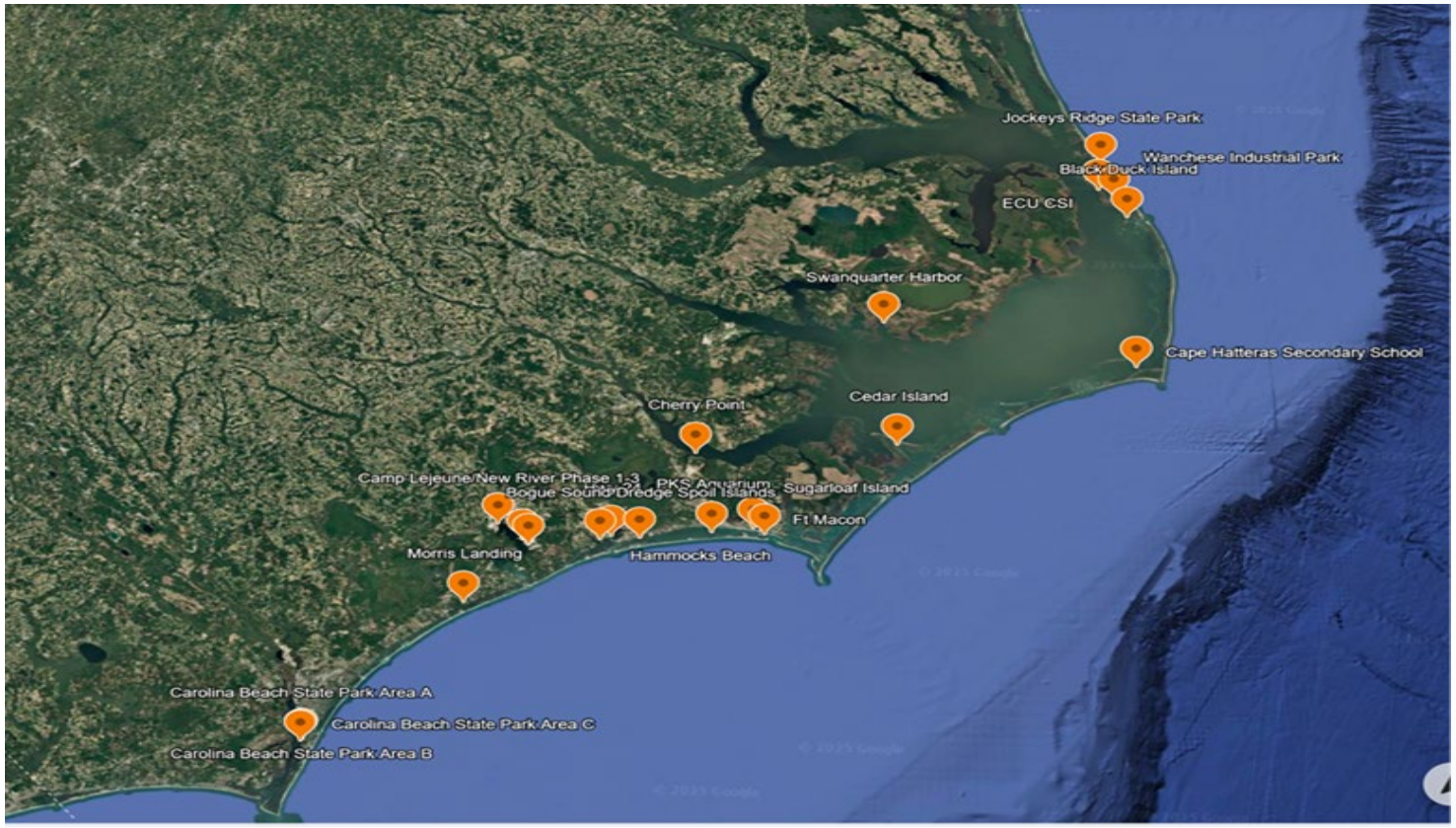






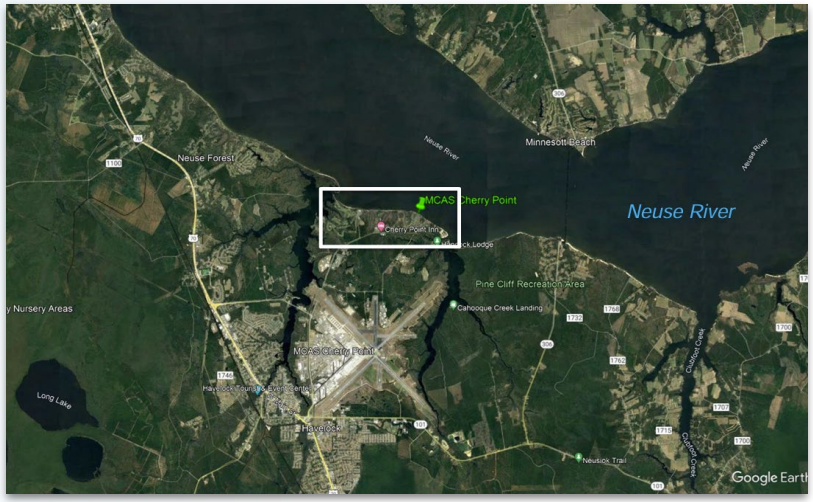
NOAA · USGS science for a changing world · USDA · SOUTH ATLANTIC SALT MARSH INITIATIVE · SERPPAS · DEQ · NC Division of Coastal Management · North Carolina Marine Fisheries · North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission · NORTH CAROLINA Department of Transportation · NCORR · Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership · North Carolina Natural Heritage Program · NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources · NC Division of Parks & Recreation · RISE · North Carolina Resilient Coastal Communities Program · Sea Grant North Carolina · Pew · The Nature Conservancy North Carolina · Carolina Wetlands Association · Environmental Defense Fund · Audubon · LEGACYWORKS GROUP · The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill · UNCW University of North Carolina Wilmington · NC State University · Duke · ECU · North Carolina Climate Office

Living Shoreline Projects 2025



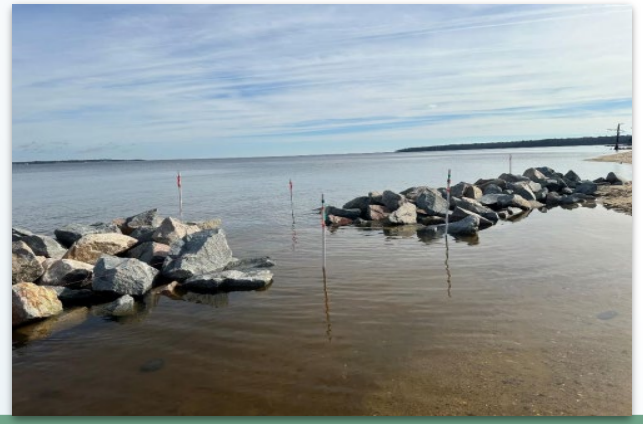
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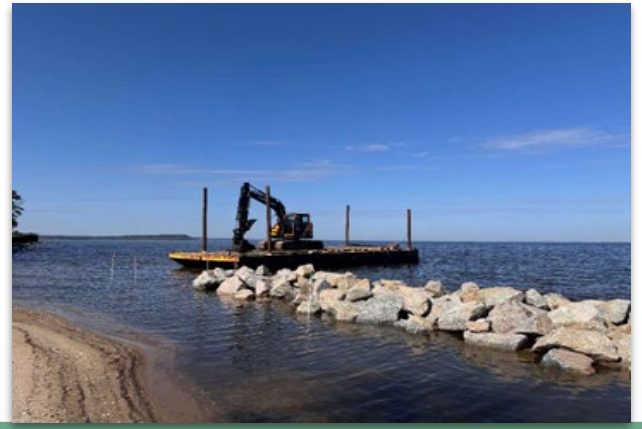
MCAS Cherry Point

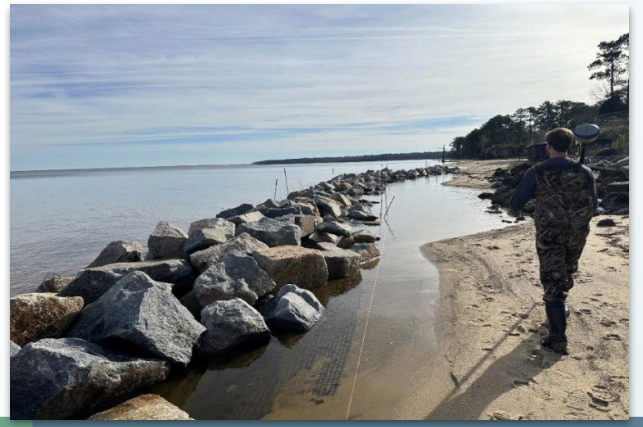




- Funded by multiple sources
- Final 2,029’ completed in March for a total of 11,748’ with 23,300 salt marsh plantings







NFWF NCRF 2025 Pre-Proposal

- Implementation of four living shoreline projects being designed/permitted under prior NFWF NCRF grants
- Will stabilize 2,650’ of shoreline at Marine Corps Air Station New River and Camp Lejeune, and 2,200’ of shoreline at the dredge spoil island adjacent to Bogue Airfield

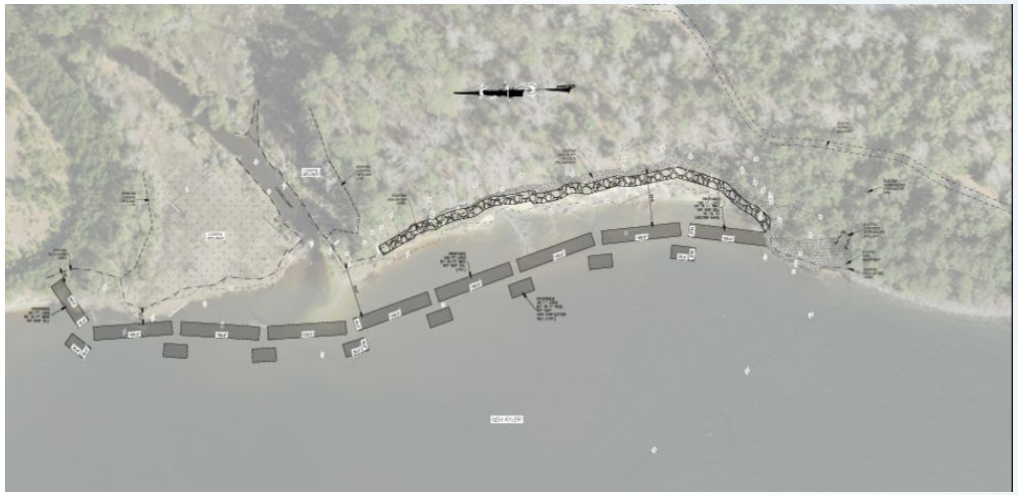




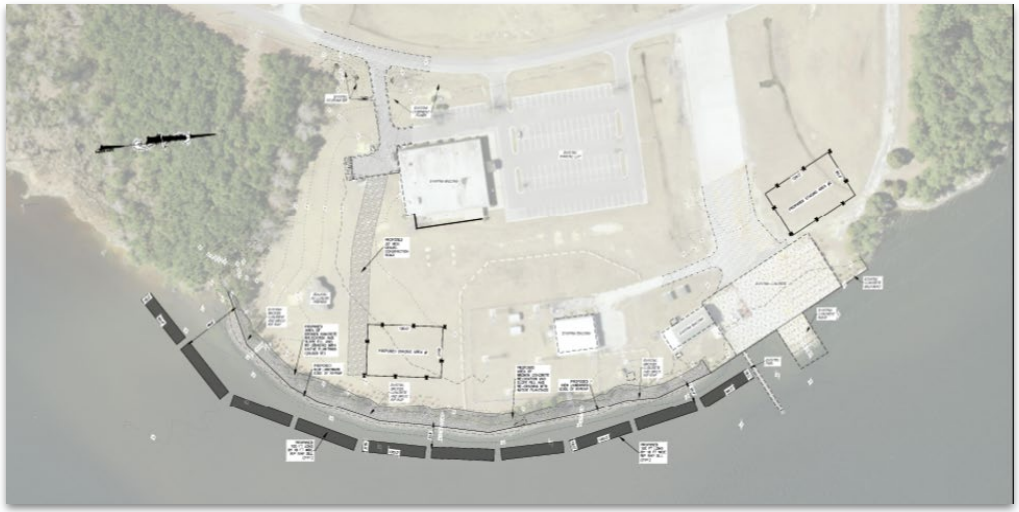
Marine Corps Air Station New River and Camp Lejeune



Camp Lejeune #1 (Historic 'Building A')

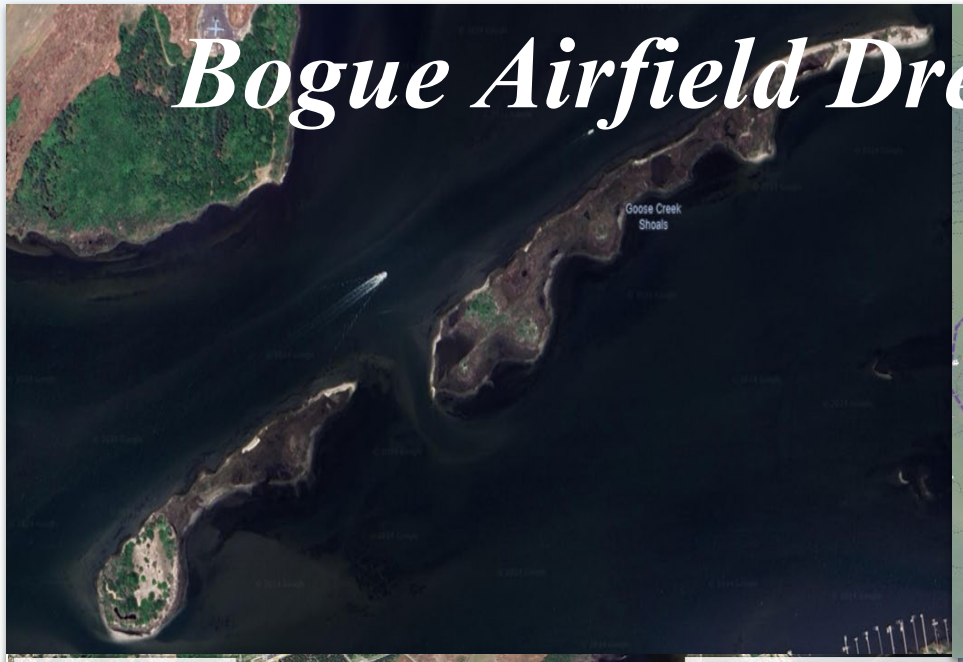


Camp Lejeune #2 (New HQ Construction)

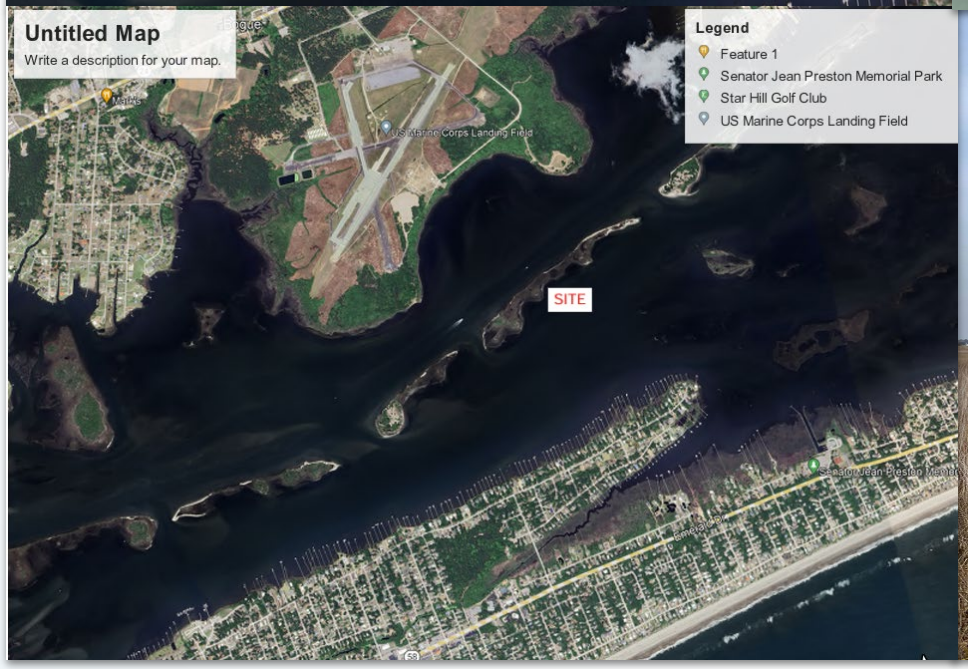


MCAS New River (Antenna Farm)

Bogue Airfield Dredge Spoil Island









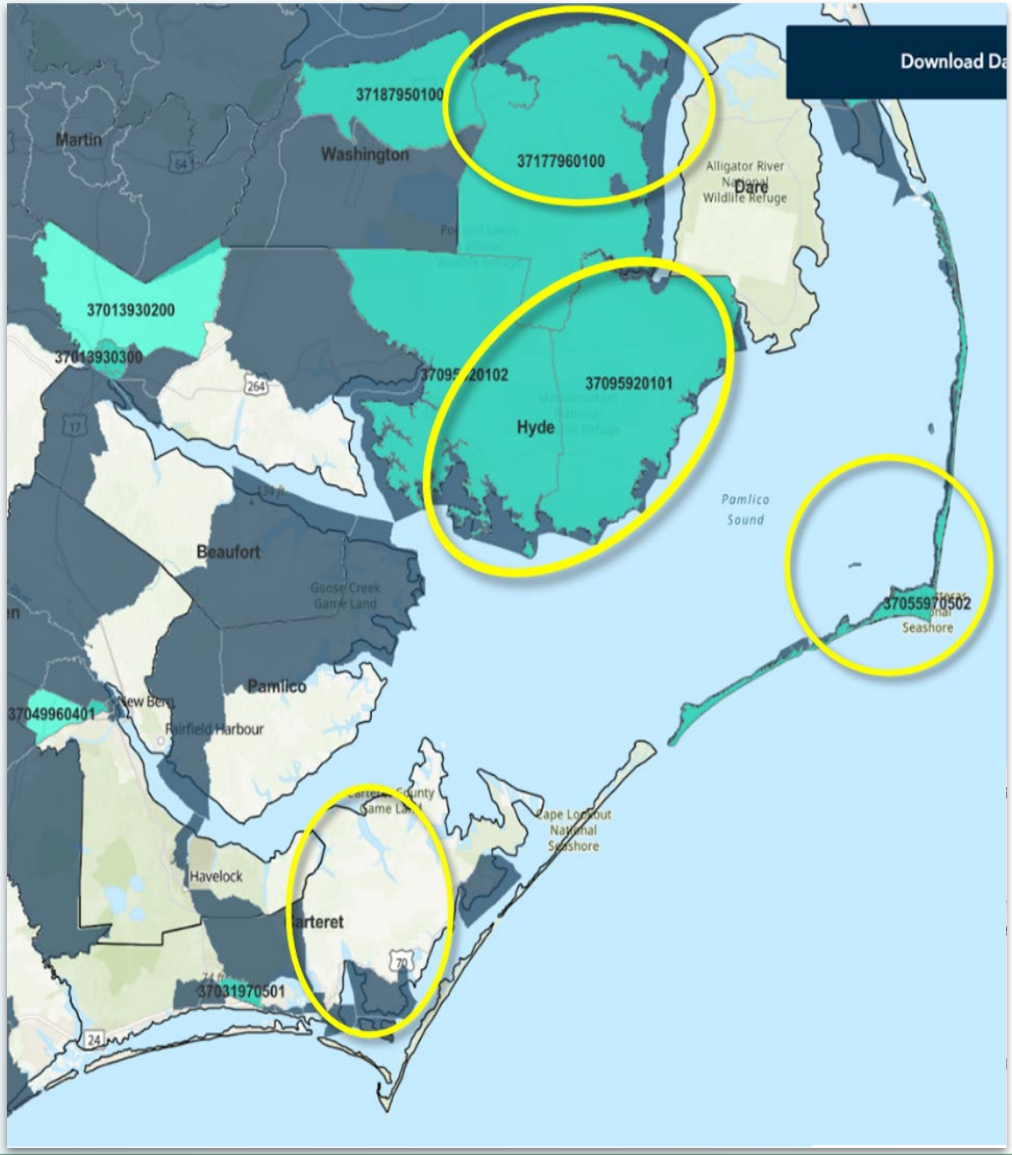
Building Capacity for Community and Ecosystem Resilience in Underserved Coastal Communities

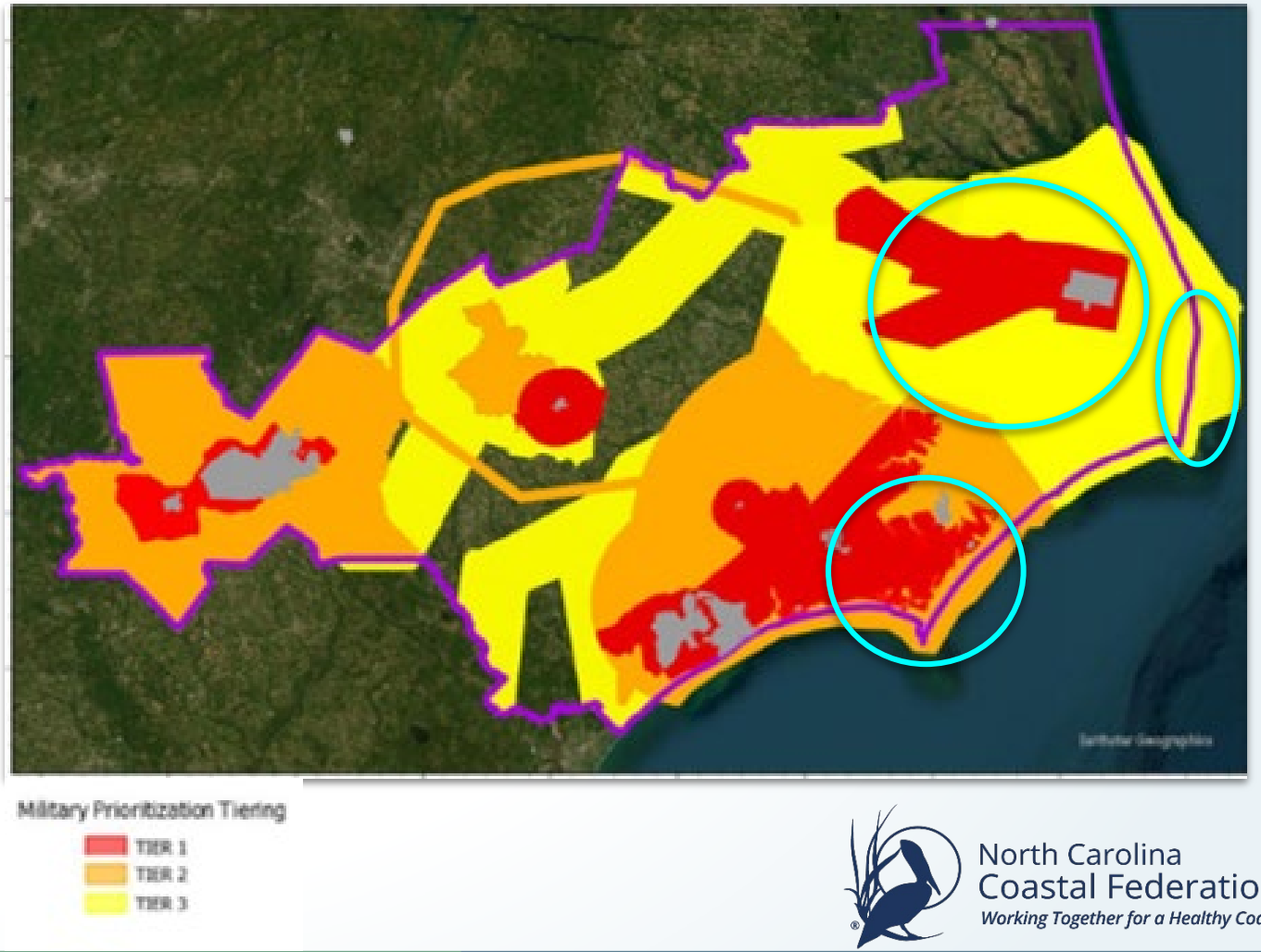
- Identified **five** underserved communities in ENCSL priority geographies to help build community and ecosystem resilience
- Conducting community engagement to help identify at least **five** NBS projects
- SASMI NFWF NCRF funds
- Partnering with





ENCSL Priority Geographies Connection





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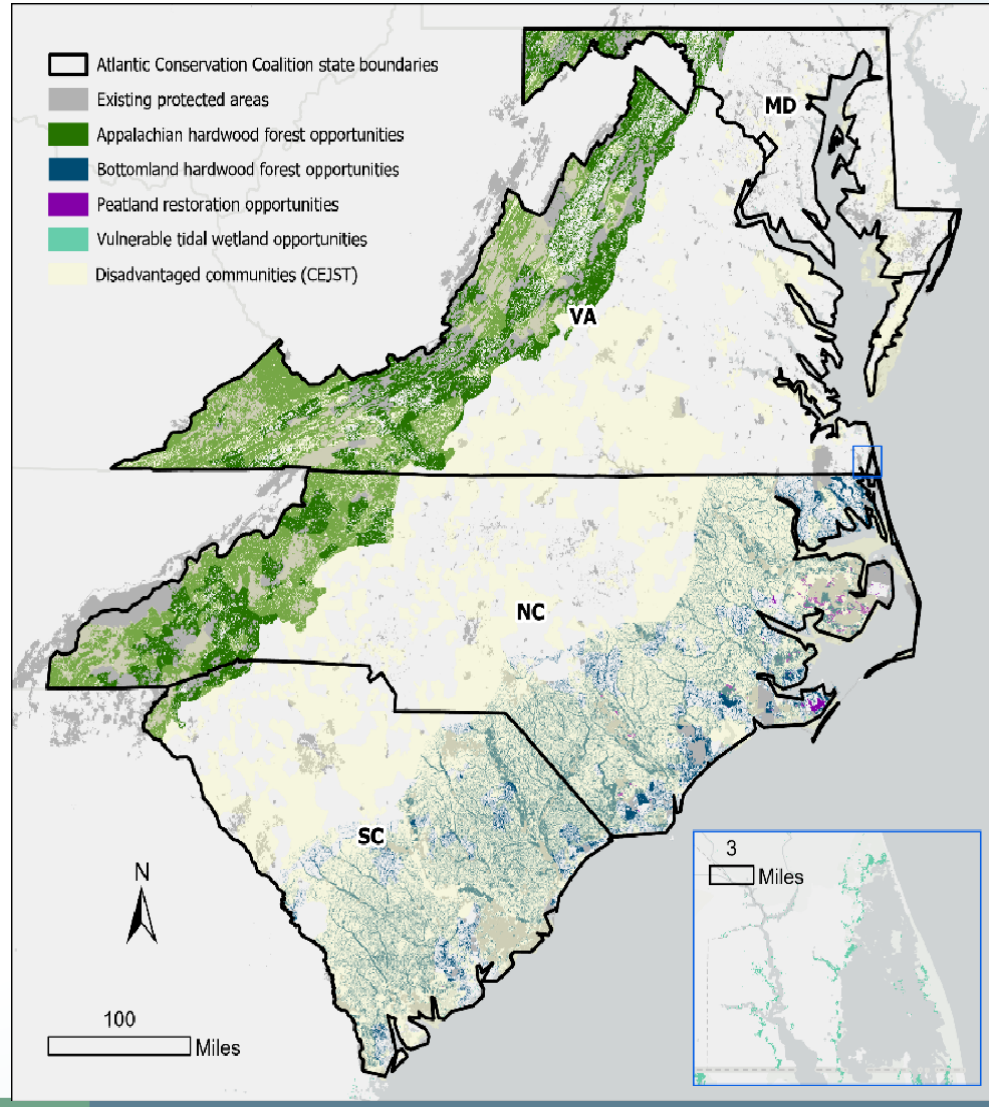
EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant



- EPA awards Atlantic Conservation Coalition (NC, SC, VA, MD) historic $421M to fight climate change through avoided carbon emissions and enhanced carbon sequestration

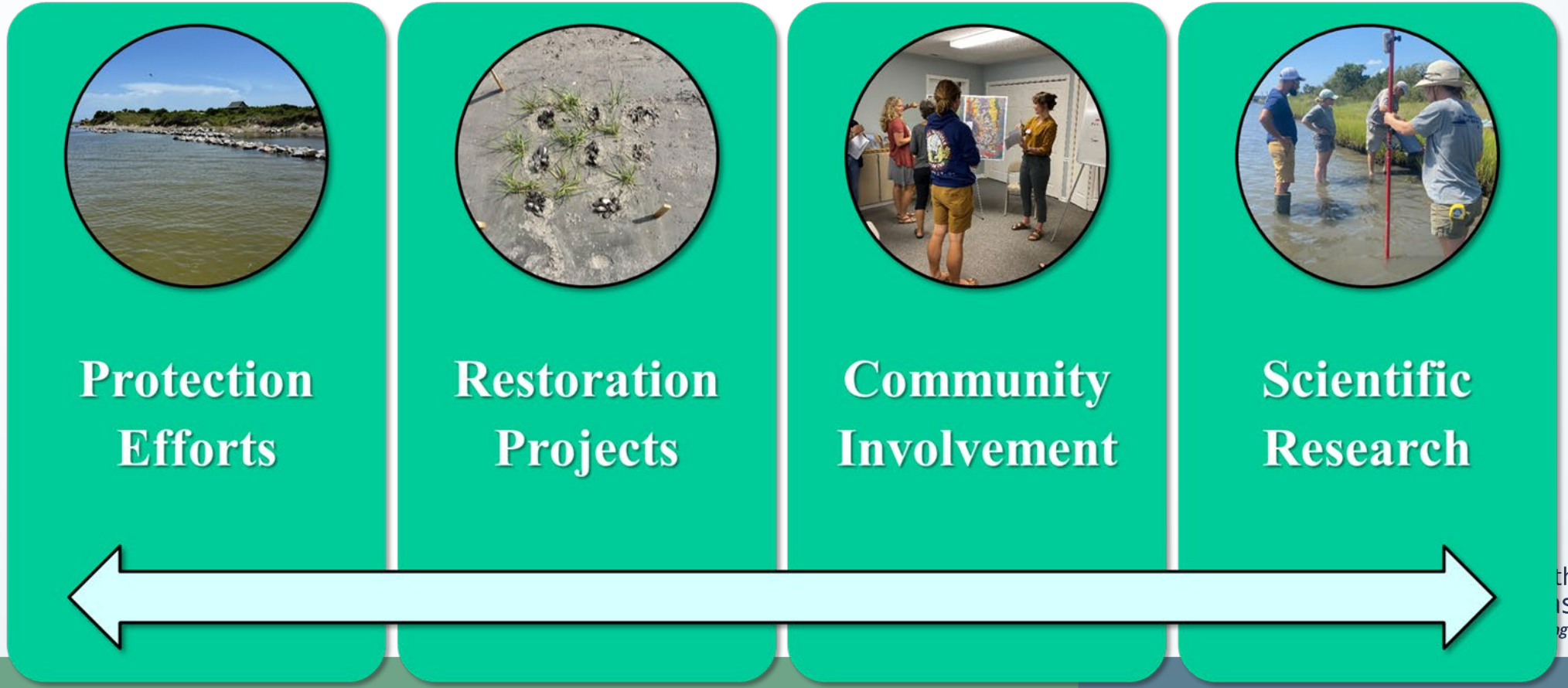
Atlantic Conservation Coalition (ACC)

- Regional approach to reduce GHG emissions by leveraging the carbon sequestration power of NWLs
- NC, SC, MD, VA, TNC, NCCF
- NC Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources leading
- Numerous project partners



Project 1: Coastal Habitat Enhancement Initiative

NC Coastal Federation awarded $30M to restore and protect high carbon coastal habitats





Thank You!

https://www.nccoast.org/salt-marsh/

NC COASTAL FEDERATION
SALT MARSH PROGRAM

North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

Contact Information:

Jacob Boyd

jacobb@nccoast.org

Additional Sentinel Landscape Committee Business Items



Public Comments



Next Meeting, Assignments, and Adjournment

