

Governors' South Atlantic Alliance



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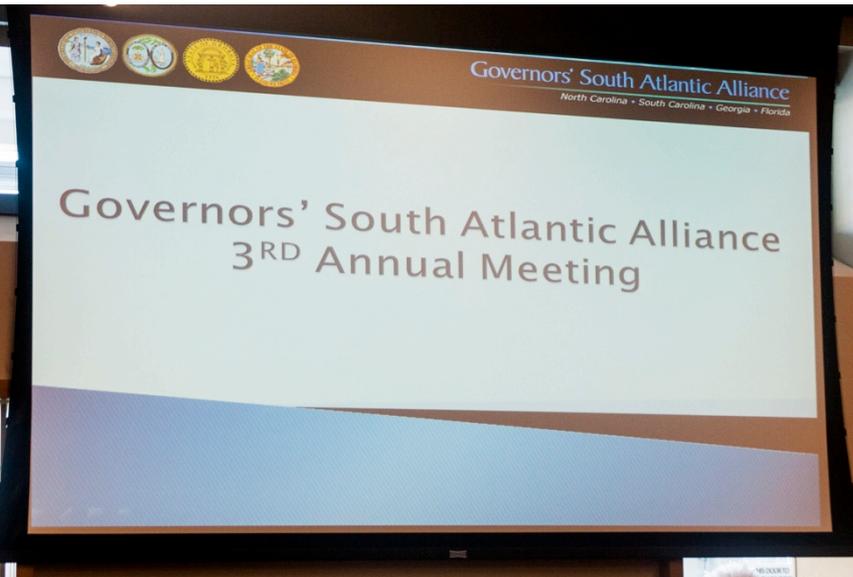
Launching 3 New GSAA Projects

EPA Region 4 Wetland Program Development Grant

Kristine Cherry
GSAA Coordinator

GSAA Annual Meeting
GTM NERR
September 5, 2014

Genesis of the Proposal



- Living Shorelines – hot topic at 2013 Annual Meeting
- EPA Region 4 funding opportunity
- Established a GSAA Living Shorelines Work Group
- Explored other areas of alignment

Contributors



Proposed Project Components

1. Establish a Regional Monitoring Workgroup focused on coastal wetlands monitoring efforts
2. Conduct outreach and training on BMPs
3. Build strategy for a regional approach to living shorelines

\$248,402 = Federal Grant Request

\$ 82,034 = Matching Funds (in-kind and direct)

\$330,436 = Total Project Cost (2 years)

Regional Monitoring Workgroup

- Need – Increase comparability among state monitoring efforts (CCOW3A)
- Project Tasks – Establish a Regional Monitoring Workgroup to
 1. compile data on coastal wetlands monitoring efforts
 2. assess the comparability of state monitoring efforts
 3. identify potential enhancements to state methodologies and develop suggested guidelines to improve the consistency of coastal wetlands monitoring efforts



Regional Monitoring Workgroup

- Potential Outcomes

- State managers will understand the scope of coastal wetlands monitoring efforts in the South Atlantic and the discrepancies that prevent accurate comparisons across states
- State agencies adopt regional monitoring guidelines

- Potential Partners



Outreach & Training on BMPs

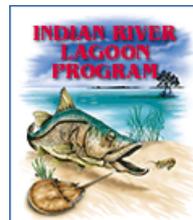
- Need – Develop protocols to transfer knowledge and implement BMPs for point and non-point source pollution controls (CCOW1C)
- Project Tasks – Using the compendium of Coastal Water Quality BMP resources already prepared by the CCOW IATT,
 1. develop a training program curriculum and materials to support implementation of successful BMPs and
 2. host a training workshop in each South Atlantic state that reaches out to state and local coastal managers, developers, and other targeted stakeholders.



Outreach & Training on BMPs

- Potential Outcomes
 - State and local managers and developers will be able to access information on successful BMPs for water quality protection
 - State managers and developers implement most effective and efficient BMPs

- Potential Partners



Regional Approach to Living Shorelines

- Need – Better understand how activities at a regional scale could help support successful implementation of living shorelines throughout the region (DRC5D)
- Project Tasks –
 1. Needs Assessment
 2. Regional Living Shorelines Summit
 3. Use Summit outcomes and follow-up meetings to develop a regional Living Shorelines Strategy



Regional Approach to Living Shorelines

- Potential Outcomes
 - Summit participants have an improved understanding of existing Living Shorelines activities in the region and lessons learned from other regions.
 - State managers are aware of the scope of regional activities that can support implementation of Living Shorelines.
 - GSAA and its partner organizations support Living Shorelines projects that fill specific knowledge gaps and prevent duplication of effort
 - Wider implementation of Living Shorelines throughout the South Atlantic region

- Potential Partners

The Nature Conservancy



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SERPPAS
Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability

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Bonus Project - Utilizing SPARROW

- Need – Evaluate regional nutrient models, such as SPARROW, to assess nutrient sources and the processes that influence transport of nitrogen and phosphorus delivered to coastal ecosystems (CCOW1B)
- Project Tasks –
 1. Identify from SPARROW model runs Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUCs) that contribute the most nitrogen and phosphorus to coastal estuarine wetlands and
 2. Prepare a catalogue of these problem HUCs for use by state managers

Bonus Project - Utilizing SPARROW

- Potential Outcomes
 - State regulators can better focus resources on HUCs that are negatively impacting coastal wetlands and initiate mitigation measures.
- Supporting Partner



Overarching Goal

Provide regional-scale data, analysis, information, and research that meets the common needs of the states in pursuing their priorities for wetlands protection, restoration, and management with the **ultimate goals of improving water quality and coastal resilience**

