ALABAMA
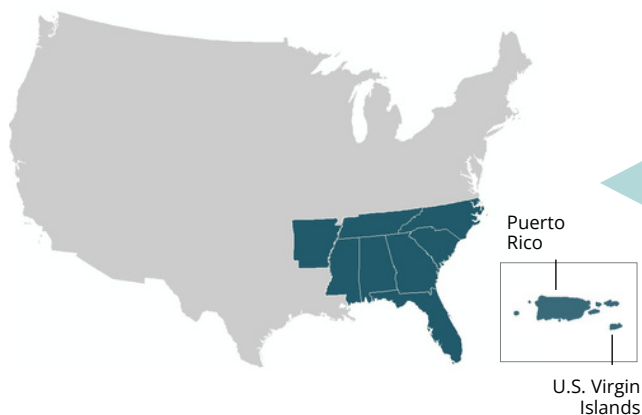
Southeast CASC Consortium Institutions

Host: North Carolina State University

Consortium:

Auburn University

Duke University

Savannah State University

United South & Eastern Tribes

University of Arkansas

University of South Carolina

University of Puerto Rico

University of Tennessee

University of Virgin Islands

Puerto Rico

U.S. Virgin Islands

OUR WORK IN ALABAMA

52

Projects

Since

2010

Key Science Topics

Wildlife & Plants

Freshwater

Wetlands

Sea-Level Rise & Coasts

Tools for Managers

Communicating Future Sea-Level Rise Scenarios for Gulf Coast National Wildlife Refuge and National Park Lands

Low-lying public lands along the northern Gulf of Mexico coast are vulnerable to sea-level rise.

WHAT:

The Southeast CASC worked with the Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative to develop customized fact sheets to communicate the risks of sea-level rise through the year 2100 for the northern Gulf of Mexico's national wildlife refuges and parks.

RESULTS:

Researchers drew from regional and global sea-level rise scenarios to develop tailored information sheets for 54 federally-managed lands in the region. The results of this project support the conservation stewardship missions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service by providing science to inform management.

IMPACT:

This project provides a foundation for planning efforts to prepare for the effects of sea-level rise. This product will increase the capacity of the staff at parks, reserves, and preserves to communicate to visitors and other stakeholders about the risks and changes associated with rising seas.

Climate Change & State Wildlife Action Plans

State wildlife agencies and their partners use State Wildlife Action Plans to coordinate and guide management activities aimed at protecting species. These plans identify factors putting species and their habitats at risk.

WHAT:

The Southeast CASC assessed how states addressed current and projected climate change in their 2015 State Wildlife Action Plans, which serve as important resources for states to identify and protect species and their habitats.

RESULTS:

Alabama has the highest amount of Regional Species of Greatest Conservation Need (RSGCN) in the southeast, with 379 species. Managers found gaps with these species and identified ways to target enhanced conservation efforts to fill information gaps

IMPACT:

Tailored information sheets provide a foundation for planning efforts to prepare for the effects of climate change. These will increase the capacity of staff at specific parks, reserves, and preserves to communicate the potential risks and changes to come.