

March 12, 2025

Mobilizing Regional Conservation: The South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative

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Pew Charitable Trusts

www.thecoastalsociety.org

Celebrating 50 years!

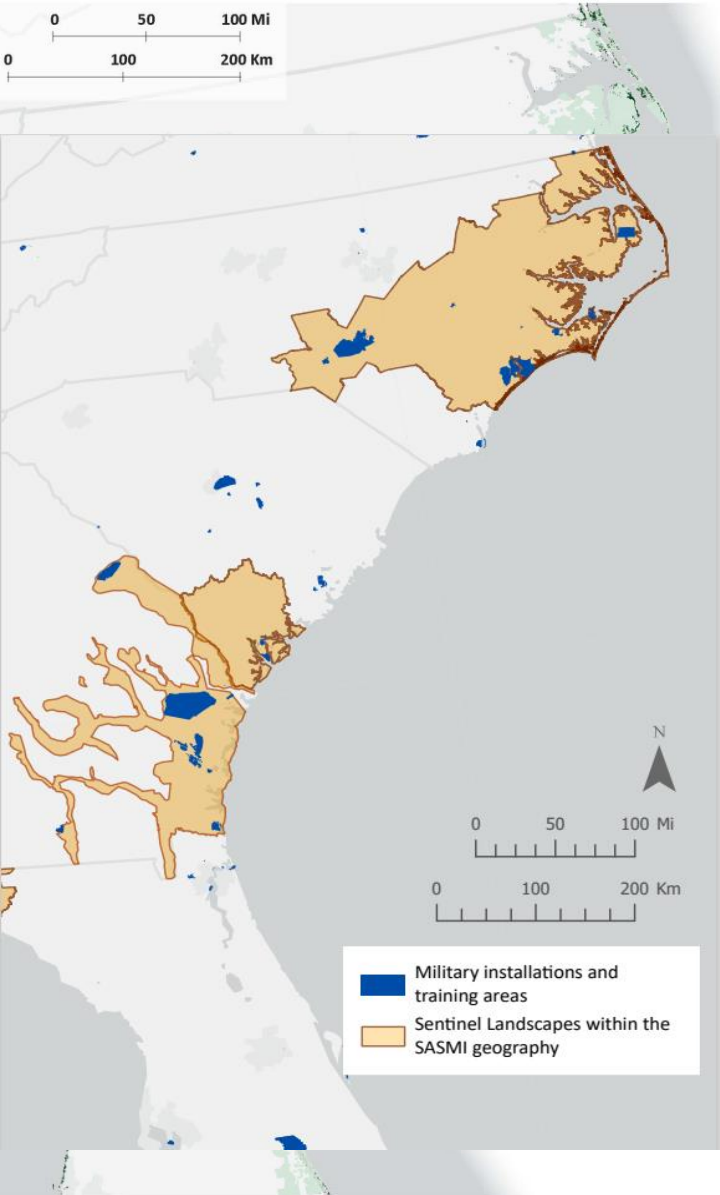


South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative

Amanda Gobeli, SASMI Coordinator

March 2025





What is SASMI?

- Began in May 2021 as a collaborative effort between the Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) and the Pew Charitable Trusts
- Regional – North Carolina through east-central Florida
- Partners from local, state, and federal Agencies; NGOs; academics; military; community leaders
- Voluntary, non-regulatory partnership

Salt marsh extent Protected lands

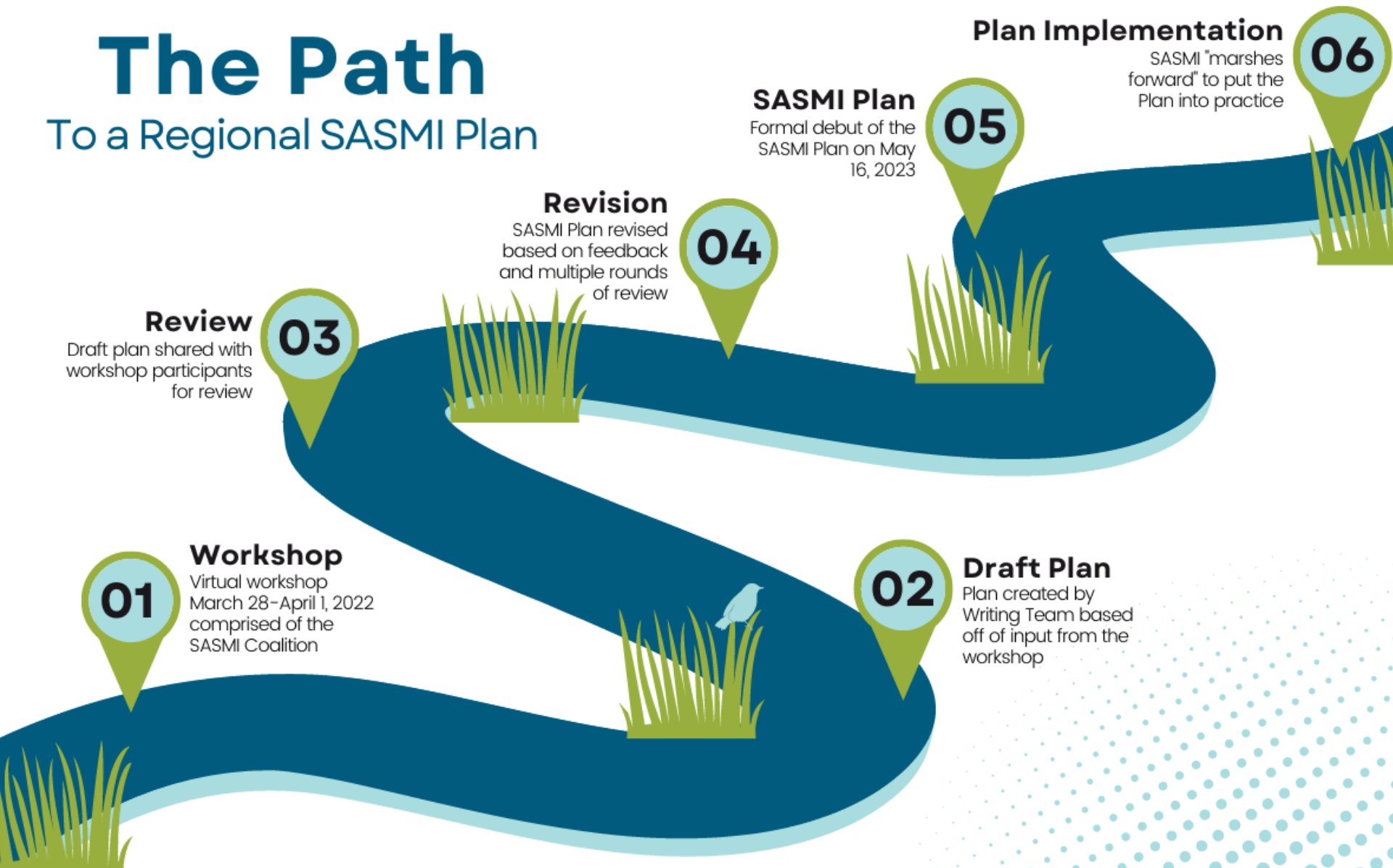
Source: NOAA C-CAP, USGS PAD 3.0



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.

The Path

To a Regional SASMI Plan



01

Workshop

Virtual workshop
March 28-April 1, 2022
comprised of the
SASMI Coalition

03

Review

Draft plan shared with
workshop participants
for review

04

Revision

SASMI Plan revised
based on feedback
and multiple rounds
of review

02

Draft Plan

Plan created by
Writing Team based
off of input from the
workshop

05

SASMI Plan

Formal debut of the
SASMI Plan on May
16, 2023

06

Plan Implementation

SASMI "marshes
forward" to put the
Plan into practice

Strategy 1

1. Protect and restore the health and functions of existing salt marshes.



MARSH FORWARD

**A REGIONAL PLAN FOR THE FUTURE
OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC COAST'S
MILLION-ACRE SALT MARSH ECOSYSTEM**

A COLLABORATIVE
EFFORT OF THE



**SOUTH
ATLANTIC
SALT
MARSH
INITIATIVE**

Protect and Restore



North Carolina Coastal Federation

Strategy 2

2. Conserve marsh migration corridors and remove or retrofit barriers to ensure salt marshes can shift as sea levels rise.



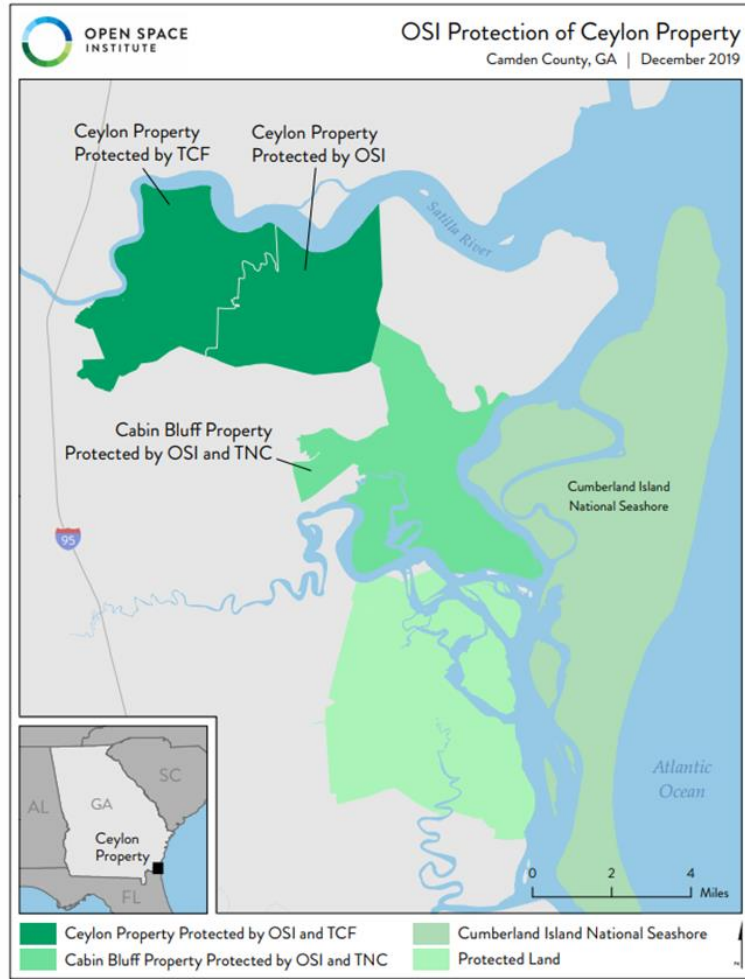
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Conserve Marsh Migration Corridors and Remove or Retrofit Barriers



Crosscutting Approaches

1. Funding
2. Culture and Community
3. Policy
4. Communication, Education and Outreach



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Marshing Forward Together



- State Implementation Teams (SITs)
- Work groups
- Partnership Council
- Funding pursuits
- NFWF NCRF grant
- SASMI Coalition



Marsh Forward!

marshforward.org

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