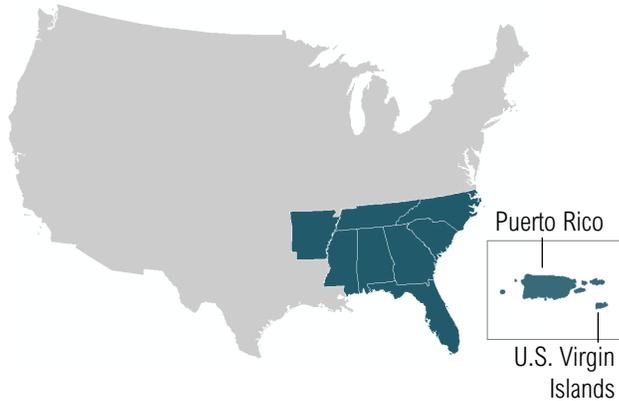


FLORIDA

Florida falls within the domain of the Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (SE CASC)



Southeast CASC Consortium Institutions

Host: North Carolina State University

Consortium:

Auburn University

University of South Carolina

Duke University

University of Tennessee

University of Florida

OUR WORK IN FLORIDA

47+
Projects

since **2010**

Key Science Topics



Wildlife & Plants



Forests



Freshwater



Wetlands



Sea-Level Rise & Coasts

THE GULF COAST'S MIGRATING MANGROVES

Coastal wetlands purify water, protect coastal communities from storms, store carbon, provide habitat for fish and wildlife, and offer opportunities for recreation and fishing. They are also vulnerable to changing climate conditions.

WHAT:

The Southeast CASC examined how changes in temperature and rainfall could alter coastal wetlands in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

RESULTS:

Warmer winters will transform coastal wetlands in the Gulf of Mexico by 2100. Mangrove forests (comprised of trees) will expand northward and replace salt marshes (comprised of grasses). These shifts in vegetation could affect the ecological and economic services wetlands provide.

IMPACT:

Helps wetland managers in Florida and other Gulf of Mexico states plan for future changes in wetlands and prepare for the related impacts to fish, wildlife, and ecosystem services.



SEA-LEVEL RISE HANDBOOK FOR MANAGERS

Sea-level rise poses widespread and continuing threats to the Southeast's economy and environment. In Florida, seas are rising by as much as 1 inch every 3 years. Higher water levels are threatening infrastructure and changing the state's coastal habitats through coastal flooding, saltwater intrusion, and beach erosion.

WHAT:

The Southeast CASC met with federal, state, and NGO coastal managers from the region to evaluate their understanding and use of the resources currently available for projecting sea-level rise and its impacts on coastal habitats and wildlife.

RESULTS:

Created a user-friendly guide that synthesizes the science and tools currently available for projecting future sea-level rise and its potential consequences.

IMPACT:

Provides coastal managers with a condensed yet comprehensive resource on how sea-level rise and its impacts are currently assessed, enabling managers to effectively incorporate considerations of sea-level rise into long-term coastal planning.