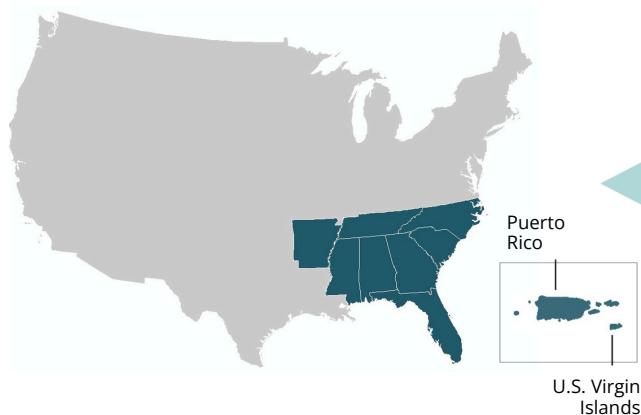




SOUTHEAST
Climate Adaptation Science Center

PUERTO RICO



Southeast CASC Consortium Institutions

Host: North Carolina State University

Consortium:

Auburn University	University of South Carolina
Duke University	University of Puerto Rico
Savannah State University	University of Tennessee
United South & Eastern Tribes	University of Virgin Islands
University of Arkansas	

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Strategic Conservation of Coqui Frogs and other Threatened Amphibians

This partnership between SE CASC, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, University of Puerto Rico, and NC State University used new, higher-resolution climate data specific to Puerto Rico to better plan the management of threatened species.

WHAT:

Coqui frogs are an important part of the culture and landscape of Puerto Rico and are threatened by climate futures. This project aimed to test the adaptability of coquis using new models that “downscale” global data to the small island scale of Puerto Rico.

RESULTS:

A decision framework was developed to help determine when and where to implement conservation actions to maximize species persistence. The framework incorporates ecological and socio-economic factors, multiple and possibly competing management objectives, and key uncertainties (related to climate and land use dynamics) to provide a full-picture tool.

IMPACT:

Managers are now making informed steps to protect this culturally significant species. This work also helps inform other threatened species’ conservation strategies across the Caribbean.



Capacitación Laboral en Investigación y Manejo Adaptativo (PR-CLIMA)

El Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales de Puerto Rico (PR-DRNA) ha colaborado con SE CASC del Servicio Geológico de los Estados Unidos para apoyar el desarrollo de la fuerza laboral climática de Puerto Rico, utilizando una oportunidad de financiamiento de \$2.75 millones en fondos federales.

WHAT:

El programa tiene como objetivo progresar las prioridades científicas y las preguntas de investigación que están alineados con el PR-DRNA a la vez que se fortalece la capacitación profesional en Puerto Rico.

IMPACT:

Los elementos del programa de capacitación incluyen el financiamiento de una cohorte de estudiantes graduados (de ambos, los estudiantes tradicionales y los empleados con experiencia del PR-DRNA) quienes, como parte del financiamiento de los programas graduados, abordarán una necesidad prioritaria en la ciencia de la adaptación climática del DRNA.

