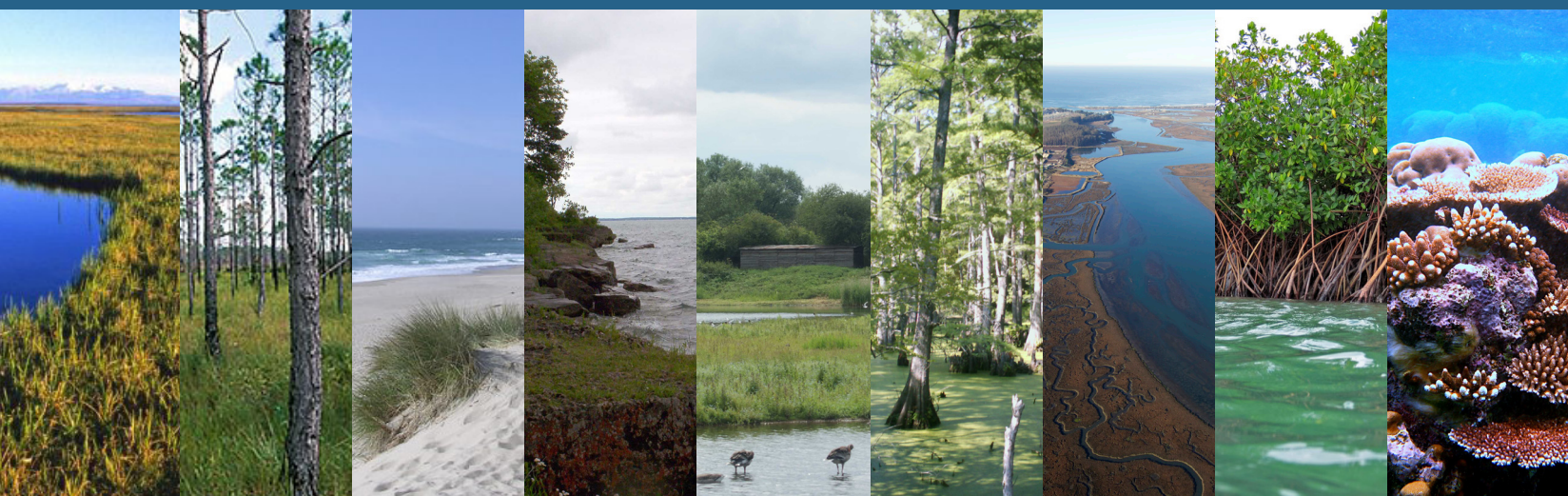


COASTAL HABITAT AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT



Learn more about the work being done by
State Coastal Programs at:
www.coastalstates.org/csopublications

Coastal ecosystems comprise a diverse blend of various habitat types and geological features, making them some of the most diverse and productive ecosystems in the world. Our coastal ecosystems *include*:



Plains Pine Forests Dunes Alvars Marshes Bayous Estuaries Mangroves Coral Reefs

These ecosystems are critical to fisheries and wildlife, culturally vital to coastal communities, and provide important services including water quality protection, storm surge attenuation, and flood mitigation.

Wetlands & Water Quality

Coastal wetlands slow the release of stormwater into estuarine systems and improve water quality by allowing sediments and associated nutrients to settle out of suspension prior to entering the nearshore area. This buffer effect helps prevent harmful algal blooms and the negative impacts on local shellfish, while reducing sediment load and protecting corals from smothering.

State Coastal Programs & Habitat

For more than 40 years, coastal programs in U.S. states, territories and commonwealths have been part of the national coastal zone management effort coordinated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to protect and restore coastal resources, protect communities from coastal hazards, and promote economic development along our nation's ocean and Great Lakes coasts.

95,000 Miles of Opportunity

Across the United States, 95,000 miles of coastline serve as the foundation for local and national ecosystems and economies. **A distance equal to nearly 4 times the circumference of the Earth**, coastal ecosystems thrive thanks to the partnerships built through decades of work managing these critical areas.



PROTECTING COASTAL HABITAT YIELDS ECONOMIC BENEFITS

The Trust for Public Land found that every dollar spent on land conservation can yield a return of \$11 in natural goods and services.

Coastal Habitat Supports Seafood

- Most US fish and shellfish spend a portion of their life in estuaries.
- Estuaries provide habitat for ~68% of US commercial fish catch and 80% of recreational.



Shrimp Boat on Mobile Bay by Billy Pope

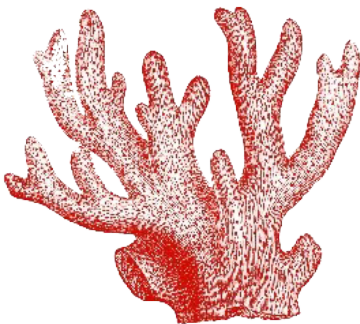
CZM Programs help restore and protect habitat

For the period between 2008 & 2017

- 37,458 acres coastal habitat protected
- 34,147 acres coastal habitat restored
- 502,000 people educated about importance of and how to protect coastal habitat

Coral Reefs & Coastal Economies

\$3.4 B – total economic value of coral reef services for U.S. The amount includes fisheries, tourism, and coastal protection.



Wetlands Protect People

Wetland damage prevention:

- \$23 B – annual amount of storm surge protection provided by coastal wetlands to areas vulnerable to hurricanes and tropical storms
- Areas behind existing salt marshes incurred 20% fewer property damages than areas not protected
- Coastal wetlands prevented \$625 M in property damages during Hurricane Sandy



Kelly Fike/USFWS

The National Coastal Zone Management Program:

A state-federal partnership between Coastal States and NOAA working to manage essential resources and strengthen our nation's coastal ecosystems.

Coastal States Organization
Washington, D.C.
www.coastalstates.org

