

Introduction

- Estuarine habitats throughout coastal regions in Florida have experienced high rates of habitat loss, alteration, and degradation because of...



- Anthropogenic changes in estuaries around Florida caused loss of mangrove wetlands, salt marshes, oyster reefs, and seagrass beds.
- Loss of these habitats decreases resiliency of coastal regions and increases susceptibility to erosion, flooding, and sea level rise.
- To reverse habitat loss, restoration practitioners in Florida have undertaken a variety of restoration activities to recover and enhance estuarine systems, including...



Purpose of Project

To develop a statewide coastal restoration plan with tools for identifying and prioritizing coastal habitats in need of restoration and support implementation of successful restoration methods

Scope of Project

- The Statewide Coastal Restoration Plan will be developed through a collaboration between
 - University of Central Florida (UCF)
 - RES
 - Estuarine Restoration Teams (ERTs)
- ERTs are comprised of restoration practitioners in 5 coastal regions in Florida, bringing together a wealth of knowledge and expertise about Florida's coastal systems



Next Steps...

Step 1: Assemble "FLERT" team with members from the 5 regional estuarine restoration teams.

Step 2: Identify existing research, restoration projects, and mapping resources from around the state to include in a statewide meta-analysis.

Step 3: Design and conduct pilot projects to address information gaps from each region.

Step 4: Combine resources to produce a statewide coastal restoration plan with the following elements.

Overview of restoration practices utilized in each region

Tools to evaluate & prioritize locations for restoration techniques

Suitability matrix based on current shoreline conditions for identification of best restoration practices

Contact Information

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