Governors’ South Atlantic Alliance and Working Waterfronts

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S.C. Sea Grant Consortium

National Working Waterfronts & Waterways Symposium
Tacoma, Washington
March 27, 2013
Presentation Outline

- Brief GSAA Overview
- Working Waterfronts Priority Issue Area
- Progress to Date
- Next Steps
Partnership Agreement

- Signed by the Governors of SC, GA, FL, & NC
- Supports regionally-based actions and solutions
- Creates a partnership among states, federal and local agencies; academia; nongovernmental organizations; businesses; and the public
- Aligns with southeastern states’ recommendations to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy
Increase regional collaboration among South Atlantic states, with federal agency partners and other stakeholders, to sustain and enhance the environmental (coastal/marine), natural resource, economic, public safety, social, and national defense missions of the respective states and the South Atlantic region.
Goals

The Alliance provides a structure and forum for collaborating, coordinating, and sharing information that will support:

- Resource sustainability
- Improved regional alignment
- Cooperative planning and leveraging resources
- Integrated research, observations, and mapping
- Increased awareness of the challenges facing the South Atlantic region
- Inclusiveness and integration at all levels
Priority Issue Areas

The four states have identified an initial set of priority issue areas:

- Healthy Ecosystems
- Clean Coastal and Ocean Waters
- Disaster–Resilient Communities
- Working Waterfronts
Working Waterfronts

Working waterfronts include water–dependent facilities and related shore–side infrastructure offering access or support for a wide variety of public, business, recreation, and commercial uses.

The Alliance will work to:

- Strike a balance between new development, historic uses and sustained resources
- Support port development/maintenance and effective coastal planning
- Ensure public access
Technical Team Members

- **Mentor**
  - Chris Russo, NCDENR

- **State Representatives**
  - Maureen Meehan, NCDENR (team leader)
  - Julie Dennis, FL DEO
  - Shawn Jordan, GADNR
  - April Turner, SCSGC

- **Federal Representatives (NOAA, USGS, USACE)**

- **Additional Members**
  - Regional Level Partners
  - Knowledge-Based Partners
Governors’ South Atlantic Alliance – Plans
www.southatlanticalliance.org

Governors’ South Atlantic Alliance
Action Plan

www.southatlanticalliance.org
2012 Priority Actions

- Protect U.S. military waterfront access and water-dependent land use related to military footprint, operational readiness, and training missions.

- Support community-based mapping work to identify contemporary, historical, recreational and commercial working waterfront sites.

  Develop definitions & criteria for commercially, recreationally, and culturally important waterfronts.
2013 Priority Actions

- Inventory public access infrastructure and support facilities within the four states.

- Integrate regional long range planning for both commercial and federal ports emphasizing multi-modal, multi-use capacity, and promoting the use of existing infrastructure and navigational channels through increased communication between member states.

- Identify underutilized brownfields for port expansion
Ideas At Work ...

- NOAA Regional Ocean Partnership Grant
  - Regional Proposal Submitted January 2013
- North Carolina Beach Access Inventory
- Working Waterfronts in Florida
- Funding!!!
Questions?

www.southatlanticalliance.org

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