# Florida Silver Jackets Quarterly Meeting

6 June 2024

Team of Professionals Making Tomorrow Better





Warner Buchman- USACE SPP Planner and Florida Silver Jackets Coordinator

**Angie Odell- FDEM Mitigation Planner** 







- Overview of the Silver Jackets Program
- Guest Speaker: Dr. Michelle Covi, Coastal Resilience DOD Liaison with the University of Georgia Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant
- Overview of current FY 24 SJ projects
- Overview of submitted FY 25 SJ Project Proposals









## SILVER JACKETS PROGRAM





- Interagency teams facilitating collaborative solutions
- State-led with tribal, federal, and local agencies
- Natural disaster risk mitigation
- Sharing knowledge to enhance preparedness, response and recovery

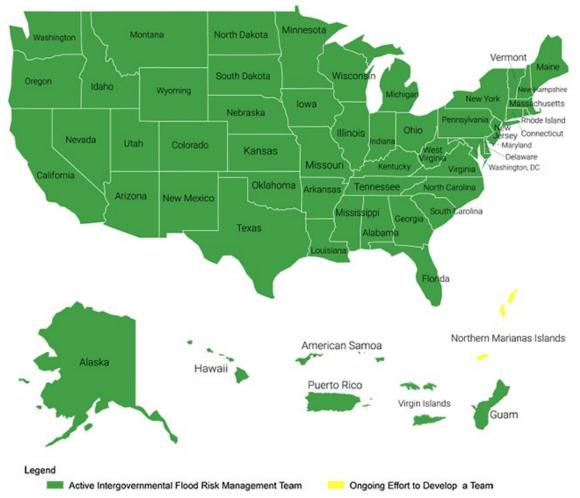


Scan this QR code to be linked to the Silver Jackets Website



#### State Teams

Select a team using the menu at the left or the map below.







Dr. Michelle Covi Coastal Resilience DoD Liaison Georgia Sea Grant/SERPPAS mcovi@uga.edu

Events & Webinars

RAE 2024 Coastal & Estuarine Summit
October 6 - 10, 2024

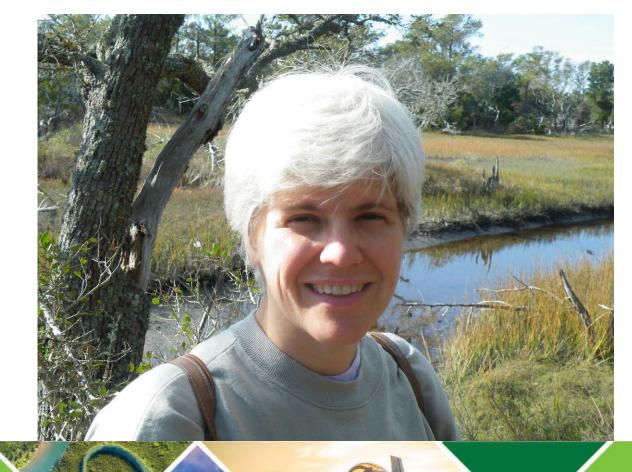
**78th Annual SEAFWA Conference** 

October 12 - 16, 2024 Augusta, GA

**Navigating Military Readiness Through Responsible Project Execution** 

**December 11, 2024** 

Webinar (hosted by REPI)





## **FY24 FLORIDA SILVER JACKETS UPDATES**









# FLORIDA BASIN-LEVEL INVENTORY UPDATE





 Opportunity: Florida FloodHub development and to act as repository for all modeling and analysis across the state of Florida

#### Products:

- State-wide database- Inventory of modeling and analysis efforts in FL
- Guidelines for aligning data methodology
- Interactive tool for communities to access this information

#### Status:

- Collecting information & sharing data
- Presentations by FloodHub, USACE, FAU Engineering
- Workshop in St. Pete at Flood Hub June 7







## CRS: COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM





- Opportunity:
  - 468 communities in Florida with only 256 in CRS programs
  - Decrease rating level of participating communities
- Products:
  - Create a PPI for participating communities
  - Create a template for other communities
- Status:
  - Presentation by FDEM Conn Cole
  - Committee Workshop 30 May
  - Completion of Step 2 and progress on Step 3 & 4

Community Rating System | FEMA.gov





## **JACKSONVILLE GREEN ROADWAYS DESIGN CHARETTE**





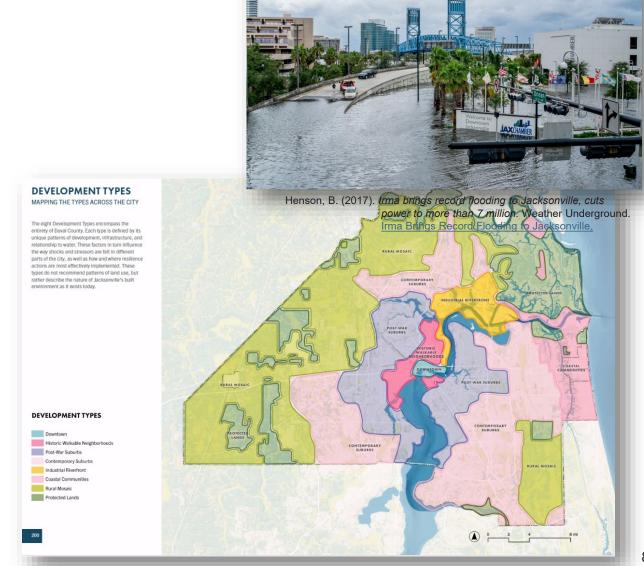
 Problem: Roadway flooding during heavy rain, tropical storms, and high tides on sunny days

#### Products:

- Identify pilot roadway projects in vulnerable communities
- Host green roadway design charrettes that will promote the inclusion of green designs for both public and private entities

#### Status:

 Tentative Upcoming Engineering Charette 24 July





## **INCORPORATING CORALS INTO THE HMGP PROCESS**





- HMGP= Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Opportunity:
  - Coral and engineered reefs potentially reduce coastal flood damage by reducing wave energy
  - Recently funded State initiatives explore coral restoration and incorporating reefs into mitigation features
- Product: (1)Technical document providing information on coral as coastal protection features, current status and opportunities for funding coral as flood mitigation. (2) Community focused poster to increase awareness of coral reef functions for coastal protection
- Status:
  - April 2 workshop at University of Miami
  - Team is working on products



## FY25 FLORIDA SILVER JACKETS PROPOSED PROJECTS









## **COMMUNITY POST-FLOODING WQ HAZARD AWARENESS**





 Problem: Post flooding WQ is a public health and environmental concern exacerbated by climate change impacts

#### Background:

- Gov. DeSantis reinstated a task force for FL to improve WQ using science to inform decision making process
- Many other agencies also addressing these issues

#### Opportunities:

- Connect communities of FL to educational tools created by these agencies and the task force
- Resiliency, preparation, response and recovery planning

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

January 10, 2019

# LESS THAN 48 HOURS AFTER BEING SWORN INTO OFFICE, GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER OUTLINING HIS BOLD VISION FOR FLORIDA'S ENVIRONMENT.

The Executive Order directs strategic action with a focus on accountability, transparency and collaboration and includes a proposed \$2.5 billion investment over four years. This funding – for Everglades restoration and protection of our water resources – is the highest level of funding for restoration in Florida's history.

Water is a key part of Florida's cultural heritage and a clean and abundant supply of water is inextricably linked to our future prosperity and economic well-being. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Health and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission are working together to protect and restore our environment.



#### STATE TASK FORCE EFFORTS

#### **RED TIDE TASK FORCE**

Under Governor Ron DeSantis' leadership the Red Tide Task Force, also known as the Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Task Force, was re-organized and received funding for the first time in more than 15 years.

Coordination of the Red Tide Task Force and its activities will be carried out by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). The task force focuses on the causes of red tide and seeks to provide mitigation solutions, identify research needs, and evaluate other actions intended to address impacts from red tide along with other saltwater based algal blooms.

These efforts will complement those of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force to improve water quality. Science will be at the forefront as they will also work with the new Florida Red Tide Mitigation and Technology Development Initiative, an outgrowth of a long-term partnership between FWC and Mote Marine Laboratory signed into law by Governor DeSantis. That initiative is focused specifically on the development and implementation of technologie to address impacts arising from red tide.

Three million dollars a year for six years, is provided by the state to facilitate these efforts and there will be an annual opportunity for scientists to submit competitive grant proposals from 2019-25 for scientists to partner with Mote scientists and utilize Mote facilities, infrastructure and technology.









## **COMMUNITY GUIDEBOOK TO FLOOD MODELING**





Problem: Increasing flooding events across
 FL in communities

#### Background:

- FY24 SJ Florida Basin-Level Inventory Project
- Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation

#### Opportunities:

- Create a guidebook for communities to highlight already present tools and provide an understanding of the flood modeling process
- Utilization of the guidebook by the state to help communities access and understand flood modeling

#### Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation

USF College of Marine Science / Research / Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation / Scientific and Technical Workgroups

#### SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL WORKGROUPS





#### RAINFALL WORKGROUP

It's sometimes said: Where it rains, it can flood. Florida's statewide **rainfall average is nearly 54 inches per year**, but changing precipitation patterns suggest that past conditions are not reliable indicators of future conditions. Extreme rainfall events, which can quickly overwhelm drainage systems, reveal an urgent need to design and implement water resource projects that reduce the likelihood of rain-induced flooding. The Flood Hub's workgroup on rainfall will estimate changes to the depth, duration, and frequency of extreme rainfall events. The goal is to improve short-term forecasts and longer-term projections, while guiding comprehensive water management efforts throughout the state.

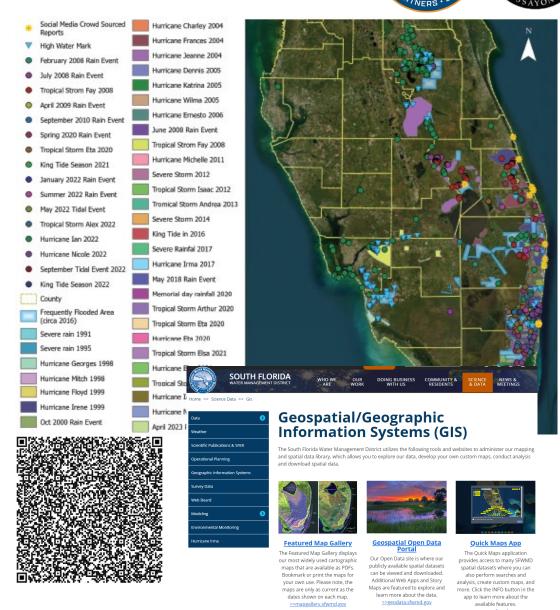


# FLOOD OBSERVATIONS- REGIONAL COORDINATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





- Problem: Community flooding and a lack of understanding of all available tools
- Background:
  - SFWMD has already begun a similar effort
  - Flood Hub
- Opportunities:
  - Inventory existing tools
  - Help communities determine how to build better tools and expand their set
  - One location for all tools across the state
  - Create a recommended best practices tool list





## ST. MARYS CLIMATE RESILIENCE EDUCATIONAL SERIES





 Problem: Climate change impacts to the cross-state zone of the St. Marys River and its surrounding areas

#### Background:

 Many ongoing and developing naturebased environmental resiliency projects in St. Marys Watershed

#### Opportunities:

- Greater connectivity between relevant agencies
- Educating the public via workshops on the ongoing efforts and nature-based solutions
- Examination of areas currently underserved and determine NBS opportunities for interagency improvement





St. Marys Riverkeeper is the chief advocate and public's voice for the St. Marys River.

### **Explore Your Watershed**

#### Check the water levels

**SMR at Moniac** 

SMR near Macclenny (US-121)

**SMR at Traders Hill** 

SMR at I-95 Bridge

Front Street in Fernandina

Water Quality Data in Georgia Adopt-a-Stream Database

Link to The St. Marys River Paddling Guide (FloridaDEP.gov



Picture is from St. Marys Shoals Park in Baker County, FL







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#### **USACE Silver Jackets Website:**

- http://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/
- https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/Silver-Jackets/State-Teams/Florida/

