

Joy Brown, *The Nature Conservancy's Resilience Work in South Carolina*

TNC has been working on resilience measures for 40 years! Resilience related work includes land conservation, nature-based shoreline stabilization, community resilience planning in Horry & Georgetown counties. For more information on TNC in South Carolina, visit:

<https://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/southcarolina/contact/index.htm>

Land conservation focuses include:

- Clean drinking water
- Recreational opportunities
- Habitat corridors for animals to move freely
- Buffers to reduce impact of flooding in the area
- ACE Basin in one of the most successful models of public-private partnership for land protection in the country (25 years to protect over 200,000 acres)

<https://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/southcarolina/placesweprotect/ace-basin.xml>

Nature-based shoreline stabilization

- SC TNC has been involved in oyster restoration projects since 2009
- TNC has worked with numerous partners over the past 9 years to test substrates & configurations in Winyah Bay, Cape Romain NWR, along the Intracoastal Waterways, the Stono River and Wadmalaw Island
- Testing alternative substrates because oyster shell is a limiting factor and becoming harder to find and purchase. TNC has helped DNR to look at methods of expanding their shell recycling efforts.
- TNC is working with the 6 other land conservation organizations in the state to educate land trust staff and property owners on natural methods of shoreline stabilization.
- TNC is currently working with DNR & DHEC as they develop BMPs for materials and eventual policy language for a Living Shoreline permit.
- In the spring of 2016, volunteers and partners helped TNC to install the largest reef structure (installed in one day) in SC at Goldbug Island. The reef is 240' x 4' wide.
- TNC is currently siting an acre sized project area in the ACE Basin.

<http://projects.tnc.org/coastal/> (General state search = SC)

North Coast Community Resilience Project

- Focuses on flood impacts in communities in Georgetown & Horry County
- SC Kick off in Sept 2016 with a community meeting to get input on issues related to marshes, rivers & beaches.
- Mary Conley, TNC's SE Marine Conservation Dir, is supporting resilience projects in NC, SC, GA & FL. She worked with a team from NOAA to

develop tool trainings for the SE communities & held a community learning workshop for the 4 states in spring 2017.

- TNC developed a work plan for the North Coast project during the regional meeting, based on community input, with a focus on flooding (inundation during storms, ponding from rain & downstream flooding from the rivers)
- A high-resolution GIS analysis is currently being done to identify persistently flooded parcels around the rivers in the two counties.
- Working with focus groups, a priority matrix will be developed. The most vulnerable parcels will be identified and projects and cost estimates will be established.
- TNC will find funding to implement at least one project. The other projects on the list will be provided to the counties/cities for use in their Comprehensive Plans and when/if future funding becomes available.

<http://coastalresilience.org/project/south-carolina/>