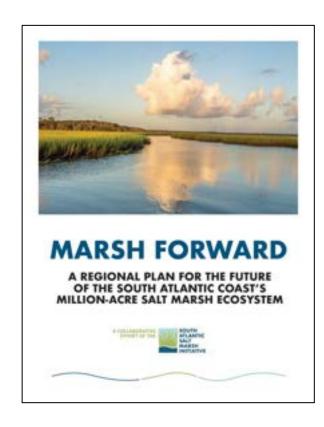


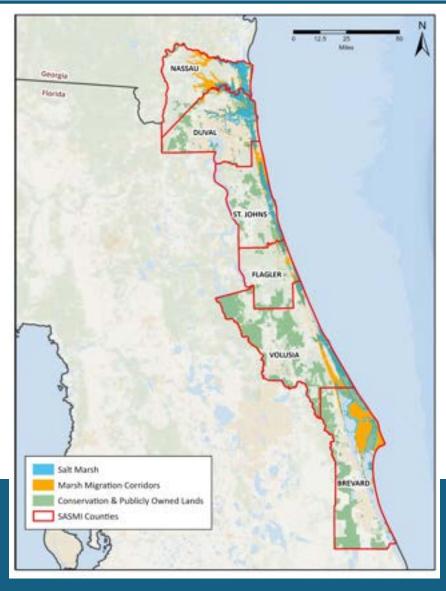
Implementing the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative in Northeast Florida

Heather Nagy, North Florida Land Trust NRLI Practicum

SASMI- South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative

- Goal: <u>conserve</u> and <u>restore</u> the approximately 1 million acres of salt marshes within the South Atlantic to ensure their long-term survival and to protect the benefits they provide for fish, wildlife, and people
- Coalition of over 300 diverse partners
- "Marsh Forward: A Regional Plan for the Future of the South Atlantic Coast's Million-Acre Salt Marsh Ecosystem"
- Florida State Implementation Team

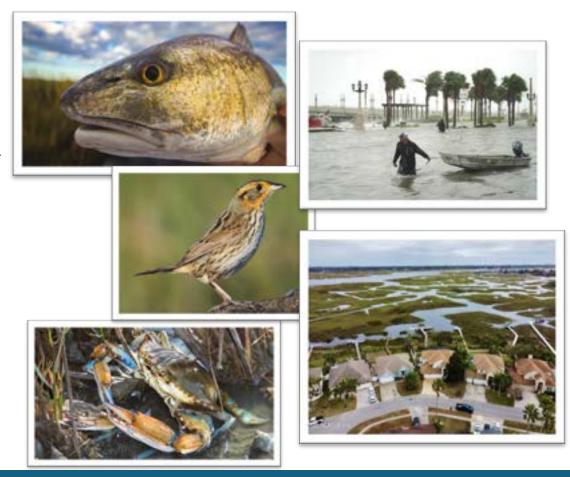






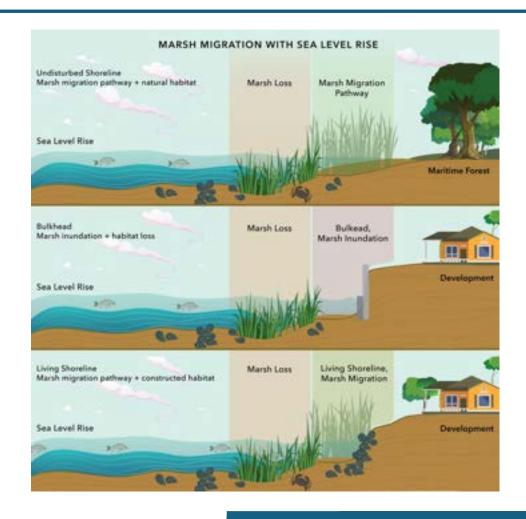
Importance of Salt Marsh & Coastal Resiliency

- Reduce property damage by up to 20% in adjacent communities during storms
- One acre can absorb 1.5 million gallons of flood water
- Sequester and store carbon at a rate 10 times that of tropical forests
- Important bird habitat
- Shelter, food, and nursery grounds for more than 75% of commercial and recreational fish species in the country, including white shrimp, blue crab, redfish, and flounder
- Filter runoff and excess nutrients
- Cultural and historic significance





Salt Marsh Threats



- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) estimates that the U.S. loses approximately 80,000 acres of coastal wetland and salt marshes annually.
- Tropicalization mangrove migration
- Polluted runoff
- Development and hardened shorelines
- Rising sea levels: marsh migration



Practicum Goal

Create an "Advisory Committee" to guide the Florida State Implementation Team

- Establish a community of trust and open dialogue
- Engage the advisory committee to identify key needs, priorities, and components of a Roadmap to guide collaborative efforts to implement the SASMI plan in Northeast Florida.

FSIT Timeline & Goals Roadmap Roadmap **FSIT Formation** Adoption and Development and Recruitment **Implementation** (Spring/Summer (2024/2025)(Fall/Winter 2025) 2025) SASMI Plan Workshops on Roadmap Framework Road map finalized Strategies & Crosscutting Project Identification Project Implementation Approaches Project Prioritization Roadmap draft and editing Final Roadmap



Relevant Parties





















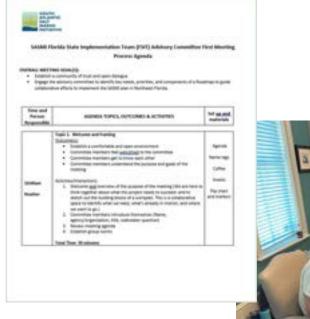








Practicum Project





- Recruited ~ 10 FSIT members to join the Advisory Committee
- Held the first Advisory Committee meeting on April 15th.
- 4-hour meeting held at NFLT office
- Small group activities focused on teambuilding and brainstorming



NRLI Techniques Used

Meeting Prep:

Process Agenda & Meeting Design

Meeting Agenda:

- Setting the stage
- Icebreaker/Group Norms
- Visioning exercise
 - Buzz groups
 - Group Brainstorm
- Timeline Mapping
- Building a Roadmap Framework activity
 - Individual writing activity
 - Post-Its
 - Clustering & prioritization
- Debrief/Next Steps



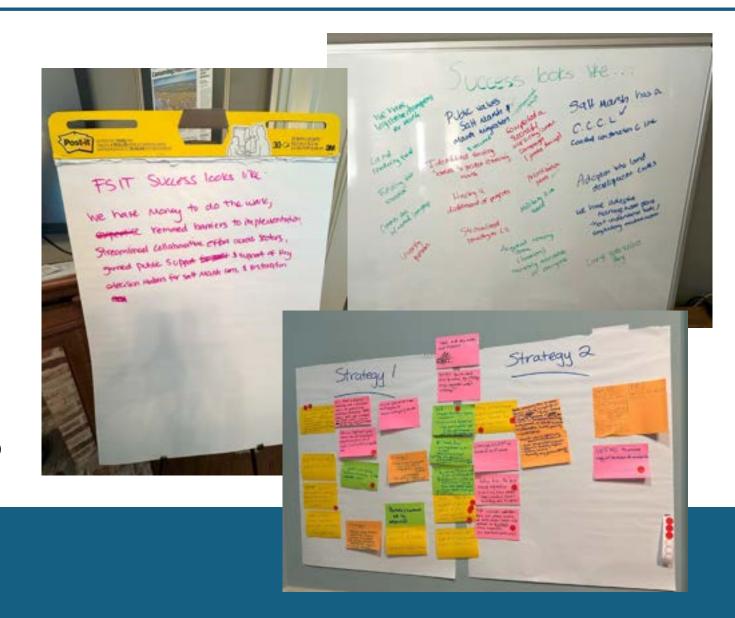






Outcomes

- Brainstormed a vision for FSIT long term success
- Established a timeline for drafting, reviewing and editing the Roadmap
- Successful teambuilding amongst the Committee members
- Brainstormed an initial list of tasks, ideas and questions for draft Roadmap
- Each member listed one contribution they will make toward developing the Roadmap





Lessons Learned



- Importance of refining the agenda and not trying to do too much
- NRLI techniques were very effective for establishing a productive meeting environment
- Value in taking the time to establish relationships and build trust
- Variety of exercises and activities keeps participants engaged and ideas flowing
- Participants enjoyed hands on activities/tools to brainstorm and work together
- Timing of timeline activity



Next Steps

- Utilize meeting feedback to develop first draft of roadmap
- Engage other states and the SASMI Partnership Council to address Committee member questions
- Meet with Advisory Committee in early May to review draft
- Draft presented to FSIT partnership in late May
- Draft completed by early July
- Advisory Committee meeting was great first step







