

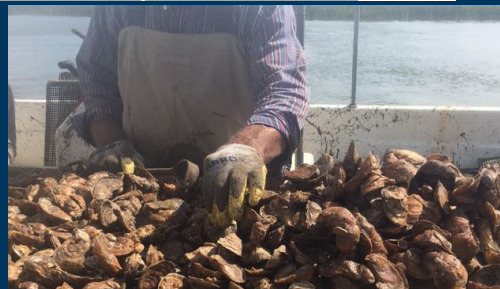
FY24-26 Strategic Planning: *Coast/Marine Sub-strategy on Integrated Oyster Management*

Ultimate Outcome: A resilient network of healthy oyster reefs and salt marshes, high fisheries productivity and diversity, healthy living shorelines and estuaries

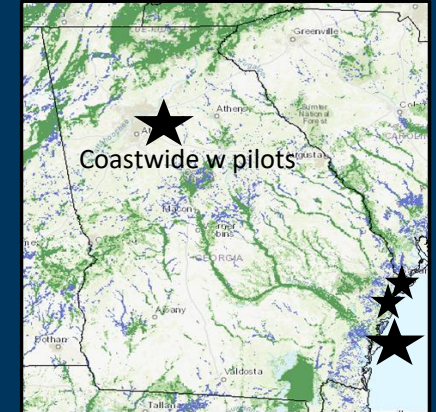
Habitat/Species Targets



Community Connections w Targets



Work Locations



Risk to Targets – shoreline erosion, aquaculture stakeholder conflicts, oyster populations decrease, harmful policy changes, economies of scale unrealized, legacy of oyster culture fades

Strategies to Abate Risk

- Work with partners to protect and restore oyster habitat, enhance oyster populations, and support sustainable oyster fisheries. Inclusive engagement of stakeholders as leaders from planning through implementation to communications phases. Support and expand SOAR (Supporting Oyster Aquaculture and Restoration) projects – Sapelo Sound, Wassaw Sound and communities. Directly linked with saltmarsh and creek heath and protection for today and the future.

Forecasted 2030 Outputs (FY24-26):

- Ocean area with improved management (areal coverage of sounds) 43,853 ha
- At risk area with avoided impact – coastwide for oyster management, threat of shoreline armoring abated by living shorelines and adjacent land area avoided impacts and improved
- People benefiting from healthy oyster populations, fisheries, community legacy, oyster trail tourism and living shorelines coast-wide - # tbe

Community Impact (answers to final two questions)

- What is one clearly articulated TNC action that the strategy/program lead can implement to increase communications and improve outcomes for potentially impacted communities? Establish an inclusive stakeholder workgroup with local equitable participation serving important roles in all aspects of the projects - from planning to implementation and monitoring, including a communications plan. Strive for community-centered projects. Oysters and salt marsh health are critical to the health of local economy and community.
- Acknowledging there are always resource constraints, what resources (staff time, training, funding, etc.) would the program need to implement this next step? Staff Time – Coast and Marine director, Consultant, additional TNC/partner staff to support oyster management planning and restoration. Training for TNC and partners in community planning and communications to ensure equitable and engaged stakeholders and results. Potential collaboration/support with Gullah-Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Trail, Harris Neck & Ossabaw Island Living Shorelines and NOAA.