

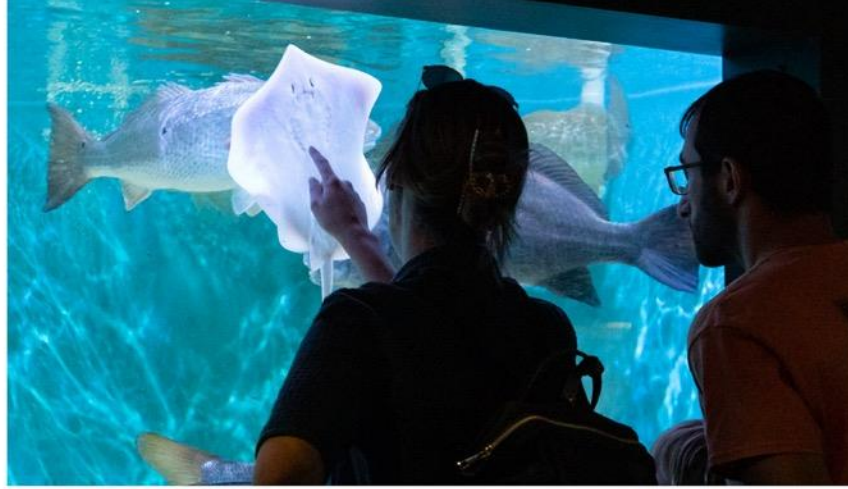
Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant Update

GCRC Coastal Georgia Colloquium

October,, 2024

Mark Risse, *Director*





MISSION

To improve the environmental, social and economic health of the Georgia coast through **research, education and extension.**



Some of our Proirities

- Rapid Growth and Resilience
 - 100,000 new jobs will lead to 250,000 new residents
 - Managing Water Resources
 - BIL and IRA Opportunities
- Growing Aquaculture in Georgia
 - Georgia Aquaculture Conference (April, 25, 2025)
 - Growth in Oyster Aquaculture
- South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative
- Sea Grant Program Site Review



Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development

- **Expanding classroom outreach** focused on underserved audiences and **engaging new schools in pre-K-12 programs** at the aquarium.
- **Increasing volunteer and community science** efforts (*Phytoplankton monitoring, Trawl to Trash marine debris cleanups*)
- **Reviving Public Programs** by hiring **Shannon Matzke** as Public Programs Coordinator
- Hiring a **Curator and Educator and Marine Fellow** Coordinator soon.



Anne Lindsay

*Associate Director
of Marine Education*

lindsaya@uga.edu



Katie Higgins

*Marine Educator and
Volunteer Coordinator*

kt.higgins@uga.edu



Shannon Matzke

*Marine Educator and
Public Programs
Coordinator*

Shannon.Matzke@uga.edu



Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development

Student Programs Continue to Grow

- Improved onboarding process for student interns, fellows and scholars.
- Increased professional development opportunities and networking.
- Mona will cover more

Knauss
Fellowship

Legal
Fellowship

State
Fellowship

Research
Traineeship

Marine
Education
Fellowship

Academic
and summer
internships

LEARN MORE



Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture

- Supporting sustainable aquaculture through **research** and **workforce development** is priority
- Aquaculture White Paper and Conference
- Renewing efforts to **promote shell recycling** and study **reef restoration** and **living shorelines**
- Continuing to **engage commercial shrimpers and fisherpeople** through **oral history projects**, **survey of working waterfronts** and by providing **workforce development**



Tom Bliss
Director of Shellfish

lindsaya@uga.edu



Justin Manley
Hatchery Manager

manley@uga.edu



Bryan Fluech
*Associate Director
of Extension*

fluech@uga.edu



Erin Arneson
Seafood Specialist

ema04430@uga.edu



Healthy Coastal Ecosystems

- Increasing applied ecological research capacity through the **Coastal Ecology Lab**
- Creating new **green infrastructure tools and resources** for coastal municipalities
- Keren Giovengo retired but still have interest in Spartina Nurseries.
- Blue Carbon/ **Marsh Restoration**



Katy Smith
Water Quality Specialist
kasmith@uga.edu



Jessica Brown
Stormwater Specialist
jtrbrown@uga.edu



Kimberly Andrews
Coastal Ecology Specialist
kma77@uga.edu



Stormwater Management using Green Infrastructure



Rain garden



Green roof



Permeable pavement



Infiltration trench



Landscape water body



Grassed swale

- Working with Georgia DNR to update Coastal Stormwater Supplement
- Coastal Georgia Rain Garden Program
- Rethinking Runoff Plans for Hinesville and Brunswick
- Coastal Georgia LID Inventory
- Can we get communities to implement these at scale?



Resilient Communities and Economies

- Assessing **economic impact of coastal industries**
- Engaging military installations and surrounding communities in resilience through **Coastal Resilience DoD Liaison Program**
- **Coastal Tourism programs**
- **Sydney Williams** hired as Nature based Solutions Specialis.



Megan Jones
*Coastal Community
Resilience Specialist*

Megan.jones@uga.edu



Eugene Frimpong
Coastal Economic Specialist

eugene.frimpong@uga.edu



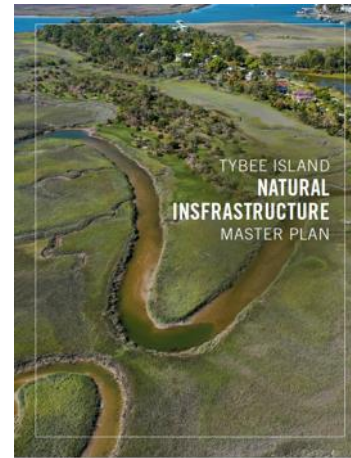
Michelle Covi
*Coastal Resilience
DoD Liaison*

mcovi@uga.edu

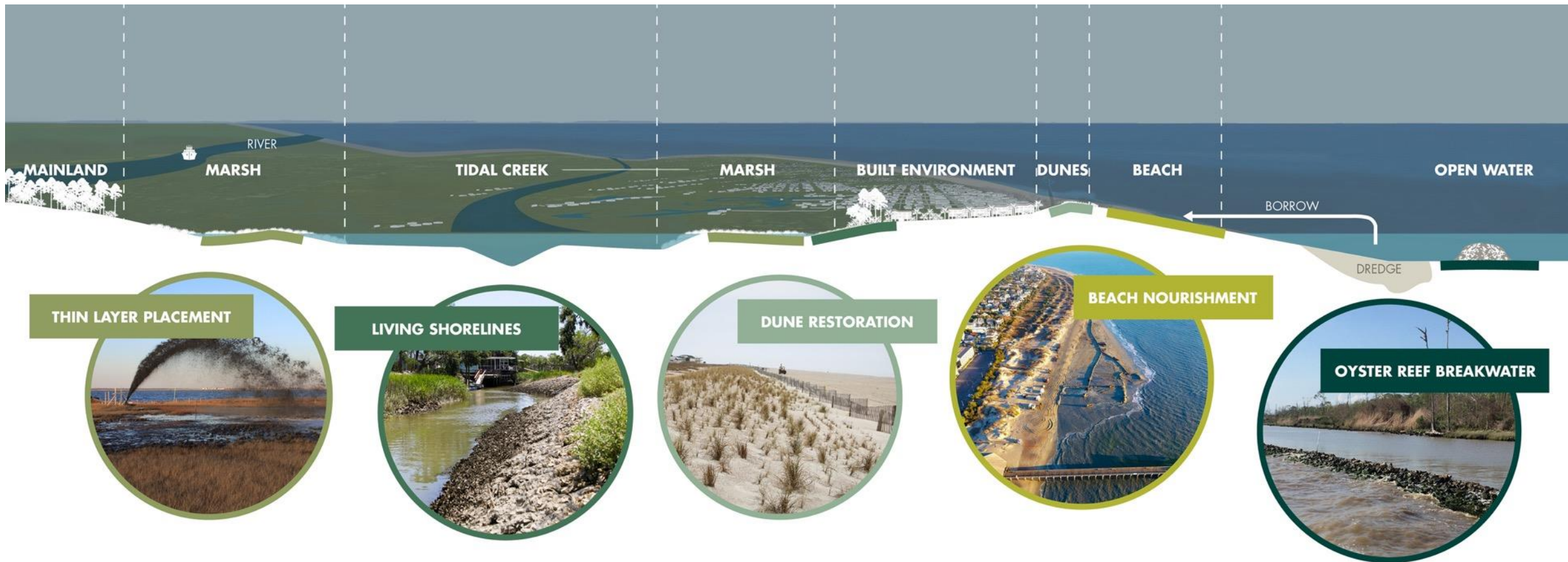


Resilient Communities and Economies

- Sea Grant Legal and Policy Program now led by **Katie Hill**
- Working closely with IRIS/Network for Engineering with Nature
 - Beneficial Use of Dredge materials
- Community-based Adaption Planning
 - Ex: Tybee Island Natural Infrastructure Plan



Examples of natural infrastructure practices that increase the resilience of coastal communities to sea level rise and storms



Graphic developed by Rhett Jackson and Kelsey Broich, Network for Engineering with Nature, University of Georgia. Thin layer placement image by Tim Welp, USACE. Living shoreline and dune restoration images by UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant. Beach nourishment image by Alan Robertson, City of Tybee. Oyster Reef Breakwater, Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge in Alabama photo used with permission and provided to the University of Georgia by USACE, Engineering With Nature.



OYSTER ROAST FOR A REASON

CELEBRATING

GEORGIA OYSTERS



SATURDAY, NOV. 23 20 24 | 1 - 4 P.M.

THE BLUFF AT

UGA AQUARIUM

**SUPPORT UGA
MARINE EXTENSION
AND GEORGIA
SEA GRANT**

**ENJOY
LIVE MUSIC**

**TASTE GEORGIA'S
LOCALLY GROWN
OYSTERS**

PURCHASE TICKETS

