

# Governors' South Atlantic Alliance

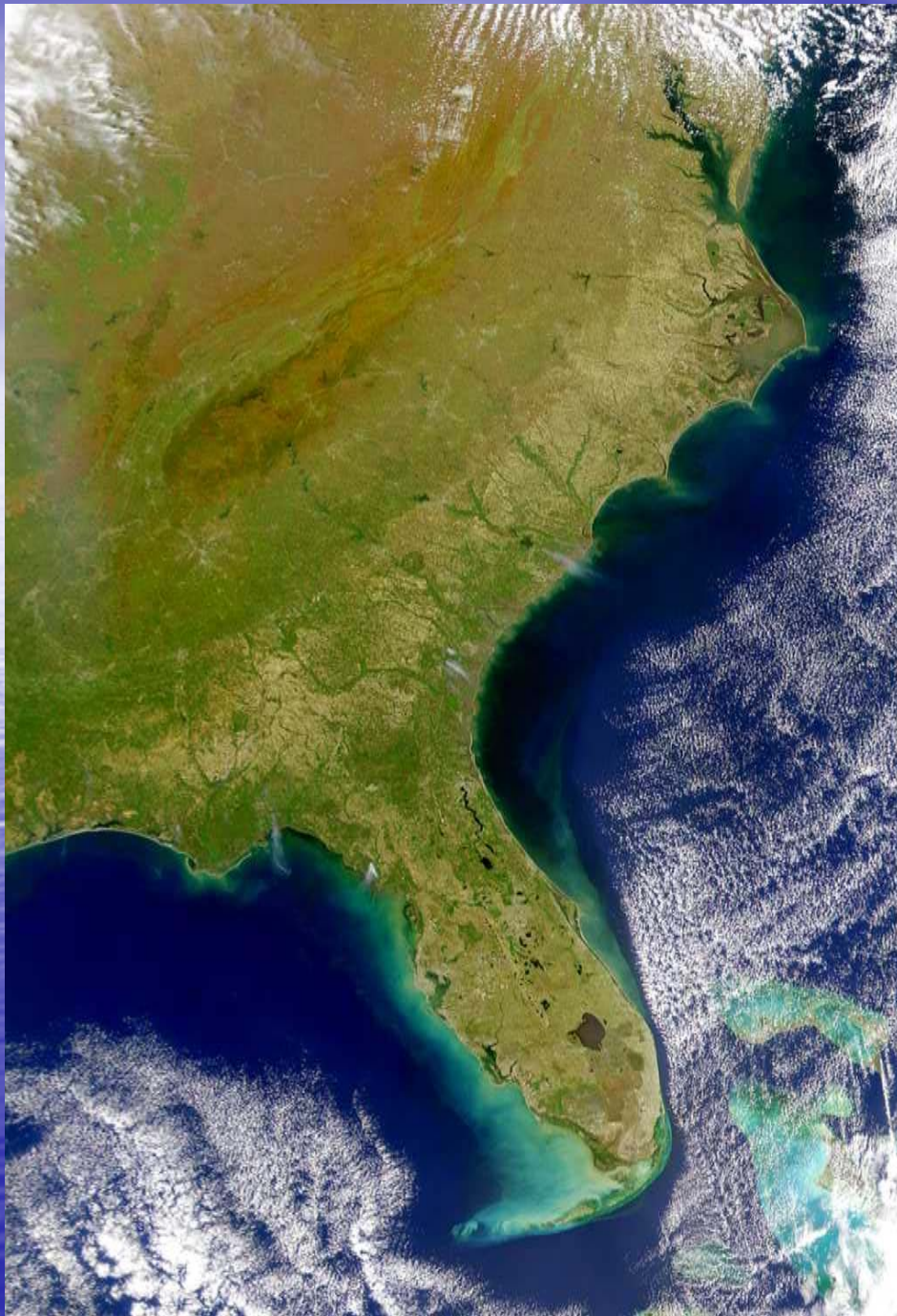
## *A Call To Action*

Overview and Status  
June 10, 2009

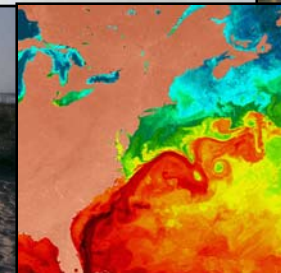




# South Atlantic









# Presentation Outline

- **Background**
- **Alliance Agreement**
- **Initial Priority Issues**
- **Next Steps**
- **Questions**





# Background

**Spring 2006-Summer 2007 – SERPPAS Umbrella**

**Fall 2007 – SERPPAS Principals Endorse Alliance Concept**

**Fall 2007-Spring 2008 – Drafting of Framework**

**Fall 2008 – States meet with CEQ**

**Winter 2009 – CEQ names Co-Chairs of Federal Workgroup**

**Winter 2008/Spring 2009 – Governor Signatures**

**Spring 2009 – Information Sessions**

**Summer 2009 - Action Plan Drafted**



# Executive Planning Team

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Chris Russo</b>       | Organizational Effectiveness Director, NC DENR                 |
| <b>Carolyn Boltin</b>    | Deputy Commissioner, SCDHEC Ocean & Coastal Resource Mgt       |
| <b>Robert Boyles</b>     | Director, SC DNR - Marine Resources                            |
| <b>Louis Daniel</b>      | Director, NC DENR - Division of Marine Fisheries               |
| <b>Camille Destafney</b> | Regional Environmental Director, Navy - Southeast              |
| <b>Mary Conley</b>       | Southeast Marine Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy           |
| <b>Rick DeVoe</b>        | Executive Director, SC Sea Grant Consortium                    |
| <b>Ginny Fay</b>         | Senior Policy Analyst, NOAA                                    |
| <b>Paul Friday</b>       | Community Planning & Liaison Coordinator, USMC Installations   |
| <b>Jim Gregson</b>       | Director, NC DENR - Division of Coastal Management             |
| <b>James Leutze</b>      | Chancellor Emeritus, University of North Carolina-Wilmington   |
| <b>Ellen McCarron</b>    | Assistant Director, FL DEP - Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas |
| <b>Craig Diamond</b>     | Chief, State Planning, Florida Department of Community Affairs |
| <b>Susan Shipman</b>     | Director, GA DNR - Coastal Resources Division                  |
| <b>Eric Strom</b>        | Director, USGS South Carolina Water Center                     |
| <b>David Parker</b>      | Chief, EPA Region 4 Wetlands Planning & Coastal Protection Sec |



# Executive Planning Team

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Senior Fishery Biologist, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

**Ken Haddad**

Executive Director, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Gil McRae**

Director, Florida Marine Research Institute

**Harvey Seim**

Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association

**Ron Baird**

UNC Wilmington Center for Marine Science

**Michelle Duval**

Executive Assistant for Councils, NC DENR – Division of Marine Fisheries

**Lee Edmiston**

Director, FL DEP – Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas



# Mission Statement

Regionally implement science based actions and policy solutions that more efficiently and effectively balance coastal and marine ecosystems' capacity to support human and natural systems in South Atlantic Region.



# Goals

The Alliance provides a structure and forum for collaborating, coordinating and sharing information that will support:

- Resource sustainability
- Improved regional alignment
- Cooperative planning and leveraging resources
- Integrated research, observation, and mapping
- Increased awareness of the challenges facing the South Atlantic Region
- Inclusiveness and integration at all levels



# Partnership Agreement

Signed by the Governors of NC, SC, GA & FL,  
the Alliance Partnership Agreement:

- Recognizes Southeast challenges
- Supports regionally-based actions and solutions
- Creates a partnership among states, federal and local agencies; academia; nongovernmental organizations; businesses; and the public
- Aligns with recommendations from the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy

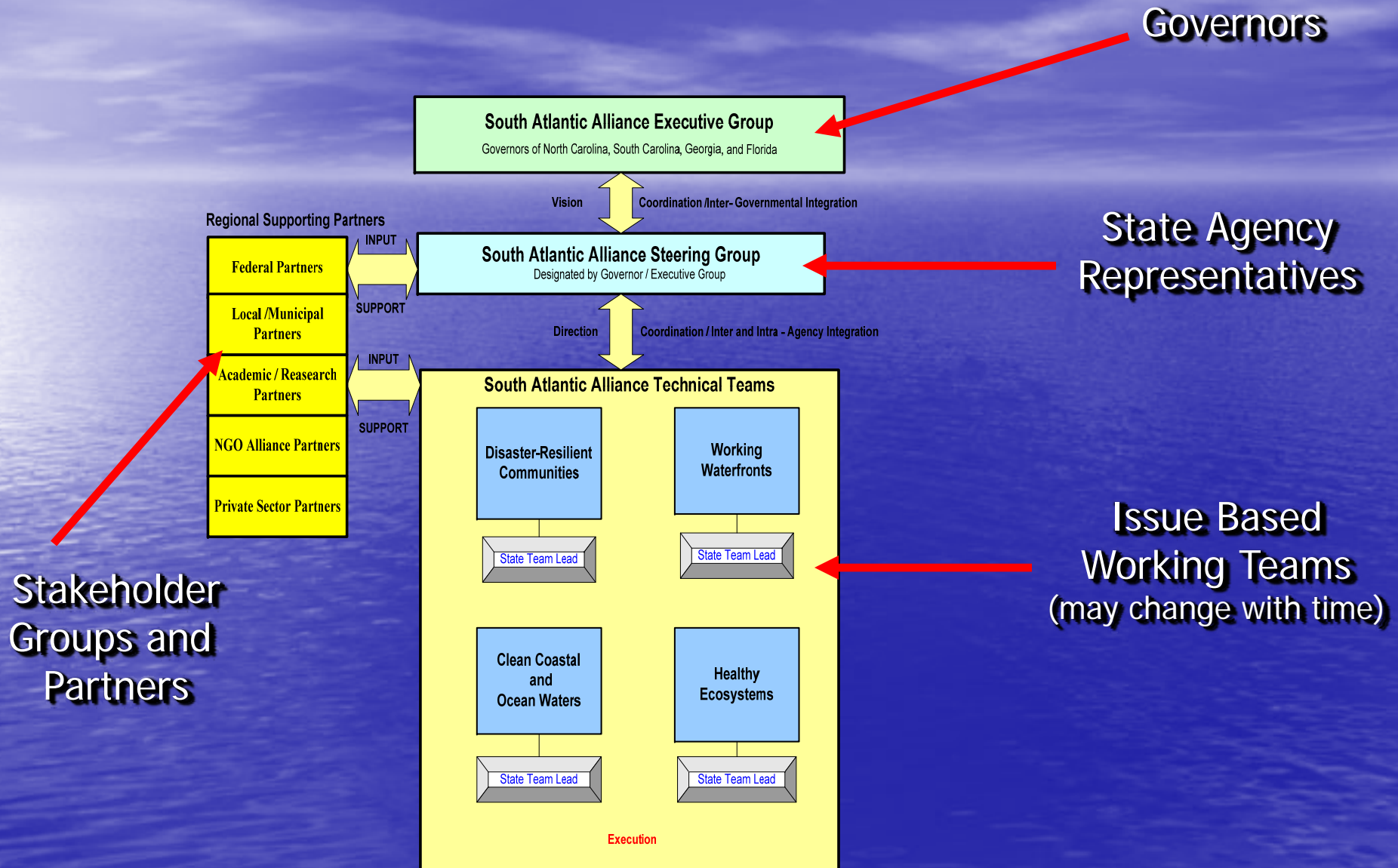
# What the Alliance is NOT...

- It is not a governing body.
- It does not dictate actions.
- It does not duplicate actions.
- It is not insular.





# Structure



# Recognition of Ongoing Regional Efforts

- SAFMC (regional fisheries management)
- SARRP (research priorities)
- COSEE-Southeast (education)
- SECOORA (regional IOOS effort)
- SECART (regional NOAA partnership effort)
- SERPASS (DoD-led effort)
- MARMAP/SEAMAP (regional fisheries assessment)
- TNC Ecoregional Assessments
- Etc...



# Initial Priority Issues

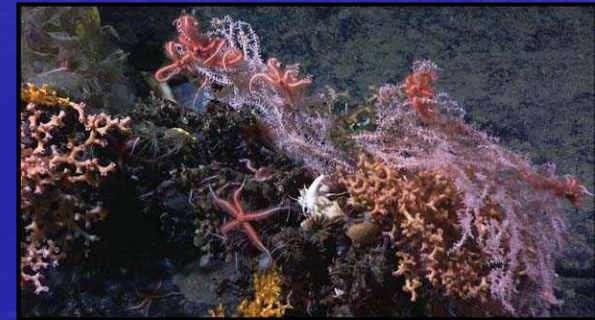
- Representatives from the four states have identified an initial set of priority issue areas.
- These have been agreed to by the Governors.
- Priorities may be added or changed as the Alliance progresses.

Healthy Ecosystems  
Working Waterfronts  
Clean Coastal and Ocean Waters  
Disaster-Resilient Communities

# Healthy Ecosystems

The South Atlantic supports a diverse array of coastal, estuarine, and offshore ecosystems which provide numerous ecological and economic benefits. The Alliance will work to:

- Enhance ecosystem-based management efforts;
- Maintain and improve ecosystem structure and function;
- Increase understanding of the scope, scale and distribution of resources; and
- Standardize, integrate, and make accessible spatial and temporal data

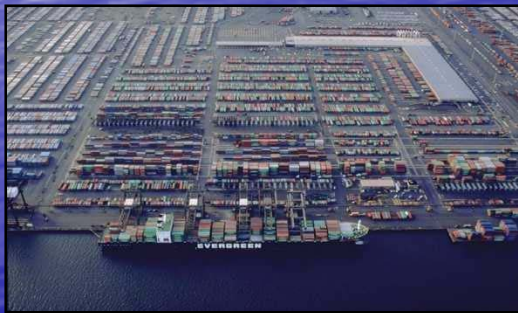




# Working Waterfronts

Working waterfronts are commercial facilities that require direct access to or a location on, over or adjacent to coastal waters. Sustaining adequate access and infrastructure is crucial. The Alliance will work to:

- Strike a balance between new development, historic uses and sustained resources;
- Support port development/maintenance and effective coastal planning; and
- Ensure public access.

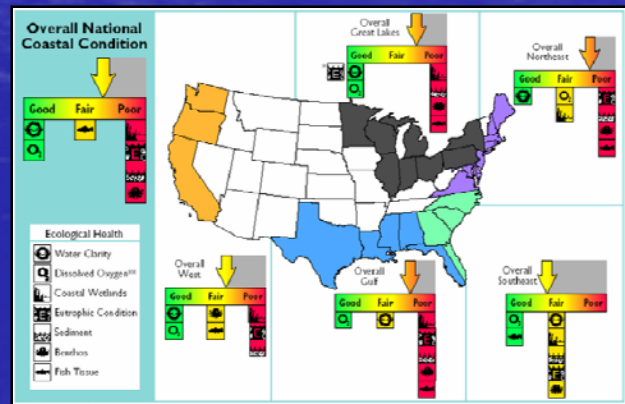
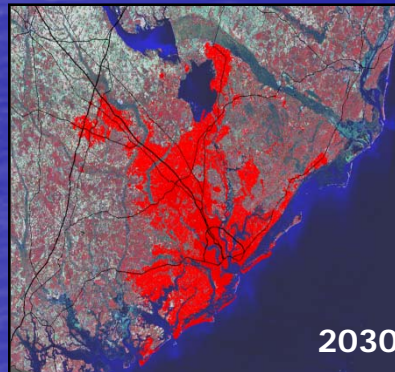
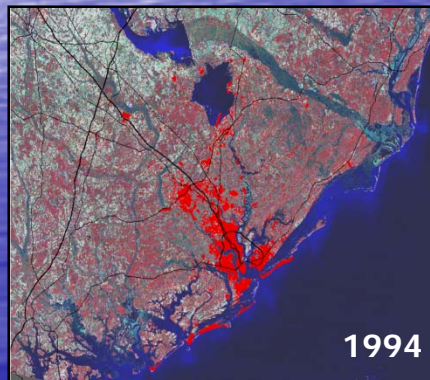




# Clean Coastal and Ocean Waters

Significant impacts to estuarine water quality and coastal ecosystem health are predicted as a result of increasing coastal urbanization. The Alliance will work to:

- View impacts and management at a regional level;
- Consider point and non-point discharge impacts on oceans and human health; and
- Utilize regional observation and monitoring in decision-making.

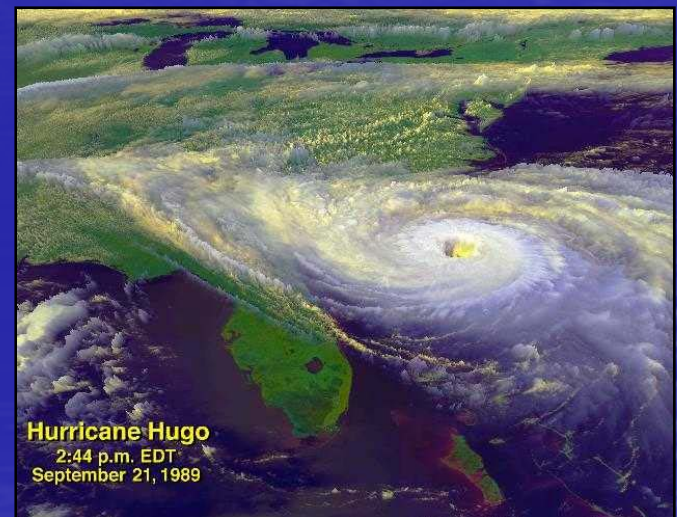
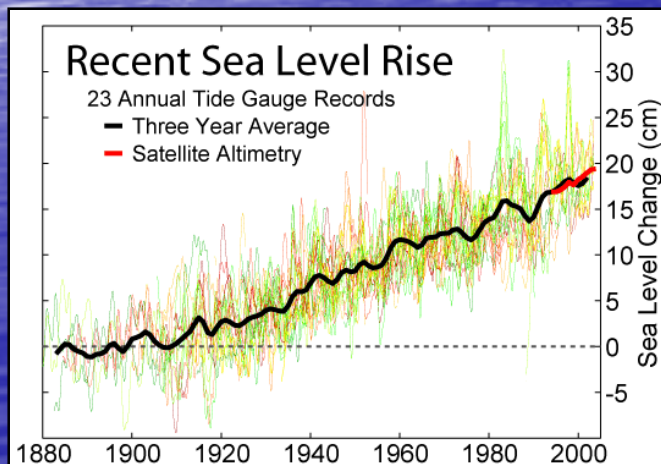




# Disaster-Resilient Communities

Both short-term and long-term changes in weather and climate are major concerns in the southeast. These changes threaten our coastal communities, tourism, and fishing industries. The Alliance will work to:

- Share best practices as we prepare for the next emergency;
- Increase understanding of our vulnerability to, and the impacts of, storms and climate change; and
- Improve prediction, observation and forecasting capabilities.



# This is just the beginning...

## Next Steps

- Receive Feedback from Information Sessions (Spring 2009)
- Implement Technical Issues Work Groups (Late Spring/ Early Summer 2009)
- Draft Governors Action Plan (Summer 2009)
- Finalize Action Plan (Fall 2009)
- Start Implementation (2010)







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