



The SECAS Third Thursday Web Forum

Including rivercane as a cultural and natural resource indicator within the Southeast Blueprint

9-21-2023



Agenda

- Introduction
- Monthly topic
- Q&A and discussion
- Preview of next webinar
- Staff updates



Including rivercane as a cultural and natural resource indicator within the Southeast Blueprint

Alyssa Quan, Jennifer Byram, and Joshua “Levi” West, SECAS
Rivercane Fellows

9-21-2023





SECAS and Rivercane Conservation Third Thursday Web Forum

Jennifer Byram, Levi West, Alyssa Quan



The Southeast
Conservation
Adaptation Strategy
SECAS





Land Acknowledgement

The Louisiana area in the early 18th century,
map by Nicolas de Fer, 1718.

Date

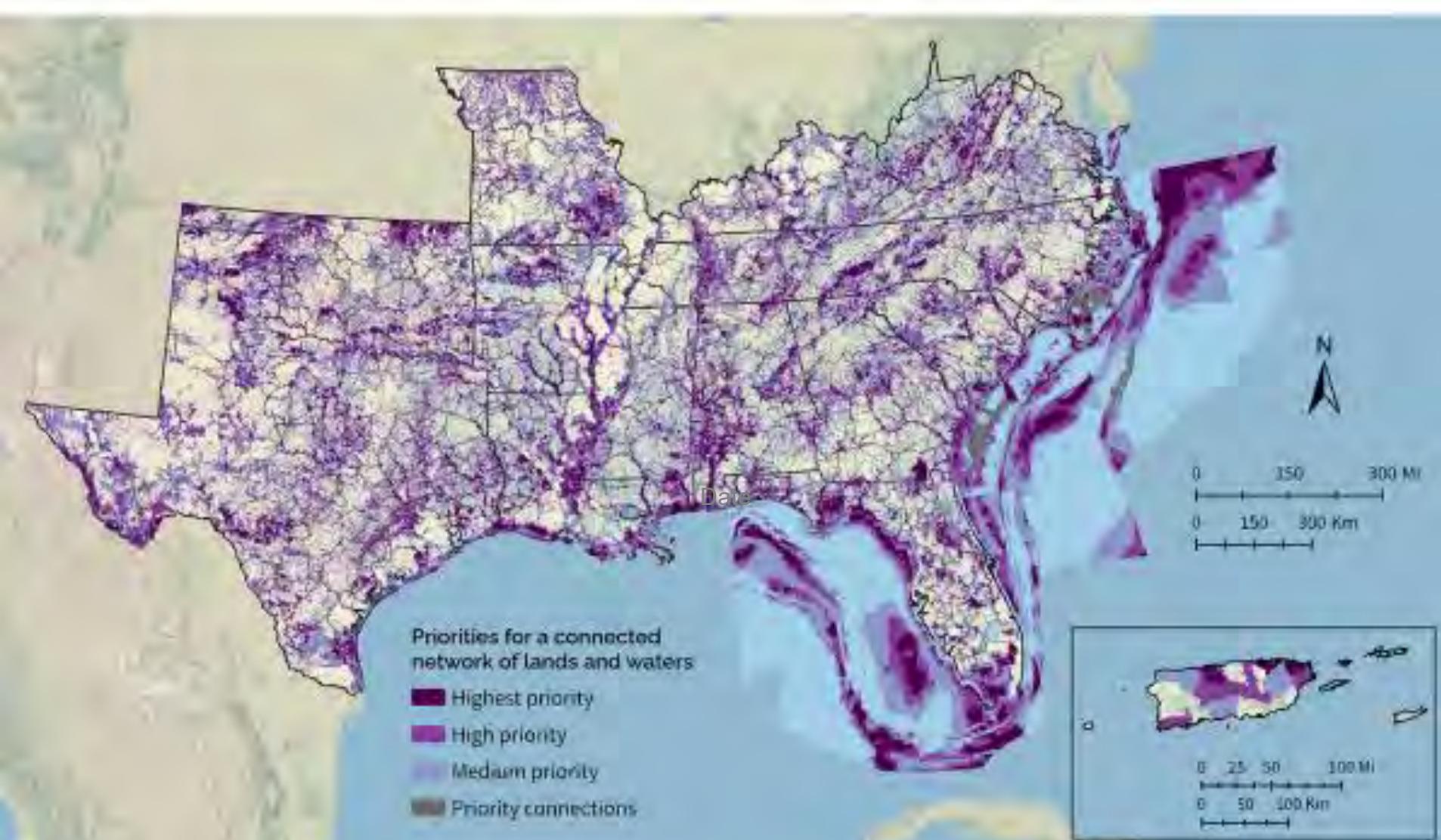


Jennifer Byram (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma)
University of Arizona PhD Candidate Archaeology
FWS Directorate Fellow 2023



Photo: Choctaw Traditional Textiles Group with Bison-Dogbane Skirt Group Project

Southeast Conservation Blueprint 2022



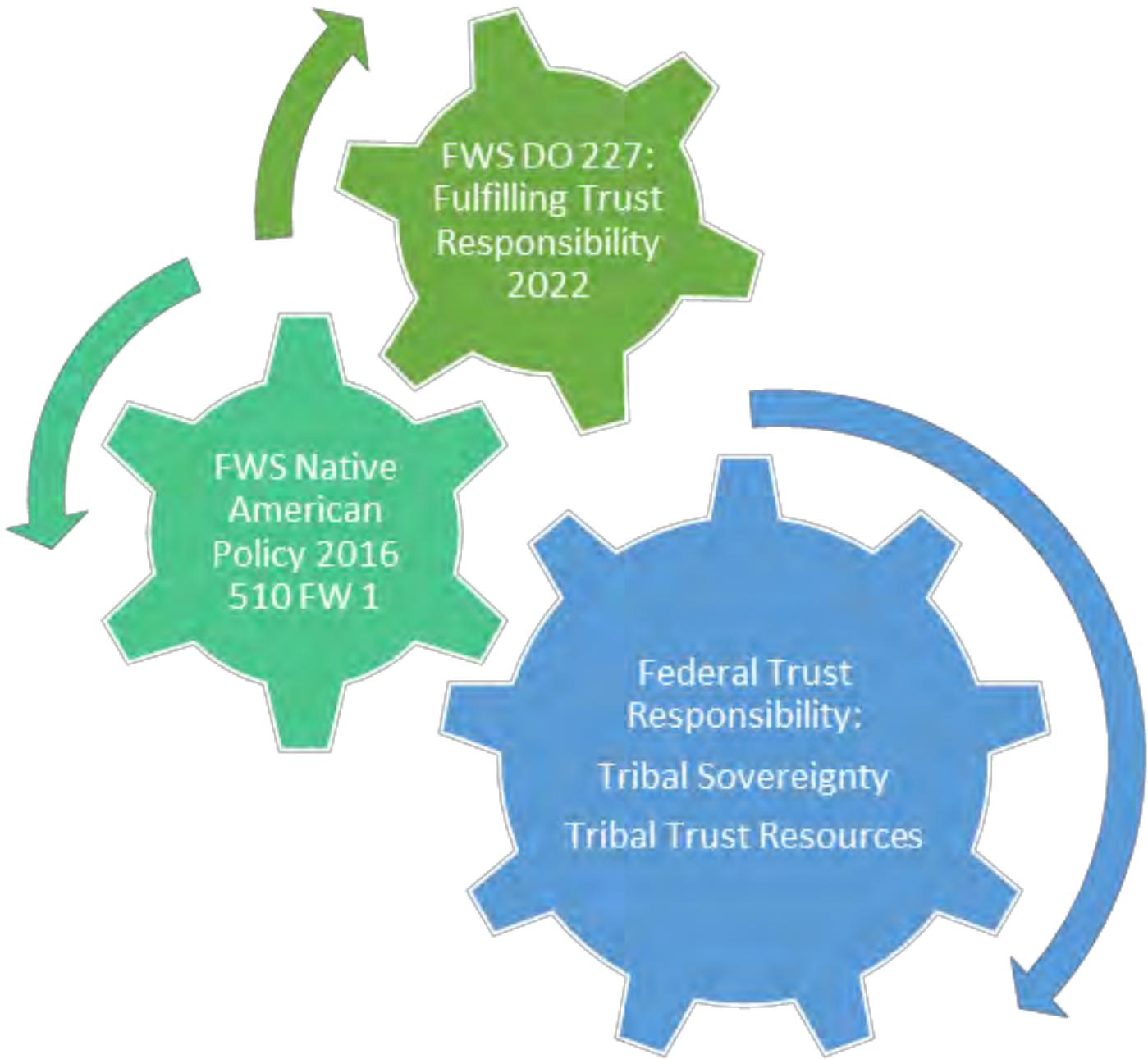


Integrating Rivercane and Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the Southeast Conservation Blueprint



Date

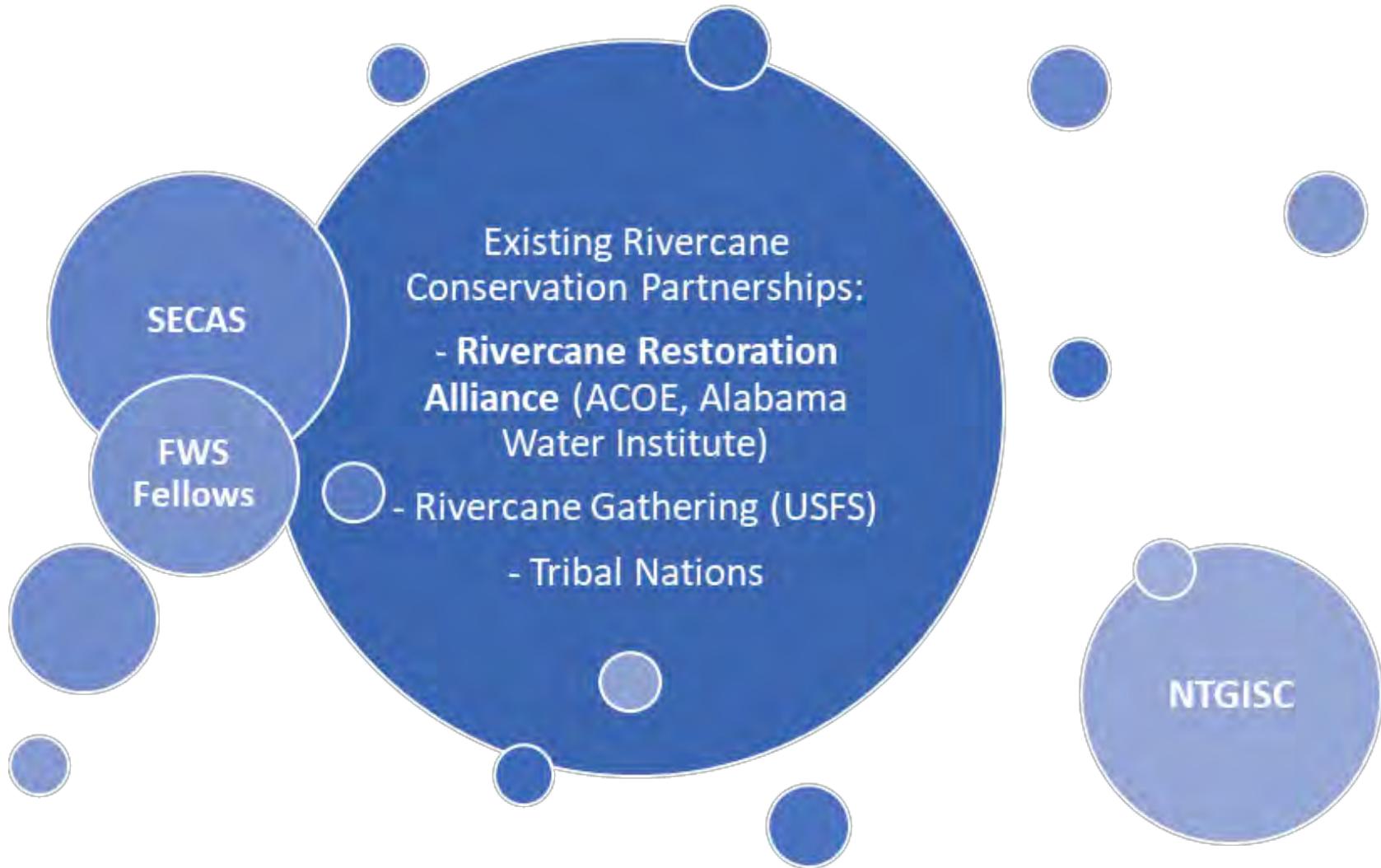
Rivercane Partnership Building





Collaborative Model & Keys for Success

- Existing partnerships
- Time
- Authority sharing
- Long-term planning
- Awareness of issues & sensitivities
- SECAS staff training



Partners

Cultural Indicator Development

Data Sovereignty

- Solutions for long-term data management
- Data agreements with Tribal partners

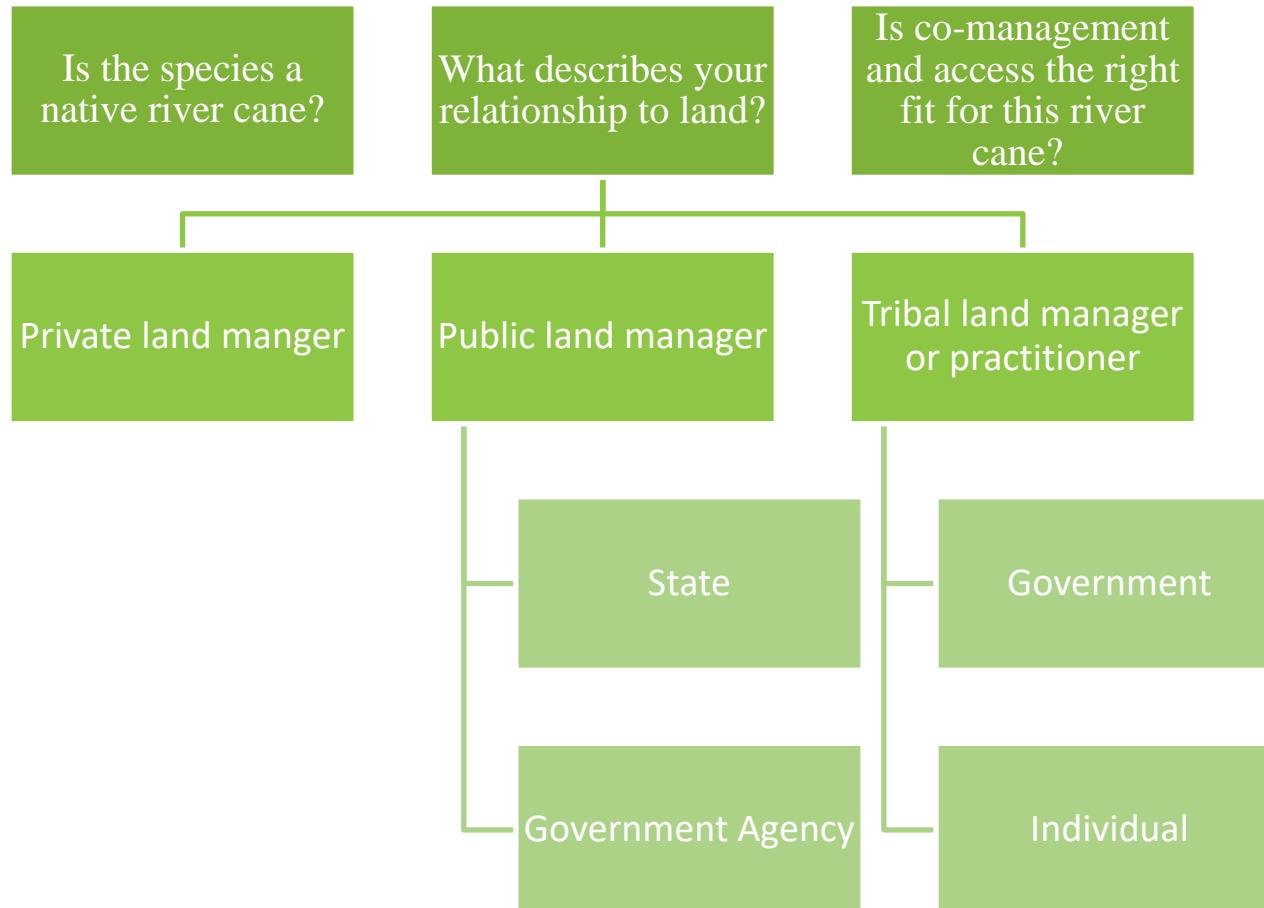
Relationships

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Supporting existing partnerships & ITEK
- Iterative & ongoing

Capacity Building

- Guidance on co-management for users
- SECAS User Support training on working with Tribal Nations

Guidance on Co-Management



Joshua Levi West
**(Eastern Band of
Cherokee)**

**Arizona State
University**

**Traditional and
Contemporary
Cherokee Artisan**



Date



The background of the slide features a natural landscape. In the foreground, there is a dense growth of tall, thin grasses and reeds. Behind them, a thick thicket of green bushes and trees stretches across the middle ground. The sky above is a clear, vibrant blue.

Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Joshua "Levi" West

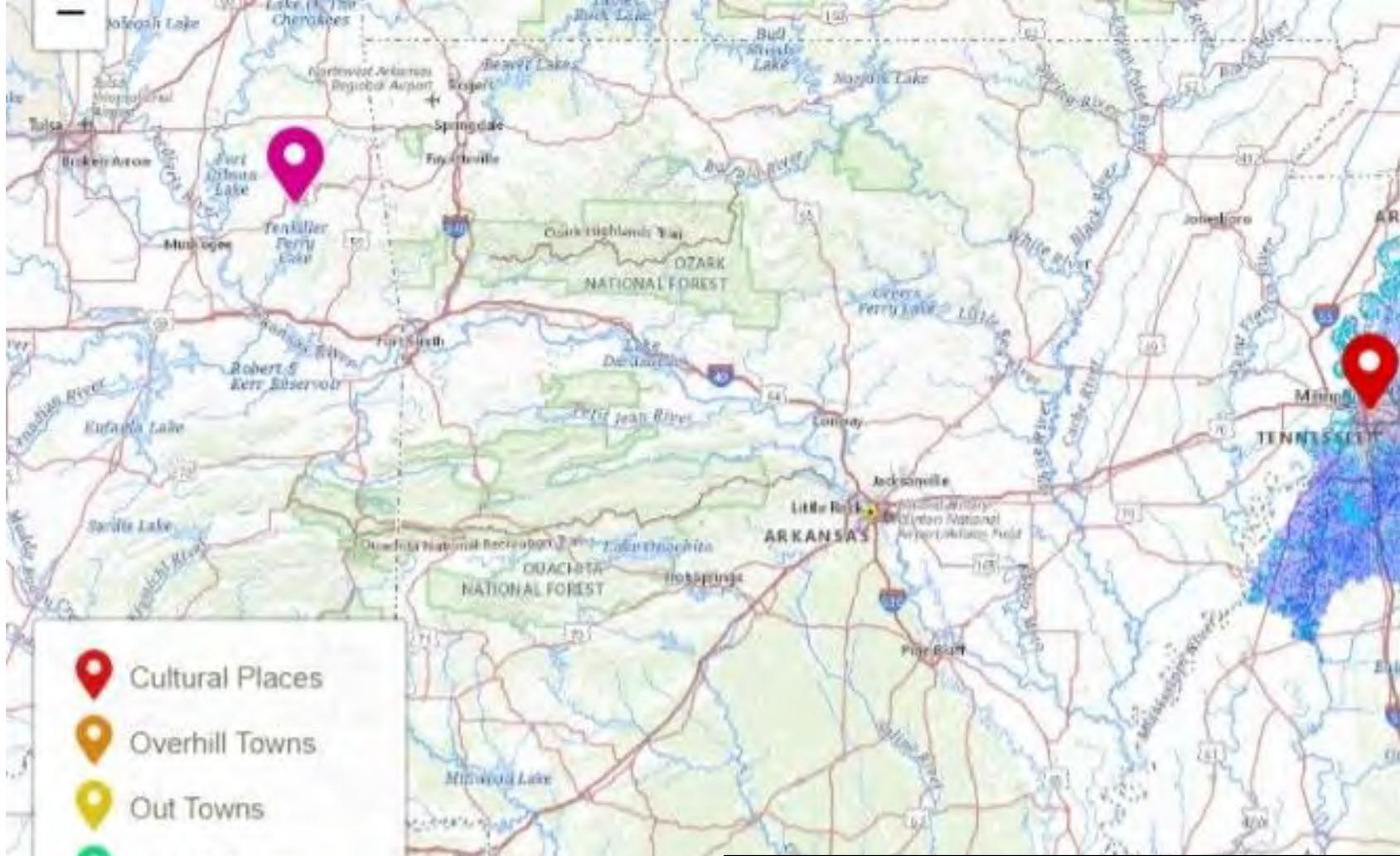
Science Applications DFP Region 4

Our Project: Why it matters

- Cherokee and Rivercane Timeline
- Southeast Nations
- Uses
- Preserving History and culture



[Restoring Rivercane for Cherokee Baskets - Conserving Carolina](#)



What to Share

- Data Sovereignty
- Sensitive Data (Access, Harvesting)

A photograph showing three Indigenous people working on basketry in a park-like setting. A man in a blue shirt and jeans sits on a log, focused on his work. A woman in a blue shirt and patterned pants stands behind him, also working on a long, narrow basket. A man in a yellow shirt and blue jeans sits on a wooden bench, observing the process. They are surrounded by greenery and several green picnic tables. The scene is well-lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Working with Indigenous Basket Makers

- Relationships
- Partners
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Time Sensitive

Lack of scientific knowledge and research

- Basket makers are our experts
- Where it likes to grow and when to harvest
- Land managers

Date



Access

- Reoccurring theme
- Culturally Protected Species
- Access is what drove this indicator





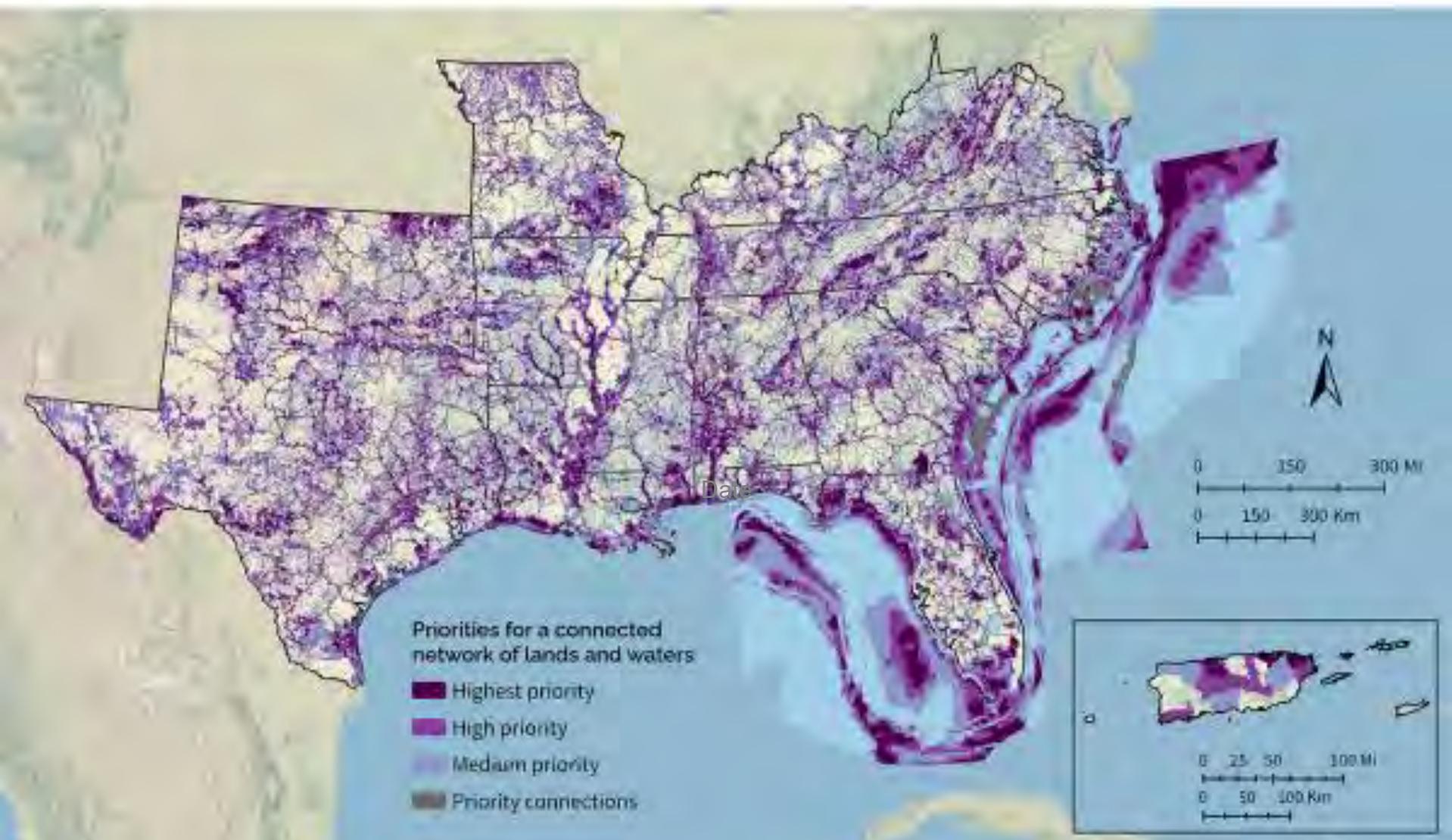
Integrating Rivercane and Indigenous TEK in the Southeast Conservation Blueprint

Alyssa Quan

Alyssa Quan
PhD Student,
University of Georgia



GIS Mapping for a Rivercane Indicator



Previous geographic work

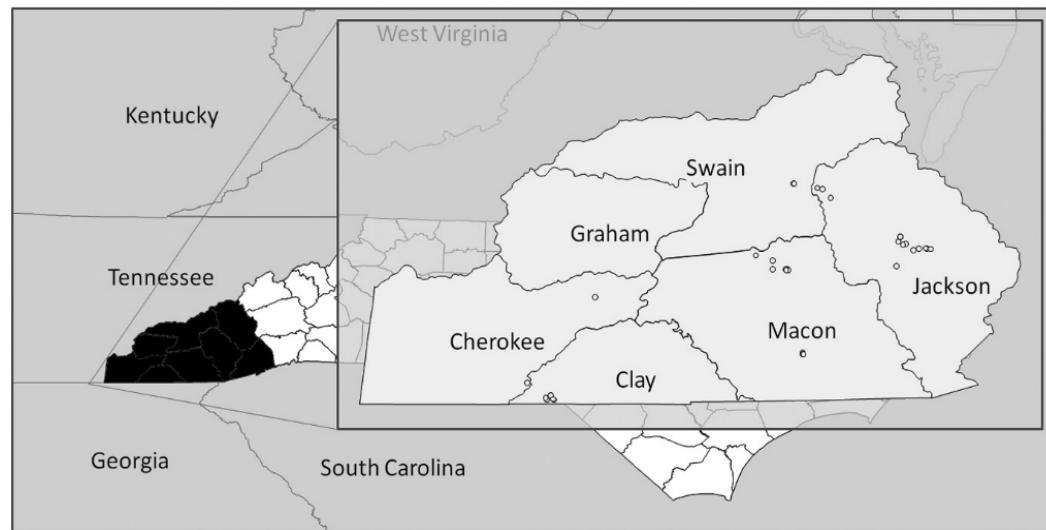


Figure 2. River Cane Data Collection Sites in Western North Carolina (Source: Boundary file from the National Atlas and in situ data collected by Authors).

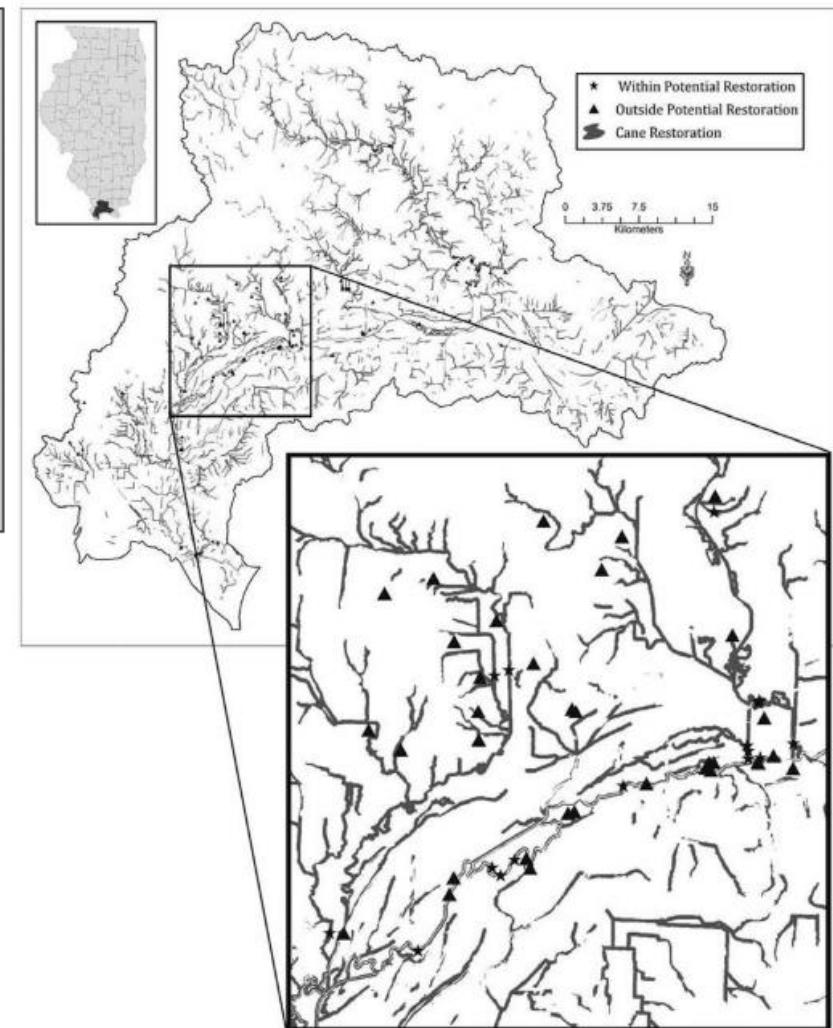
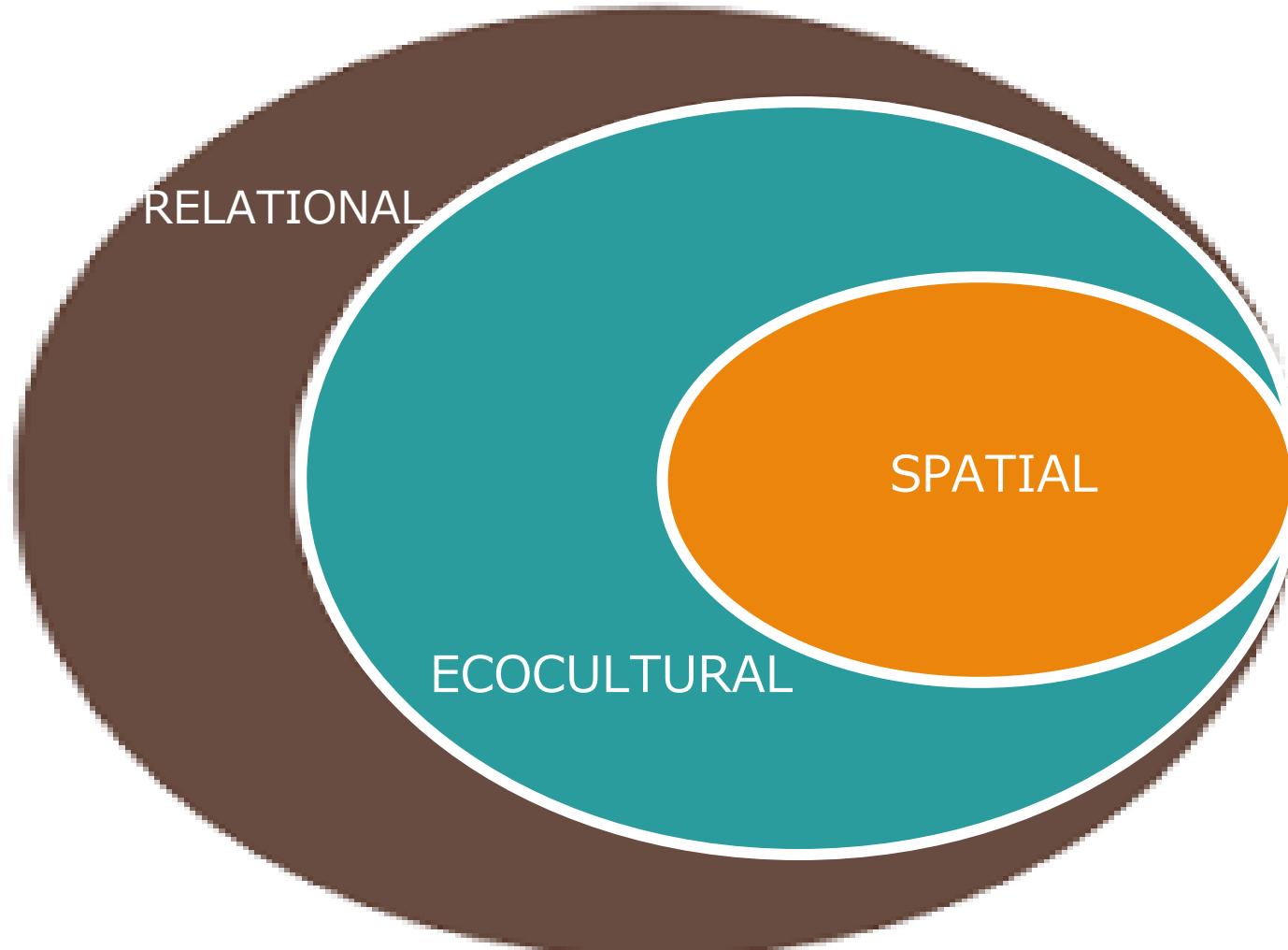


Figure 7.—The existing canebrakes within the potential giant cane landscapes, defined by a 50-m stream buffer and the soil parameters, Illinois.

There is a need for more spatial information to support rivercane restoration

Our approach

Integrating TEK in Co-management of Landscapes



RIVERCANE CULTURAL KEYSTONE CONCEPTUAL INDICATORS

Protection

- Rivercane presence
- Condition of stand
- Size (Area)
- Artisanal value

Conservation Action

- Rivercane restoration
- Environmental conditions
- Proximity for tribal access

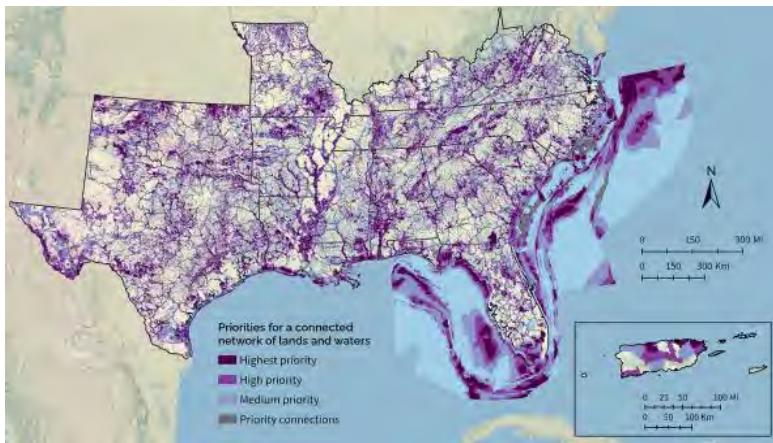
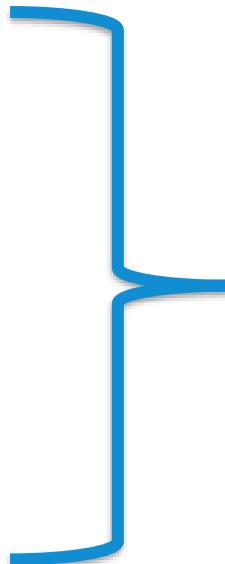
Environmental Predictors

Indicator goal: prioritize areas that are best suited for successfully restoring rivercane ecosystems and access into the future

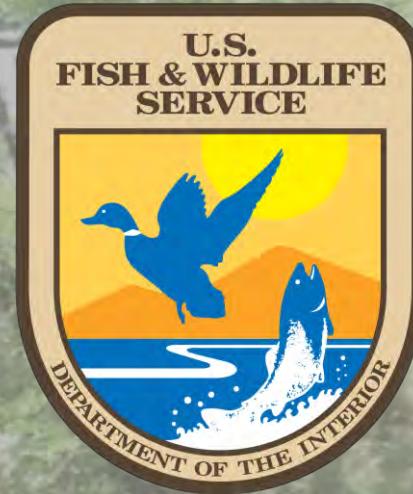
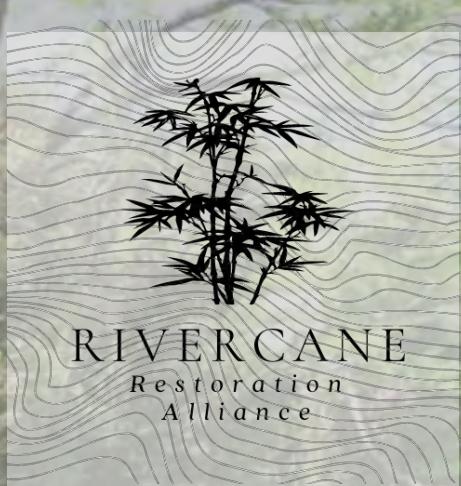
- Proximity to tribal lands
- Hydrography
- Slopes
- Fire frequency



Future vision



Sgi!
Yakoke!
Thank you!



Louise Vaughn (SECAS User Support)

Amy Keister (SECAS GIS Support)

Michael Federoff (Alabama Water Institute, Rivercane Restoration Alliance)

Ryan Spring (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma)

Roger Cain (United Keetowah Band of Cherokee Indians)

Caleb Hickman (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Natural Resources)

Adam Griffith (Revitalization of Traditional Cherokee Artisans Resources)

Dwayne Estes (Southeast Grasslands Initiative)

William Harris (NRCS Archaeologist)

Garet Couch (National Tribal Geographic Information Support Center)



Contact Us!

Alyssa Quan, Public Lands Corps Fellow, UGA
PhD; quaniam@uga.edu

Joshua 'Levi' West, DFP,
Arizona State University, MSL
candidate Sustainability Leadership
Wesdi1989@gmail.com

Jennifer Byram, DFP, University of Arizona
PhD Candidate, Archaeology/Anthropology
Choctaw Nation of
Oklahoma jpbyram@arizona.edu





Next Third Thursday
Web Forum

*Note: October web
forum cancelled due
to staff conflict*

11-16-2023

10:00 am ET

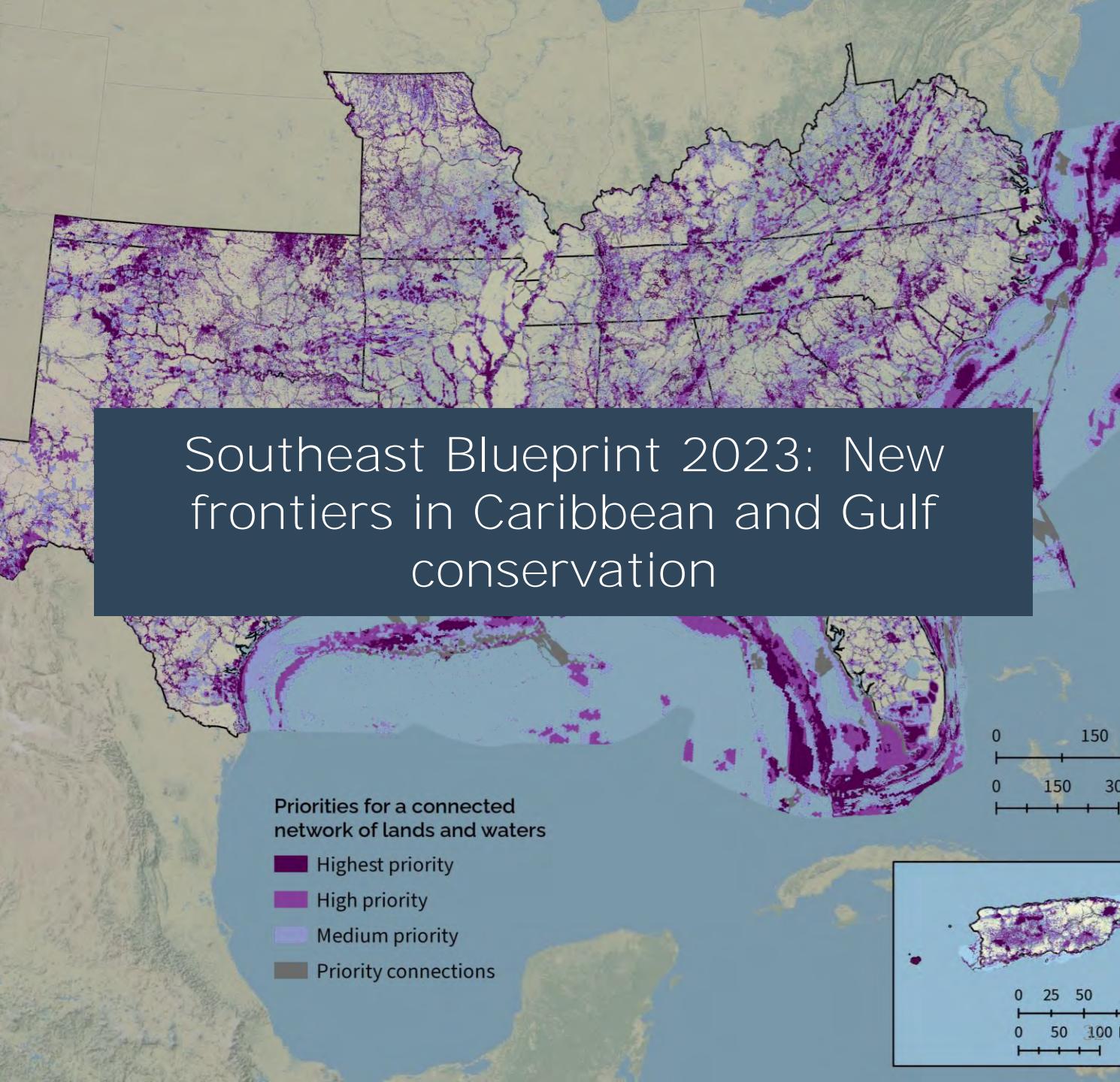
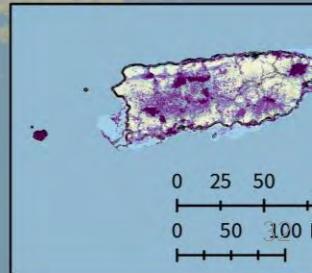
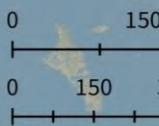
Rua Mordecai

SECAS Science
Coordinator

secassoutheast.org

Southeast Blueprint 2023: New frontiers in Caribbean and Gulf conservation

- Priorities for a connected network of lands and waters
- Highest priority
 - High priority
 - Medium priority
 - Priority connections





Staff updates

- Southeast Blueprint 2023 coming *very* soon!

Southeast Blueprint 2023 almost ready for release!

- Southeast Blueprint 2023 is done—staff are just finalizing the documentation, putting data online, etc.
- On-track for release on October 13th, pending potential government shutdown

How to get involved in SECAS

- Sign up for the SECAS newsletter

secassoutheast.org

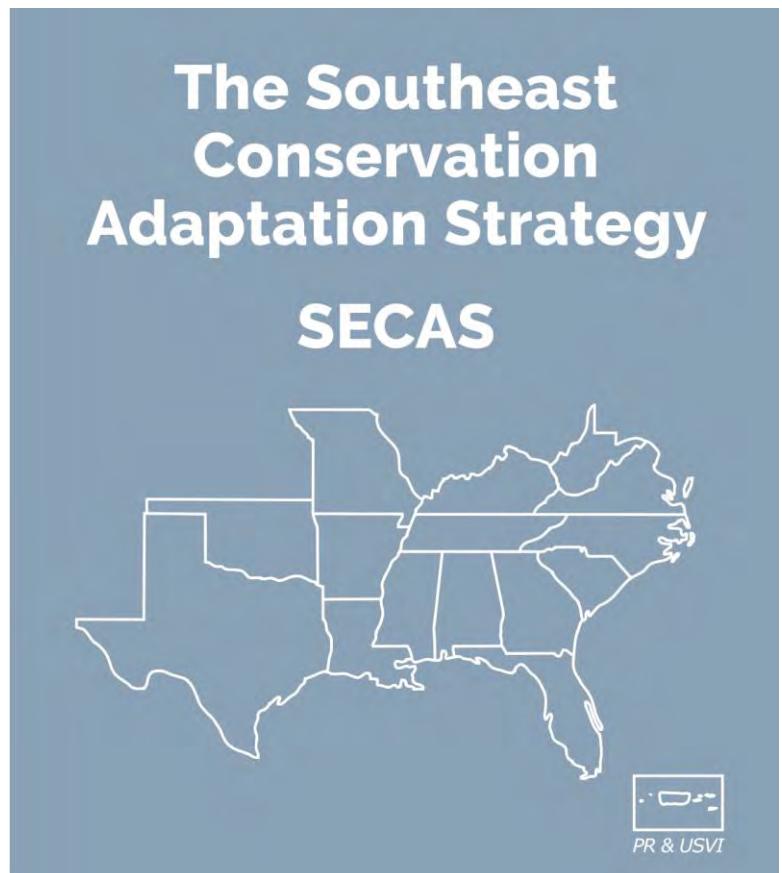
- Connect with SECAS staff or partners

secassoutheast.org/staff

secassoutheast.org/partners

- Explore the Southeast Conservation Blueprint

secassoutheast.org/blueprint





Questions?