

## MISSION

*To balance coastal development and protection of the coast's natural assets, socio-cultural heritage and recreational resources for the benefit of present and future generations.*



## COASTAL MANAGEMENT

\$947,325 in Coastal Incentive Grants awarded to competitive applicants in 2021  
482 jurisdictional determinations made under CMPA and SPA authority  
1,852 water quality samples conducted across six counties  
Georgia is the first state in the nation to have hurricane recovery plans in place for every coastal county



## COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

\$16 million dockside value in Georgia's shrimping, blue crab and shellfish industries <sup>1</sup>  
1,912 jobs in marine fisheries currently supported on the coast <sup>2</sup>  
\$49 million in labor income and \$45 million in sales generated annually by marine fisheries <sup>1</sup>



## RECREATIONAL ANGLING

\$343 million in recreational angling-related sales across the coast annually, supporting 3,811 jobs and \$121 million in income <sup>2</sup>  
CRD staff collected recreational fishing data from 3,732 anglers in 2021 to aid in management decisions.  
Georgia motorists purchased \$226,900 in Support Marine Habitat car tags in 2021



## OUTREACH & EDUCATION

3,322 unique public interactions at multiple events throughout the year  
Annual events include CoastFest, Beach Week and Family Fishing derbies  
Coastal Advisory Committee and Marine Fisheries Advisory Council provide public-input opportunities for management decisions

## RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT

The vast coastal marshlands, tidal waterways, and barrier island beaches are irreplaceable treasures delivering ecological and human benefits ranging from seafood to hurricane protection. To protect them, CRD administers the Coastal Marshlands and Shore Protection acts, issues revocable licenses for waterbottoms, and coordinates with other state and federal agencies to implement sound regulatory policy. CRD also ensures that saltwater fishes, crustaceans, and shellfish popular with anglers and commercial fishermen remain abundant, healthy and accessible for present and future generations.

# FACTS & STATS

500,000 acres of estuaries • 368,000 acres of salt marsh • 3,400 miles of tidal shoreline  
105 miles of sand beaches • 14 barrier islands • 13 state wildlife management areas  
8 state parks and historic sites • 5 federal wildlife refuges • 2 national monuments  
2 deepwater ports • 1 national estuarine research reserve • 1 national seashore

Coastal Georgia is a region rich in history, natural beauty, and economic vitality. Twice-a-day tides alternately flood and drain vast salt marshes that produce a bounty of fresh seafood. Moss-draped live oaks, a chain of 14 major barrier islands, and breathtaking vistas have long made coastal Georgia a popular destination.

## 2021 HIGHLIGHTS & ACHIEVEMENTS



CRD established a \$20,000 endowment and \$5,000 scholarship with Coastal Pines Technical College Foundation to educate the next generation of commercial fishermen.



Backed by the "Support Fish Habitat" plate, seven offshore reefs were enhanced with vessels and other materials of opportunity, and 140 tons of oyster shell were placed on inshore reefs.



Two new research vessels, the R/V Reid W. Harris (pictured) and R/V Glynn entered into service at CRD. These vessels will be used for surveys and other operations, and replace the R/V Anna and R/V Marguerite.



CRD created six new subtidal shellfish leases to jump start oyster aquaculture. A total of 21 commercial harvest areas are permitted, with more expected online in the coming year.

## FISCAL YEAR 2022 FUNDING SOURCES

The Coastal Resources Division's Fiscal Year '22 total budget is \$9.1 million. Thirty-two percent, or approximately \$2.8 million, is from state revenues. The remaining funds are from federal sources, as indicated in the graph below.

Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration is a unique "user-pay, public-benefit" fund source administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and funded by excise taxes paid by the fishing and boating industry. The State of Georgia earns these funds based on the number of licensed anglers and requires a 25 percent match. Activities supported are aquatic-resource inventory surveys, fishing and boating access improvements, fish habitat enhancement, and conservation education.

Coastal Zone Management funds are appropriated by Congress to the U. S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The State of Georgia qualifies for these funds by having an approved Georgia Coastal Management Program and providing a mandatory 50 percent match of non-federal funds. Activities supported are technical assistance to local governments, environmental regulation, compliance and enforcement, federal project review, and public outreach.

