



Date: June 4, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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P R E S S R E L E A S E :

**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Regional Coastal Resiliency Assessment Released**

Jacksonville, FL – The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has joined with NatureServe, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other partners to release new Regional Coastal Resilience Assessments and a new analytical tool that can help identify coastal areas with the greatest potential for boosting community resilience by reducing vulnerability to coastal storms.

NatureServe conducted seven targeted watershed assessments, including the Jacksonville and Lower St. Johns River Watersheds. These assessments are the first step in providing communities the information needed to create a resiliency plan for their areas.

“The Northeast Florida Regional Council looks forward to working with local partners to assist communities in resiliency planning,” said Beth Payne, CEO of the Northeast Florida Regional Council. “As we’ve seen during the 2016 and 2017 hurricane seasons, we are all vulnerable to flooding and the issue of sea level rise. We will provide Northeast Florida-specific data and analysis, based on the recently released Coastal Resilience Assessment, to the Region as it strives to create more resilient communities.”

More information can be found on the Jacksonville and St. Johns River Watershed Risk Assessment at buildcommunityresilience.com/northeastflorida.

The Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) is an independent, regional government agency serving Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Putnam, Nassau and St. Johns counties. It provides a regional perspective toward growth management and community development to enhance the quality of life of Northeast Florida residents. For more information about the Northeast Florida Regional Council, visit nefrc.org.

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