



### Newsworthy Stuff

#### Data Management

Southeast Coast Network's new SharePoint site has gone live! Network staff will be acclimating to its use over the next month, including populating it with useful materials and executing further refinements. Park points-of-contact and superintendents can access the site here: <http://share.inside.nps.gov/sites/nrss/div/imd/networks/secn/Pages/Home.aspx>

#### Coastal

Jason Gardner provided boat assistance for the contactors performing vegetation accuracy assessment field work at **TIMU** marsh areas.

During salt marsh maintenance field work, SECN coastal staff had the opportunity to meet with Steve Theus (**FOFR**) and Candice Wyatt (**FOPU**). Introductions and briefings of the coastal projects were performed in addition to discussions of the upcoming Centennial Bioblitz at **FOPU**.

### What Does *THAT* Do?

This month's "what does that do?" comes from Lisa in coastal monitoring. This cap protects the receiver at a rod surface elevation (RSET) table at Fort Frederica National Monument. The RSET is part of the salt marsh elevation protocol, which monitors sea level rise in salt marsh habitats.



### For More Information

SECN Home Page:

<http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/secn/index.cfm>

SECN Reports & Publications:

<http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/SECN/publications.cfm>

Follow us on Twitter @SECoastNetwNPS

### Field Work

#### Field Work Completed in February

- Maintenance was completed at the **CUIS** and **FOPU** salt marsh sites using new materials consisting of molded fiberglass planks and supports made of PVC and wood.
- Maintenance was started at the **FOFR** salt marsh site, and will be completed later in the summer.
- The RSET receiver angles were collected at **CUIS** and **FOFR** to assist in the fabrication of an adapter to attach to the RSET receivers. When attached, the adapter will straighten the receivers that were bent when initially installed.

#### March Field Work

- Weather permitting, shoreline mapping data collection at **CANA**, **FOMA**, **TIMU**, and **CUIS** will be performed.
- Automated Recording Devices (ARDs) will be set up in **CUIS**, **HOBE**, **KEMO**, and **FOSU**.
- Pete will be collecting water-quality data at **CUIS**, **CANA**, **FOPU**, and **TIMU**.

### Employee Spotlight



Our very first SECN spotlight is on Delaram Yazdansepas. Delaram is a fourth year Computer Science PhD candidate at the University of Georgia and a graduate assistant with the Southeast Coast Network, where she serves as database programmer. She assists the data manager with implementation and support of the network's data management system.

Delaram's PhD research focuses on pervasive and mobile health systems. With her work, Delaram envisions improving human health through human-centered technology. She has received accolades and recognition for this work, including awards in Think-a-thon, eHub Accelerator and CS research day competitions.

Delaram enjoys teaching and interacting with others. She first became interested in science and research as a child, when she watched her father, who is a crop scientist, go into the field to observe plants. Since then, she has always seen herself as a researcher. In her spare time, Delaram loves to travel and take photographs; she especially enjoys meeting new people and learning about their different cultures.

## Communications

Lots of things happening in the communications department, starting with this newsletter! These will be sent out every month around the first of the month. If you have any comments or suggestions, let **Brian** or **Wendy** know!

### Printed Reports

**Timucuan** represented the Southeast Coast Network at the regional and national level in February, with our new **I&M Program brief**, and a video on our **I&M website**. If you'd like your park showcased, send videos or pictures to the communications department at [SER\\_IM\\_publication@NPS.gov](mailto:SER_IM_publication@NPS.gov).

This March, we'll be working on landbird reports from 2011, 2012, and 2014. Look for data summaries for **CUIS**, **HOBE**, **CALO**, **FOSU**, and **OCMU** by the end of the month.

### Social Media

We're updating our social media strategy, and taking the necessary steps to get a Facebook page live for the network. We'll keep you posted. Our Twitter page will be more active in the coming months, with live pictures from the field. Follow us at <https://twitter.com/SECoastNetwNPS>.

### Website

Last but not least, we are overhauling the network website (<http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/secn/index.cfm>). We'll be starting this month with corrections and updates to bring it up to speed, but in the very near future look for park-specific I&M pages, with a separate page for each park. From your page, you'll be able to see what's monitored at your park, pull reports and species lists specific to your park, and access lots of other goodies. If you have anything you'd like us to include on *your* page, please let us know!



Citizen science at its finest: A brown pelican hanging out in Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve helps Brian Gregory with a vegetation mapping accuracy assessment. Way to get involved!

## From the Program Manager



Greetings,

I hope this first SECN news letter finds you warm and cozy as winter heads out the door. Spring is approaching in Athens, as trees are starting to bloom and peepers are singing at night along the river. February marked the official end of the Southeast Coast Network's year of

transition. One year ago, our former program manager moved on to a leadership role in Fort Collins, and I took the helm, as acting, and then permanent, program manager. This past year has been a year of change—for me as well as those on my staff—as we adjusted to changes within, and dealt with new directives from the National I&M office.

During 2015, I had the opportunity to visit each of your parks. Some of my trips were to keep the water program moving forward, and other times I assisted in collecting vital information about vegetation, water quality and changes along the coast and in salt marshes. I have met with and discussed management issues with many of you as we planned new monitoring efforts for inland rivers and streams. We also discussed how I&M data might help inform your park as to how your natural resources are changing. Back in the office, I worked with SER staff on projects designed to provide better access to data about your park, as well as update and increase the accuracy of the vegetation mapping going on in some of your parks. Recently, I have been assisting regional and WASO staff with

the new Resource Stewardship Strategy (RSS) process at **HOBE**. More recently, I met with most of you at the annual SECN Steering Committee and Board meeting in Athens, where we discussed our path forward. With help from my staff, the Steering Committee's feedback, and the Board's approval, my first I&M network workplan was approved and is now being implemented.

This SECN monthly newsletter is part of our plan to improve our communication strategy and keep you and your staff better informed about what's going on in I&M, and what we are doing to serve your parks. The newsletter will feature fieldwork updates, links to recently published reports, some humor, an occasional interesting story or article, and short biographic sketches of folks on our staff—some of the interns, students and seasonal workers we will highlight are people that you may never get to meet, but who are working hard to serve the needs of your parks. Our new Sharepoint site, recently redesigned by Paula, will continue to be the best place for you to find detailed specifics such as who is doing what, where and when. The newsletter will give you a quick look at the past month's activities and work that is happening in the next four to six weeks. As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions, and we'll be seeing you at your park soon.

— Brian Gregory