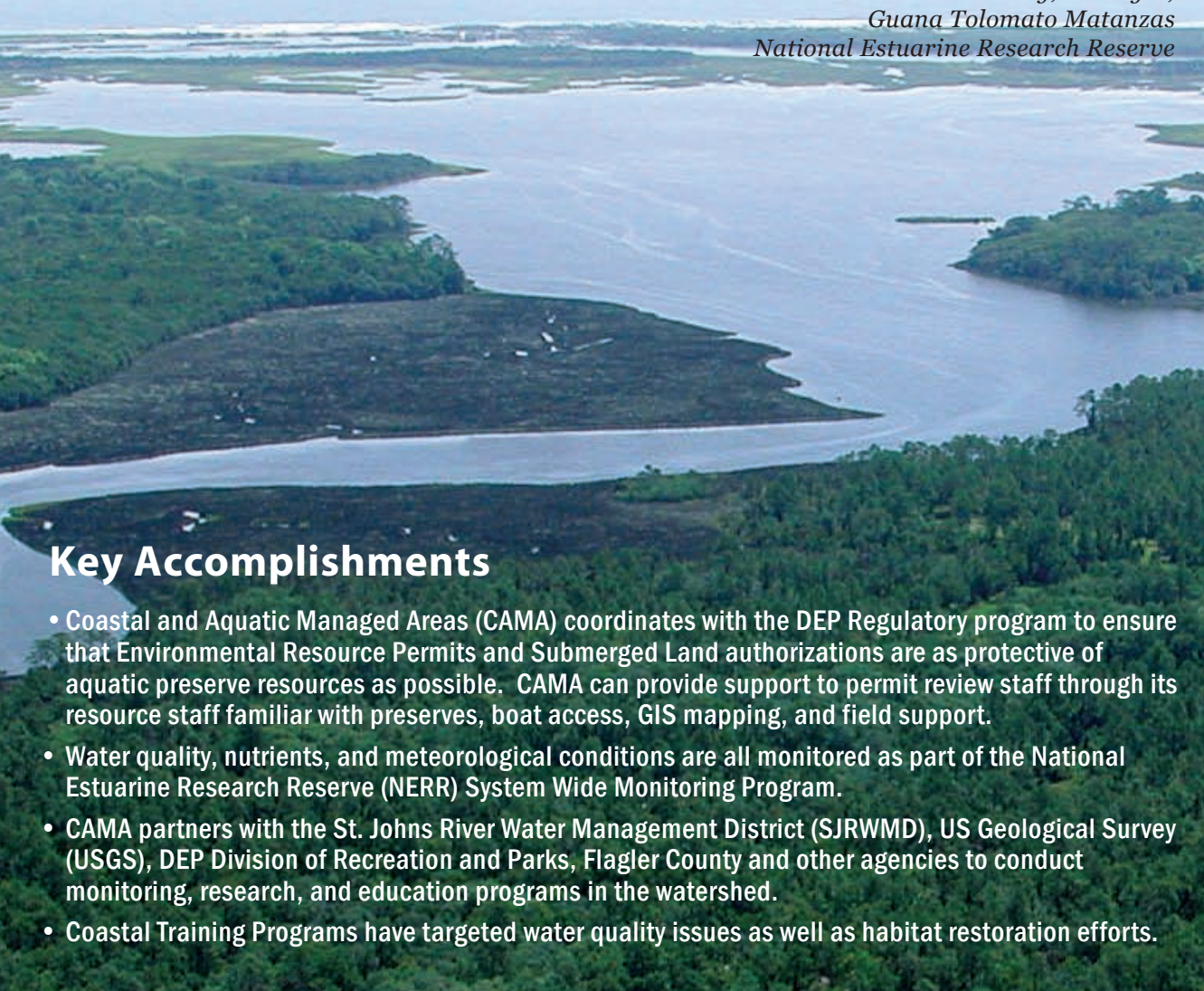


Pellicer Creek

AQUATIC PRESERVE

"Community leaders have preserved extensive areas in the watershed of the Pellicer Creek Aquatic Preserve resulting in one of the state's most pristine freshwater, tidal creek and estuarine habitats. This Aquatic Preserve provides a unique setting to understand nature and to set goals for protecting other estuaries in the region."

*Michael Shirley, Manager,
Guana Tolomato Matanzas
National Estuarine Research Reserve*



Aerial view of Pellicer Creek

Project Spotlight

Modeling Flow-Ways

A flow-way is a center-line, representing concentrations of surface overland flow, running along the minimum contour or elevation of the landscape flowing from the upper elevations of the watershed down to the coastal waters. GTM Research Reserve is working on a flow-way analysis for the Pellicer watershed to determine the natural flow

paths of surface water on the landscape that drains into Pellicer Creek Aquatic Preserve. This project will help guide plans for development within the watershed to protect coastal water quality by



Vegetated buffers along flow-ways protect water quality

incorporating the concept of flow-ways into site plans. Identifying flow-ways can help protect core and buffer conservation areas to sustain and improve coastal water quality and habitat corridors. Other benefits can include: increased flood protection and mosquito control, protection of aquifer recharge areas and wildlife corridors, allow for habitat migration in response to sea level rise and create greenways and trails for passive recreation.

Key Accomplishments

- Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (CAMA) coordinates with the DEP Regulatory program to ensure that Environmental Resource Permits and Submerged Land authorizations are as protective of aquatic preserve resources as possible. CAMA can provide support to permit review staff through its resource staff familiar with preserves, boat access, GIS mapping, and field support.
- Water quality, nutrients, and meteorological conditions are all monitored as part of the National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) System Wide Monitoring Program.
- CAMA partners with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), US Geological Survey (USGS), DEP Division of Recreation and Parks, Flagler County and other agencies to conduct monitoring, research, and education programs in the watershed.
- Coastal Training Programs have targeted water quality issues as well as habitat restoration efforts.

Pellicer Creek Aquatic Preserve



Location:

St. Johns and Flagler counties

Acreage:

500 acres of sovereign submerged lands



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Aquatic Preserve Facts:

- Pellicer Creek is one of the most pristine estuarine/riverine systems along Florida's east coast
- Pellicer Creek is protected by Faver Dykes State Park to the north and Princess Place Preserve and Pellicer Creek Conservation Area to the south.
- Pellicer Creek Aquatic Preserve is designated as an Outstanding Florida Water.
- The submerged lands of the preserve include saltwater marsh, brackish tidal creek, oyster bars, tidal mud flats, freshwater marsh and wet prairie.
- Pellicer Creek contains one of the rare habitats for submerged aquatic vegetation or seagrasses in a North Florida estuary.
- Both saltwater and freshwater species can be caught in Pellicer Creek.



Floating dock at Faver-Dykes State Park



The historic lodge at Princess Place Preserve



Nutrient monitoring



Pellicer Creek Aquatic Preserve



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