



# *Living Shorelines Along the Georgia Coast*

*2021 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology*

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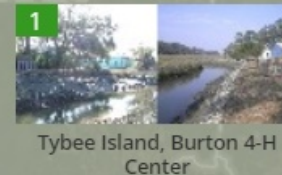
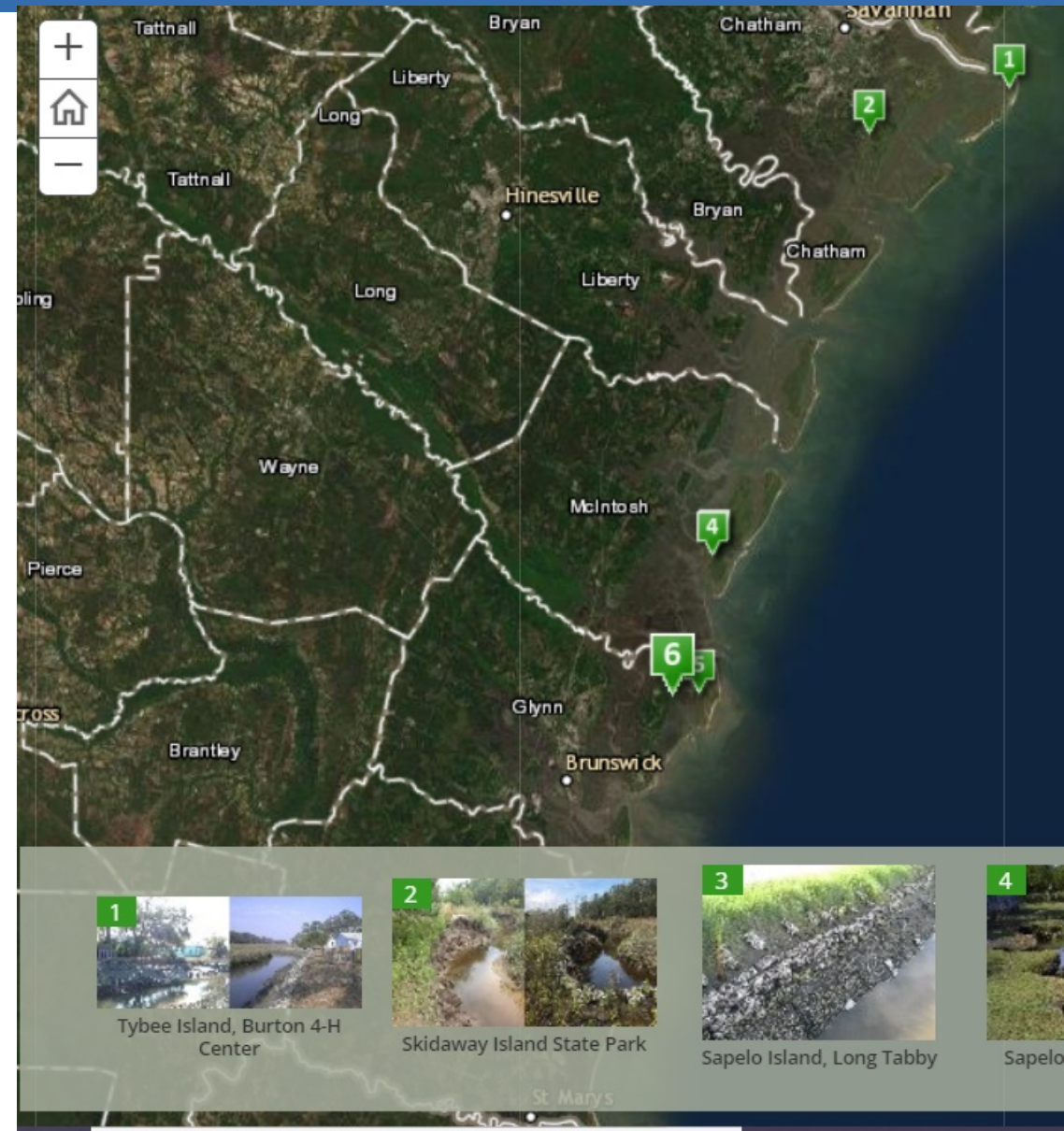
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<https://coastalgadnr.org/LivingShorelines>

# Living Shorelines in Georgia

- Riverine and tidal creek erosion is a natural process, but in certain instances, can be exacerbated by anthropogenic influences.
- Historically, property owners have combated tidal creek erosion through the construction of rock revetments or bulkheads.
- The goal of the Georgia Coastal Management Program is to increase awareness of alternative nature-based solutions, such as living shorelines, in the face of coastal erosion.
- Beginning in 2006, a technique referred to as Living Shorelines began to be developed in coastal Georgia.



1 Tybee Island, Burton 4-H Center



2 Skidaway Island State Park



3 Sapelo Island, Long Tabby



4 Sapelo Island

# Little St. Simons Island



# Cannon's Point Preserve



# Skidaway State Park



# Little Cumberland Island



# Challenges of Coastal Georgia and Living Shorelines

- Public knowledge
  - Getting the property owners on board
    - They potentially need to give up some upland area for proper grading
- Tidal range-project design differing from other states
- Material availability
  - Shell
- Limited contractors with knowledge and experience on constructing living shorelines
- Permitting
  - Federal and State
  - Permitting is not as familiar and efficient
  - Delays in permitting can cause site plans to become outdated especially in a very erosional area (i.e. LCI)

# Success in Georgia

- Living shorelines have provided:
  1. Stabilization
  2. Increased/Enhanced Habitat
- Living Shoreline Working Group
- Partnerships
  - Local College of Coastal Georgia
  - Local non-profit groups
    - Coastal Wildscapes and The Nature Conservancy
- Children's book about living shorelines to be published in association with LCI project





# Thank You!

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Photo by Eliot VanOtteran