

## Updates from the Cape Fear Arch

### Bald Head Island Conservancy

- A house fire in November resulted in 3 houses burning to the ground.
  - This raised questions from the public about the maritime forest's tendency to spread fire.
  - From that, a few conversations have sparked regarding the role of fire in this habitat type.
  - Beth Darrow with the BHI Conservancy is interested in talking with anyone who has an expertise or working knowledge of maritime forest habitats in general.

## Updates from the Cape Fear Arch

### The Nature Conservancy

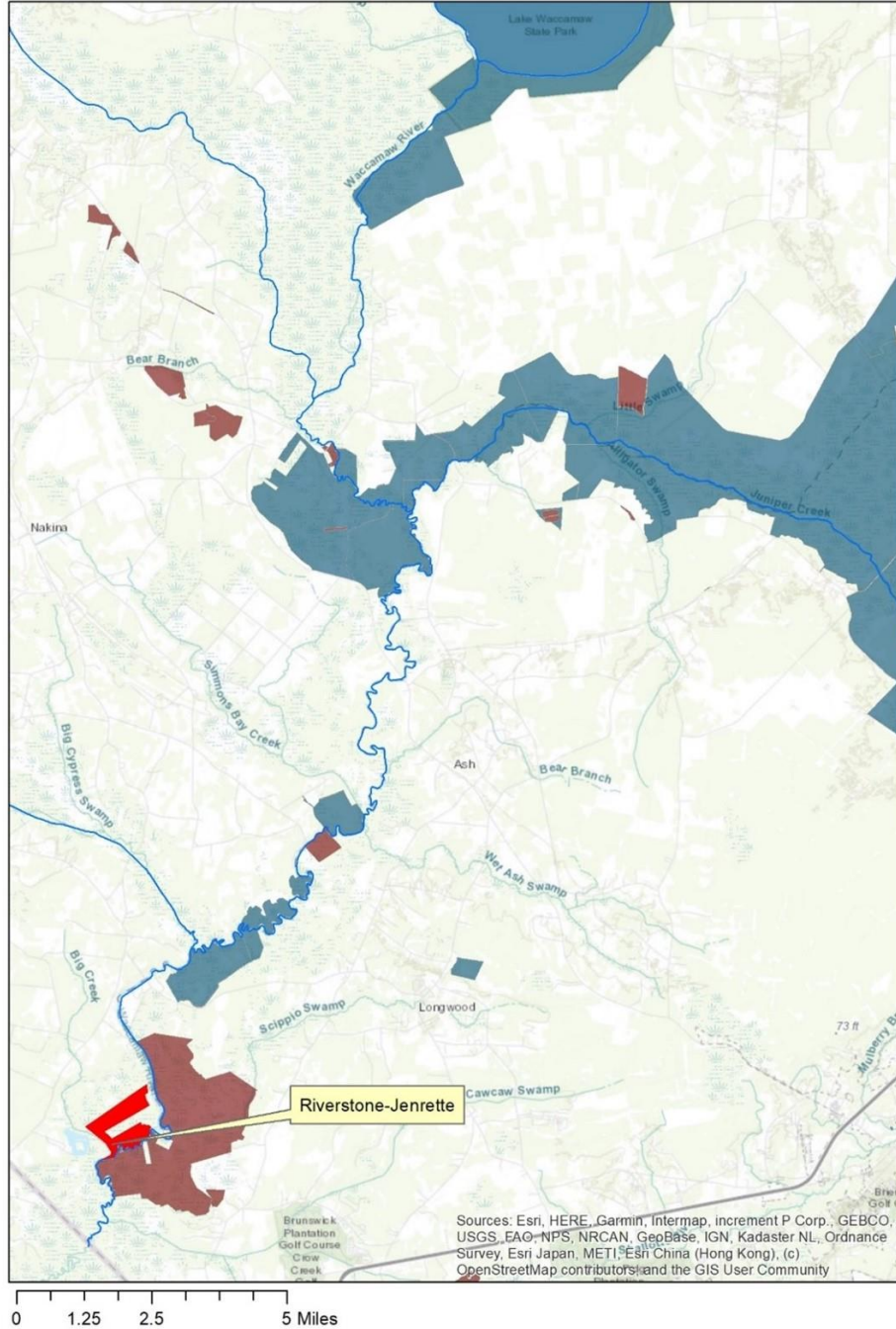
- TNC's Southeast Coastal Plain office has had a successful fire season with 1,498 acres burned so far on TNC preserves. 740 of those acres were in the CFA. TNC has assisted WRC with 2,269 acres across the CFA landscape.
- SAVE THE DATE! **Fire in the Pines Festival** will be held October 8<sup>th</sup> at Halyburton Park in Wilmington, NC. It will be held in-person with supplementary online events, guided hikes, talks and more throughout the week!

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## The Nature Conservancy

- Waccamaw River – Riverstone tract - ~410 acres below NC 904 now in the Columbus Co. GL

## Waccamaw River - TNC Land Protection 2020-2022

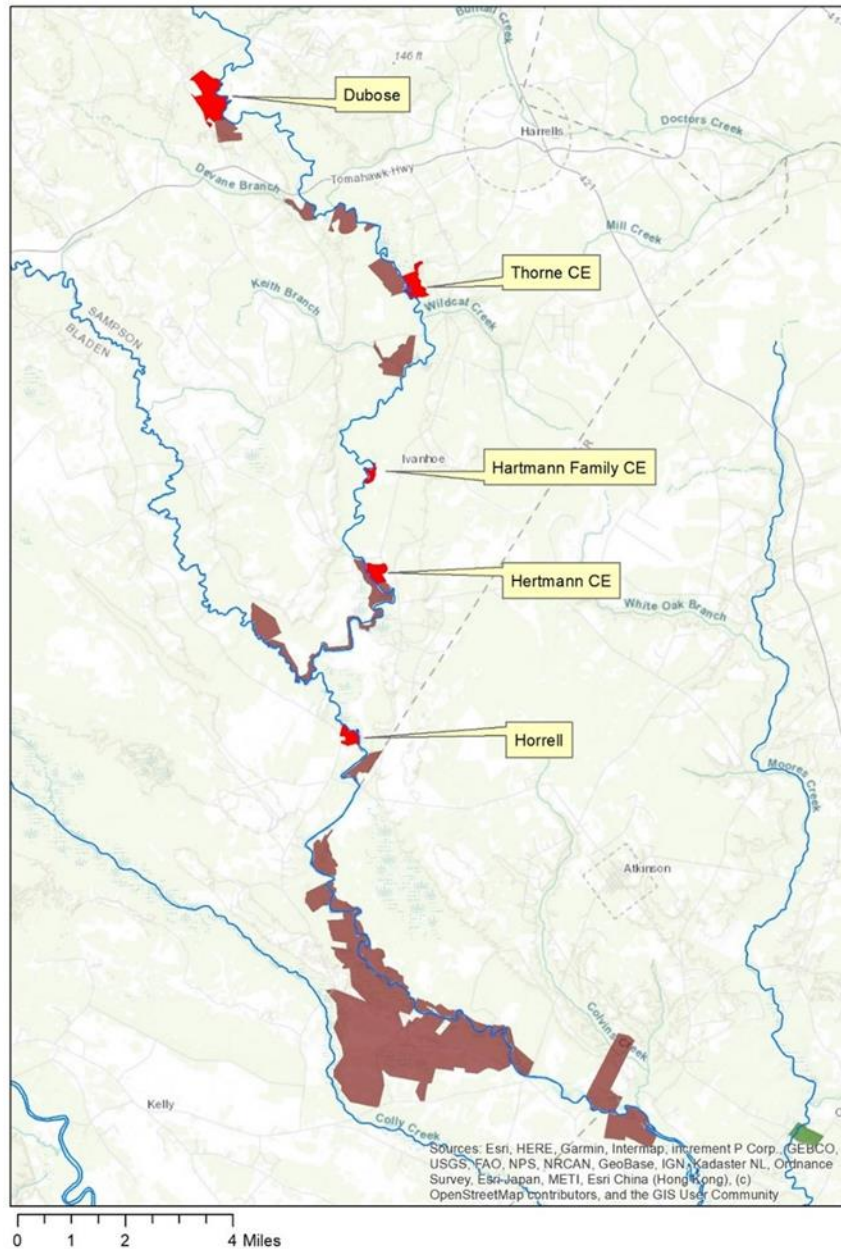


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## The Nature Conservancy

- Black River – all part of TNC’s Black River Preserve
  - Dubose - ~244 acres
  - Horrell - ~56 acres
  - Thorne CE - ~96 acres Conservation Easement
  - Hartmann CE - ~65 acres Conservation Easement
  - Hartmann Family LLC CE - ~25 acres Conservation Easement

### Black River - Land Protection 2020-2022



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### Audubon NC

- Audubon NC is wrapping up a project with the USACOE involving beneficial use of dredged material on the Cape Fear River.
  - The Corps is using Ferry Slip Island as a sand disposal site for its navigational channel maintenance work.
  - This project is improving habitat for colonial nesting waterbirds, including up to 20% of NC's Royal and Sandwich Terns as well as Brown Pelicans, American Oystercatchers, and others.

## Updates from the Cape Fear Arch

### North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission

- Coastal game land work area purchased a new horizontal grinding/mulching machine for vegetation control activities.
- In 2021, we reforested 197 acres to longleaf pine & planted 55 of those acres with native warm season grass plugs on game lands in the Arch.
- The latter part of 2021 was very dry and posed challenges to our prescribed burning efforts. The year resulted in 2118 acres burned.
- 2022 is off to a great start with 2482 acres burned so far. Ground fire has been an issue though.

# Updates from the Cape Fear Arch

## North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission

- Land acquisition efforts in 2021 were more challenging than normal. We closed on four properties totaling 676 acres.
- 24,000 acres of new or existing land projects gained momentum. All seven projects involve at least one partner.

### 2021 WRC Land Projects

