

Maritime Forest Restoration at Cannon's Point Preserve



FOUNDED in 2000 by a group of dedicated community leaders who were concerned about overdevelopment and increased congestion on St. Simons Island

MISSION: *To preserve the island's natural and scenic character and to enhance quality of life for present and future generations*

TODAY:

- Approximately 1,200 acres on St. Simons Island preserved are in perpetuity
- More than 1,200 annual supporters
- 501(c)(3) Non-Profit
- Accredited by the Land Trust Alliance





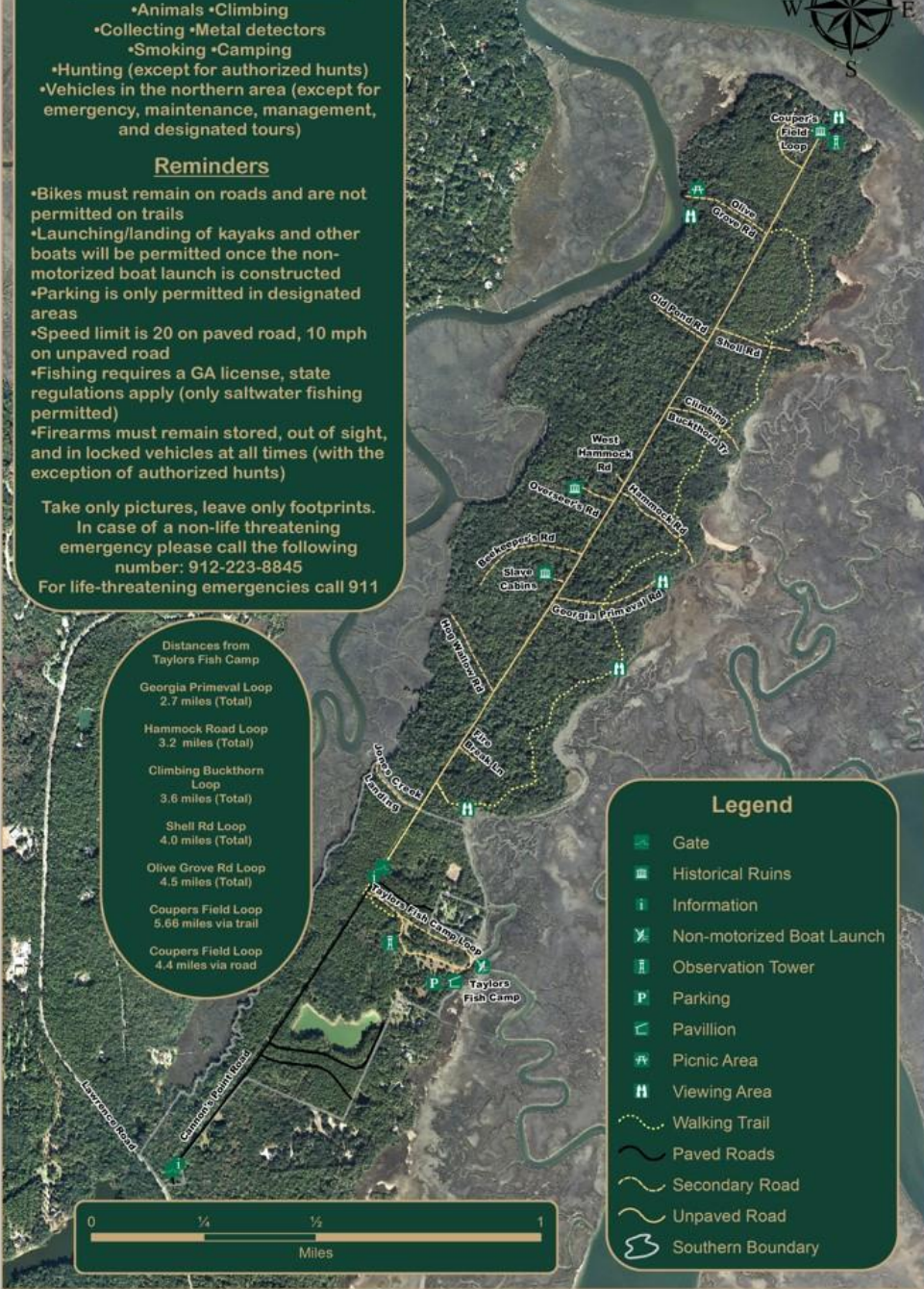
SSLT PROPERTIES

- A** Gateway Property
- B** St. Simons Land Trust Office
- C** Mildred Huie Museum
- D** John Gilbert Nature Trail
- E** Old Stables Corner
- F** Harrington Community Park*
- G** Guale Preserve
- H** Frederica Park*
- I** Alice Richards Botanical Trail*
- J** Correll Trail at Oatland
- K** Cannon's Point Preserve

*Partner Properties



Cannon's Point Preserve



Cannon's Point Preserve is owned by the St. Simons Land Trust, a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization directly involved in protecting the island's important land resources such as wetlands, maritime forests, and wildlife habitats. Its mission is to preserve the island's natural and scenic character, and to enhance the quality of life for our island community for present and future generations



EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH



SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH



Southern Pine Beetles



Phase 1-2016

Comprehensive analysis of:

- Fence vs non-fence
- Animal browse
- Natural vegetation competition
- 720 live oak seedlings



Phase 2 & 3-2017

Comprehensive analysis of:

- Densities and shade tolerance dynamics of live oaks
- Four prescriptions installed at the Preserve for comprehensive analysis
- Additional 1,320 live oak seedlings planted



Phase 4-2018

Comprehensive analysis of:

- Silvicultural alternatives to fencing to overcome animal browse of live oaks
- Cannon's Point Preserve is island location, Harris Neck Wildlife Refuge is the mainland site
- Additional 200 live oaks planted



Phase 5- 2020

Comprehensive analysis of:

- Mulching, fertilization, and planting density to facilitate site preparation and regeneration of planted live oak
- Researchers will monitor soil conditions, vegetative competition, and performance of planted live oak across several growing seasons
- Additional 720 live oaks planted



Preliminary Results

- Planted trees must be fenced or protected. Native white-tailed deer herbivory can be highly detrimental to growth of live oak seedlings.
- Live oak seedlings prefer full sun as they can photosynthesize year-round.
- Weed control is important for at least the first year after planting.



Published Research

Phase 1 Publication: *Herbivory and Competing Vegetation Interact as Site Limiting Factors in Maritime Forest Restoration*

Phase 2 Publication: *Unraveling Shade Tolerance and Plasticity of Semi-Evergreen Oaks: Insights From Maritime Forest Live Oak Restoration*



Published Research

Phase 4 Publication: *Toward Identifying Alternatives to Fencing for Forest Restoration: Tube Shelters Outperform Mesh Shelters for Deer Browse Protection of Live Oak, Quercus virginiana*

Phase 5 Publication: *Response of Live Oak Regeneration to Planting Density, Fertilizer, and Mulch*



Additional Information

Please visit the St. Simons Land Trust website at
SSLT.ORG

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