

Monthly Report: June 2014

Faculty of
FORESTRY

School of
AGRICULTURAL,
FOREST, AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCES

College of
AGRICULTURE,
FORESTRY & LIFE
SCIENCES

Baruch Institute of
Coastal Ecology and
Forest Sciences
Hwy. 17 N.
177 Hobcaw Rd.
Georgetown, SC
29440

(843) 546-1013
FAX (843) 546-6296

To:

William Bailey and Mary E. Richards
Planning Division
Savannah District
US Army Corps of Engineers
100 W. Oglethorpe Ave.
Savannah, GA 31401

27 June 2014

By:

Jamie Duberstein
Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science
Clemson University
PO Box 596
Georgetown, SC 29442
Cell: 706-410-6722

Bill and Mary:

Please see the bulleted list below for the major actions and accomplishments associate with Cooperative Agreement Number W912HZ-14-2-0002 for the month of June, 2014. Please let me know if you would like me to elaborate on the details of any items I've listed below, or if there are any other items that interest you.

Sincerely,

Jamie

- Marsh vegetation samples were collected from all 108 study plots on June 15th and 16th.
 - Samples were transported to Georgetown, SC, and placed in cold storage at the University of South Carolina's Baruch Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences on Hobcaw Barony.
 - Samples were immediately sorted by species and stems counted, finishing by June 19th. The samples are currently being dried in a forced air oven, or staging in the cold storage until dryer space becomes available.
 - Samples are weighed after they have remained in the forced air oven at 55° C (130° F) for at least 5 days. This assures that no moisture exists in the plant material.

- The water monitoring station at Back 4 was apparently abused by one or more hogs. The station and its sensors have been repaired, but data leading up to the point of repair will have to be carefully scrutinized.

- We have identified potential areas for monitoring the forested wetlands (Figure 1). We would like to get approval from USACE for plot locations. All sites are within the refuge acquisition boundary, and have been approved by Jane Griess at the Savannah NWR (via Theresa Thom, Savannah NWR aquatic biologist) for monitoring.
 - The most upstream plot is "Swamp 1", and the dominant trees have been measured annually for approximately 10 years. The land is owned by the State of Georgia, but it is managed by the USFWS through an existing agreement.
 - UTM: 17S 485328 (east) N3566827 (north)
 - Swamp 2 is located on Savannah NWR land.
 - UTM: 17S 485653 (east) 3564066 (north)
 - Swamp 3 is located on land owned by the Georgia Ports Authority. We will seek approval to establish the monitoring area (consisting of 8 pvc poles and a water monitoring station) after first hearing back from USACE with regard to placement of the forested wetland monitoring areas.
 - UTM: 17S 484900 (east) 3561838 (north)

- We plan to download data from water sensors and establish forest plots during the last week in July, providing all approvals have been made.

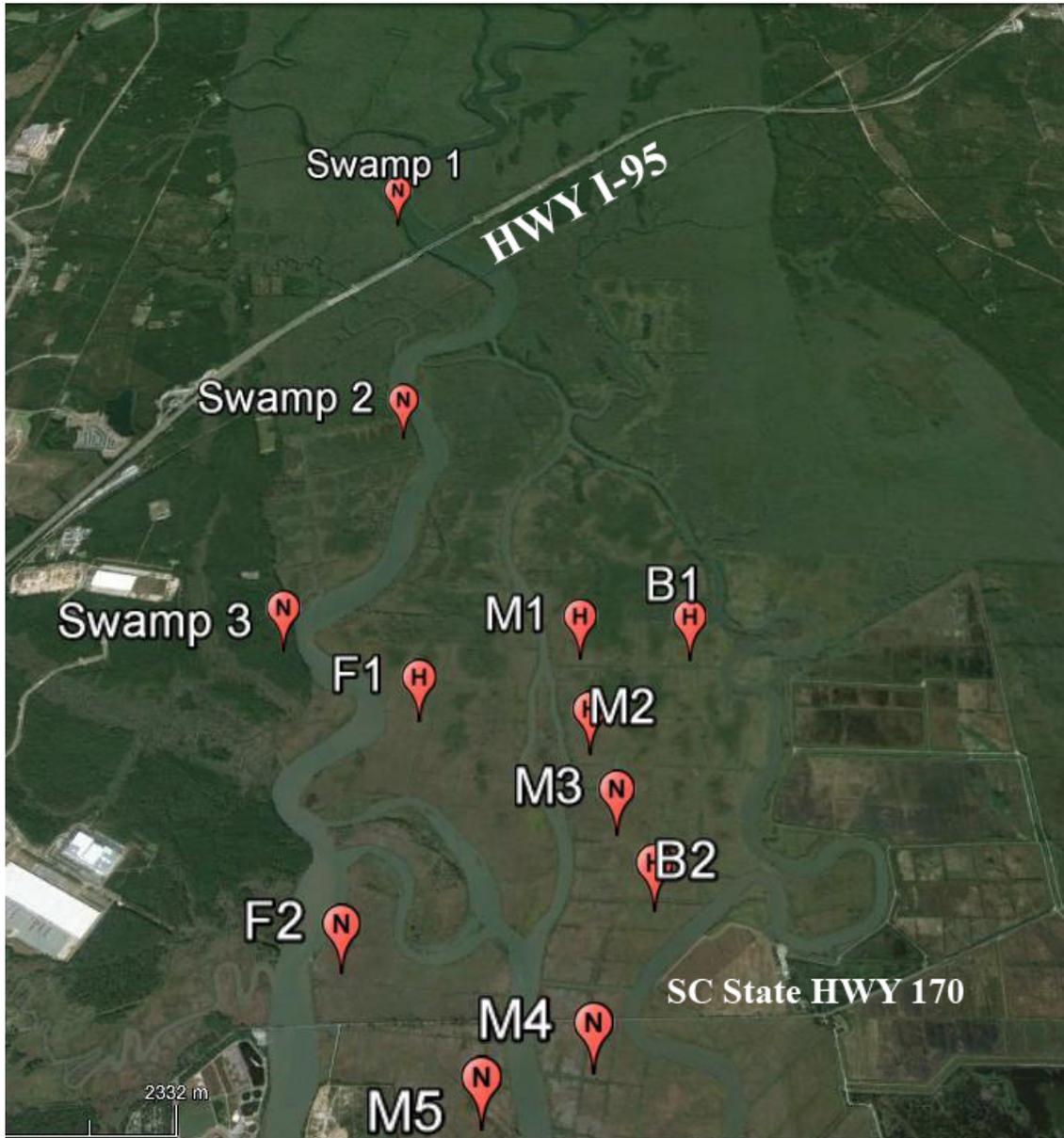


Figure 1. General locations for the three forested wetland monitoring areas (Swamp 1, 2, and 3) with respect to some marsh monitoring areas. Letters inside balloons indicate whether these are new (N) or historic (H) monitoring areas; there are no historic forested wetland monitoring areas.

- The boat, motor, and trailer were received from The Boat Shed (Georgetown, SC) on June 20th (Figure 2).
 - Boat: 2015 Sea Arc 1660MV
 - Motor: 2014 Yamaha F40LA
 - Trailer: 2014 Wesco 1620FSE



Figure 2. Jonboat (16') for collecting vegetation samples.