

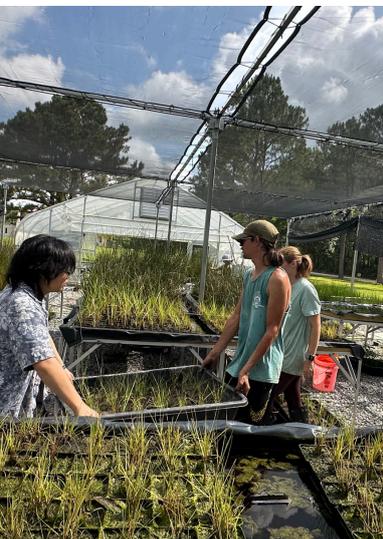


NATIVE  
PLANT  
PRODUCER  
NETWORK



## REPOTTING MILESTONE!

In January the NPPN team discussed goals for the upcoming year, one of which was to reach a stock of 10,000 restoration-quality plants at our office in Biloxi, and 25,000 across the network by the end of 2025. We are excited to announce that in June we hit 10,000+ at CREC, and ~14,000 in the entire network, keeping pace to reach our goal! We want to thank everyone who has been growing with us thus far, and can't wait to see the impact these grasses will have on the coast! CREC staff, volunteers, and GenSea interns have been hard at work repotting hundreds of seed trays, and yet... There are still plenty more to go!



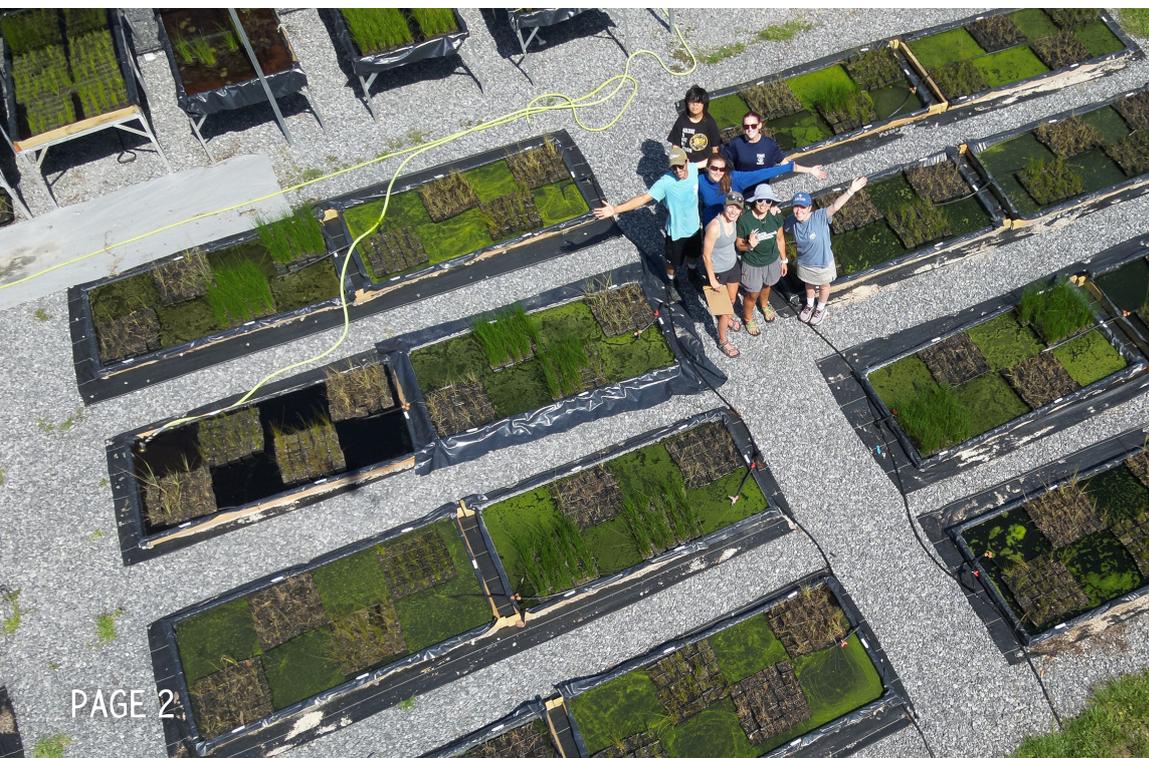
# SHORELINE PLANTING

In June, 100 plugs of *Juncus* grown in our network were planted at a site in Panama City, Florida as part of a larger on-going coastal resilience project.



## SALINITY - PEST RESISTANCE EXPERIMENT STARTED IN JUNE

In June, the team planned and developed a new research experiment out at the greenhouse! The experiment aims to determine if common pests (i.e. fall armyworm caterpillars) are deterred from eating smooth cordgrass and black needlerush if they are grown in water with a salinity range between 6-10ppt. Over the next few months we will be monitoring salinity levels of ponds 3x a week, checking/counting pests 1x a week, and monitoring growth 1x a month. Stay tuned for our results as they may inform best management practices for the marsh grass nursery industry.





# TEACHER WORKSHOPS

## MSU TEACHER WORKSHOP

We met with 16 local teachers at MSU-CREC's annual Teacher Workshop in June! After our presentation, Kaitlyn and London lead the teachers around a guided tour of the greenhouse to get an idea of how they can incorporate growing spaces at their schools.



## GLASS ROOTS TEACHER WORKSHOP

Our recent teacher workshop was a great success! We are thrilled to have 14 enthusiastic middle school teachers joining the program this fall to test out hands-on experiments with *Distichlis spicata* in their classrooms.

As we prepare for the school year, our team is hard at work replanting over 1,000 plugs to ensure each teacher has the materials they need to bring coastal restoration science to life for their students.



# POLLINATOR GARDEN PROJECT UPDATES

After stratifying seeds over the fall/winter, around 100 individual Swamp milkweed (*Asclepius incarnata*) were raised to serve as host plants for Monarch butterflies this spring. Before adulthood, some of the caterpillars were allowed to feed naturally, and others under a protective netting. Adult butterflies were released after being tagged with a tracking sticker.



 **WILD  
ONES**<sup>®</sup>  
Mississippi Gulf Coast

Pollinator declines are largely due to habitat loss. One of the simplest ways you can support pollinators is by starting in your backyard. The Wild Ones Mississippi Gulf Coast Seedling Chapter is looking for folks interested in habitat restoration through learning about native plants and how to incorporate natives into your gardening and landscapes. No experience needed!

**Join us today**

**<https://mississippigulfcoast.wildones.org/>**

You can also join our email list to be notified of Wild Ones events and learning opportunities.

**[JOIN THE EMAIL LIST](#)**



# GET INVOLVED

## INTEREST FORM

Are you interested in learning more about our program or getting involved with our Native Plant Producer Network? If so, please fill out this form with your respective interests and we will be in touch soon!

[INTEREST FORM](#)

Visit [msucoastal.com/nppn/](https://msucoastal.com/nppn/) for more information.



**JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP:**  
[Native Plant Producer Network](#)



**CONTACT US:**  
KAITLYN MITCHELL  
[krs717@msstate.edu](mailto:krs717@msstate.edu)

