

North Inlet-Winyah Bay Research Reserve

Education is Change on the Ground



2022

Connect



2,563 walk in visitors Hobcaw
Barony Discovery Center



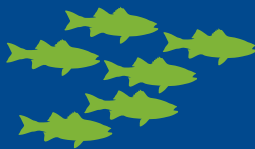
Prepare

18 teachers trained
537 students engaged
736 student contact hours

Improve



346 volunteers activated
784 volunteer hours donated



*"I have lived here
all my life, and
never knew this
existed!"*

Community member
during one of our
public library events

*"This is SO COOL! Do
you offer free events
like these all the
time?"*

Family participants during
a summer Beach Night
Life program

Resiliency in Education for 2022

The North Inlet-Winyah Bay Reserve in Georgetown, SC offers opportunities to explore and experience a variety of estuary habitats through engaging, hands-on activities on-site. In person events dramatically changed due to extended impacts of COVID restrictions. A positive aspect to this situation were the many new virtual programs that reached audiences well beyond our geographic local target audiences and increased the Reserve's visibility like never before.

Multiplying the Strength of Community Partnerships

Reserve educators and interns visited library branches in three surrounding counties to share family-friendly estuary and watershed education activities to expand engagement with community members who may have never visited the Reserve. These off site events reached over 750 participants.

Celebrations of the North Inlet-Winyah Bay Reserve's 30th anniversary also provided multiple community outreach programs at local museums as well as research talks highlighting over forty years of long-term research, monitoring, and stewardship activities within the Reserve's boundaries.

Our National Estuaries Day Open House hosted 175 visitors to our Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center and offered lab and marsh tours, research overviews, fish printing, an estuary photo booth, and live animals from the salt marsh. An estuary education exhibit downtown on the waterfront at the annual Georgetown Wooden Boat Show engaged 650 visitors over the three day event.

South Carolina's North Inlet-Winyah Bay Reserve is one of 30 sites in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. Each site is a state federal partnership that combines research, monitoring, and education to advance the understanding and management of estuarine environments.



National Estuarine Research Reserve Education Change on the Ground in 2022

Connects

People to Estuaries

**1 million+
ACRES**

of natural classrooms & living laboratories with



**26 INTERPRETIVE
CENTERS**



*Hello to the
Connecticut
Reserve,
designated
in 2022!*



**296,131
VISITORS**

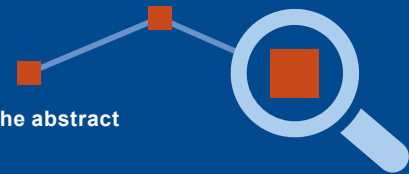
learn about estuaries through Research Reserve outreach & education

Prepares

the Next Generation

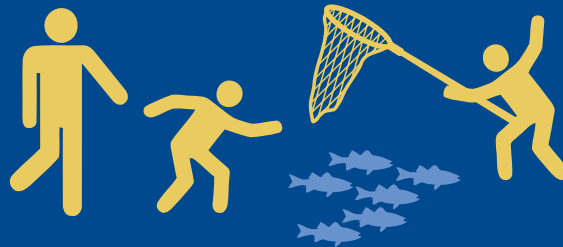
**54,773
STUDENTS**

take learning out of the abstract & into the outdoors



**4,347
TEACHERS**

are trained in the estuary & supported in the classroom



SKILLS BUILT

- ✓ Observation
- ✓ Asking research questions
- ✓ Problem solving
- ✓ Data driven decision making

ESTUARY SCIENCE

LOCAL DATA

LAB WORK

FIELD INVESTIGATION

Improves

the Environment

**10,570
CITIZENS**

are trained & inspired to protect their coasts & estuaries



VOLUNTEER ACTIONS

- ✓ Protect wildlife
- ✓ Monitor water quality
- ✓ Plant native species
- ✓ Clean up the coasts

**30 RESEARCH RESERVE
EDUCATORS**

lead programs that foster coastal stewardship in communities in 25 states



Creating value through education
37,371 volunteer hours = \$1,119,261*