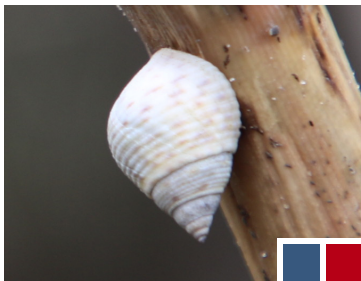
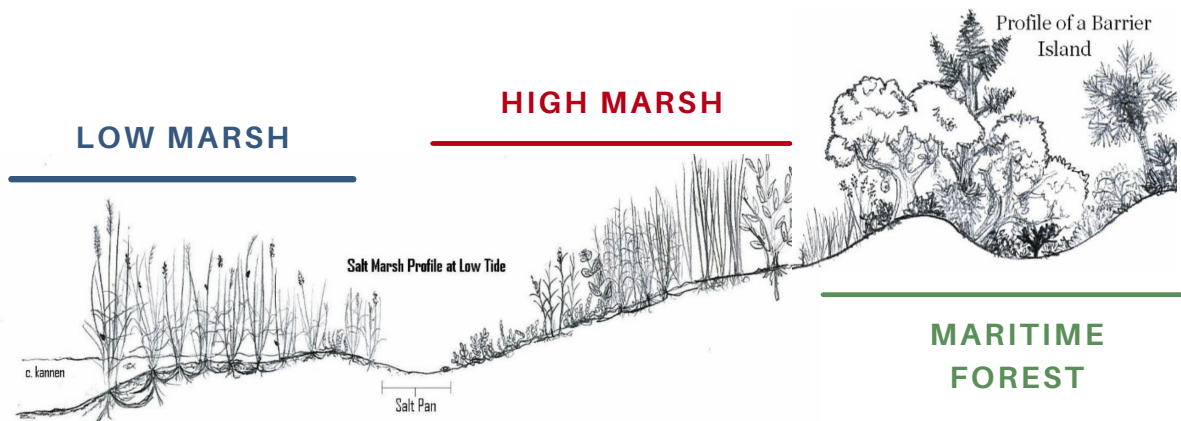


SALT MARSH AND MARITIME FOREST

IDENTIFICATION GUIDE



MARSH PERIWINKLE

Littorina irrorata

Usually found on living or dead *Spartina*.



EASTERN OYSTER

Crassostrea virginica

Usually found in clusters among other oysters.



EASTERN MUD SNAIL

Ilyanassa obsoleta

Usually found directly on mud flats.

courtesy of SCDNR



RIBBED MUSSEL

Geukensia demissa

Often partially buried in mud flats. Anchored in place with strong, sticky byssal threads.



SAND FIDDLER CRAB

Uca pugnator

Purple carapace with dot in the center; white claws. Males have an oversized claw.



MUD FIDDLER CRAB

Uca pugnax

Brown carapace with "H" depression; yellow claws. Males have an oversized claw.



SQUAREBACK CRAB

Armases cinereum

Dark brown bodies with eyes found on corners of square back. Sometimes found on tree branches.



FIDDLER CRAB BURROW

Found in high and mid marsh. Large digging pellets and smaller feeding pellets surround the hole.



MUD CRAB

Panopeus herbstii

Brown rounded carapace with pointed pinchers of equal size.



BLACK NEEDLERUSH

Juncus roemerianus

Found in high marsh; sharp, grey/green, needle-like leaves with a rounded stalk.





SMOOTH CORDGRASS

Spartina alterniflora

Can be the dominant plant in intertidal areas; flat, slender blades; extensive root system.



GLASSWORT

Salicornia virginica

Short to medium height stalks; round, fleshy branches resemble pickles!



SEA OX-EYE

Borrchia frutescens

Fleshy leaves with yellow flowers that bloom in late spring and summer; attract butterflies.



SALTGRASS

Distichlis spicata

Form in dense clusters of slender green blades with spiky tips.



SALTMEADOW CORDGRASS

Spartina patens

Long, wiry stems and leaves found in marshes and sandy beaches.



RED CEDAR

Juniperus virginiana

Evergreen with reddish bark and thick green needles.



YAUPON

Ilex vomitoria

Dark green leaves with wavy ridges on edges. Berries turn from green to red in the fall.



SAW PALMETTO

Serenoa repens

An understory plant with fan-like leaf blades and serrated leaf stems.



SPANISH-MOSS

Tillandsia usneoides

A gray/green epiphyte; often found on limbs of oaks.



LIVE OAK

Quercus virginiana

Thick, cork-like bark, dark green leaves with slightly curved edges. Produces acorns in fall.



SNOWY EGRET

Egretta thula

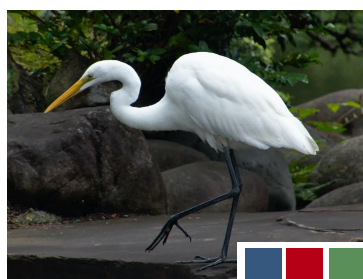
Medium-sized wading bird with curved neck, black beak and yellow slippers.



OSPREY

Pandion haliaetus

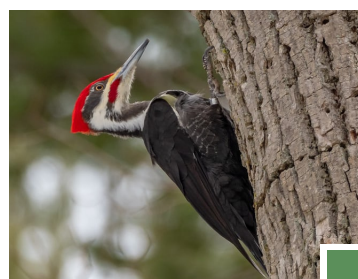
Large predatory bird that builds large nests near water; plunges feet-first in water for fish.



GREAT EGRET

Ardea alba

Large, white, wading bird with long S-curved neck, yellow beak and black feet.



PILEATED WOODPECKER

Dryocopus pileatus

Insectivore with a large black chest, and a red and white triangular head.



Marine Extension and
Georgia Sea Grant
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



gacoast.uga.edu