

Who We Are

The National Planning Center of Expertise for Coastal Storm Damage Reduction was formed in 2003 and is based out of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers North Atlantic Division.



The center is a virtual team consisting of members from across the country to consult on a multitude of coastal storm and environmental restoration issues. From coastal storm damage reduction to environmental restoration off our Nation's shores, the Center strives for excellence in coastal planning.

Through adequate planning and coordination, we can avoid this kind of devastating damage, that happened on Long Beach Island, N.J. in 1962.

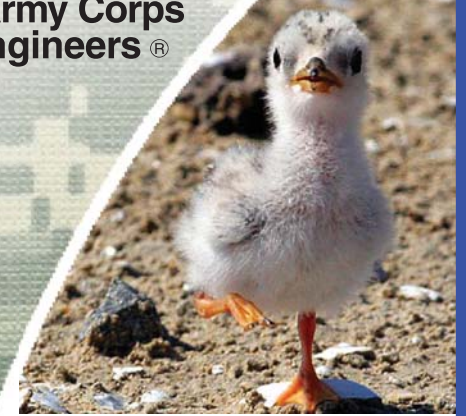


Contact

Director: Joseph Vietri
Deputy: Larry Cocchieri
E-Mail: PCXCSDR@usace.army.mil
Web site:
http://www.nad.usace.army.mil/coastal_storm_damage.htm



US Army Corps
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Aside from protecting infrastructure, coastal projects have numerous environmental benefits, like protecting the habitat of pelicans, sea turtles and snow owls like the ones seen in the picture to the right.



Florida Gulf Coast during a beach replenishment

What We Do

- Provide technical supporting service for any Coastal Storm Damage Reduction study, including complex studies
- Lead peer reviews including agency technical reviews, independent external peer reviews and model certifications
- Provide training opportunities to sustain technical competencies
- Supplement policy compliance review on projects
- Provide lessons learned and best practices
- Assist in establishing USACE research and development priorities
- Serve on steering committee for USACE Coastal Engineering Research Board
- Provide advice to HQUSACE, USACE labs and stakeholders
- Manage USACE role in FEMA's National Hurricane Program

What is Coastal Planning?

Our Nation's coastlines are a vital resource for commerce, recreation, tourism, and wildlife. Adequate planning for future storm risk, sea level change and shoreline changes are some of the assessments conducted during the Coastal Planning process.

Coastal planning is a systematic and comprehensive analysis of the current and future conditions of a particular coastline. After analyzing a problem, many diverse analyses may be conducted such as plan formulation, identification of emergency evacuation routes, economic cost and benefit analyses, environmental impact statements or environmental assessments, and types of land easements. These analyses usually result in various solutions for the Corps to consider to recommend.

Accomplishments

- Pioneered procedures for conducting peer reviews, following Hurricane Katrina
- Completed a number of peer reviews of nationwide studies
- Provided hands-on consulting services and advice to areas along the Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific coasts
- Developed and conducted training in coastal planning
- Improved the preparedness and readiness of coastal communities through hurricane evacuation studies and post storm assessments
- Established the Coastal Regional Advisory Board to manage the center and to better address our customer's needs
- Initiated efforts to prototype a systems approach for coastal protection to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our coastal projects
- Provided planning expertise internationally to countries in Europe and Africa



Seawall repairs, Galveston, Texas, 2009.

