



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Hatteras & Ocracoke Islands, NC (Hwy 12) (Coastal Storm Damage Reduction)

- **Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)**
- **Feasibility phase initiated in November 2003**
- **Study would address shoreline erosion problems which threaten the NC Highway 12 transportation system**
- **Study currently suspended, subject to the availability of funds**



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 3

DATE: 8 April 2013

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Resolutions adopted 1 August 1990 by House Committee on Public Works and Transportation (Dare County portion); and 16 February 2000 by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the Ocracoke Island (Hyde County) portion.
2. **STUDY AREA:** The study area is approximately 70 miles long and covers the southern limits of Dare County from Oregon Inlet to Hatteras Inlet (Pea Island and Hatteras Island) and the northern limits of Hyde County from Hatteras Inlet to Ocracoke Inlet (Ocracoke Island). The area is primarily part of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. However, there are a number of small towns located in the area including: Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo, Avon, Buxton, Frisco, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Village. The Cape Hatteras National Seashore attracts many tourists each year. The incorporated areas are primarily fishing villages with resort areas interspersed throughout. Development consists of residences, lodging, and businesses engaged in sales and services to satisfy the needs of tourists and year-round residents. In recent years the area has experienced considerable erosion and damages to the NC Highway 12 transportation system as a result of storms, necessitating a series of emergency repairs, most notably impacted by both Hurricane Irene in 2011 and Sandy in 2012.
3. **IMPROVEMENTS DESIRED:** The project sponsor would like protection for the NC Highway 12 transportation system to reduce damages from storms and prevent long-term erosion impacts. The transportation corridor also includes other infrastructure such as electric and potable water distribution systems.

PROJECT INFORMATION - Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands, NC (Hwy 12) (Coastal Storm Damage Reduction) – Continued

4. **COST ESTIMATE:** \$ 5,850,000 (Feasibility Study/Federal)
 5,850,000 (Feasibility Study/Non-Federal)
 \$11,700,000 Total

5. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION THRU FY 2012:** \$240,000.00

6. **FY 2013 BUDGET AMOUNT:** \$0. No action planned.

7. **FY 2014 BUDGET AMOUNT:** \$0. Funds in the amount of \$100,000 could be used to reinstate the feasibility phase including additional geotechnical investigations.

8. **KEY DATES:**
 Reconnaissance Report – Completed (included in the Dare County Beaches, NC study)
 Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement – November 2003
 Feasibility Report – TBD pending funds availability

9. **STATUS:** In FY 2001, funding was appropriated for the development and execution of the project management plan and cost sharing agreement for the feasibility study for this portion of the Dare County Beaches. A feasibility cost share agreement was executed on 3 November 2003. At the request of NCDOT, we had been concentrating initial efforts and resources on Ocracoke Island, subject to availability of funds. No funds have been appropriated to this project since FY 2005. Also, the language authorizing the project did not give NCDOT credit, as was requested, for funds that have already been expended in the amount of \$1.5 million for offshore borrow site data collection and technical reports. Recent discussions with NCDOT representatives indicate potential interest in reinitiating a reduced-scope feasibility study in the near future.

10. **OTHER INFORMATION:** A series of recent coastal storms, including Hurricane Irene in 2011 and Sandy in 2012, resulted in severe coastal erosion to portions of NC 12 along an area known as the “S-curves”, an approximate one-mile stretch of the highway located north of Mirlo Beach, NC. As a short-term measure until a permanent solution can be implemented, the Corps and the NCDOT have executed a reimbursable agreement to nourish this coastal area to fortify this section of NC 12. The target date to award a contract for coastal storm damage reduction nourishment activities is September 2013. Also, Governor McCrory declared a state of emergency on March 19, 2013 for NC 12 to help expedite the completion of this short-term measure.