

Southport Section 14 – Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Erosion Protection Project:

Completed in February 2014, this project began with a request from the City of Southport to the USACE Wilmington District to investigate alternative cost-shared measures to help protect a threatened wastewater pump station located in the city next to the Cape Fear River. Upon initial site investigations and review of historic satellite imagery, the Continuing Authorities Program Section 14 authority was identified as the appropriate project authority.

The Section 14 program is designed for implementing projects to protect public facilities that are used to provide essential public services, are properly maintained, and are in imminent threat of damage or failure related to natural erosion processes on stream banks and shorelines. The wastewater pump station in question was a critical facility providing an essential public service. Consequences of failure of the pump station could have included:

- Loss of wastewater pumping services to approximately 200 homes
- Pollution of the Cape Fear River and Intracoastal Waterway with approximately 150,000 gallons of raw sewage per day until controlled.
- Cost of replacement of structure, pumps, motors, and controls.

The USACE Wilmington District conducted a feasibility study, evaluating multiple alternative solutions. A sloping rock revetment was identified as the least cost preferred alternative. Following detailed design and implementation, the project was completed in February 2014 (see post-construction imagery next page). Total project implementation costs, shared at 65% Federal and 35% City of Southport, were \$495,000.

