



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Surf City and North Topsail Beach, NC (Coastal Storm Risk Management)

- **Sponsors: Towns of Surf City and North Topsail Beach**
- **Project authorized for construction in WRRDA 2014**
- **Project ready for new construction start**
- **Development of plans and specifications substantively completed**
- **Sponsors remain extremely motivated to execute a project partnership agreement and begin construction**



Surf City after Hurricane Floyd



North Topsail Beach after Hurricane Fran

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 3, 7

DATE: 25 March 2019

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA-2014).
2. **LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:** The towns of Surf City and North Topsail Beach are located in the central and northern part of Topsail Island. Topsail Island is a well-developed barrier island located about 25 miles northeast of Wilmington between New Topsail Inlet and New River Inlet. From north to south, this island includes the communities of North Topsail Beach, Surf City, and Topsail Beach. Local interests within North Topsail Beach and Surf City desire a coastal storm risk management project including periodic shoreline nourishment to reduce flood risk to upland structures and infrastructure for both towns. The authorized project consists of constructing a sand dune at an elevation of 15 feet NGVD and a berm with a crown width of 50 feet and a top elevation of 7 feet above NGVD over approximately 10 miles of shoreline.

PROJECT INFORMATION - Surf City and North Topsail Beach, NC (Coastal Storm Risk Management) – Continued

3. **COST ESTIMATE:** Project Construction (Price level as of 1 October 2016):

Initial Construction:

\$92,827,000	(Federal – 65%)
\$49,983,000	(Non-Federal – 35%)
(\$44,974,000)	(Non-Federal Cash Contribution)
<u>(\$5,009,000)</u>	(Non-Federal Lands and Damages)
\$142,810,000	

Periodic Nourishment:

\$256,779,000	(Federal – 50%)
<u>\$256,779,000</u>	(Non-Federal – 50%)
\$513,558,000	

Total Estimated Project Cost:

\$349,606,000	Federal
<u>\$306,762,000</u>	Non-Federal
\$656,368,000	Total

4. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION THRU FY 2018:** \$0.

5. **FY 2019 FUNDING ALLOCATION:** \$0.

6. **FY 2020 BUDGET AMOUNT:** \$0. Funding in the amount of \$550,000 could be used to sign a Project Partnership Agreement, assist with real estate acquisition, and finalize plans and specifications for award of the initial construction contract.

7. **KEY DATES:**

June 2014 – Project authorized for construction in WRRDA-2014

September 2014 – Plans and specifications substantially complete

TBD – Execution of project partnership agreement, subject to the appropriation of construction funding.

8. **OTHER INFORMATION:** Vulnerability to severe storm damage without project conditions was confirmed by the devastating effect of Hurricane Florence (2018) on all three towns in Topsail Island with estimated damages to beach, structures and infrastructure estimated at over \$100M. Historical damages from Hurricanes Fran (1996) and Floyd (1999) caused \$37M to publicly and privately owned properties. Severe erosion has either severely damaged or destroyed the primary dune system along much of the island, further increasing vulnerability. Estimated average damages without the proposed project are over \$19M per year.

PROJECT INFORMATION - Surf City and North Topsail Beach, NC (Coastal Storm Risk Management) – Continued

Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) – The North Topsail Beach portion of the project covers 12 miles of shoreline. However, 7 miles of shoreline are located in a CBRA zone which restricts Federal spending that could foster development in undeveloped areas, thus precluding inclusion of this portion of the coastline within the Federal authorized project.

A design agreement was executed on August 8, 2011, and remains in force until a project partnership agreement (PPA) is executed. Appropriation of construction funds would allow the project to achieve a new construction start followed by execution of the PPA. The project authorization will expire ten years from enactment unless construction is initiation within this time period.