



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Wilmington District

## South Atlantic Coastal Study

- Study was authorized by Section 1204 of WRDA 2016
- Study will identify coastal risk and vulnerabilities due to sea level rise
- Anticipated to be completed in 3 yrs



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 1, 3, and 7

DATE: 23 April 2018

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Section 1204 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2016.
2. **LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:** The South Atlantic Coastal Study (SACS) is located within the coastal areas of the USACE South Atlantic Division which includes the states Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and North Carolina. The study will identify the risks and vulnerabilities of those areas to increased hurricane and storm damage as a result of sea level rise, and identify specific and detailed actions to mitigate risks. SACS will proactively address the coastal storm and flood risks of vulnerable coastal populations, property, ecosystems, economies, and infrastructure along the south Atlantic coastline now and into the future. The assessment will apply lessons learned from the North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study (NACCS), a Congressional response and precedent-setting vulnerability and flood risk-reduction study completed for the north Atlantic coastline in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

## PROJECT INFORMATION – South Atlantic Coastal Study (SACS)

In addition to regional analyses of coastal vulnerability, the strategy will identify initial measures/costs that can address vulnerabilities with emphasis on regional sediment management (RSM) as an actionable strategy to sustainably maintain or enhance current levels of storm protection.

3. **IMPROVEMENTS DESIRED:** The SACS is to identify the risks and vulnerabilities of south Atlantic coastal areas to storms and sea level change, as well as opportunities to enhance resiliency, increase sustainability, and lower risks to population centers, economic development, and environmental resources.

This strategy will enable individuals, local, state and Federal governments, and non-governmental organizations to make more risk-informed decisions regarding their communities, such as those related to land use, infrastructure investments, building codes, and evacuation planning. The SACS will employ a framework similar to that of the NACCS illustrated below. It will result in a regional reconnaissance-level analysis of coastal risk and vulnerability, as well as potential solutions for vulnerable areas to be studied in more detail in the future by an appropriate action agency or organization and recommend actions that can and should be undertaken under current authorities of various levels of government to reduce risk

**ISSUE AND INFORMATION:** The South Atlantic Division has begun initial scoping for the SACS. By leveraging lessons learned and tools available from the NACCS, it is estimated that the South Atlantic Coastal Study can be completed in approximately three years.