



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Wilmington District

Tar-Pamlico River Basin, NC Study (Flood Risk Management)

- **Sponsor – State of North Carolina**
- **Study Area Impacted by Hurricanes Matthew (2016) and Florence (2018)**
- **Fully funded under Disaster Relief Act (DRA) of 2019**
- **Study Cost: \$3,300,000 w/waiver request**
- **Tentatively Selected Plan meeting scheduled for June 2023**



Flooding in Rocky Mount, NC – Hurricane Floyd

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: NC 1, 3, 4

DATE: 10 MARCH 2023

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Resolution adopted April 11, 2000; and House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Resolution adopted May 21, 2003.

2. **LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:** The Tar River Basin begins in the piedmont of North Carolina and extends 215 miles southeast through the coastal plain and flows to the Pamlico Sound estuary. The basin covers just over 6,100 square miles and encompasses all or part of 19 counties. Land use within the basin is primarily agricultural, but the basin also contains many small towns and several cities that represent important commercial centers. Major municipalities in the study area include the cities of Louisburg, Nashville, Rocky Mount, Greenville, Tarboro, and Washington, NC. The Tar-Pamlico River Basin is one of just four river basins contained entirely within North Carolina, and it is the third largest in the state.

3. **PURPOSE:** Conduct a study to determine the feasibility of structural, non-structural and natural/nature-based measures that could be implemented to reduce overall flood risks. Examples of flood risk impacts include Hurricanes Matthew and Florence on the southeast Atlantic Ocean coastline that led to record flooding within the study area. For example, Hurricane Matthew resulted in impacts to over 2,400 structures and total damages of approximately \$112 million. The communities of Tarboro, Greenville, and Washington were also severely impacted by Hurricanes Fran (1996), and Floyd (1999). This flooding caused tremendous damage to residential and commercial structures, as well as flooding of critical transportation infrastructure and evacuation routes supporting public and commercial activities. The communities have been very active in pursuing flood damage reduction measures to reduce risks from future flooding.

PROJECT INFORMATION – Tar-Pamlico River Basin, NC, Flood Risk Management Study – Continued

4. **COST ESTIMATE:** Feasibility Study Phase – Assumes 3x3 waiver request approved:

\$ 3,300,000	(Federal)
\$ _____	0 (non-Federal)
\$ 3,300,000	Total

5. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION THRU FY 2023:** \$2,900,000 (DRA of 2019).

6. **FY 2024 ALLOCATION AMOUNT:** \$400,000 (DRA of 2019).

7. **KEY DATES (SCHEDULED):** Assumes 3x3 waiver request approved:

June 2023	Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP)
October 2023	Agency Decision Milestone (ADM)
July 2024	Signed Chief's Report

8. **STATUS:** The plan formulation process looking at combinations of structural, non-structural, and natural/nature-based measures to reduce risk throughout the basin is underway. The Tentatively Selected Plan milestone is currently scheduled for June 2023.

The process is underway to seek a waiver from the \$3M, 3 year study requirements to extend the study schedule and budget. The waiver is mostly for additional time required to develop more detailed hydraulics analysis that accurately characterize existing and future flood risk and are capable of identifying measures that are most effective in reducing those risks. Currently, non-structural measures, including structure acquisitions, elevation and floodproofing, appear to be the most effective and efficient.