SURF CITY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL RE-EVALUATION REPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

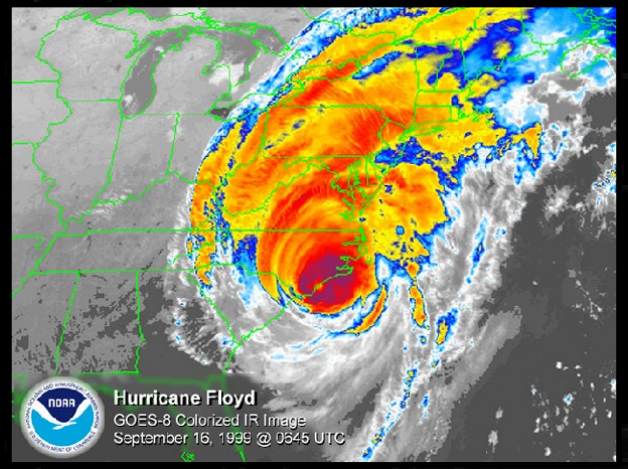
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Presented by:

Wilmington District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

SEPTEMBER 24, 2024



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AGENDA

- Welcome
- Purpose of Meeting
- Project Overview
- Recommended Plan
- Environmental Compliance
- Schedule
- Report Viewing and Comment Submission Information

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- Describe Purpose and Scope of Reevaluation Report
- Describe the Draft Report and Recommended Plan
- Provide information on how to view the Draft Report and submit questions and comments
- Address questions on the Draft Report and Recommended Plan

REPORT PURPOSE

Determine if the Surf City portion of the previously authorized project (2010) remains economically justified, technically feasible, and environmentally acceptable.

AUTHORITY & PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION:

1966: House Document No. 480, 89th Congress, Topsail Beach and Surf City, North Carolina

1977-1979: House Document No. 393, 102nd Congress, 2nd Session, West Onslow Beach and New River Inlet, North Carolina

2010: USACE Integrated Feasibility and Environmental Impact Statement, Coastal Storm Damage Reduction (CSDR), Surf City and North Topsail Beach, North Carolina

2013: USACE Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) for West Onslow and New River Inlet (Topsail Beach) and Surf City and North Topsail Beach CSDR Projects

Project Sponsor:
Town of Surf City, North Carolina

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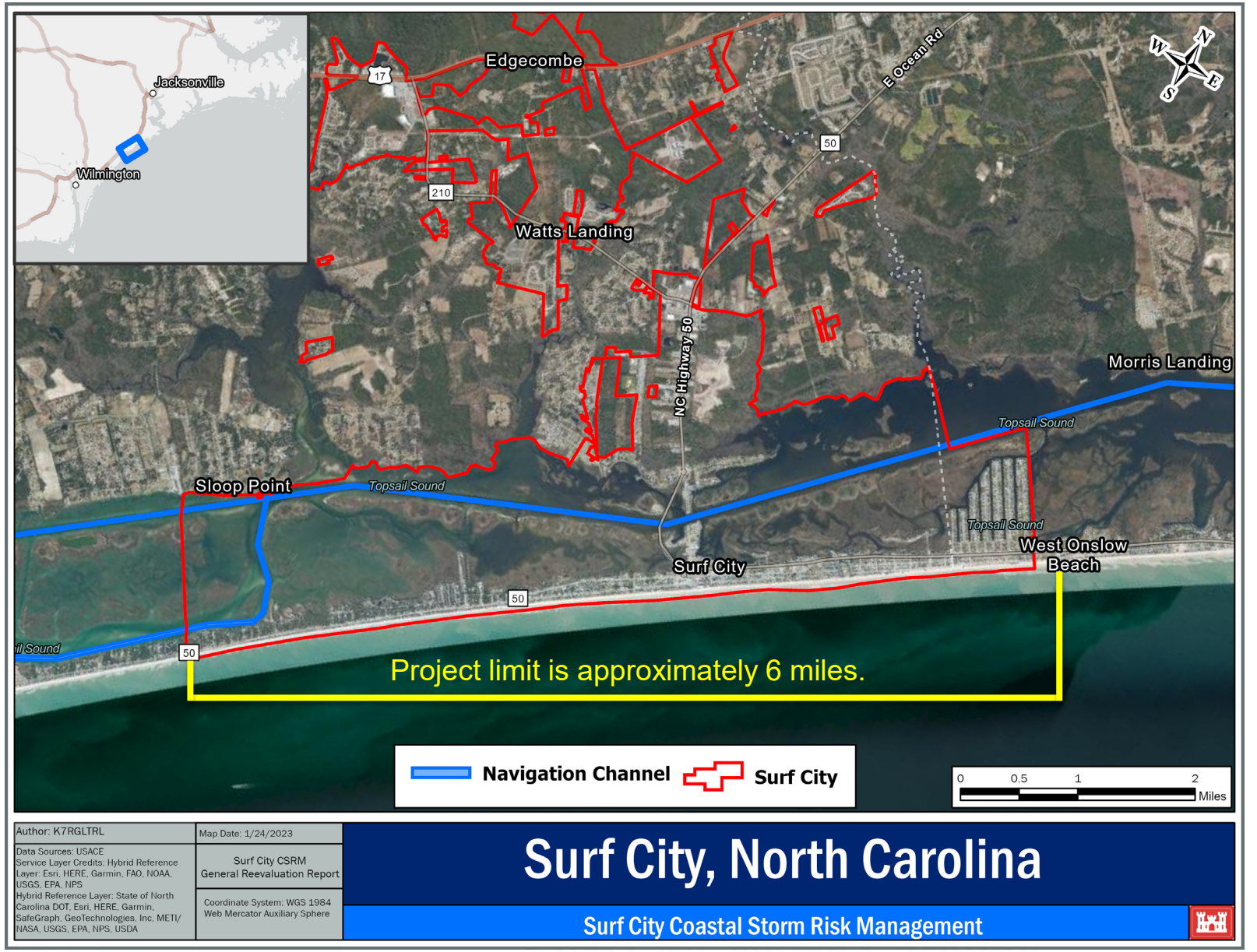
SURF CITY - PROJECT AREA



2010 ALTERNATIVES ARRAY

Nonstructural Alternatives:

- Structural Demolition and Removal
- Structural Relocation and Retreat
- Structural Buy-outs, Demolition and Relocation

Beachfill Alternatives:

- Berm Only – 25-foot, 50-foot, 100-foot, and 150-foot width.
- Berm and Dune – All of the above berm widths with the following dune heights: 10ft, 11ft, 12ft, 13ft,14ft, 15ft, and 16ft NAVD.

- The alternative that maximized net benefits was a 50 ft wide berm at 6.0 feet NAVD88 with a 25-wide dune at 14.0 feet NAVD88

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CURRENT ALTERNATIVES ARRAY

- Alternative 1: No action alternative (no project)
- Alternative 2a: Surf City Only with Environmental Windows. 2010 EIS with hopper dredge window.
- Alternative 2b: Surf City Only with Expanded Environmental Windows for Initial Construction and Nourishment Events. Expanded hopper dredge window to match beach placement window for all events.
- Alternative 2c: Surf City Only with No Environmental Window for Initial Construction and Expanded Environmental Windows for Nourishment Events (Proposed Action).

2010 AUTHORIZED PLAN VS RECOMMENDED PLAN

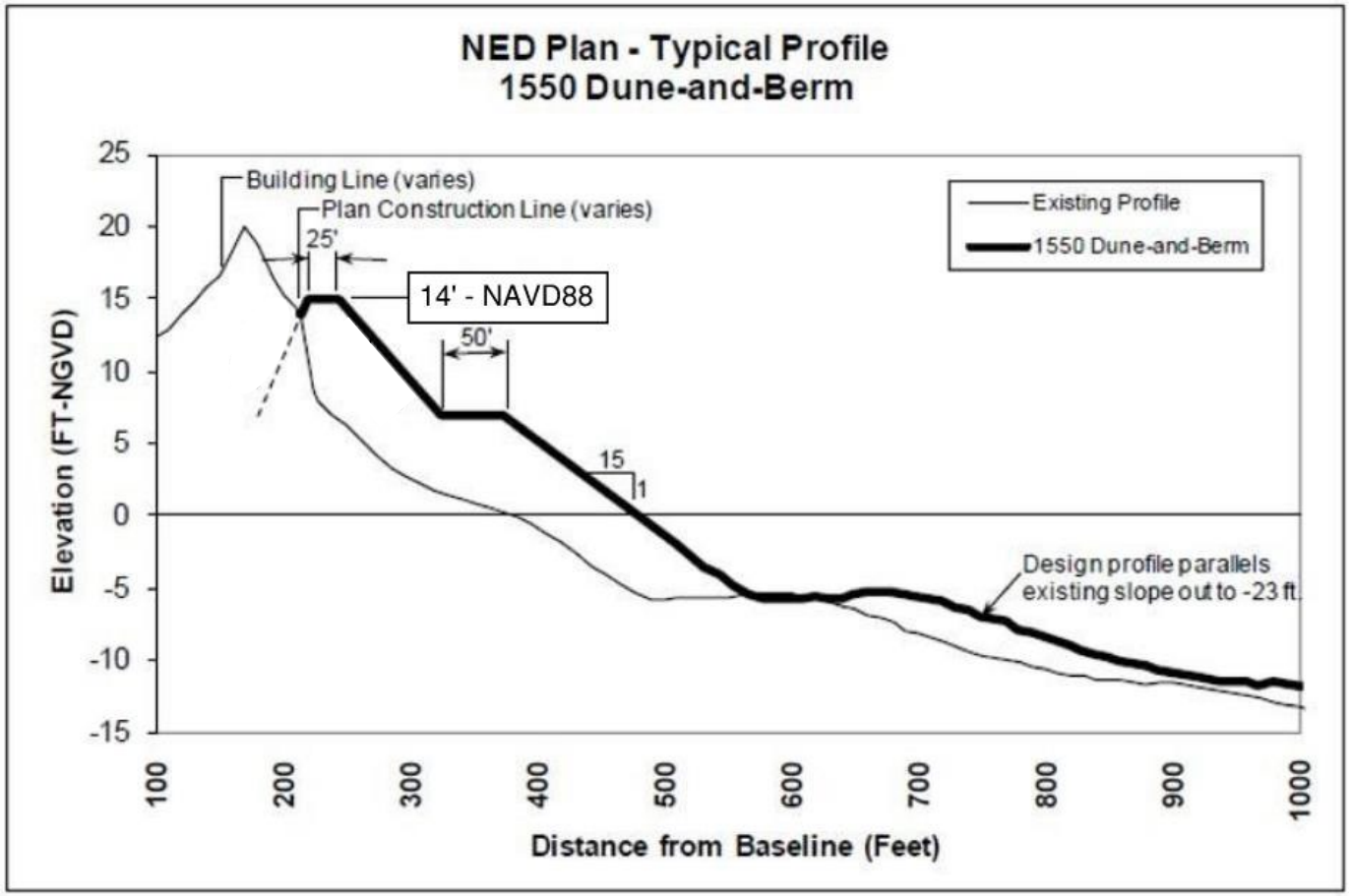
Authorized Project 2010 Chief's Report:

- Protective Berm Width: 50 feet
- Berm Elevation: 6.0 feet NAVD88
- Dune Width: 25 feet crest
- Dune Height: 14 feet NAVD 88
- Seven total nourishment events (six-year interval)
- **Berm and Dune Length = ~52,000 linear feet (9.9 miles)**

Recommended Plan: (Alternative 2c)

- **Berm and Dune Length = ~33,300 linear feet (6.0 miles)**

- **Same project profile, only the length of the project has changed.**



Surf City, NC, 2010 Chief's Report, Section 7

RECOMMENDED PLAN

- The Recommended Plan ***is the National Economic Development (NED) and Comprehensive Benefits plan. This plan provides the greatest net economic benefits and the best comprehensive benefits***

- The plan consists of a dune and berm system measuring approximately 6 miles or approximately 33,300 linear feet, which includes a 1,000 linear-foot transition into the Town of North Topsail Beach; ***Same as 2010 authorized project, only shorter***

- The profile of dune and berm system will consist of a 14 ft dune with a 25 ft width and a 6 ft high berm with a width of 50 ft (NAVD88); ***Same as 2010 authorized project***

- The plan will require 21.8 MCY of sand for the life of the project; 8 MCY for initial construction and 13.8 MCY for renourishments

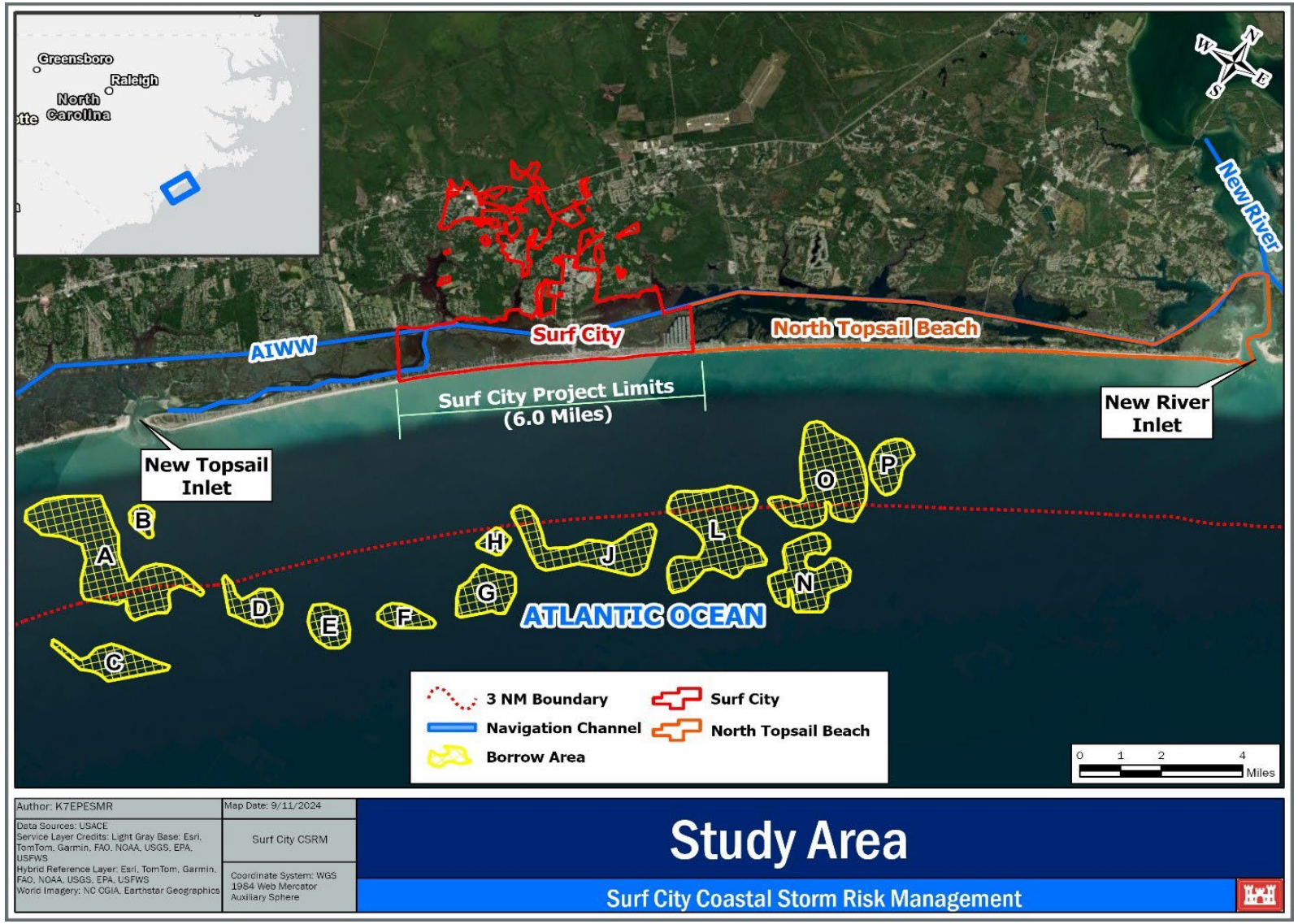
- The plan will have a renourishment interval of 6 years (7 events); ***Same as 2010 authorized project***

- Initial construction will last approximately 16 months (1 large and 1 medium hopper dredge)

- The plan will include no environmental window for initial construction; renourishments will be done during the beach placement window of November 16 through April 30

- The cost of the project is approximately $187M for initial construction and $317M for renourishments. The cost share is 65 Federal/35 non-Federal for initial construction and 50 Federal/50 non-Federal for renourishments

PROJECT AREA SHOWING RECOMMENDED PLAN



RECOMMENDED PLAN: COSTS, BENEFITS, AND BENEFIT COST RATIO (BCR)

	With Recreation Benefits	Without Recreation Benefits
Price Level	FY 2010	FY 2010
Discount Rate (FY24)	2.75%	2.75%
Average Annual Costs	$8,169,000	$8,169,000
Average Annual Benefits	$23,447,000	$10,747,000
Average Annual Net Benefits	$15,278,000	$2,578,000
Benefit to Cost Ratio (BCR)	2.9	1.3

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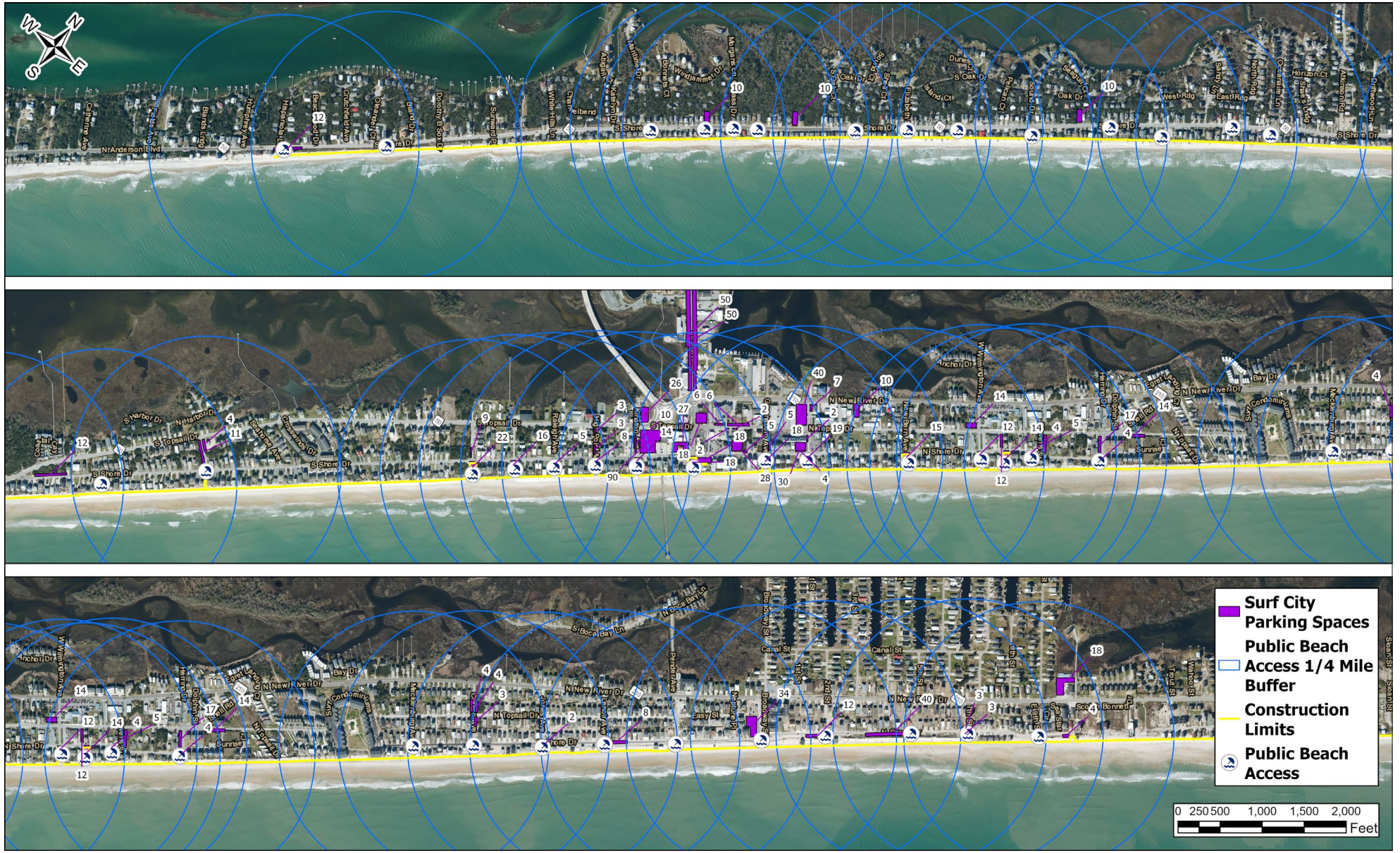
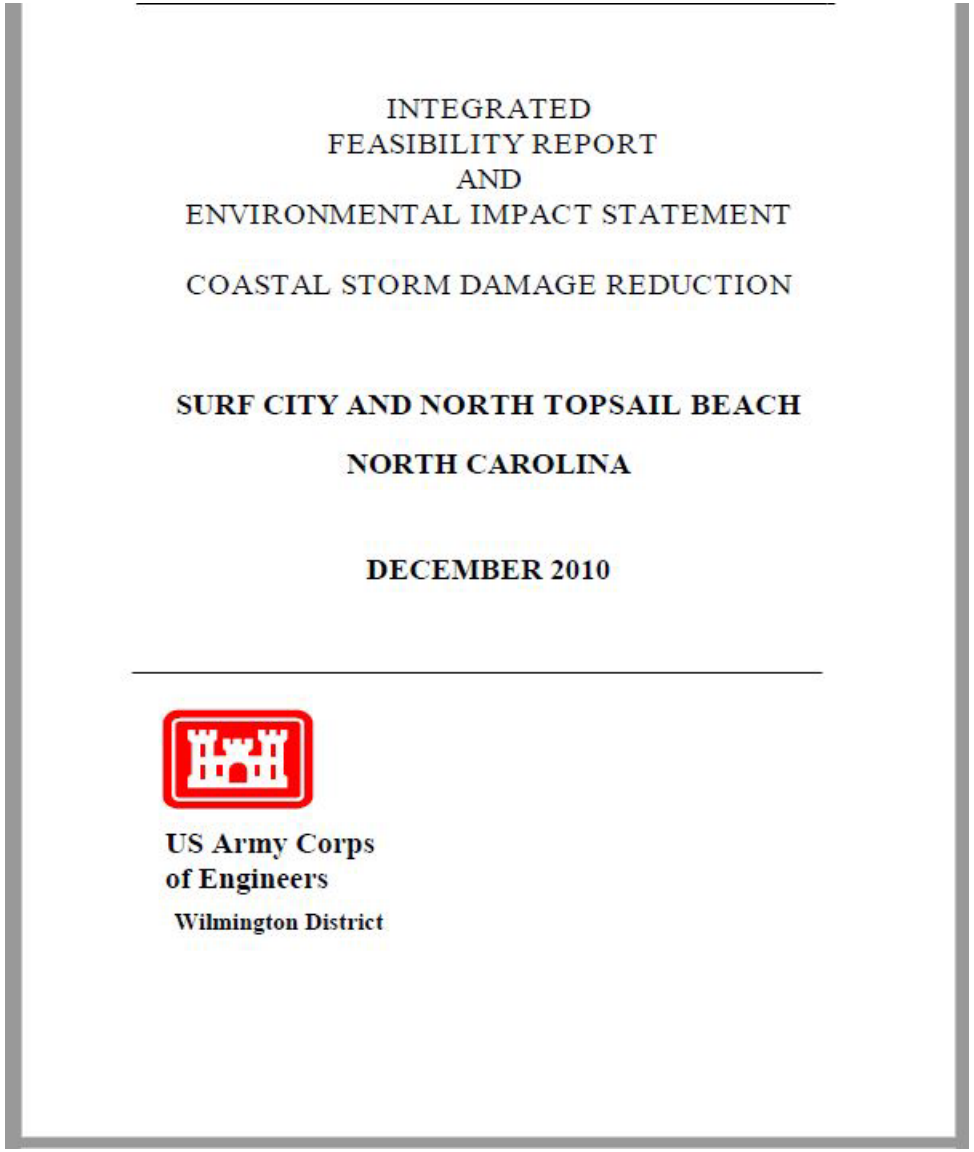
PARKING & ACCESS



CHANGES SINCE 2010 EIS



INTEGRATED
FEASIBILITY REPORT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

COASTAL STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION

SURF CITY AND NORTH TOPSAIL BEACH

NORTH CAROLINA

DECEMBER 2010

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Changes to environmental impacts are due mainly to changes in:

- Project Length
- Borrow Area Refinement
- Sand Volume
- Environmental Windows
- Time/Duration of Work

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CHANGE TO PROJECT LENGTH

2010 Project to Current Recommended Plan

From 9.9 miles to 6.0 miles

-3.9 miles or 33%

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CHANGE TO SAND VOLUMES*

	Initial Construction	Nourishments	50-Year Project Life
Surf City and North Topsail Beach (MCY)	11.9	20.4	32.3
Surf City Only (MCY)	8.0	13.8	21.8
Change (MCY)	-3.9	-6.6	-10.5
Change %	-33%	-33%	-33%

<u>50-year Project Life</u>

- From 32.3 MCY to 21.8 MCY
- -10.5 MCY or –33%

*These volumes represent quantities to be removed from the borrow areas, which include +8.7% dredging loss and +15% overfill ratio.

CHANGE TO ENVIRONMENTAL WINDOWS

- Alternative 1: No Action
  - No Federal project would be constructed at Surf City

- Alternative 2a: Surf City only with Environmental Windows
  - 2010 Authorized Plan excluding the Town of North Topsail Beach.
  - All beach placement would be performed during historic hopper dredging window of **December 1- Mar 31 (120 days)**

- Alternative 2b: Surf City Only with Expanded Environmental Windows
  - Refinement of 2a. Same project length, dimensions and scope as 2a, but the environmental windows for **initial construction and nourishment events would be expanded from December 1- March 31 (120 days) to the beach placement window of November 16 - April 30 (165 days)**

- Alternative 2c: Surf City Only with No Environmental Window for Initial Construction and Expanded Environmental Window for Nourishment Events (Proposed Action)
  - A further refinement of 2a and 2b. The length, design and scope of plan would remain the same but dredging activities during **initial construction would be performed with no environmental window**.
  - **Nourishment events would occur during the beach placement window of November 16-April 30 (165 days)**

CHANGE TO WORK TIME/DURATION

Alternative	Initial Construction		Nourishments	
	Surf City and North Topsail Beach	Surf City Only	Surf City and North Topsail Beach	Surf City Only
1. No Action	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2a: Surf City with Environmental Windows	21.3 months/6 events	16 months/4 events	7.3 months/2 events	5.5 months/2 events
2b: Surf City with Expanded Environmental Windows.	n/a	16 months/3 events	n/a	5.5 months /1 event
2c: Surf City With No Environmental Windows for Initial Construction and Expanded Environmental Windows for Nourishment Events (Proposed Action)	n/a	16 months/1 continuous event	n/a	5.5 months /1 event

Initial Construction

From 21.3 months (6 dredging and placement events) to 16 months (1 continuous dredging and placement event)

Nourishments

From 7.3 months (2 dredging and placement events) to 5.5 months (1 dredging and placement event)

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Reduced Project Length

- Reduced placement impacts to beach and dune ecosystem, marine environment, water quality, fishing, recreation, greenhouse gas emissions etc.
- Reduced placement impacts to beach-going endangered species including sea turtles, piping plover, red knot, and seabeach amaranth

Borrow Area Refinement and Reduced Sand Volume

- Reduced impacts in the borrow areas to marine environment (including hard bottoms), water quality, and greenhouse gas emissions

Expanded Environmental Windows

- Reduced potential impacts to the critically endangered North Atlantic Right Whale
- Increased temporary impacts to marine environment due to work during times of higher biological activity
- With no initial construction window, would provide storm risk benefits as soon as possible

Time/Duration

- Reduced total project time/duration of dredging and placement events would reduce impacts to all resources
- Impacts would be of longer continuous duration (for initial construction only)
- Fewer disturbance events for initial construction

No Change to the Following: Wetlands and floodplains, inlets, flats and sounds, maritime scrub thicket, hydrology, groundwater, community cohesion and the availability of public facilities and services

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

- An Environmental Assessment is integrated with the General Reevaluation Report

BOEM
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

- The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) (previously the Minerals Management Service) was a cooperating agency for the 2010 EIS, and has continued in this role for the EA

- The BOEM will also serve as a cooperating agency for consultation requirements related to
  - Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7,
  - National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106,
  - Consistency for Federal Agency Activities Subpart C,
  - Magnusson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Section 305

- Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Section 8 – BOEM
  - The USACE requested to enter a non-competitive negotiated Three Party Agreement with the BOEM and the Town of Surf City, regarding the use of sand from existing Outer Continental Shelf borrow areas for initial construction for the Surf City CSRM Project May 8, 2024

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Comments on draft GRR/EA requested by October 4, 2024

- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106
  - Tribal and State Historic Preservation Office coordination ongoing

- Endangered Species Act Section 7 - US Fish and Wildlife Service
  - The draft GRR/EA and Biological Assessment was sent to the Service Aug 30, 2024

- Endangered Species Act Section 7 - National Marine Fisheries Service (PRD)
  - Project will use the 2020 South Atlantic Regional Biological Opinion

- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report - US Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Final FWCA completed in 2010

- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act - National Marine Fisheries Service (HCD)
  - Essential Fish Habitat consultation was initiated Aug 30, 2024

- Federal Coastal Zone Management Act Section 307 - Division of Coastal Management (DCM)
  - Coastal Consistency Determination was submitted to DCM on Aug 30, 2024

- Clean Water Act Section 401 - North Carolina Division of Water Resources
  - An individual 401 will be obtained prior to start of construction

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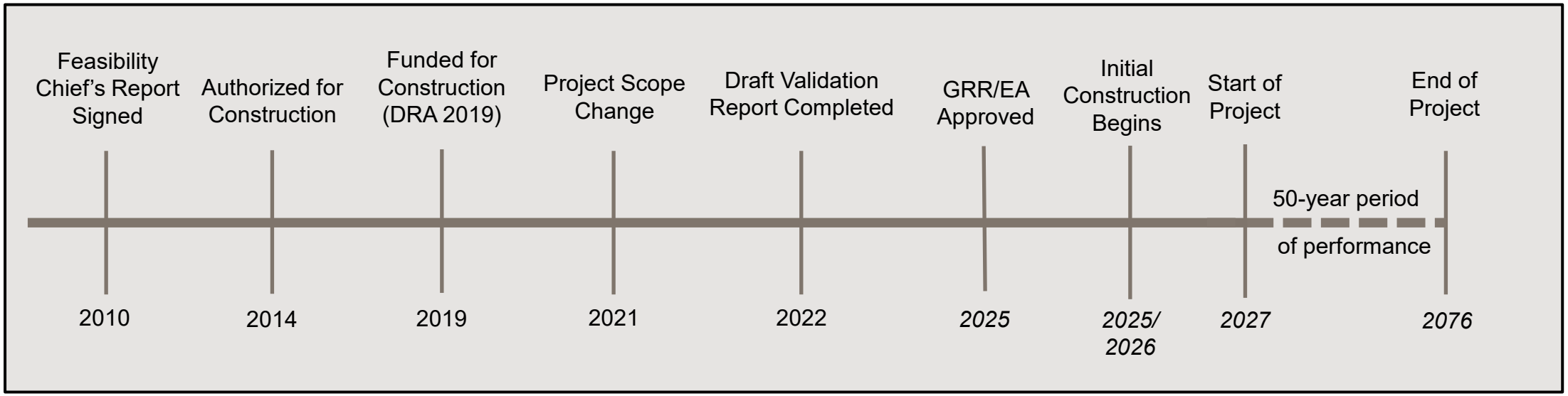
PROJECT TIMELINE



MILESTONE SCHEDULE

Study Initiated	January 25, 2024
Release of Draft GRR/EA to Public	August 27, 2024
Public Information Meeting	September 24, 2024
Agency Decision Milestone	November 2024
Final Report to Corps' Leadership Team	January 2025
Chief of Engineers Report	May 2025

REPORT VIEWING INFORMATION

The Draft Report can be viewed at:

https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Coastal-Storm-Risk-Management/Surf-City-General-Reevaluation-Report-and-Environmental-Assessment/

Submit questions or comments to the following email address:

surfcitygrr@usace.army.mil
or
eric.k.gasch@usace.army.mil

All comments requested by
October 4, 2024

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QUESTIONS?