Who We Are

The National Planning Center of Expertise for Coastal Storm Risk Management was formed in 2003 and is based out of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers North Atlantic Division.


Sea Isle City, N.J. after 1962 storm


Sea Isle City, N.J. in 2004

The team is a virtual organization that includes contributors from across the country and provides advisory and consulting services on many coastal issues. From coastal storm damage reduction to environmental restoration off our Nation's shores, the Center strives for excellence in coastal planning.

Through adequate planning and coordination, we can avoid this kind of devastating damage, that happened on Long Beach Island, N.J. in 1962.

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US Army Corps of Engineers ®

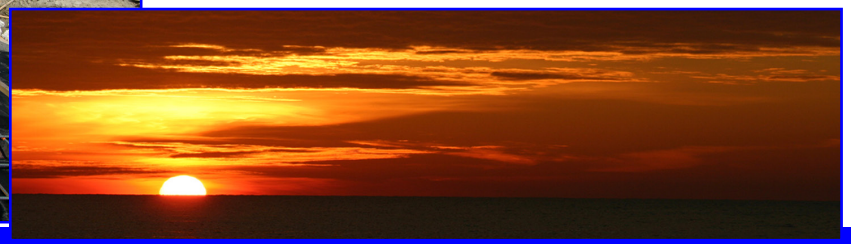
National Planning Center of Expertise: Coastal Storm Risk Management

Aside from protecting infrastructure, coastal projects have numerous environmental benefits, like protecting the habitat of pelicans, sea turtles and snow owls like the ones seen in the picture to the right.

What We Do

- Provide consulting services for any Coastal Storm Risk Management study, including highly complex and/or controversial study
- Lead peer reviews including agency technical reviews, independent external peer reviews and model certifications
- Provide training opportunities to sustain technical competencies
- Supplement policy compliance review on projects
- Provide lessons learned and best practices
- Assist in establishing USACE research and development priorities
- Serve on steering committee for USACE Coastal Engineering Research Board
- Provide advice to HQUSACE, USACE labs and stakeholders
- Manage USACE role in FEMA's National Hurricane Program

Seawall repairs, Galveston, Texas, 2009.



What is Coastal Planning?

Our Nation's coastlines are just one of its many valued resources for recreation, tourism, beauty and wildlife. Planning for future storm systems and sea level and shoreline changes are methods to reduce storm damages and sustain our coastlines. Planning for future storm events and climate preparedness and resilience are methods to reduce the risk of storm damages and to make our coastlines more resilient.

By evaluating many alternatives (which can include emergency evacuation routes, financial analyses, environmental analyses, climate preparedness and resilience, among others) solutions for reducing risk and storm damages can be developed.

The Center's goal is to develop, maintain and apply the expertise in science and engineering technology in order to reduce the risk of coastal storm damages and provide for resilience of the National shoreline.

Florida Gulf Coast during a beach replenishment

Accomplishments

- Regularly lead Corps Agency Technical Reviews and Planning Model Reviews for Coastal Storm Risk Management studies across the Nation
- Completed many Independent External Peer Reviews of studies across the Nation
- Provided hands-on consulting services and advice to areas along the Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific coasts
- Developed and conducted training in coastal planning
- Improved the preparedness and readiness of coastal communities through hurricane evacuation studies and post storm assessments
- Established the Coastal Regional Advisory Board to manage the center and to better address our customer's needs
- Developed the Coastal Systems Portfolio Initiative to provide for a systems approach for coastal storm risk management, in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Nation's coastal studies and constructed projects
- Provided planning expertise internationally to countries in Europe and Africa
- Secured contracting services of an internationally recognized consulting firm