



U.S. ARMY

# NAVIGATION RD&T UPDATE

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Technical Director

- Navigation RD&T Needs & Priorities
- Dredging Optimization
- Quantifying Ship Movement
- Dredged Material Placement
- Data Access and Applications

Harbors & Navigation Committee, AAPA  
28 Sep 2018



US Army Corps  
of Engineers



# Navigation RD&T Strategic Needs & Priorities

- **Extend the useful life** of existing navigation infrastructure
- Improve Navigation operations and **Multimodal Freight Flow** through systems optimization
- Design & manage **resilient, sustainable navigation systems**
- Develop and deploy **eNavigation** capabilities

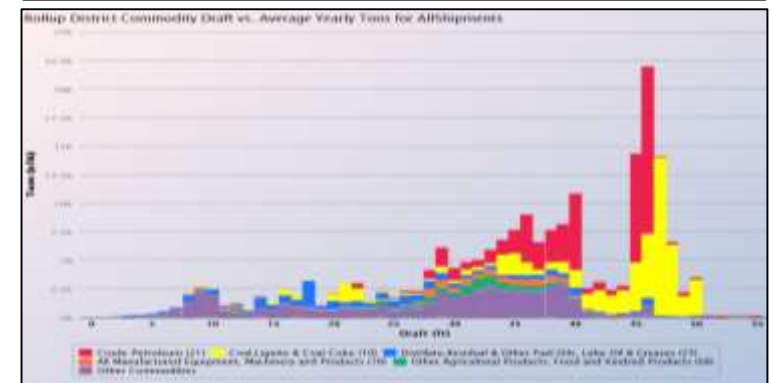
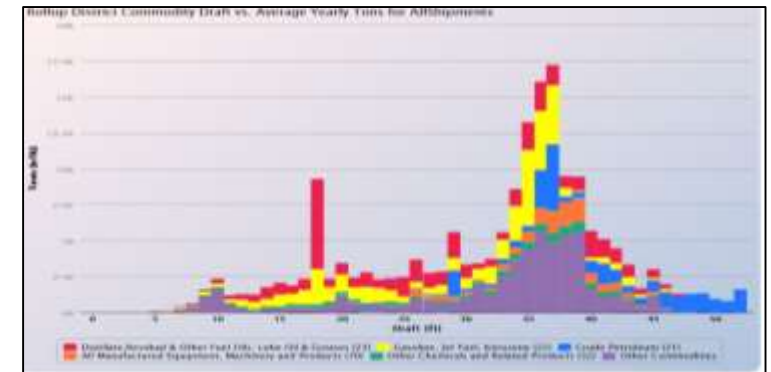
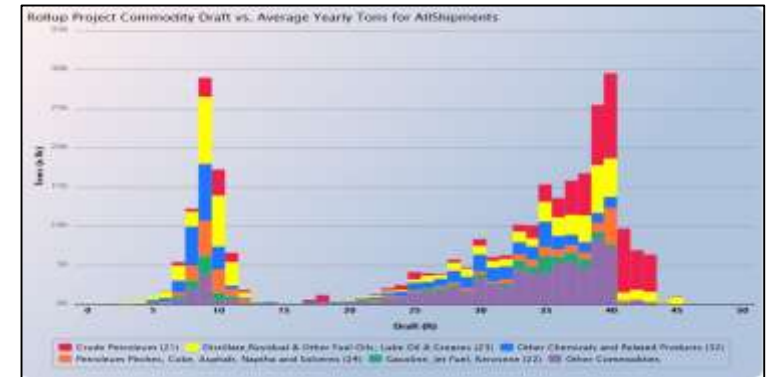






# Channel Depths vs. Vessel Drafts

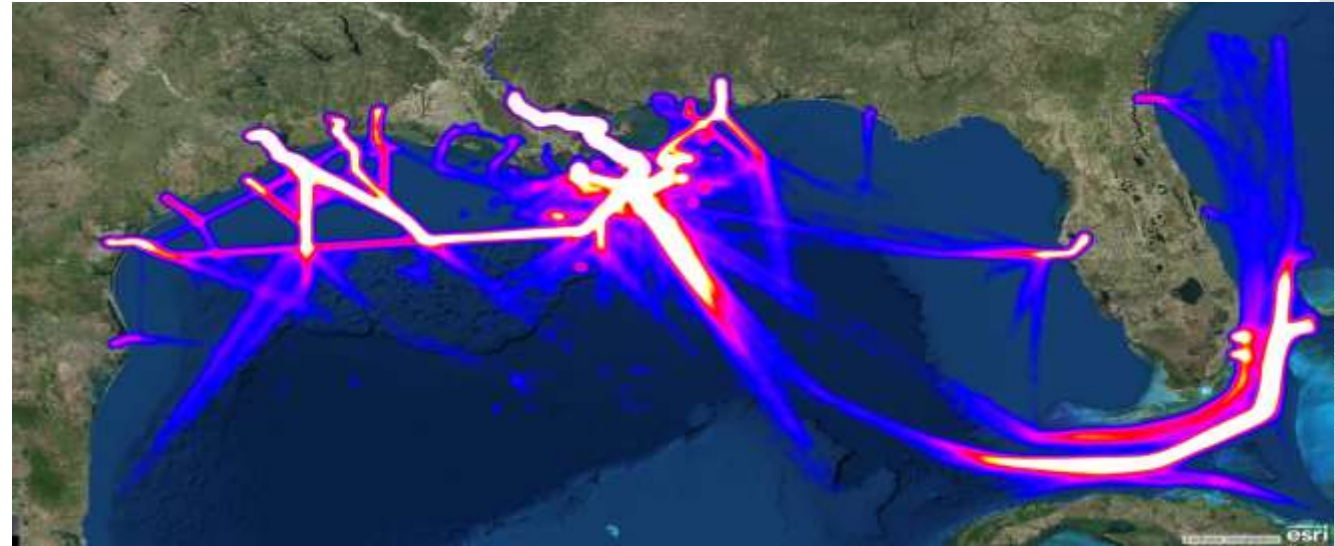
- Historic emphasis on Total Project Tonnage as a metric for dredging work packages has obscured that fact that the deepest maintained depths, i.e. those incurring the majority of O&M dredging costs, in many cases do not handle large percentages of total channel throughput.
- Data sets and optimization formulations already exist to dramatically improve the portfolio-level cost-effectiveness of O&M dredging:
  - Waterborne Commerce data → dock-to-dock movements of vessels and cargo with draft included
  - E-Hydro → enterprise capability with high-resolution, three-dimensional digital representations of channel conditions
  - CSAT → near-term shoal forecasting to allow for consideration of maintenance dredging deferrals





# Systems-based Portfolio Optimization

Still must account for the inter-connectivity of navigation projects, owing to their shared cargo.



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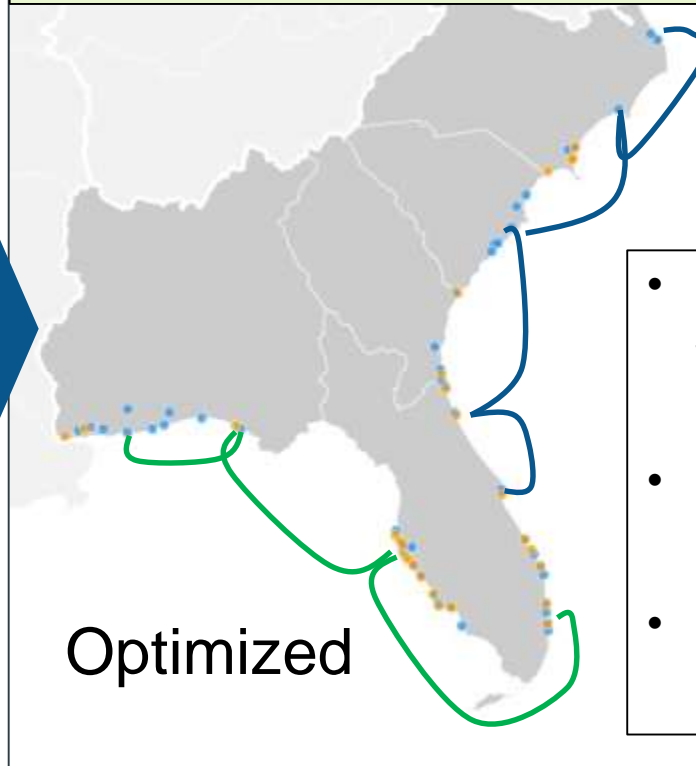
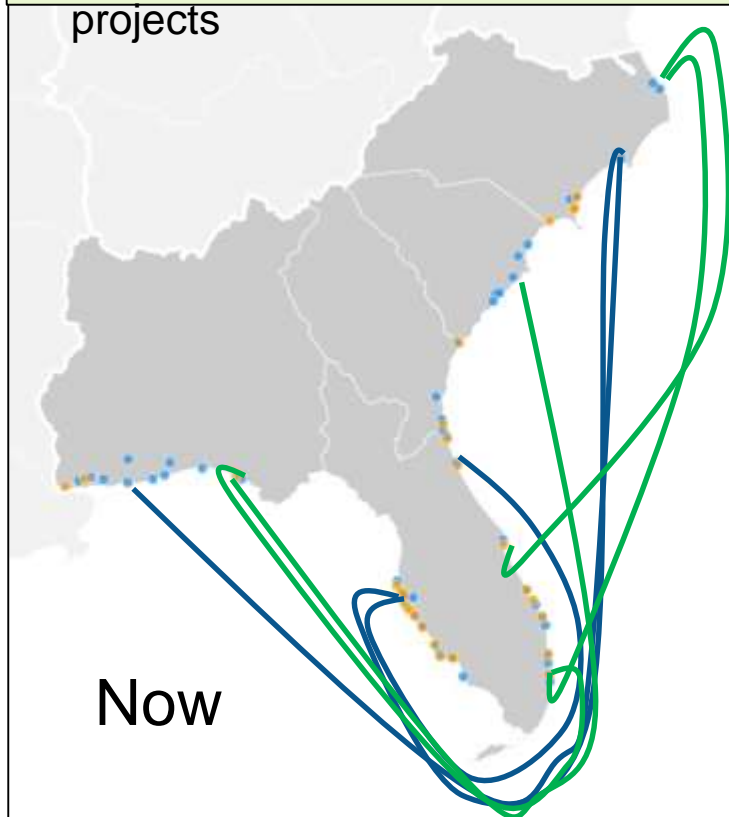
PI: Ned Mitchell, Ph.D.

# Dredge Scheduling Optimization



- Schedules are not coordinated formally
- Inefficiencies due to “wasted travel” between projects
- Contributes to low # of bids on some projects

- Minimize mobilization costs → dredge more projects for same amount of funding and in less time
- Better align schedules with env. work windows and dredge plant capabilities



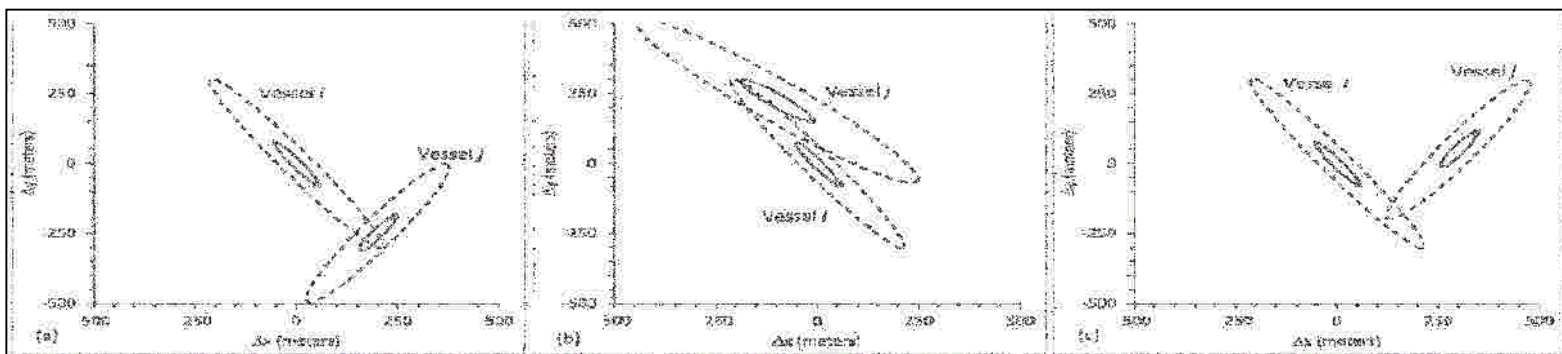
- Successfully used on West Coast since 2014
  - NWD, SPD, and POD
- RSM Pilot in SAD 2016
  - All 5 districts
- Used to support USACE Hopper Fleet Recapitalization Report, 2017



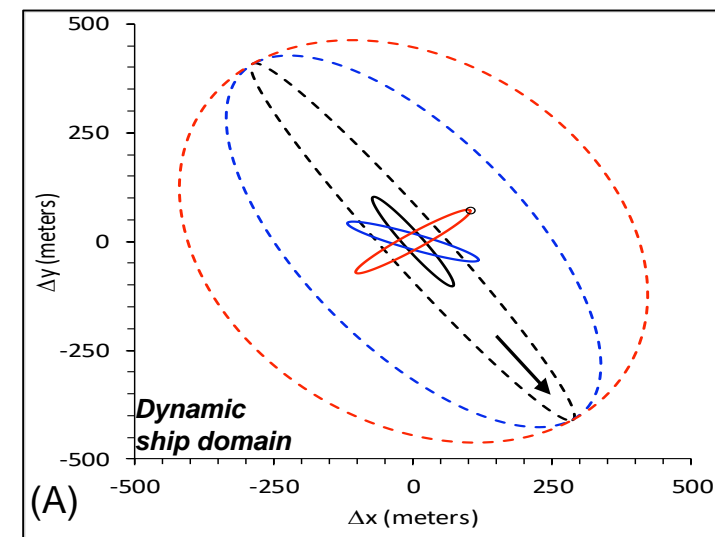
# Collision risk assessment based on ship domain



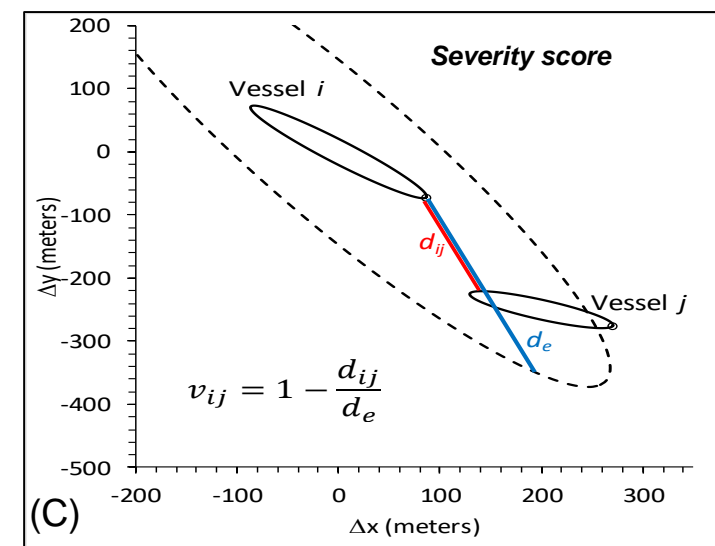
- Dynamic ship domain aligned with course (A).
  - Major axis = 4 × Length
  - Minor axis = 3 × Swept path
- Ship domain violations (SDVs) (B).
  - The perimeter of one vessel penetrates the domain of another.
- SDV severity is based on distance between vessel perimeters (C).



(B): Ship domain violations: In panels (a) and (b), vessel  $j$ 's perimeter penetrates the domain of vessel  $i$ , resulting in an SDV. Overlapping ship domains, as in (c) do not constitute an SDV.



(A)



(C)

# An objective, quantitative and broadly applicable approach to screening risks

- Consistent, cost-effective implementation across coastal ports.
- Implemented in five navigation projects, ranked by collision risk.
- A vessel in Calcasieu Ship Channel is 4.26 times more likely to be involved in an SDV than in Columbia River, OR.



Navigation Project	Passenger (60-69)	Cargo (70-79)	Tanker (80-89)	All vessels
Calcasieu, LA	4.15E-04	1.41E-03	1.80E-03	1.10E-03
Boston, MA	6.06E-04	4.52E-03	2.25E-03	9.32E-04
Jacksonville, FL	2.01E-04	8.98E-04	6.15E-04	8.34E-04
Charleston, SC	1.02E-04	4.38E-04	5.22E-04	2.84E-04
Columbia River	1.07E-04	2.17E-04	9.11E-05	2.58E-04

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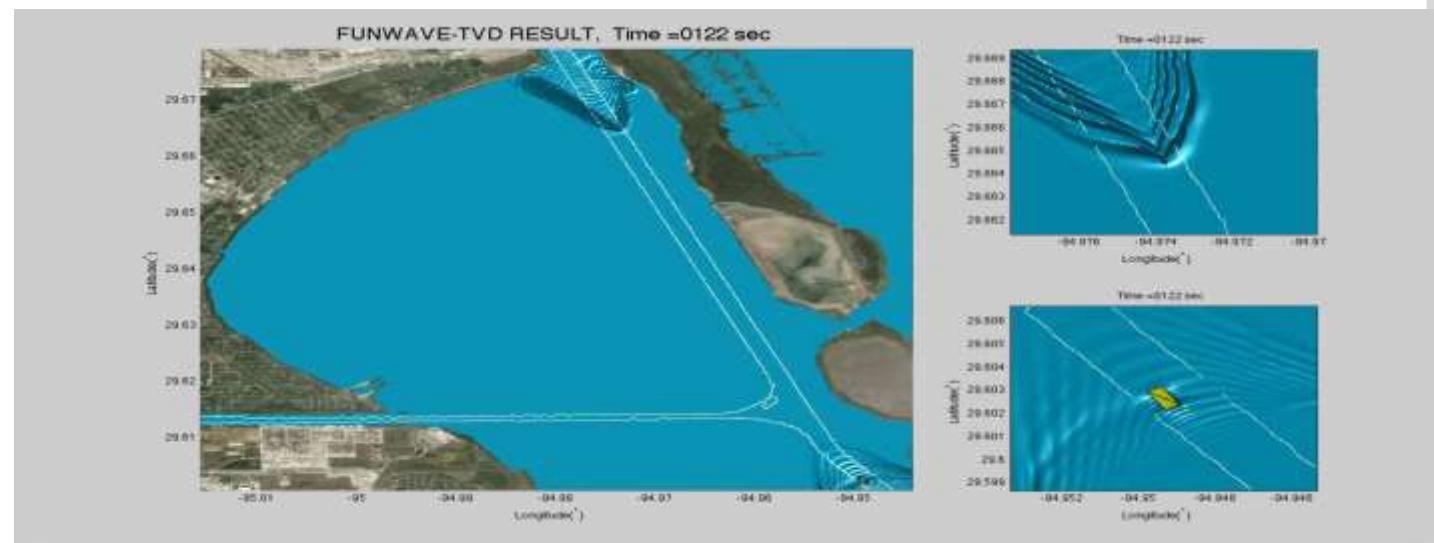


# FUNWAVE



FUNWAVE is a shallow water phase-resolving Boussinesq-type numerical wave model that is capable of resolving many nearshore processes such as:

- ✓ nearshore wave propagation & transformation
- ✓ refraction, **diffraction** & nonlinear shoaling
- ✓ wave breaking with **runup** & **overtopping**
- ✓ bottom friction & wave-induced current
- ✓ nonlinear wave-wave & wave-current interactions
- ✓ **partially absorbing/reflecting** inner boundaries
- ✓ **harbor resonance** and **infragravity (IG) waves**
- ✓ **vessel-generated waves** & related sediment transport
- ✓ adaptive mesh refinement (AMR) module – telescoping grids



## Example Applications:

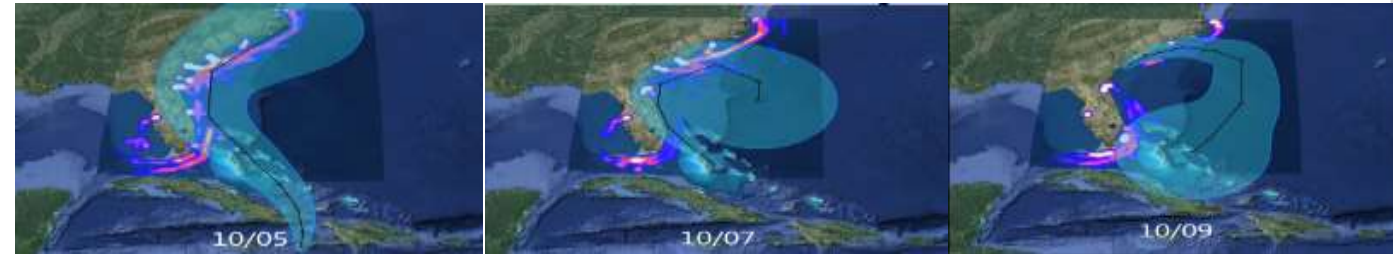
- Harbor Resonance studies for St. George, St. Paul (Alaska)
- Infragravity (IG) Waves on reefs (Hawaii)
- Breakwater Design for limiting runup and overtopping/inundation (Baltimore District)
- Vessel-generated waves and related sediment transport with morphology change (Houston Ship Channel)

# Navigation Resilience

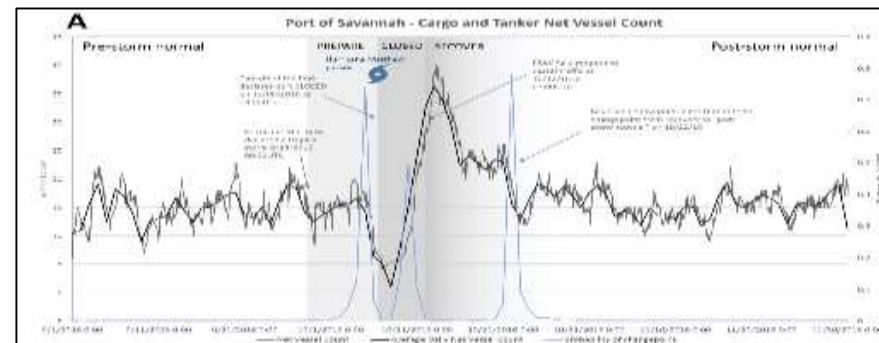


- Touzinsky, K., Scully, B., Mitchell, K., Kress, M. “Using Empirical Data to Quantify Port Resilience: Hurricane Matthew and the Southeastern Seaboard.” *ASCE Journal of Waterways, Port, Coastal, and Ocean Engineering: Special Issue on Resiliency*, MAR 2018.

- Evaluated Ports of Jacksonville, Savannah, and Charleston in response to Hurricane Matthew.



- Bayesian Changepoint Analysis (BCE) to detect significant changes in system performance via AIS-derived proxy metrics  
 → Repeatable framework for evaluating future disruptive events.





# Thin Layer Placement

## Sed Accretion in TLP marshes (17-01)

Boyd & Gailani

- Problem

## Quantification of DM Layer Thickness over Time as Applied in TLP Wetland Nourishment Projects (16-07)

Susan Bailey & Zachary Tyler

- Problem



### Approach

Collect marsh sediment cores in restored and unrestored marshes and determine accretion rates. Compare and contrast the accretionary dynamic in restored and unrestored marshes.

## Guidance for Thin Layer Placement of Fine and Coarse Grained Sediment (17-03)

Welp/Piercy

- Problem

- TLP is experiencing renaissance due to degrading wetlands, SLR, limited dredged material placement alternatives, etc., but there is a dearth of engineering guidance available to the increasing numbers of people want to do it.



TLP of dredged material at Pepper Creek Delaware

- Objective

- Distill knowledge & information from past, current, and developing TLP projects, and evolving pertinent R&D activities
- Synthesize into guidance documents designed for use by both USACE and stakeholders to optimize design and construction of TLP projects.

- Approach

- Conduct lit search to identify existing TLP documentation regarding state-of-practice environmental, ecological, economic, and operational aspects.
- Compile TLP-related R&D activities
- Synthesize pertinent aspects into a state-of-the-practice guidance document.



### Approach

Evaluation of field sites  
Laboratory testing  
Modify PSDDF model guidance as needed



# Engineering With Nature Using Vegetation

## Tosin Sekoni



### ■ Problem

- Limited guidance on the use of native plant species in DMPAs and USACE projects.
- Minimal application of native plant communities in USACE projects.

### ■ Objective

- Provide guidance on plant community and ecosystem development.
- Demonstrate the use of vegetation and natural features to support engineering objectives.
- Provide EWN information to USACE engineers with emphasis on vegetation.



Revetments along Bubblegum Beach, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

### ■ Approach

- Workshops
- Demonstration Projects
- Technical Publications



# Developing Guidance for Incorporating Natural and Nature-based features into Engineering Design

Piercy/Swannack

## ■ Problem

- Increased interest in natural approaches to managing flood risk in conjunction with structural and nonstructural approaches
- Limited quantified data on use and efficacy
- No dedicated engineering guidelines on how to design and implement NNBF

## ■ Objective

- Compile existing NNBF projects within USACE and other agencies
- Synthesize information on types, success, construction, lessons learned into guidance document (in conjunction with partners)
- Develop engineering guidance for NNBF incorporation

## ■ Approach

- Assemble world-experts on use of natural flood risk features
- Develop framework for NNBF use and identify key coastal and fluvial features to consider
- Assemble state-of-practice guidelines on use of NNBF



Project Scoping Document:  
Guidelines on the Use of Natural and  
Nature-Based Features for Sustainable  
Coastal and Fluvial Systems



# Dredging and Dredged Material Management Decision Support Tool

Safra Altman, Linda Lillycrop



## ■ Problem

- Need for modern, user friendly evaluation tools which access Corps enterprise databases to improve DMM decision making for Corps Districts, Researchers, non-Corps.

## ■ Objective

- Improve and update CE-Dredge DST Viewer to operationalize and expand capabilities and nationalize.
- Add public facing viewer in collaboration with Natural Infrastructure Initiative (NIO Tool)
- Collaborate w/R,D&T Programs & Districts



## ■ Approach

- Coordinate with Districts, RD&T programs, non-Corps agencies
- Utilize/Populate Corps eDatabases
- Develop web-viewers (Corps and Public) which integrate data and RD&T tool results



Navigation Data Integration Framework

navigation.usace.army.mil/DIF/Explore

Apple iCloud Google Wikipedia Yahoo News Popular Weather

Navigation  
US Army Corps of Engineers

ABOUT EXPLORE NAVIGATION RESOURCE DISCOVERY

HOME CONTACT LOGIN

# USACE Navigation Portal

Note: To view additional information in each of the following categories, click the Login button.

**Dredging**

Maintenance of inland, intracoastal, and coastal waterways, channels, ports, and harbors

**Surveying & Mapping**

Hydrographic Surveying, National Channel Framework (NCF), and Inland Electronic Navigational Charts (IENC)

**Marine Transportation System**

Performance measures for the MTS in multiple categories and data access/analysis tools in the Channel Portfolio Tool (CPT) and the AIS Analysis Package (AISAP)

**e-Navigation**

**Coming Soon**

Harmonized navigation information resources (including lock operations and marine safety) for US inland, intracoastal, and coastal waterways and channels

**Sediment & Ecosystem Management**

Regional Sediment Management and Engineering With Nature

**Infrastructure & Asset Management**

**Coming Soon**

Engineering, design, operation, monitoring, maintenance, and repair of coastal and inland structures

**National Dredging Meeting 2018**

Agenda and presentations from the Meeting

## Selected ERDC Navigation Technical Director



Charles (Eddie) Wiggins

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