



SOUTH ATLANTIC COASTAL STUDY NEWSLETTER



July/August 2020

Volume 1, Number 7

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REGIONAL PM UPDATE by Pam Castens - As we approach the half-way mark in our study timeline energized by the success of our 21 focus area kick-off workshops in July, and looking forward to productive focus area strategy workshops in August and September. Our Command Center Team held a successful briefing with the SACS Executive Committee on 30 July, always appreciative of the of USACE leadership in keeping the SACS a priority effort! There's plenty more to come!

Focus Area Action Strategy Development Workshop Schedule

Savannah District

- 19 Aug Chatham County
- 21 Aug Glynn County

Mobile District

- 21 Aug Western Mobile Bay
- 24 Aug Biloxi/Gulfport AM
- 24 Aug Panama City / Mexico City Beach
- 25 Aug Pascagoula
- 28 Aug Pensacola

Wilmington District

- 26 Sep Dare County
- 27 Sep Carteret/Craven Counties
- 28 Sep New Hanover / Brunswick

Jacksonville District

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 25 Aug NE Florida | 02 Sep SE Florida |
| 09 Sep EC Florida | 11 Sep SW Florida |
| 14 Sep Tampa | |
| 17 Sep Cabo Rojo | |
| 22 Sep Isabela to Rincon | |
| 22 Sep Charlotte Amalie | |
| 29 Sep Christiansted | |

Charleston District

- 26 Aug Grand Strand
- 27 Aug Charleston Metro



<https://www.sad.usace.army.mil/SACS/>



Featuring

SAND

Coastal Voice excerpt

GIS Update

COMMAND CENTER TEAM UPDATES

SAND UPDATE *by Clay McCoy, PhD*

Dr. Clay McCoy and his team have been incorporating feedback received from the SAND Workshops held last month and are starting to write up the report. The report was submitted by Taylor Engineering on 6 August and we submitted comments at the end of July. The report will be final in September.

PICTURED right – ASBPA publishes a SAND Summary update in their Jun/July Issue of the Coastal Voice – by Clay McCoy

GIS UPDATE *by Trevor Lancaster, GISP*

To complement the SACS State and Territory Appendix report products, web mapping applications are currently being built for each State and Territory in the study area that will consume and display all available Tier 2 GIS data from stakeholders and partners. These data include regional, state, and local GIS datasets related to Exposure, Hazards, and Risk. The goal of these products will be to provide both the general public and stakeholders access and dynamic visualization capabilities for higher resolution datasets.

Coastal Voice Excerpt

South Atlantic Coastal Study: SAND Update

The South Atlantic Coastal Study (SACS) is a regional assessment to define coastal risks and identify measures to address vulnerabilities with an emphasis on Regional Sediment Management (RSM) as an actionable strategy to sustainably maintain or enhance current levels of coastal storm risk reduction. The Sand Availability and Needs Determination (SAND) project is a component of SACS that is examining sand needs for all federal and non-federal beach nourishment projects and available sand resources within the limits of the South Atlantic Division (SAD) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers footprint for the next 50 years. The sand availability analysis includes offshore, upland, and RSM/beneficial use sources such as navigation channels and adjacent areas.



The SAND project was initiated in the summer of 2019 and will be complete in the fall of this year. An emphasis of the project is to engage local, state, and federal stakeholders

through direct agency involvement on the project delivery team, opportunities to provide data through a project website, and several stakeholder webinars and workshops. The SAND team is scheduled to host workshops for each of the SAD districts (Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, Mobile) in the month of June to roll-out project results and solicit final feedback from stakeholders.

The final products include a geodatabase of all project data and a final report that will be available at: <https://www.sad.usace.army.mil/SACS/>. Upon completion, the project will inform long-term coastal resource management strategies from local to federal, and the collaborative approach will support coordinated actions across the region by stakeholders and government to enhance coastal resilience.

■ **Point of Contact:** Clay McCoy, Ph.D., Acting Director, RSM Regional Center of Expertise, email Clay.A.McCoy@usace.army.mil.





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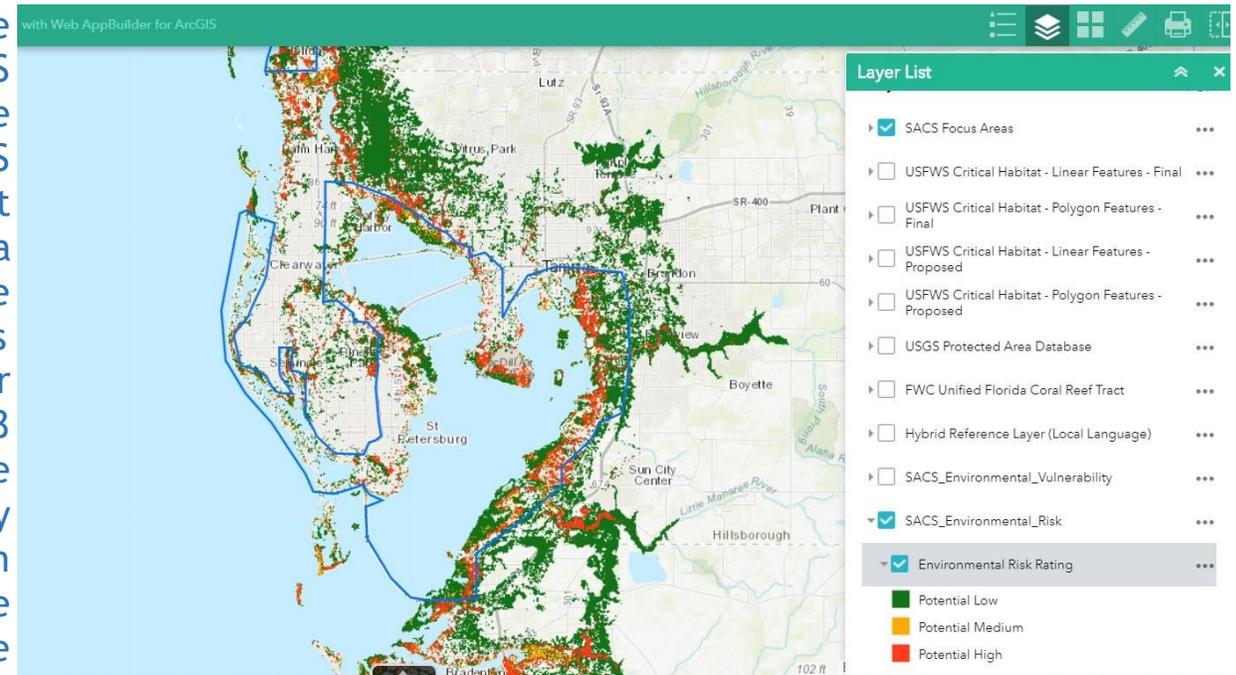
Environmental Update

Correction to April issue
– USFWS requested we pull the Planning Aid Report from our website due to a requirement by USFWS to further review the report. We will repost when USFWS provides their final report.

ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE by *Kristina May*

The SACS environmental analysis identifies natural areas at risk to increased coastal storm damages as a result of sea level rise in each state and territory in the SACS study area. Potential risk areas were identified by multiplying the SACS environmental vulnerability indices against the SACS Tier 1 combined hazard plus sea level rise. Potential risk areas were identified in the 21 focus areas as well as outside of the focus areas. Stakeholder input will be gathered at the July 28 Environmental Workshop to identify the areas at highest risk, i.e. the priority environmental areas. Risk reduction strategies will be developed for the potential risk areas located within the focus areas as part of the Focus Area Action Strategies. Risk reduction strategies will also be developed for the priority environmental areas.

Tampa Bay





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Featuring

*Charleston
(SAC)*

*Wilmington
(SAW)*

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DISTRICT UPDATES



Charleston District

Diane Perkins

Diane has been preparing for and executing the kick-off meetings for the Grand Strand and Charleston Metro focus areas. She and her team are focused on the main workshop meetings. Threaded in between those activities, she continues to develop content for the statewide Tier 2 analysis, personally working on the HAZUS info, and coordinating with the Environmental, Cultural and Engineering team members in pursuit of an integrated team product on risks South Carolina faces due to storm surge and other coastal hazards. She and her team continue to collaborate across the region to share good ideas with others, and to borrow their good ideas as well. She and the Charleston District PDT are very much looking forward to our upcoming Tier 2 Environmental and Cultural agency meetings, as well as the continuation of our focus area workshops, all of which are great opportunities for us to incorporate expert opinion into our ongoing work.

Wilmington District

Brennan Dooley

SAW has been preparing for and executing the kick-off meetings for Dare County and the Outer Banks, Carteret/Craven Counties and New Hanover and Brunswick Counties. During the kickoff webinar we had great participation from a diverse group of stakeholders and we expect the same continued participation throughout the Focus Area Action Strategy Development process. The next few weeks will be focused on the main workshop meetings for these focus areas. Aside from workshop preparation, the district team continues to develop content for the statewide Tier 2 analysis, incorporating HAZUS information, and additional high risk areas based on the environmental and cultural resource SACS team's products. The team continues to collaborate across the region to ensure ongoing efforts are utilized and leveraged by the SACS to achieve study goals while furthering the efforts and activities taking place amongst stakeholders.



<https://www.sad.usace.army.mil/SACS/>



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Savannah District (SAS)

DISTRICT UPDATES

Savannah District - Project Manager April Patterson

The Savannah District hosted "kick off" meetings for two focus areas in July 2020. These meetings were very well attended with 19 representatives from all 13 stakeholder groups that were invited to participate in the Chatham County/Savannah/Tybee Island focus area "kick off" and 28 representatives from all 14 stakeholder groups that were invited participate in the Glynn County/Brunswick/St. Simons Island/Jekyll Island focus area "kick off."

Also, federal, state, and technical experts with an interest in Georgia environmental resources participated in a study wide environmental resource webinar on July 28, 2020. Environmental resource agencies and experts reviewed vulnerable resources that were identified through the SACS tier 1 and tier 2 risk assessments, and the SACS team and experts are continuing to define the ability of such resources to deal with erosion and inundation from coastal storms and sea level rise.

Next, the Savannah District is hosting virtual webinars to develop strategies to address potential damages. This is the second and most important workshop in a series of three meetings with stakeholders. The Chatham County/Savannah/Tybee Island focus area strategy development workshop will be held on August 19, 2020, and the Glynn County/Brunswick/St. Simons Island/Jekyll Island focus area strategy development workshop will be held on Aug 21, 2020. The team will consider stakeholders recommendations that were developed after the Georgia stakeholder face to face meeting last fall.





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*Jacksonville
District (SAJ)*

*Mobile District
(SAM)*

DISTRICT UPDATES



Jacksonville District
Project Manager-Ashleigh Fountain

The Jacksonville District PDT is working diligently to ensure the kick-off summaries are going out to stakeholders, as they become available. Please take some time to fill out the Focus Area questionnaires sent out as a follow-up to the kick-off meetings. Additionally, we are very excited to be able to share some of our new tools coming on board for our Focus Area Strategy Development sessions in a few short weeks, such as the Tier 2 web tool. Stay tuned!



Mobile District
Project Manager-Meredith Ladart

Well, July has certainly flown by and we are now into August! The Mobile District was thrilled to host our kick-off workshops and engage with our stakeholders! Please fill out your workshop questionnaire and send them back to us. Your input is very important. Invitations are going out for our 2nd round of workshops. We are looking forward to it and hope you are too!