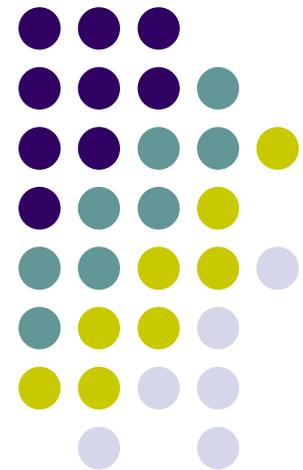


# MMS Project Prioritization List

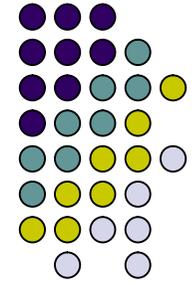
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Mid/South Atlantic Sand  
Management Working Group  
Meeting

August 24, 2009

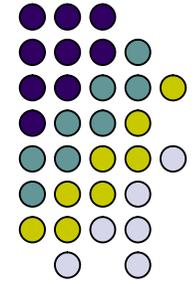


# Why is MMS Pursuing a Prioritization Plan for S&G?



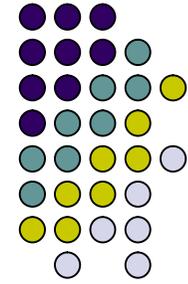
- Manage project workload
- Ensure adequate time and attention for each project
- Minimize project delays

# What is the Prioritization List?



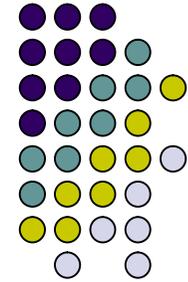
- Prioritization list of noncompetitive negotiated S&G projects for the following calendar year in which MOA/Leases will be signed
- Maximum of 6 identified Atlantic based projects per calendar year and 2 GOMR projects
- Only qualified projects can be considered for placement on the list

# What are Qualified Projects?



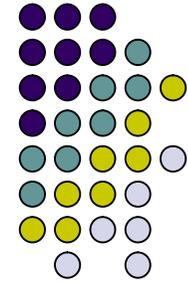
- Qualified Projects
  - Applicant is Federal, State, or local government or delegated party
  - Project is either/or
    - Shore protection
    - Beach restoration
    - Coastal wetlands restoration
    - Construction project funded in whole or in part by or authorized by the Federal Government

# Who Does The List Impact?



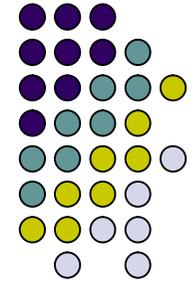
- The MMS S&G Program
- Applicants for Noncompetitive Negotiated Agreements
  - Federal Applicants
  - State Applicants
  - Localities

# How do Projects Get on the List?



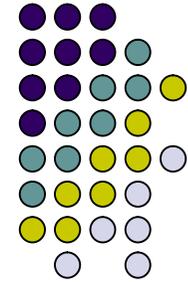
- Submitted to MMS **in writing** for consideration
  - Ms. Renee Orr, Leasing Division, Minerals Management Service, 381 Elden Street, Herndon, VA 20170.
- Submissions **must** include
  - Name of the project
  - State
  - How it qualifies
  - Short description
  - Year of construction
  - Contact name

# Where Will the List be Published?



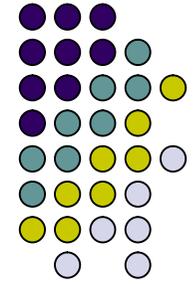
- Federal Register Notice Publications
  - <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/>
  - Call for project identification
  - Final list of identified projects
- MMS S&G Website
  - [www.mms.gov/sandandgravel/](http://www.mms.gov/sandandgravel/)

# When Will the List be Published?



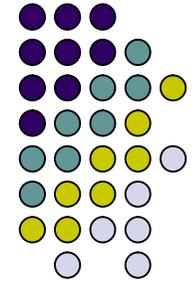
- Federal Register Notice Publications
  - **September** each year
    - Call for upcoming project identification
    - Identification request will include all known upcoming projects
  - **December** each year
    - Final list of identified projects released
    - Final published list will only include the following 2 years

# What Projects Have Been Identified for 2010?



- Atlantic Projects
  - Wallops Island, VA
  - Brevard County, FL North Reach
  - Patrick Air Force Base, FL
  - Duval County, FL
  - Dade County, FL
  - Pinellas County, FL
- GOMR Projects
  - Cameron Parish, LA

# What Projects Have Been Identified for 2011



- Atlantic Projects
  - Rehoboth/Dewey Beach, DE
  - Bethany/South Bethany, DE
  - Barnegat Inlet/Little Egg Harbor Inlet, NJ
  - Sarasota County, FL Lido Key
  - Martin County, FL
  - Broward County, FL Segment II
- GOMR Projects
  - MsCIP Ship Island

# MID-SOUTH ATLANTIC SAND MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING

Geological and Geophysical  
Survey Permitting

# G&G Activities For Sand And Gravel – Beach Restoration

- Name: John Johnson
- Supervisor of the **Data Acquisition and Special Projects Unit (DASPU) RE, GOMR**
- Data acquisition and G&G Permitting, including S&G for GOMR
- Phone: 504-736-2455
- Email: [john.johnson@mms.gov](mailto:john.johnson@mms.gov)

# Regulations, Forms, Web Sites

## ■ Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

- G&G S&G Operations: Part 280 – Prospecting for Minerals Other Than Oil, Gas, and Sulphur on the OCS
- E-CFR can be found at: [www.gpoaccess.gov](http://www.gpoaccess.gov)
  - Click on Code of Federal Regulations
  - Click on e-CFR
  - Title 30 – Mineral Resources
  - Press “Go”

# Regulations, Forms, Web Sites

■ GOMR Web Site: [www.gomr.mms.gov](http://www.gomr.mms.gov)

■ G&G Forms For Sand & Gravel:

[www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/mmsforms/frmindx.html](http://www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/mmsforms/frmindx.html)

- **MMS FORM 134:** Application for Geological & Geophysical Prospecting or Scientific Research in the OCS Related to Minerals Other than Oil, Gas, and Sulphur
- **MMS FORM 135:** Permit for Geophysical Prospecting for Mineral Resources or Scientific Research on the OCS Related to Minerals Other than Oil, Gas, and Sulphur
- **MMS FORM 136:** Permit for Geological Prospecting for Mineral Resources or Scientific Research on the OCS Related to Minerals Other than Oil, Gas, and Sulphur

# G&G Permits for Sand & Gravel

- Regulations currently allow permits to be issued for the following ventures:
  - Commercial
  - Scientific Research
- **However:** Recent guidance from the DOI Solicitors office provides for a third type of activity – Public Works

# Geophysical Permit

## Things That You Provide:

- Complete & Submit the Permit Application (with original signature) and 3 copies (*more information is better than less*)
- Complete & Submit the Permit (with original signature) and 3 copies
- Submit proof of permit fee payment from [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) (currently \$2,012.00)
- If S&G is part of the adjacent state's CZM plan, permittee must submit a copy of their S&G application to the appropriate State agency for CZM consistency approval (**currently biggest holdup in process**)

# Geophysical Permit (cont.)

## What MMS Does:

- MMS will perform a SEA to determine if any mitigations are needed for the activity to be permitted (includes protected species and benthic impact)
- A cover letter with any site specific mitigations is attached to the permit and sent to the permittee and contractor. One copy is posted on MMS public web site and one copy is kept for MMS records

# Geological Permit

## What You Provide:

- Complete & Submit the G&G Permit Application (with original signature) and 3 copies (*more information is better than less*)
- Complete & Submit the Geological Permit (with original signature) and 3 copies
- Submit proof of permit fee payment from [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) (currently \$2,012.00)
- Submit an archaeological report/survey of the area of interest

# Geological Permit (cont.)

- If S&G is part of the adjacent state's CZM plan, permittee must submit a copy of their S&G application to the appropriate State agency for CZM consistency approval (**currently biggest holdup in process**)

## What MMS Does:

- MMS will perform a SEA, review the archaeological survey, and determine if any mitigations are needed for the activity to be permitted (includes protected species and benthic impact)
- A cover letter with any site specific mitigations is attached to the permit and sent to the permittee and contractor. One copy is posted on MMS public web site and one copy is kept for MMS records

# Reports To Be Filed:

- Brief progress reports must be submitted every two months along with an extension (time) request. They can be submitted together or submitted separately. Permits can be extended for 1 year (3 years maximum after review)
- Final report must be submitted within 30 days of completion of activities. This report should include a description of work performed along with a map and digital navigation data showing which prospecting areas and blocks were surveyed.
- MMS may request copies of any or all of the data acquired in Federal waters. You will be reimbursed for all reasonable costs of reproduction of data that are requested.

# Questions Concerning the Archaeological Study

- Archaeological Information Page

- [www.gomr.mms.gov](http://www.gomr.mms.gov)

- NTLs:

- 2008-G20

- 2005-G07

- GOMR Archaeologists:

- Dr. Jack Irion (504-736-1742)

- [Jack.Irion@mms.gov](mailto:Jack.Irion@mms.gov)

- Dr. Chris Horrell (504-736-2796)

- [Christopher.Horrell@mms.gov](mailto:Christopher.Horrell@mms.gov)

- Mr. David Ball (504-736-2859)

- [David.Ball@mms.gov](mailto:David.Ball@mms.gov)

# Site Specific Environmental Analysis (SEA) Questions:

- Supervisor of Environmental Compliance Section
- “TJ” Broussard (504-736-3245)
  - [T.J.Broussard@mms.gov](mailto:T.J.Broussard@mms.gov)

# NEW TWIST: Public Works

- Permit Categories:
  - Commercial
  - Scientific Research
  - **Public Works**
- The latest guidance from the DOI Solicitor's Office: Public Works: When a company is hired by government agency (including COE), town, community, etc. for beach restoration, shore protection, coastal wetlands restoration or similar projects
- MMS must modify its regulations to include this third type of activity

# Public Works (cont.)

## ■ What does this mean for you?

- MMS is currently working to modify the regulations
- MMS will issue “Authorizations” with guidelines for this type of project .....not Permits
- When suggested forms for S&G Public Works Applications and Authorization are finished they will be posted on the MMS web site
- Until then, continue to submit MMS Forms 134,135 and 136
- THERE ARE **NO FEES** FOR AN AUTHORIZATION
- When the regulations are amended we will go back to business as usual... and Fees for Public Works projects

# Where To Submit Your Applications?

- Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico
  - Regional Supervisor for Resource Evaluation  
Minerals Management Service  
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.  
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394
  - Phone: 504-736-2519
  - Toll Free: 1-800-200-GULF
- Rebecca Murphey: 504-736-2430
  - [Rebecca.Murphey@mms.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Murphey@mms.gov)
- John Johnson: 504-736-2455
  - [John.Johnson@mms.gov](mailto:John.Johnson@mms.gov)

# **CURRENT AND UPCOMING SAND LEASE PROJECTS IN THE MID AND SOUTH ATLANTIC OCS**

Mid-/ South-Atlantic Sand Management Working Group  
Meeting

Charleston, South Carolina

August 24, 2009

# 1. Port of Charleston – Charleston Naval Base Container Terminal

- Construction will require up to 5 million yards of sand
- Borrow Area is the Charleston ODMDS
- Placement of fill to begin in 2010
- EA is complete, awaiting FONSI
- Lease signature expected in late September 2009

## **2. City of Virginia Beach – Sandbridge Beach**

- Construction will require up to 2 million yards of sand
- Borrow Area is Sandbridge Shoal, 3 to 5 miles east
- Placement to begin in 2011
- EA is complete, awaiting FONSI
- Lease expected to signed in late 2009

## **3. Wallops Island Flight Facility - NASA**

- Construction will require up to 2,600,000 yards of sand
- Borrow Area is either Blackfish Bank (3-5 miles offshore) or an unnamed shoal 9-12 miles offshore
- Placement to begin in 2010 or 2011
- EIS is currently in preparation by URS Corp.
- MMS awaiting determination of Borrow Area

## **4. Topsail Beach (West Onslow Beach to New River Inlet) , NC**

- Construction expected in 2012
- EIS and ROD completed
- MMS is a cooperating agency
- Borrow Area being determined

## **5. Surf City - North Topsail beaches, NC**

- Construction expected in 2013
- EIS in preparation, MMS is coop. agency
- Borrow Area(s) being determined

## **6. Brunswick County beaches, NC**

- Construction expected in 2013
- Borrow Area to be determined

## 7. Bogue Banks beaches, NC

- Borrow Area may be the Morehead City ODMDS
- EIS not started yet
- Construction planned for 2014/2015

## **8. Wrightsville Beach, NC**

- May need OCS sand
- Construction planned for 2014

## 9. Carteret County beaches, NC

- May use sand from the Morehead City ODMDS
- Construction planned for 2014

## **10. Rehoboth – Dewey beaches, Delaware**

- Construction expected in 2011
- Borrow Area being determined

# **11. Bethany – South Bethany beaches, Delaware**

- Construction expected in 2011
- Borrow Area being determined

## **12. Fenwick Island Beach, Delaware**

- Construction expected in 2013
- Borrow Area to be determined

## **13. Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Harbor Inlet beaches, New Jersey**

- Construction expected in 2011
- Borrow Area being determined

## **14. Brigantine Inlet to Great Harbor Inlet, New Jersey**

- Construction expected in 2013
- Borrow Area to be determined

# QUESTIONS ?

Visit us at:

[WWW.MMS.GOV/SANDANDGRAVEL](http://WWW.MMS.GOV/SANDANDGRAVEL)



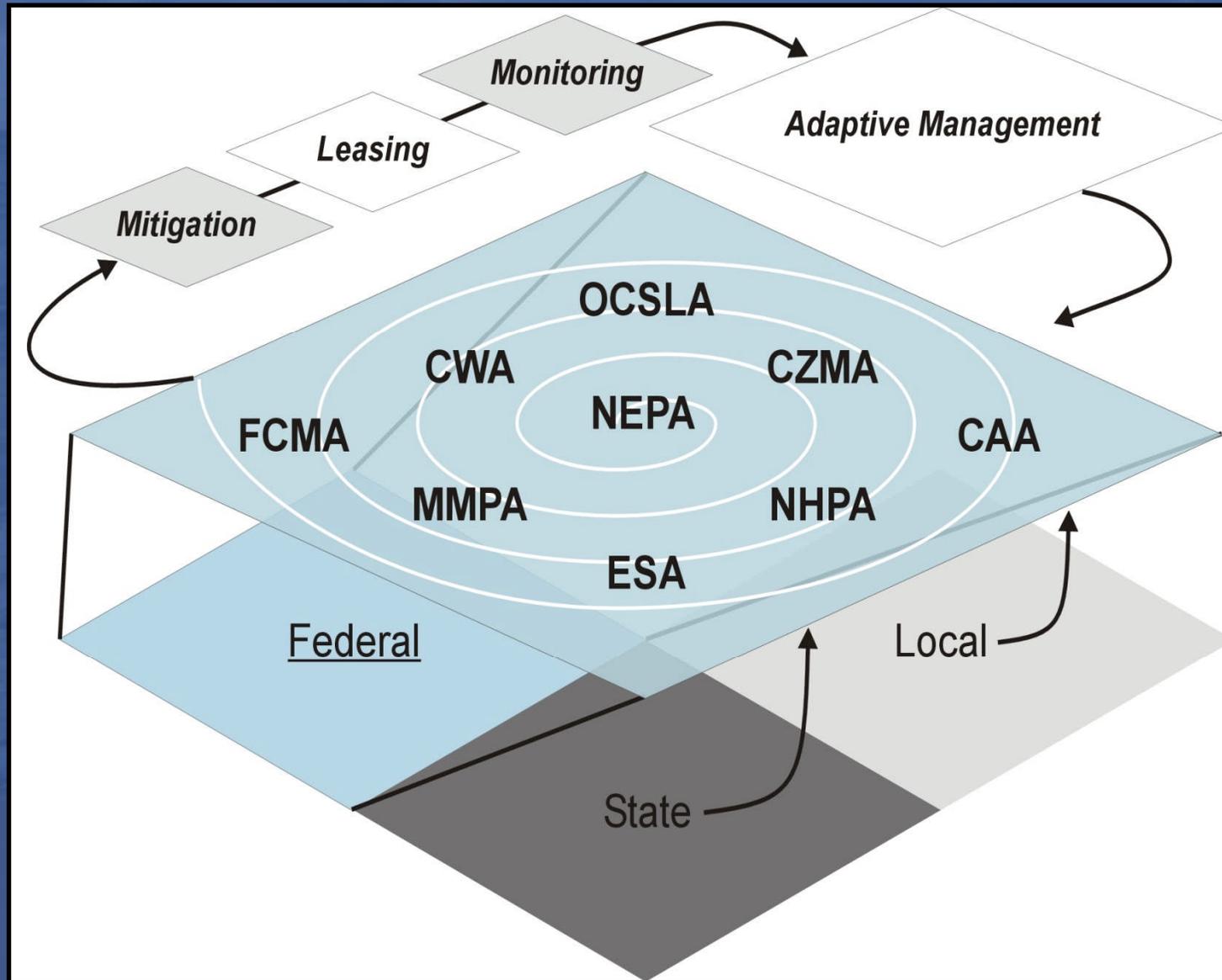
# Environmental Requirements for Using Outer Continental Shelf Sand Resources

Keely Hite  
Minerals Management Service  
Environmental Division

# NEPA Compliance Requirements

- MMS ensures NEPA compliance for the following federal actions related to offshore sand resources:
  - pre-lease authorization of geological and geophysical (G&G) activity to explore OCS sand resources
    - Policy: MMS prepares NEPA analysis for G&G activity authorization
  - each issuance of a negotiated agreement for use of OCS sand resources
    - Policy: Project proponent prepares NEPA analysis in support of MMS's issuance of negotiated agreement
    - An EIS covering a 50 year nourishment program may not be adequate to address initial and subsequent leasing decisions

# Integrating Environmental Requirements



# Authorizing Use of OCS Sand Resources

- Different types of negotiated agreements require different arrangements to ensure NEPA compliance:
  - Federal Sponsor and MMS
  - Federal Sponsor, Local Sponsor, and MMS
  - Local Sponsor and MMS



# Environmental Compliance:

## (1) Federal Sponsor and MMS

- Federal sponsor is lead for NEPA compliance and prepares NEPA document.
- Federal sponsor is lead for CZMA, ESA, FCMA, NHPA, and other applicable requirements and ensures consultations and coordination address MMS' connected action.
- MMS is cooperating agency on NEPA and participates in the consultation and coordination process as necessary. MMS adopts NEPA document and prepares independent decision document (e.g., FONSI).
- MMS may join Project Delivery Team or equivalent

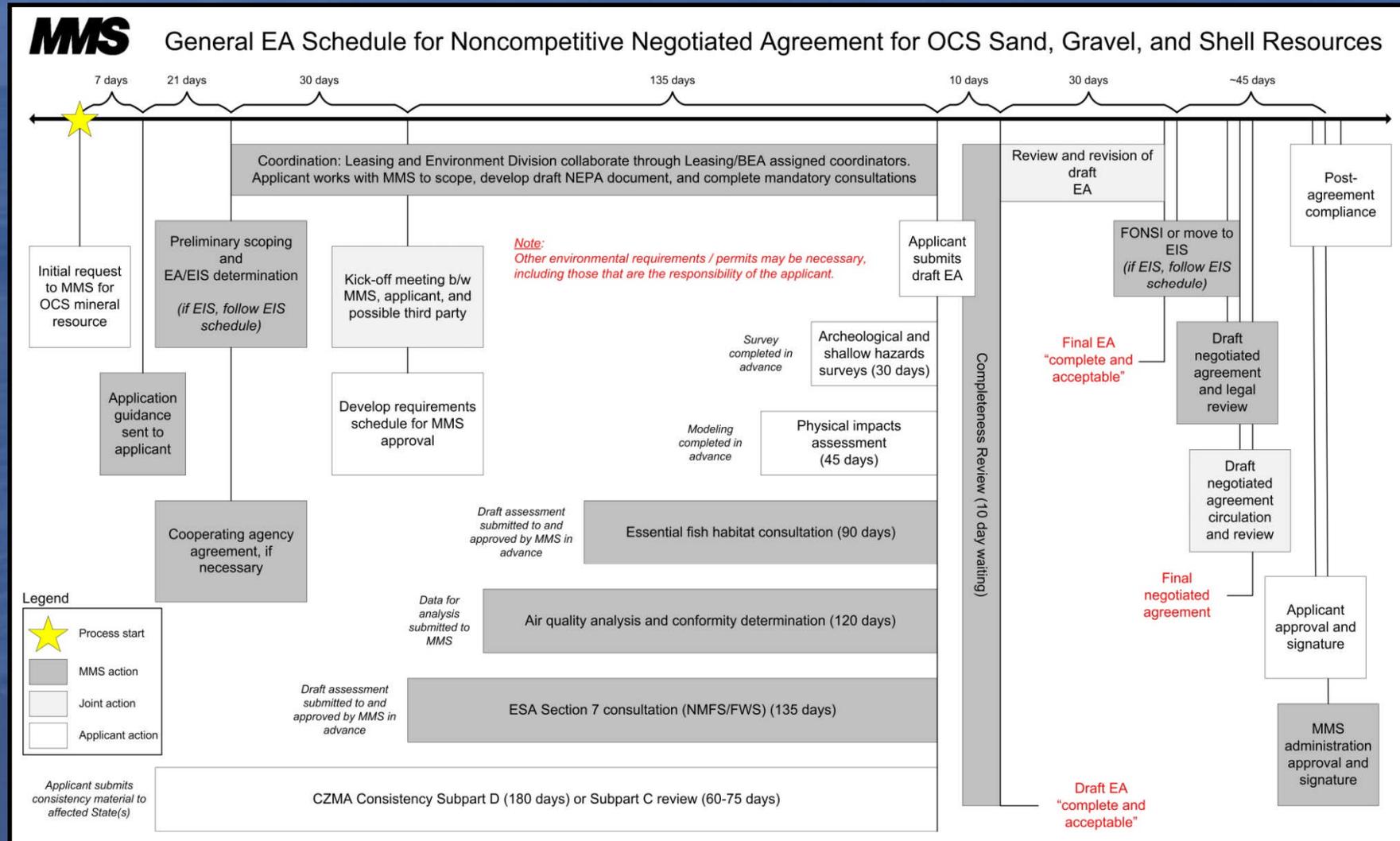
## Environmental Compliance: (2) Federal Sponsor, Local Sponsor, & MMS

- Federal sponsor is lead for NEPA compliance and prepares NEPA document.
- Federal sponsor is lead for CZMA, ESA, FCMA, NHPA, and other applicable requirements and ensures consultations and coordination address MMS' connected action.
- MMS is cooperating agency on NEPA and participates in the consultation and coordination process as necessary. MMS adopts NEPA document and prepares independent decision document (e.g., FONSI).
- MMS and local sponsor may join Project Delivery Team or equivalent

## Environmental Compliance: (3) Local Sponsor and MMS

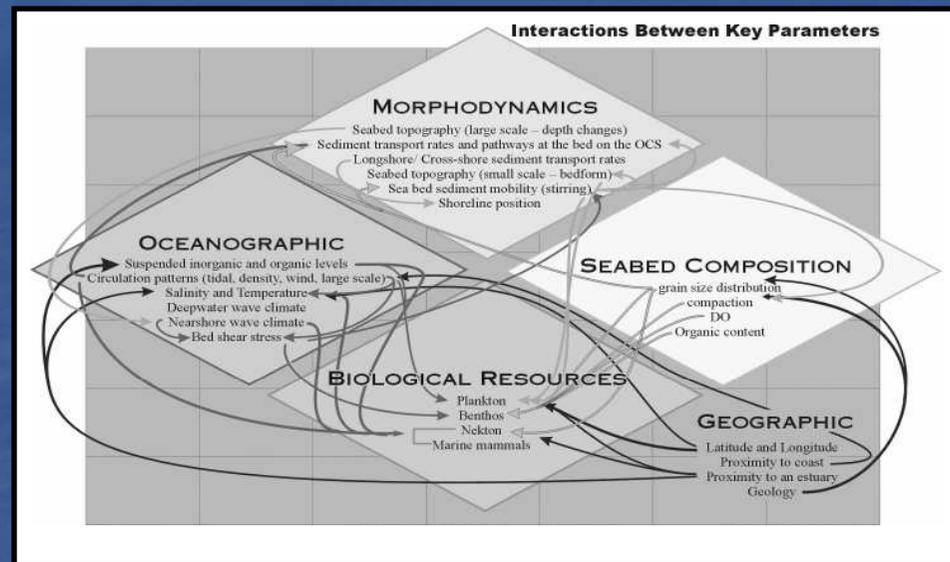
- MMS is lead for NEPA compliance, but local sponsor prepares NEPA document. MMS reviews and adopts NEPA document following an adequacy determination. MMS prepares decision document (e.g., FONSI).
- MMS is lead for CZMA, ESA, FCMA, NHPA, and other applicable requirements.
- Local sponsor prepares necessary documents to facilitate consultation and coordination. MMS reviews and adopts documents following an adequacy determination. MMS, not local sponsor, initiates required consultations and coordination.
- Local sponsor may be cooperating agency on NEPA.

# Generalized Environmental Review Process (EA Schedule for Scenario 3 – Local Sponsor and MMS)



# Key Environmental Resources

- Physical Environment
  - Hydrodynamics and sediment transport
  - Shoreline change
  - Water quality
  - Air quality
  - Noise
- Biological Environment
  - Benthic and fish habitat
  - Benthos
  - Nekton
  - Protected species
- Socioeconomic Environment
  - Archeological and cultural resources
  - Recreation and tourism
  - Recreational and commercial fisheries
  - Navigation



# Key Environmental Information and Documentation Requirements

## Information

- Archaeological / Cultural Resources and Hazards Survey
- Air Emissions Inventory
- Hydrodynamic / Sediment Transport Analysis
- Borrow Area / Nearshore Benthic Habitat Surveys (if applicable)

## Standalone or Integrated Documents

- Archaeological Resources Report
- Consistency Determination or Certification
- General Conformity Determination (if applicable)
- Essential Fish Habitat Assessment
- Biological Assessment for T&E

# Objective of Environmental Review

- Minimize impacts through the implementation of impact-reducing mitigation through the vehicle of the negotiated agreement.
- Types of mitigation
  - Location, temporal, or scale constraints on dredging, transport, and placement activities
  - Constraints on dredging / construction methodologies
  - Monitoring and remediation

# Common Mitigation Measures and Monitoring Requirements

- Location avoidance
  - buffers to archaeological targets, EFH and hard bottom, nesting protecting species, infrastructure, ordnance
- Environmental windows
  - hopper dredging, larval fishes
- Impact minimization
  - observers, dredging equipment, rotational/single use dredge areas
- Monitoring
  - dredge position/production, benthic recovery, bathymetric recovery

# Opportunities for Efficiency and Streamlining

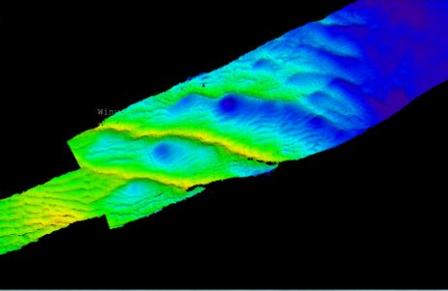
- Early, often, and open communication and coordination
- Tiering from, incorporating by reference, and augmenting existing environmental analyses
- Using draft Environmental Assessment in lieu of Biological Assessment and Essential Fish Habitat Assessment (when approved by NMFS/FWS)
- Promote informed public and stakeholder involvement

Environmental Division  
Branch of Environmental  
Assessment

Keely.Hite@mms.gov  
(703) 787-1103



*MMS's mission is to manage the ocean energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf and Federal and Indian mineral revenues to enhance public and trust benefits, promote responsible use, and realize fair value.*



# Sediment Resources Offshore of Northeast South Carolina



Clay McCoy, PhD

Coastal Carolina University/SC Sea Grant



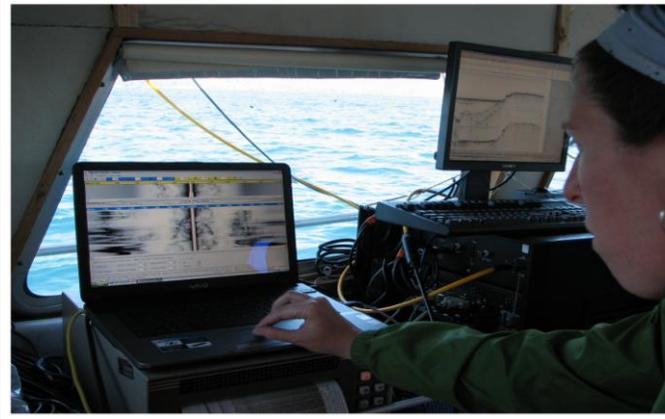
# Utilize geophysical instrumentation to conduct geological and sediment dynamics investigations

## Representative Projects:

- **SC Coastal Erosion Study (USGS)**
- **Grand Strand Renourishment Monitoring (USACE)**
- Fire Island (NY) sediment transport study (NPS)
- Charleston (SC) ODMDS project (USACE)
- Georgetown (SC) ODMDS project (USACE)
- Winyah Bay (SC) Regional Sediment Management project (USACE)
- Charleston Harbor (SC) Regional Sediment Management project (USACE)

## Instrumentation:

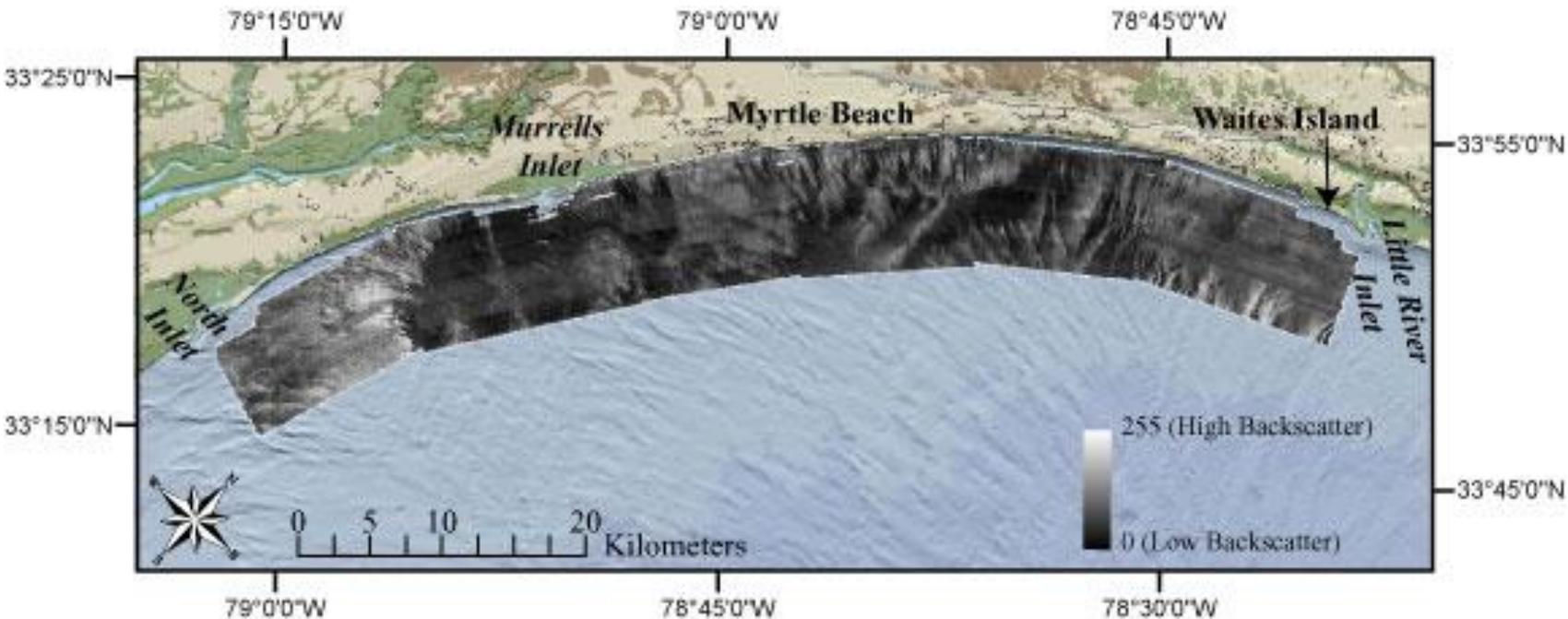
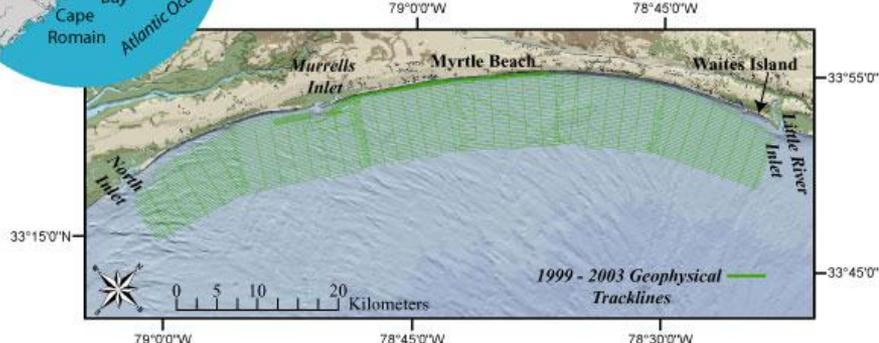
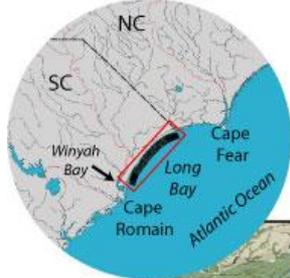
- Multi-beam
- Side Scan Sonar
- Chirp
- Single Beam

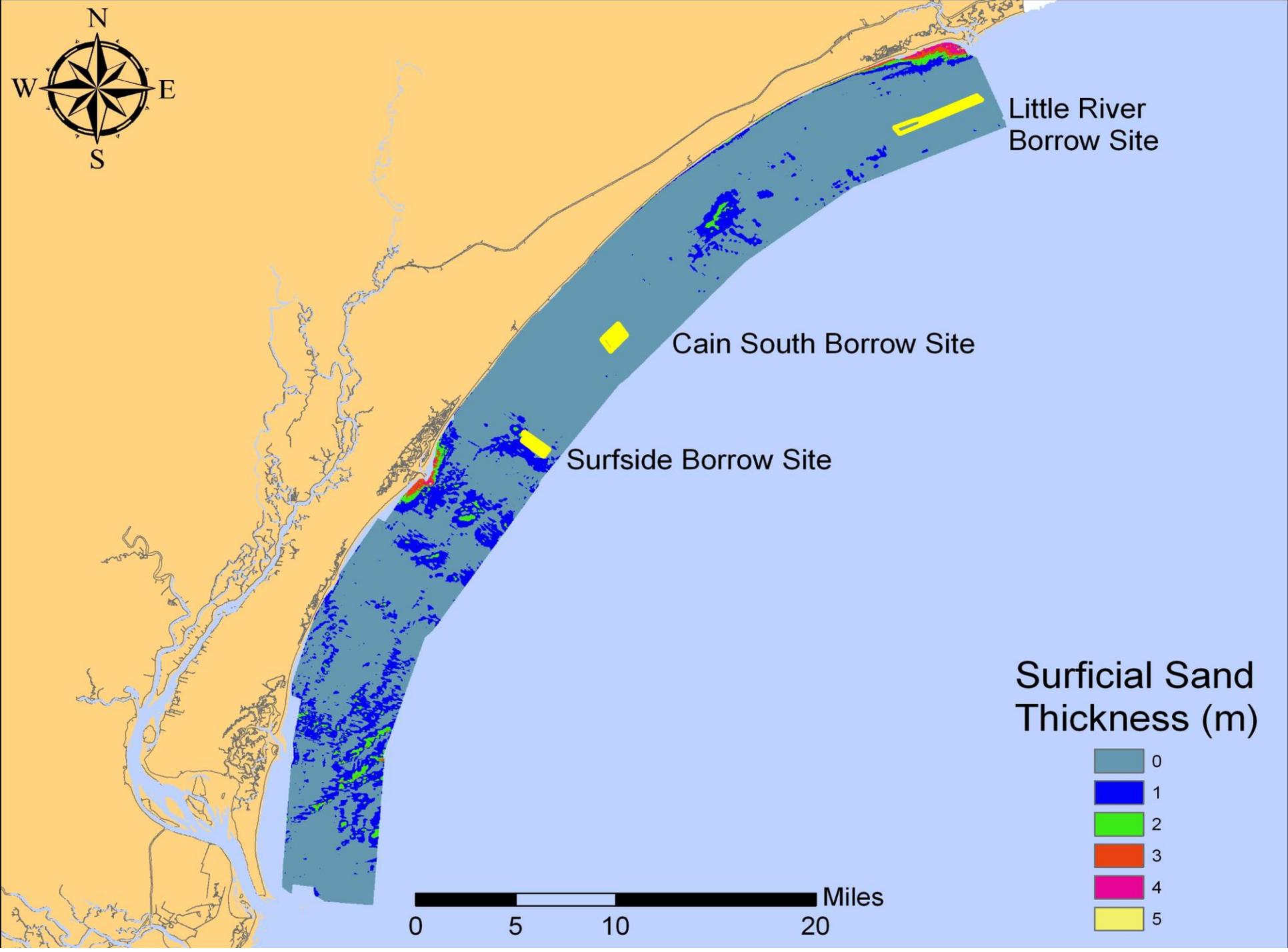


Geologic framework, sediment resources data out to 5-6 miles available from South Carolina Coastal Erosion Study:

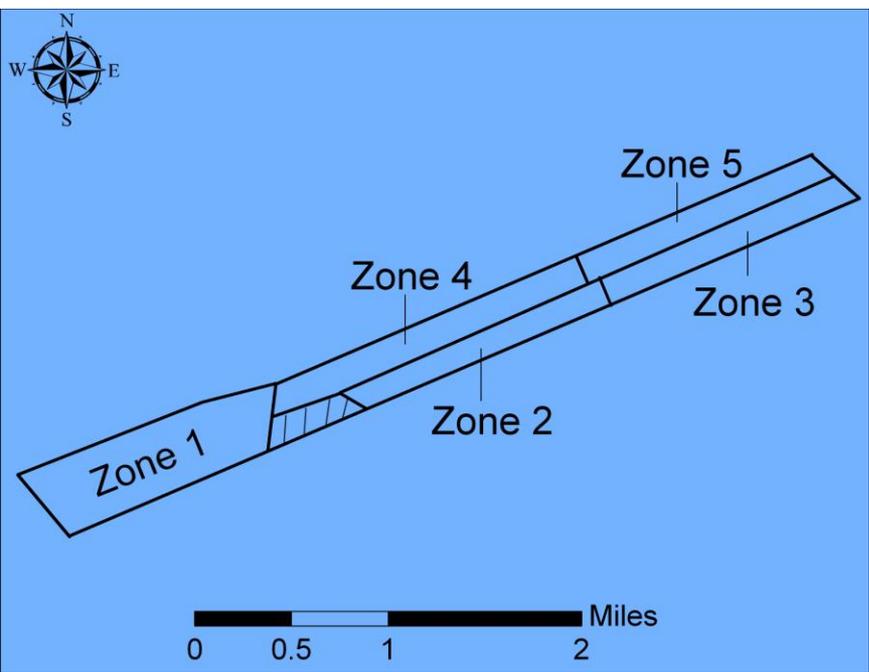
<http://woodshole.er.usgs.gov/project-pages/scarolina/html/Intro.htm>

<http://woodshole.er.usgs.gov/pubs/of2005-1346/html/gis.html#table>

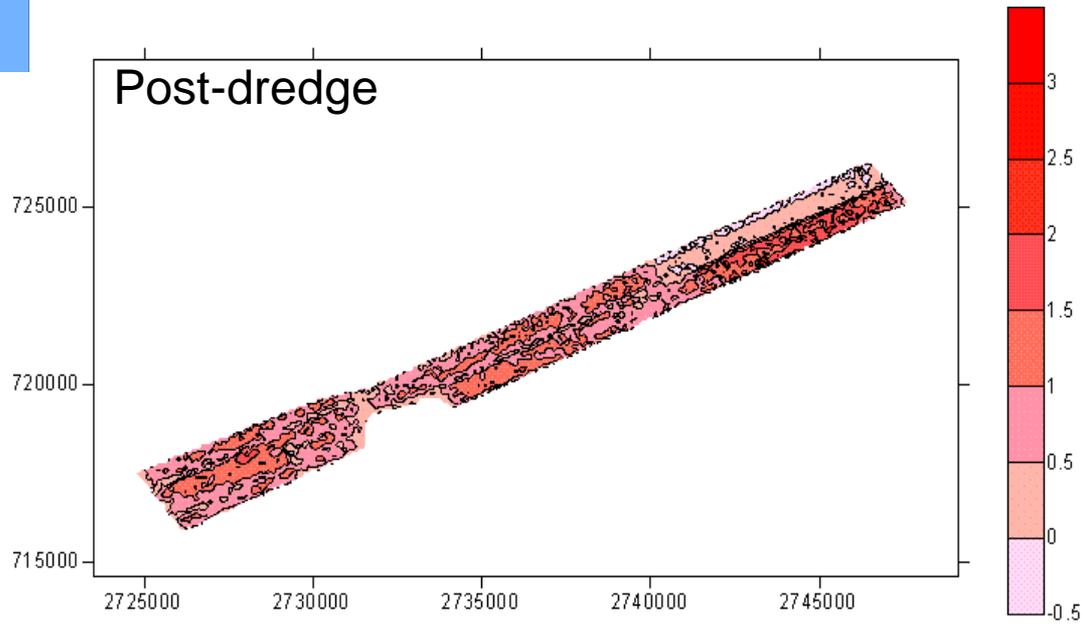
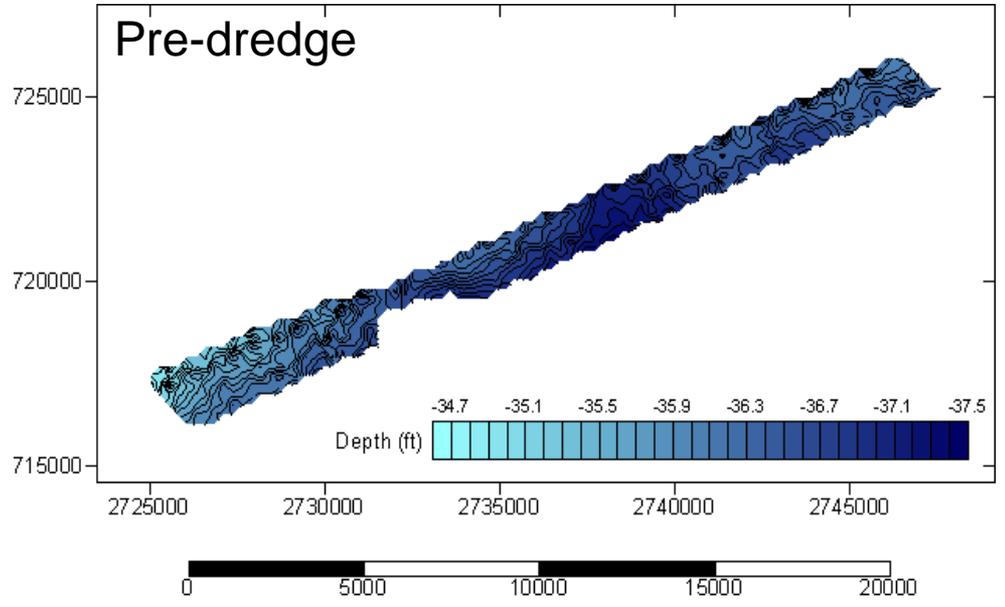




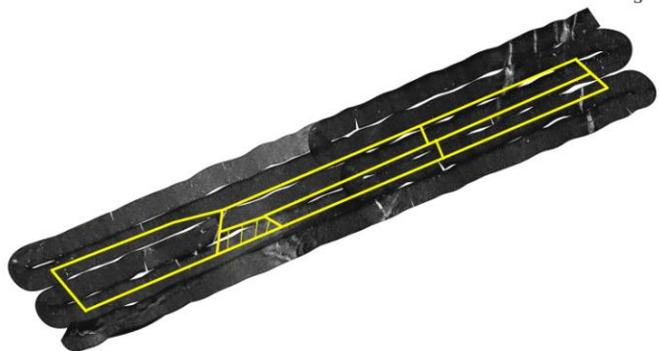
# Little River Borrow Site



Dredged Fall 2008  
Placed ~750,000 yd<sup>3</sup> on NMB

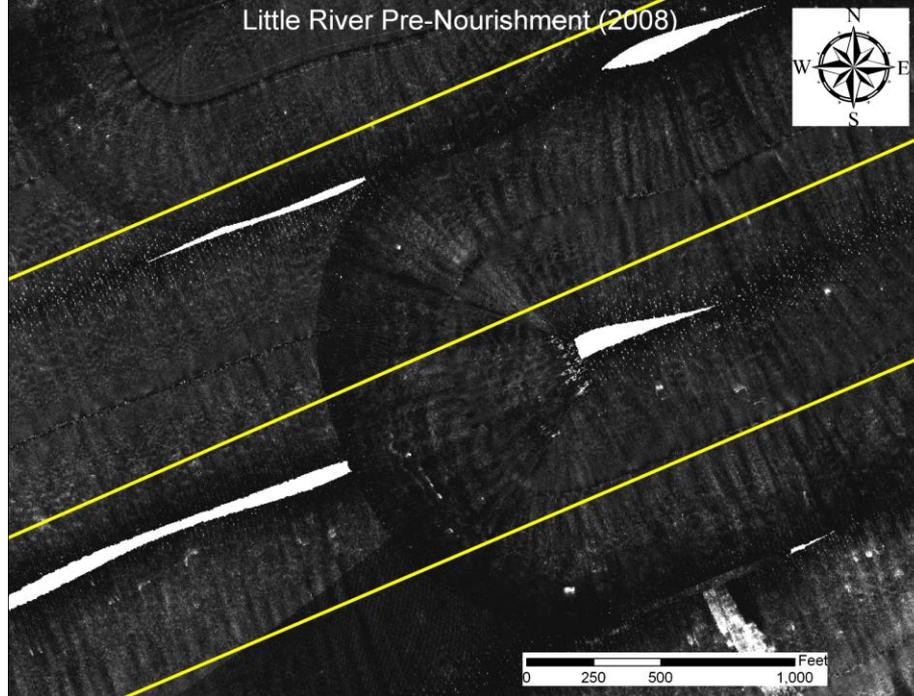


Little River Pre-Nourishment (2008)



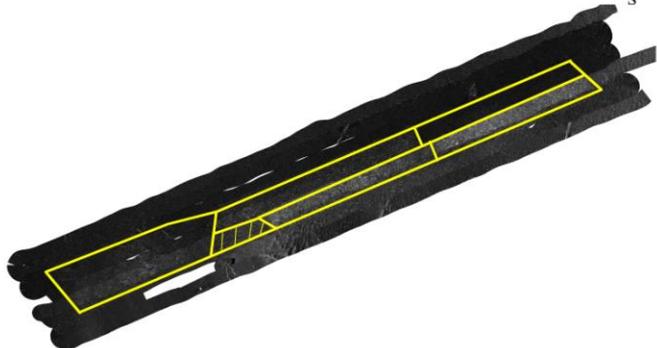
0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Little River Pre-Nourishment (2008)



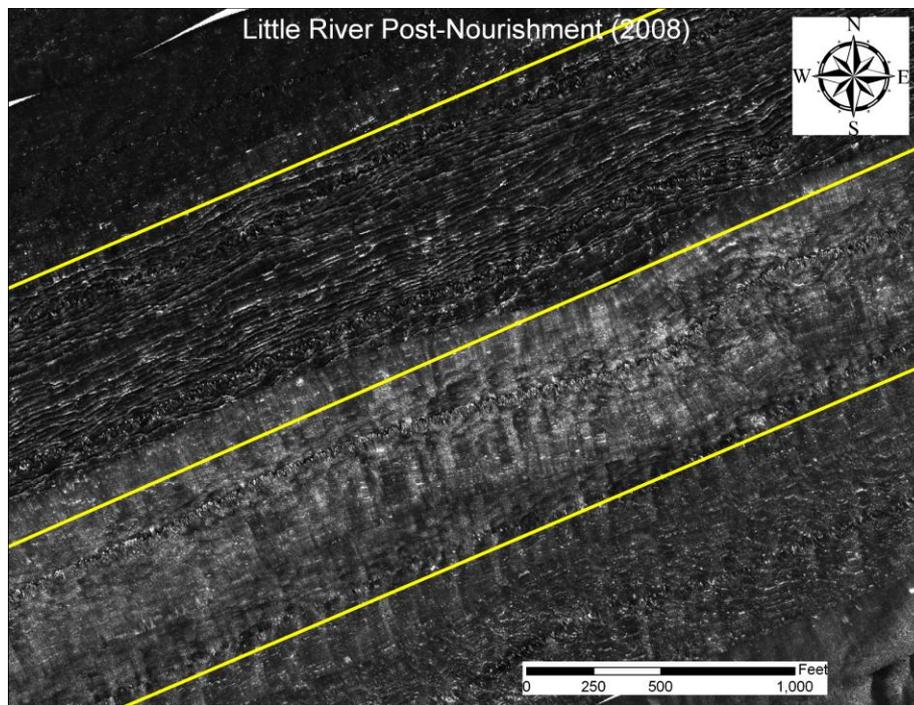
0 250 500 1,000 Feet

Little River Post-Nourishment (2008)



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Little River Post-Nourishment (2008)

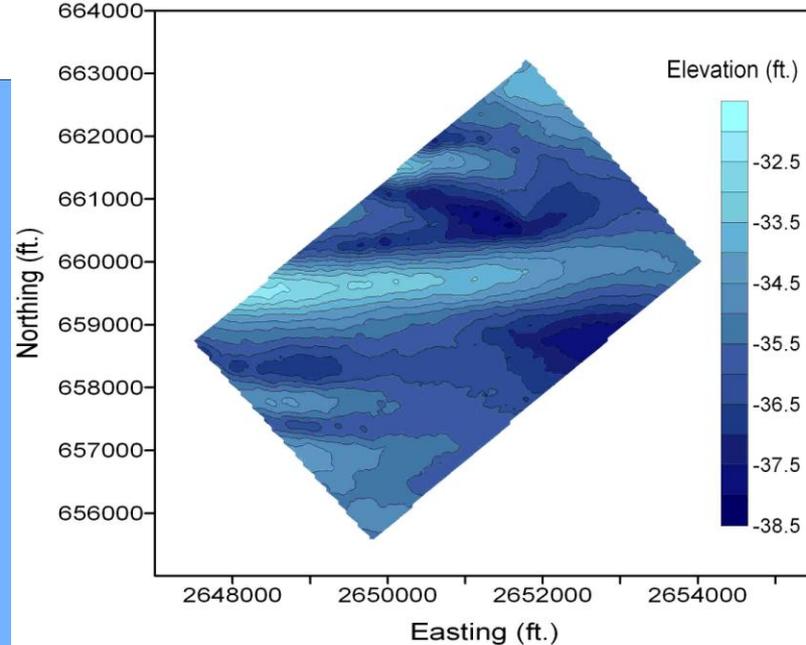
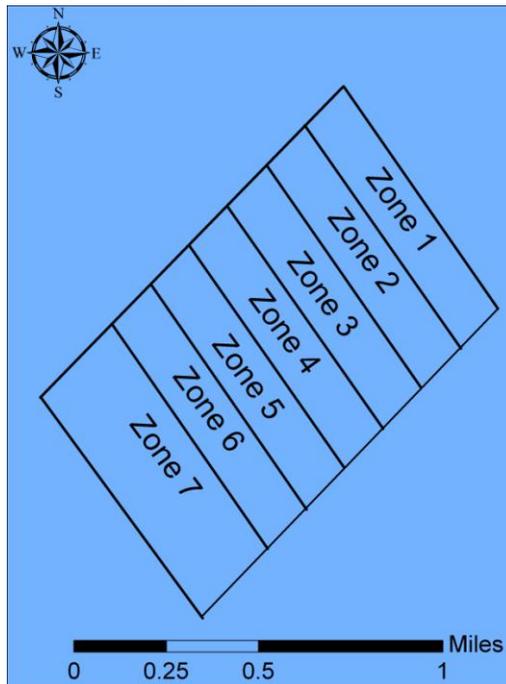


0 250 500 1,000 Feet

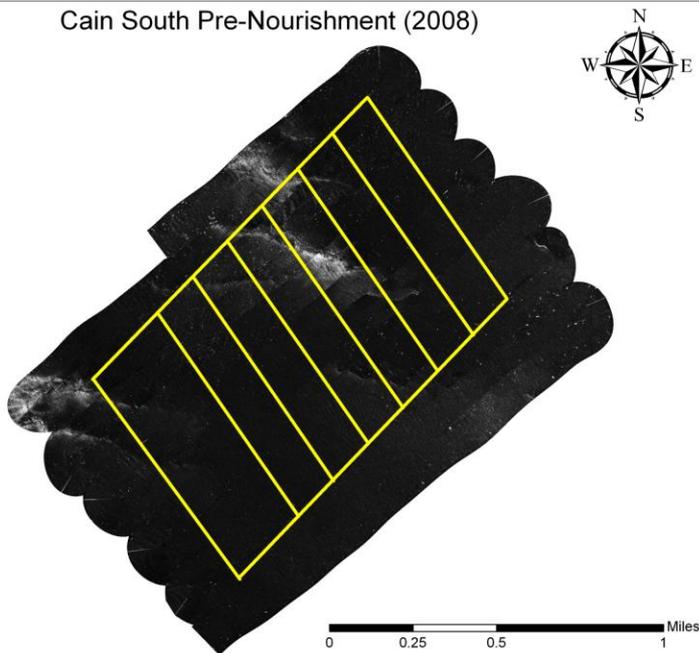
# Cain South Borrow Site

Dredged Nov-Jan  
2008/09

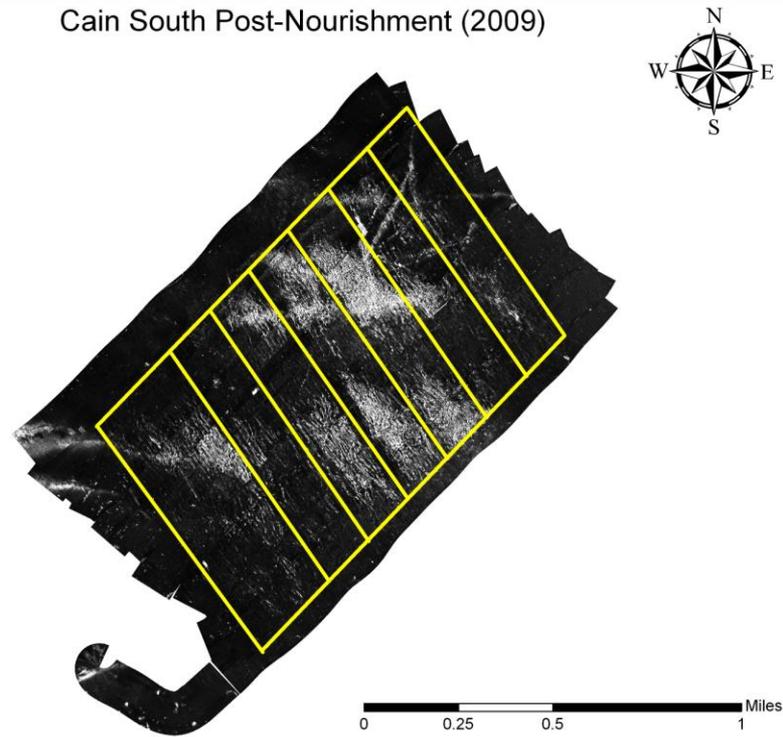
Placed ~1.5  
million yd<sup>3</sup> on MB



Cain South Pre-Nourishment (2008)



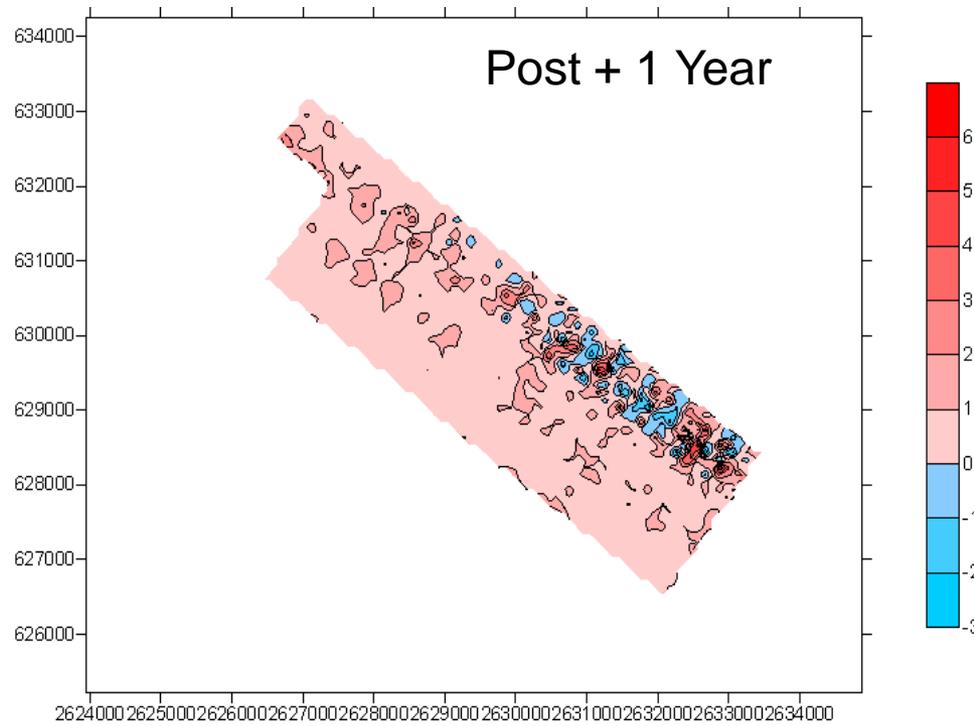
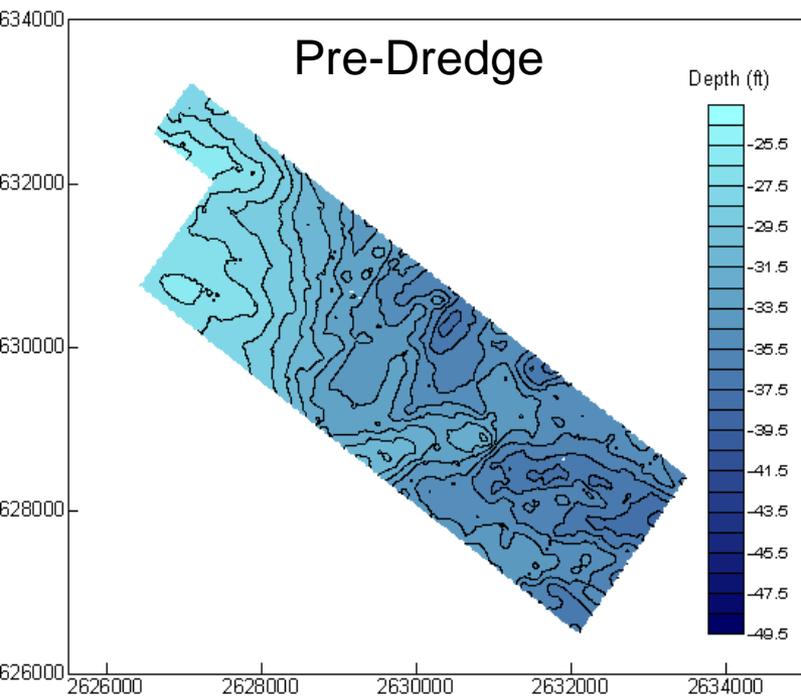
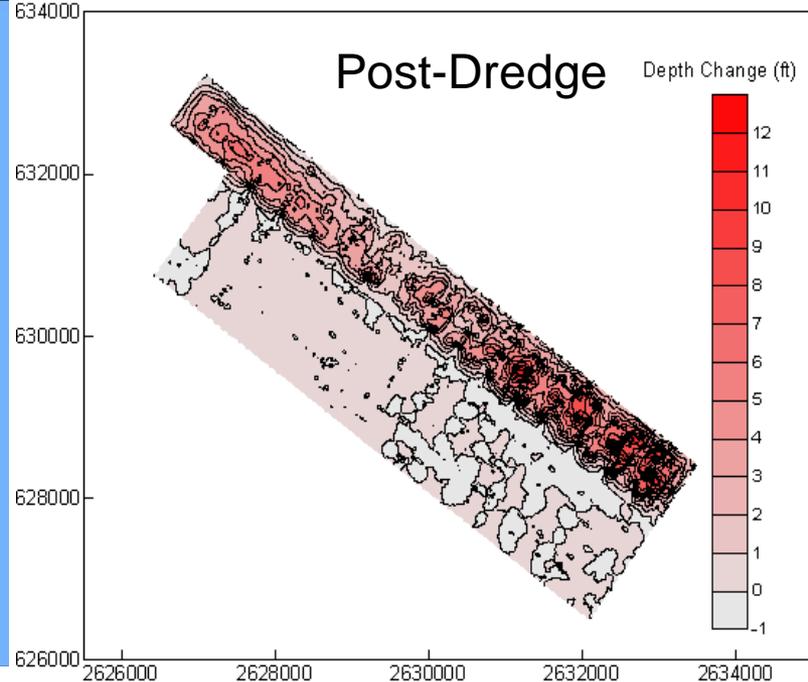
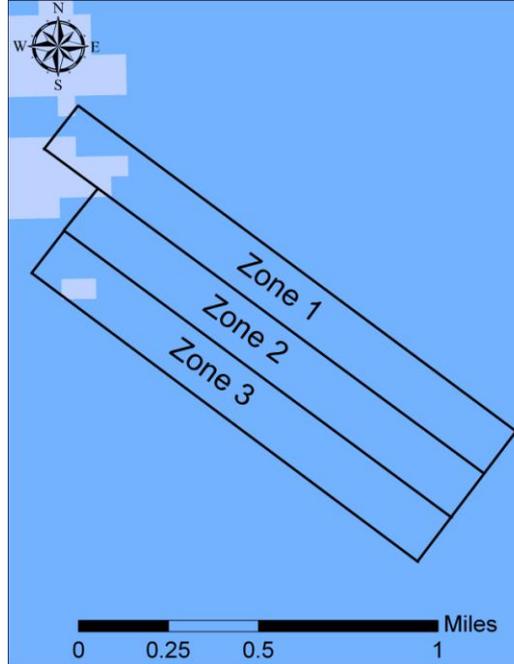
Cain South Post-Nourishment (2009)



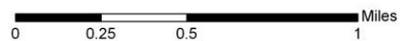
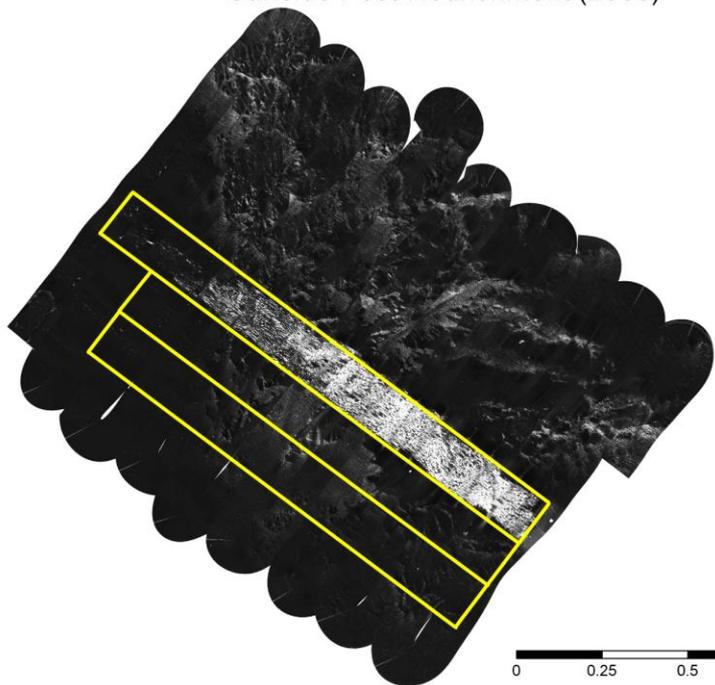
# Surfside Borrow Site

Dredged Nov-  
Feb 2007/08

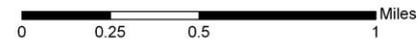
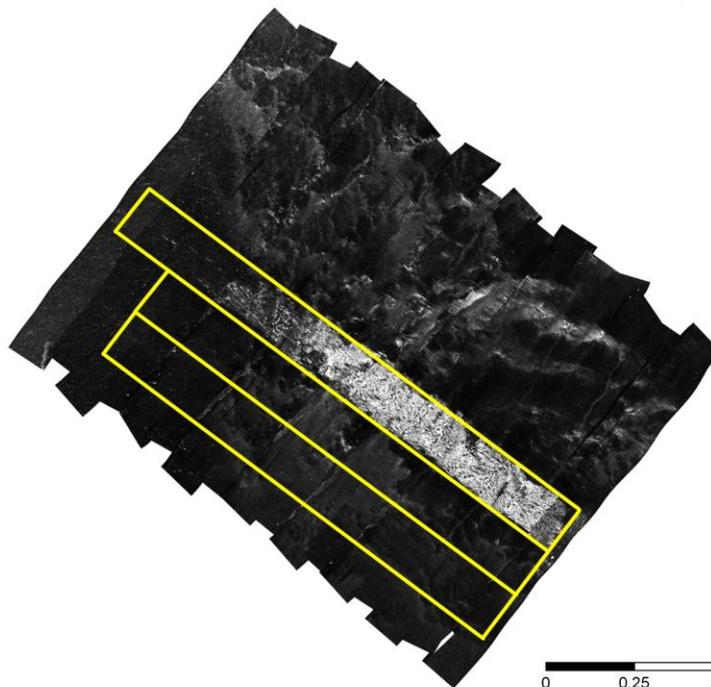
Placed ~750,000  
yd<sup>3</sup> on GC/SS



Surfside Post-Nourishment (2008)



Surfside Post-Nourishment + 1 Year (2009)



An aerial photograph of a coastal landscape. A long, narrow sandy beach runs diagonally from the top left towards the center. To the right of the beach is a large, winding river or estuary system that meanders through a green, marshy area. The water in the river is a light blue-grey color. In the foreground, there are several large, shallow, sandy areas that appear to be part of a beach or dune system, with some water pooling in the depressions. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

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