

St. Augustine, Florida Back Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) Feasibility Study

MONTHLY PROGRESS MEETING MARCH 2024

**PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE AND COMPUTER
TO AVOID BACKGROUND DISRUPTIONS.**

WE WILL START PROMPTLY AT 1:05

Presented by:

Jason Harrah, Senior Project Manager (Jacksonville District, USACE)

Marty Durkin, Planning Technical Lead (Jacksonville District, USACE)

Jessica Beach, Chief Resiliency Officer (City of St. Augustine)





AGENDA



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- Opening Remarks
- Study Overview
- Overall Study Schedule & Budget
- Initial Array of Alternatives Being Considered
- Schedule Updates (90-Day Window)
- Discipline Specific Study Updates
- Upcoming Public Engagements
- Sponsor Remarks
- Agency Questions/Comments
- Public Comments
- Closing Remarks



STUDY SCHEDULE & BUDGET

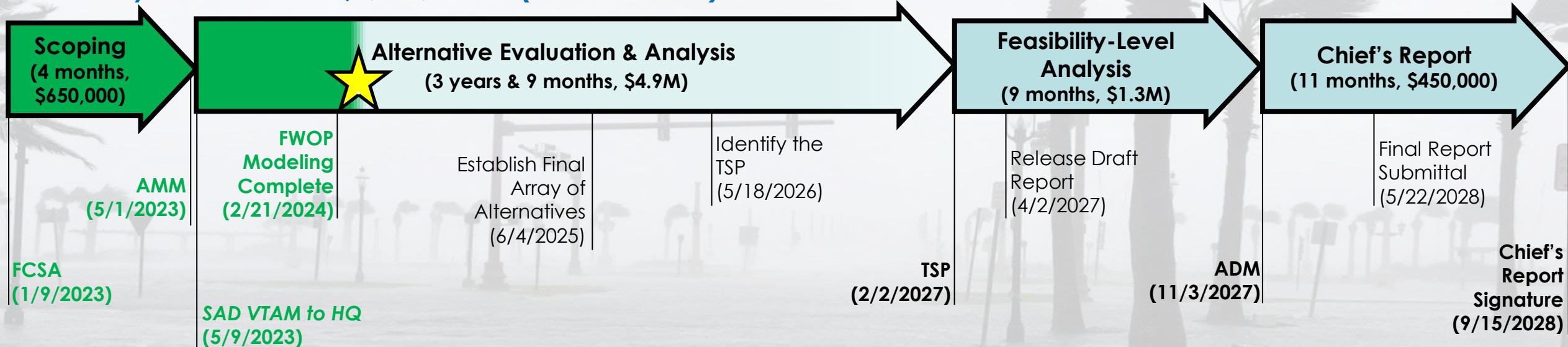
★ We Are Here



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Schedule & Budget Overview: 5 years & 9 months, \$7.3M, Cost Share ~50% Fed, 50% Sponsor

Total Study Costs to Date: \$1,253,918.74 (as of Jan 2024)



Key Components of the Study Scope:

- Entire City of St. Augustine (COSA)
- Compound Flooding
- Full Array of Alternatives & Comprehensive Benefits
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Likely
- Robust Community Outreach

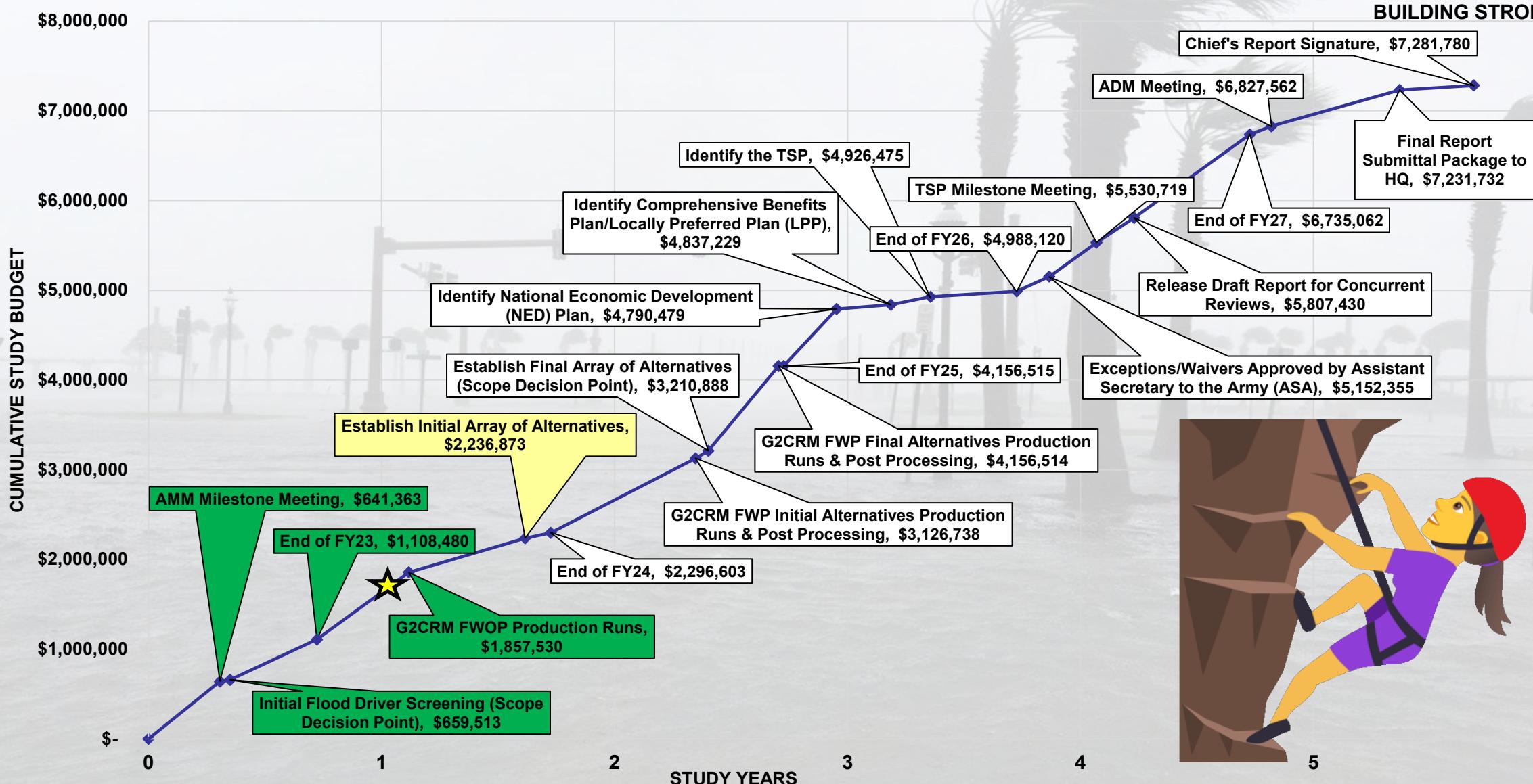
Acronyms:
FCSA = Feasibility Cost Share Agreement
AMM = Alternatives Milestone Meeting
FWOP = Future Without Project
SAD = South Atlantic Division
VTAM = Vertical Team Alignment Memo
HQ = Headquarters
TSP = Tentatively Selected Plan
ADM = Agency Decision Milestone



STUDY SCHEDULE & BUDGET



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Study Authority: House Resolution 2646 (June 21, 2000): St. Johns County, Florida

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That in accordance with Section 110 of the River and Harbor Act of 1962, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is **requested to survey the shores of St. Johns County, Florida**, with particular reference to the advisability of providing beach erosion control works in the area north of St. Augustine Inlet, the shoreline in the vicinity of Matanzas Inlet, and adjacent shorelines, as may be necessary in the interest of **hurricane protection, storm damage reduction, beach erosion control, and other related purposes**.

Non-Federal Sponsor: City of St. Augustine (COSA)

POC: Jessica Beach, P.E., Chief Resilience Officer, jbeach@citystaug.com

Study Area

- Entire COSA Municipal Boundary
- **17 Distinct Neighborhoods**
- **3 Separate Land Masses**
- **Interconnected Water Bodies**

Objectives to be achieved within the City of St. Augustine over a 50-year period of analysis from 2035-2085 are to...

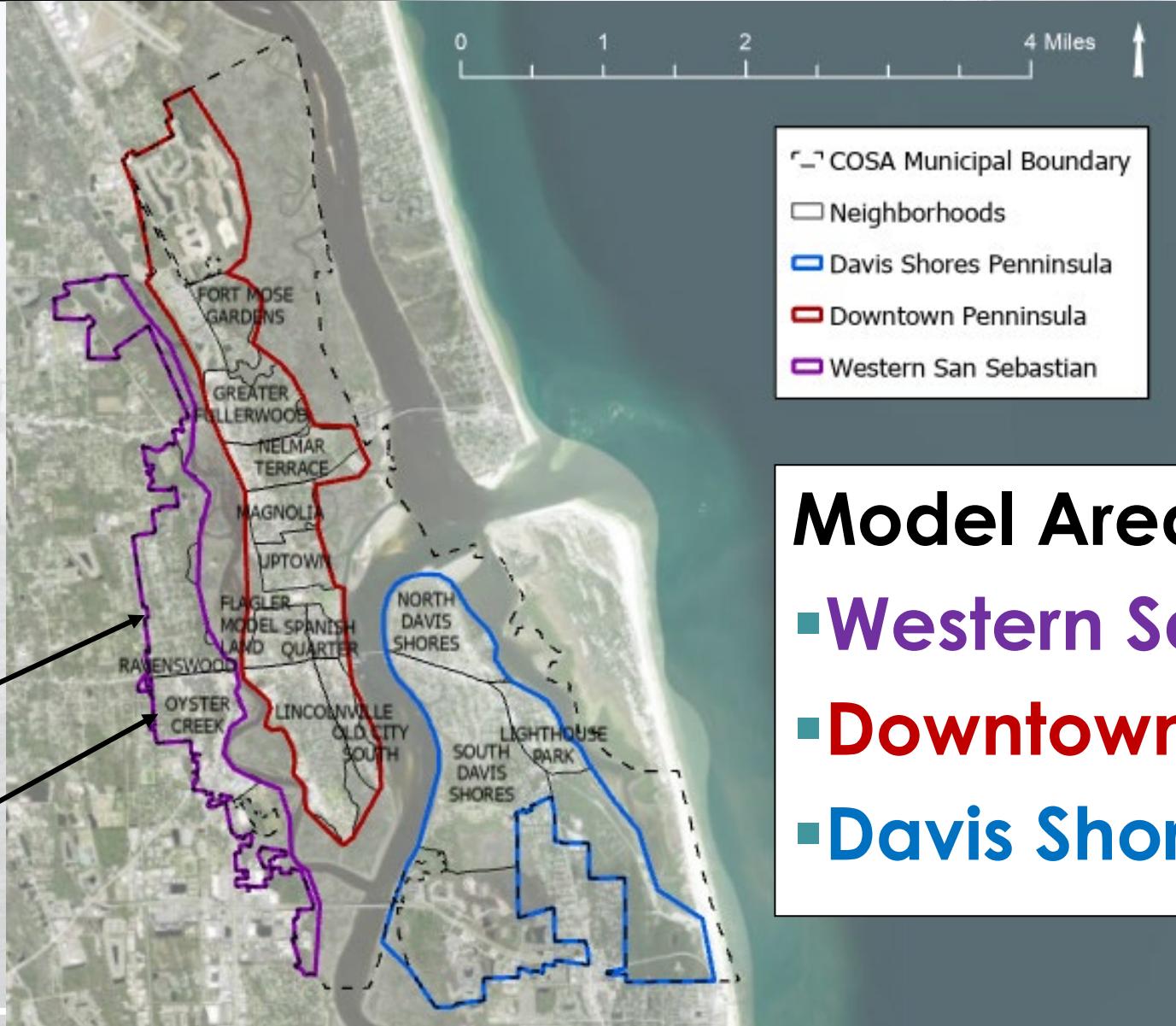
1. Manage risk of coastal flood damages.
2. Manage risk to health and life-safety.
3. Manage risk to cultural and natural resources.
4. Manage flooding impacts to the local economy.



STUDY MODEL REACHES



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Model Areas

- **Western San Sebastian**
- **Downtown Peninsula**
- **Davis Shores Peninsula**



INITIAL ARRAY OF ALTERNATIVES



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Measure Function

Initial Array of Alternatives

Wall/Levee/Dune features stop flooding at the back bay shoreline.

Surge Barrier/Gate features stop flooding before it gets into the back bay waters.

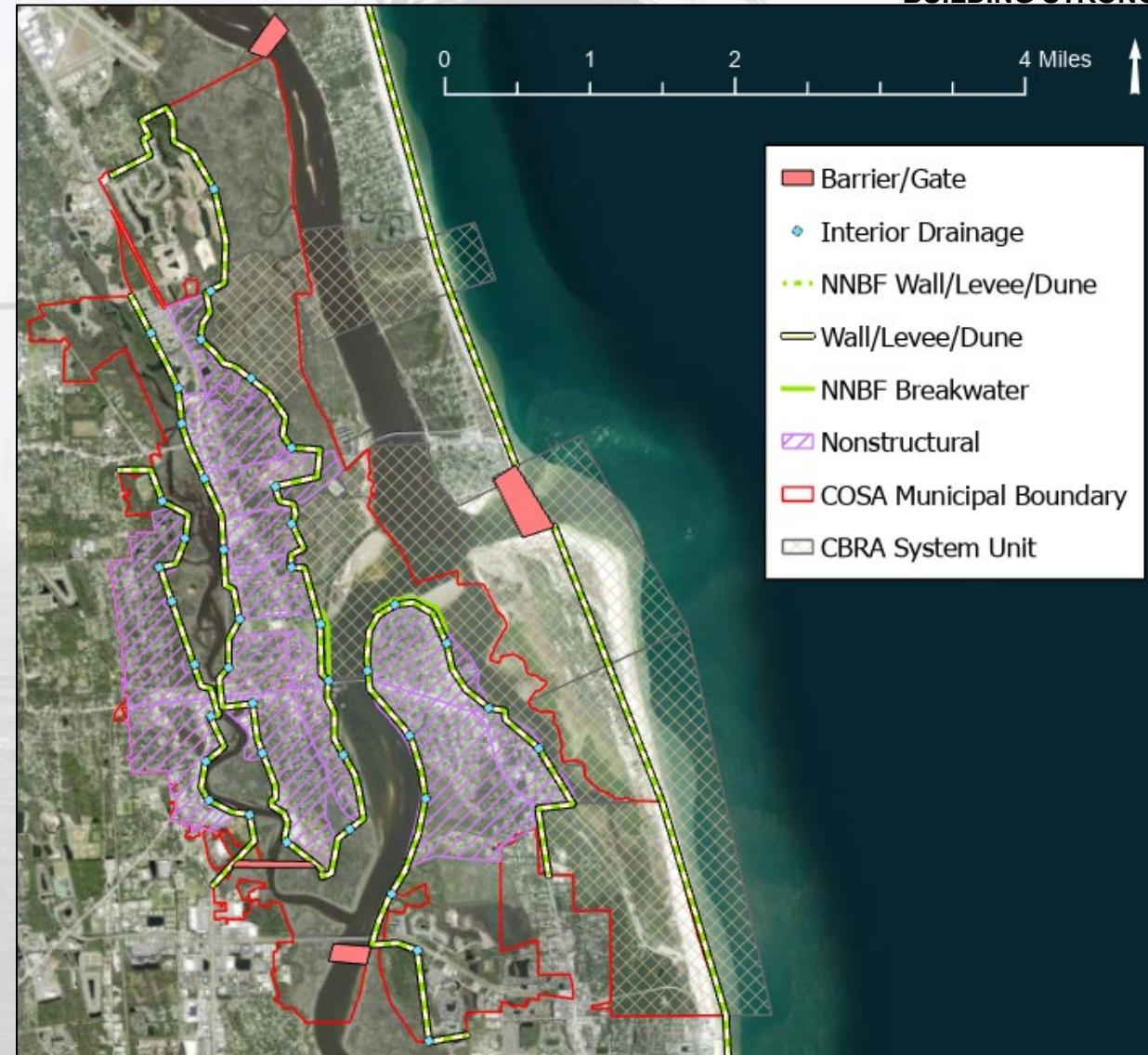
Interior Drainage features get flooding out of upland areas.

Nonstructural features reduce flood risk without directly effecting flooding processes.

Breakwaters/NNBFS can reduce wave energy before it gets to the back bay shoreline.

0. No Action

1. Wall/Levee with Interior Drainage Features & Breakwaters/NNBFS
2. Storm Surge Barrier at Inlet(s)/IWW with Wall/Levee/Dune tiebacks
3. San Sebastian River Flood Gate with Wall/Levee & Interior Drainage Features & Breakwaters/NNBFS
4. All Nonstructural
5. Wall/Levee with Interior Drainage Features & Breakwaters/NNBFS & Nonstructural
6. Storm Surge Barrier at Inlet(s)/IWW with Wall/Levee/Dune tiebacks & Nonstructural



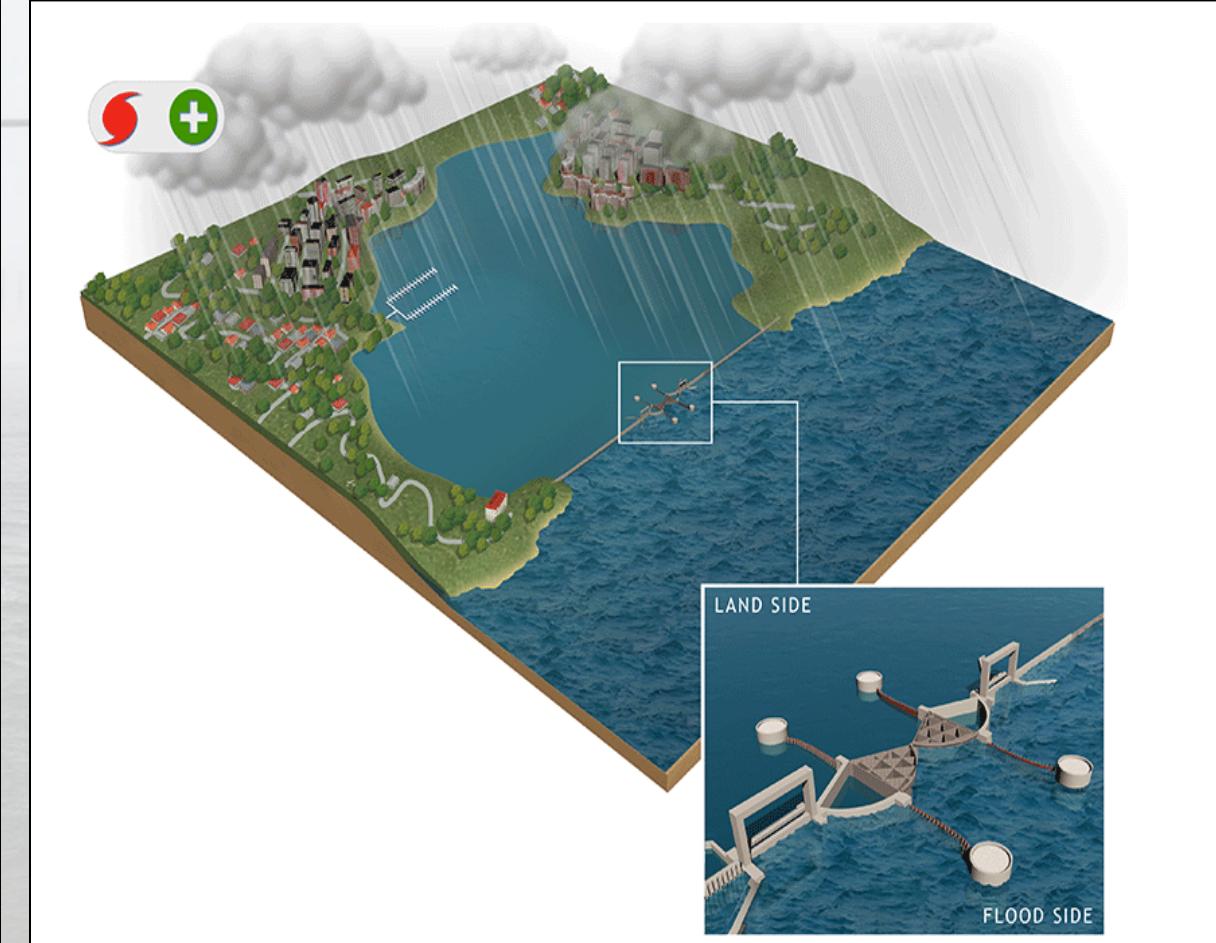
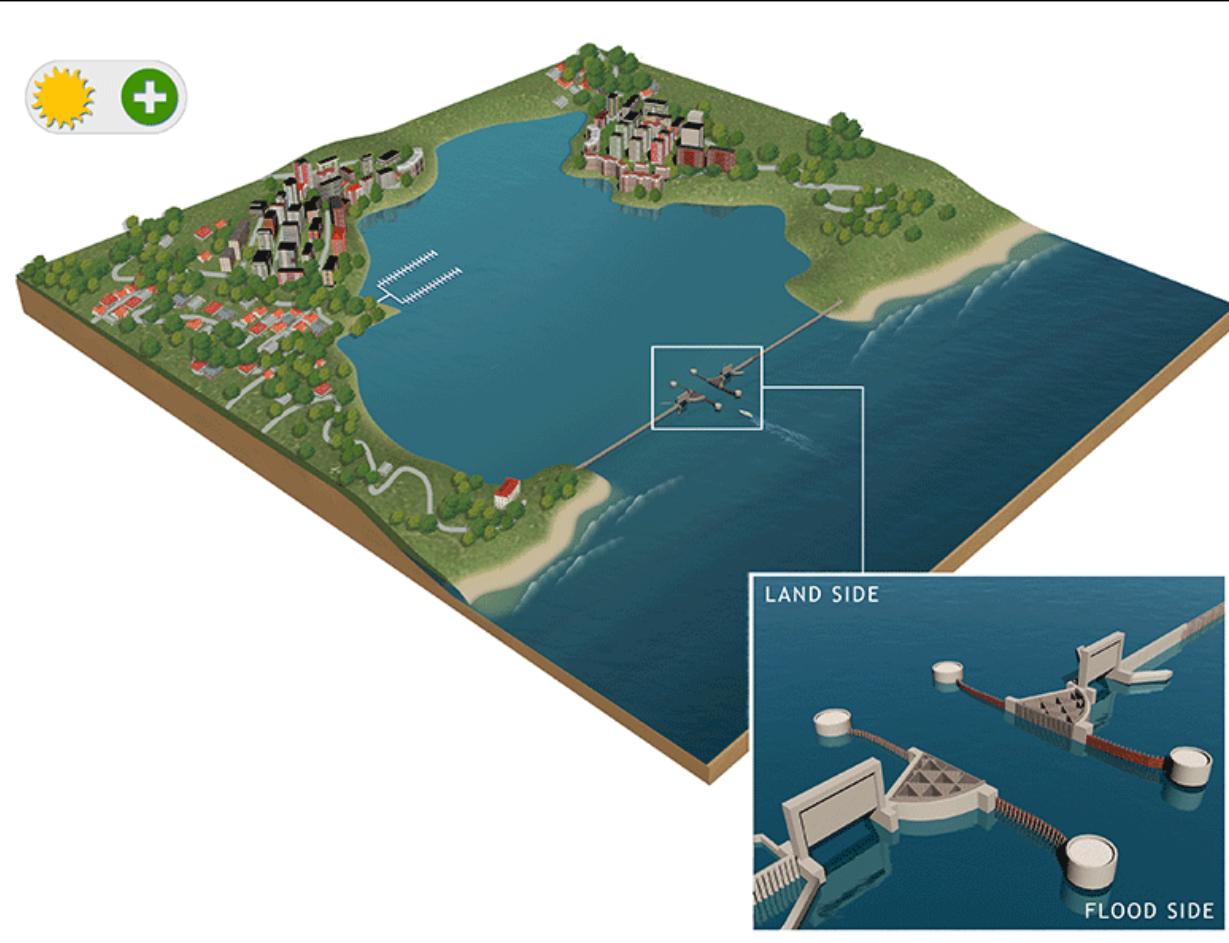


ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION



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Alternative Example: Storm Surge Barriers



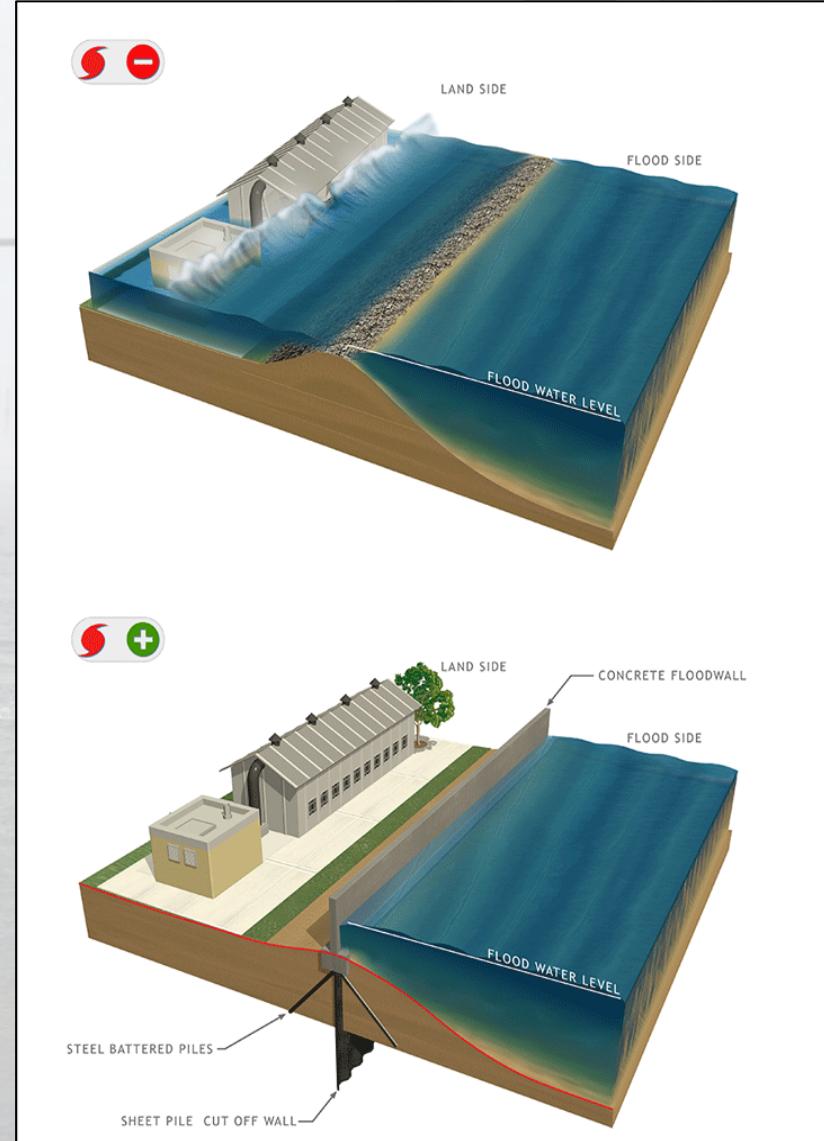
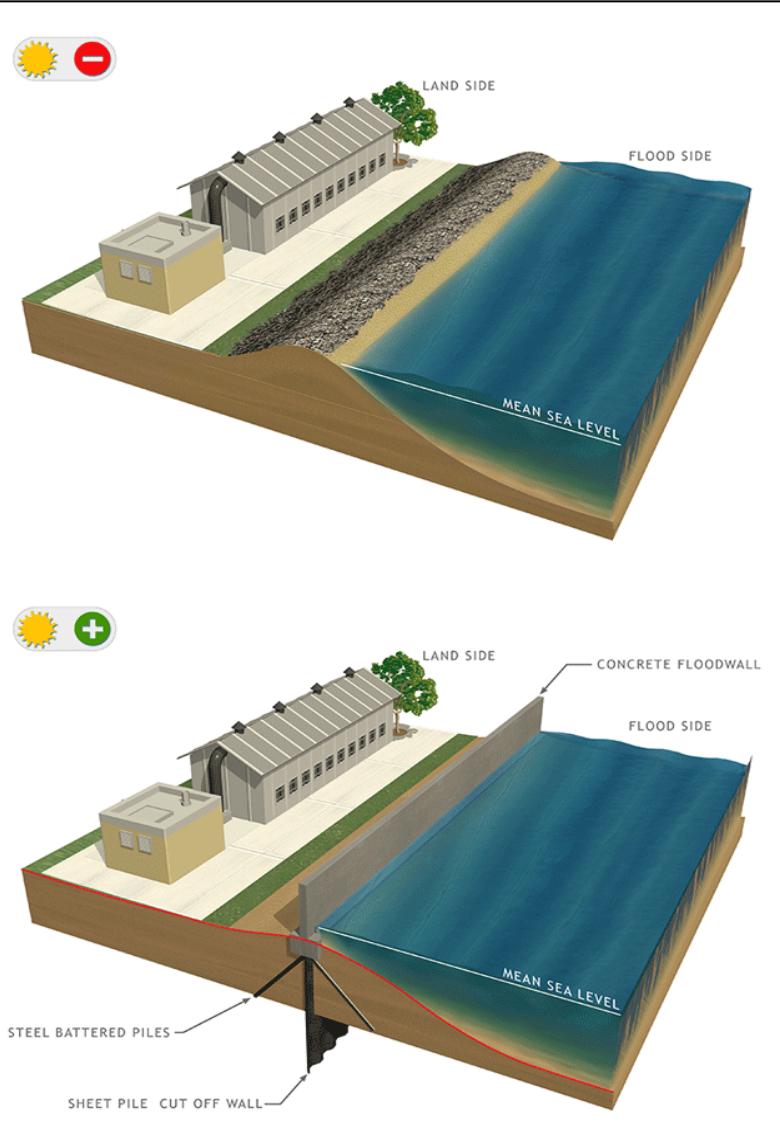


ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION



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Alternative Example: Floodwalls



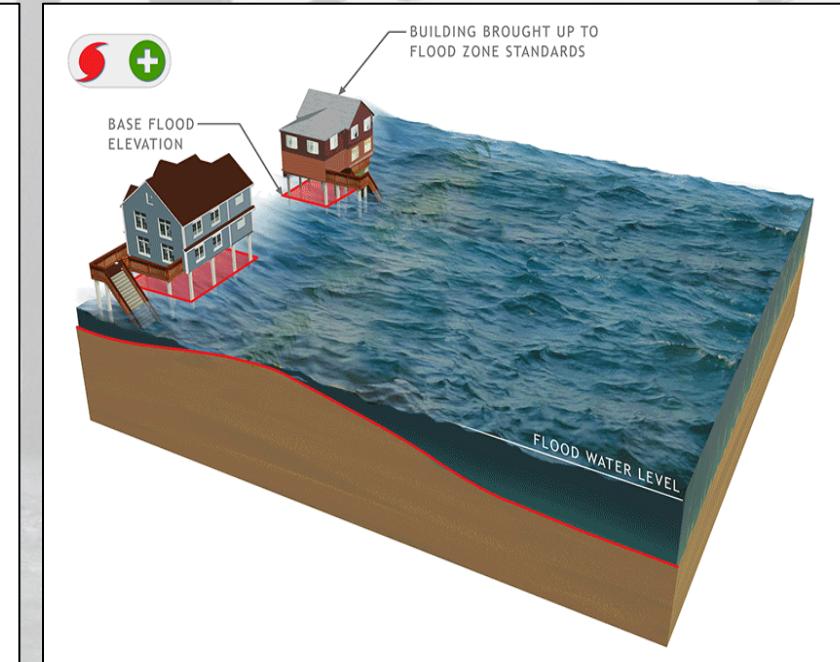
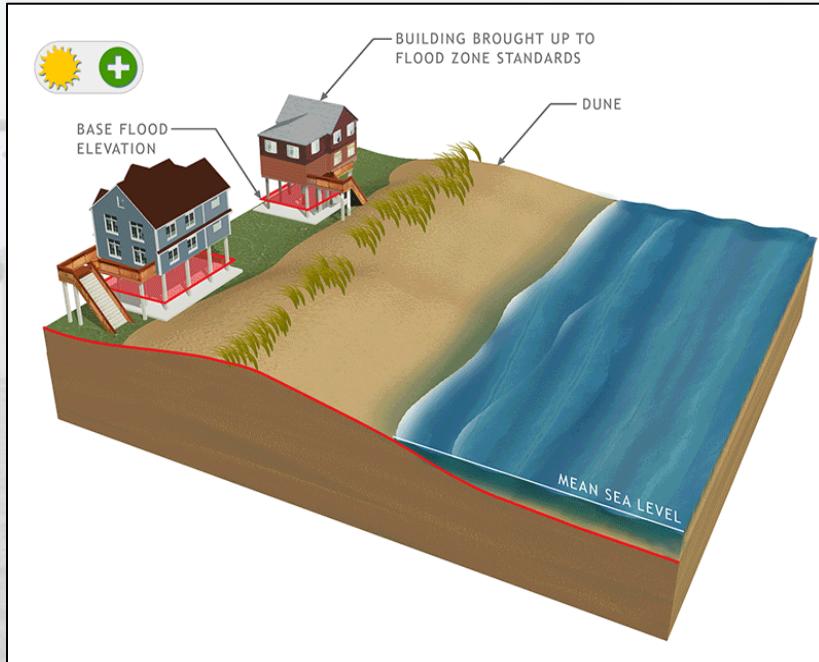
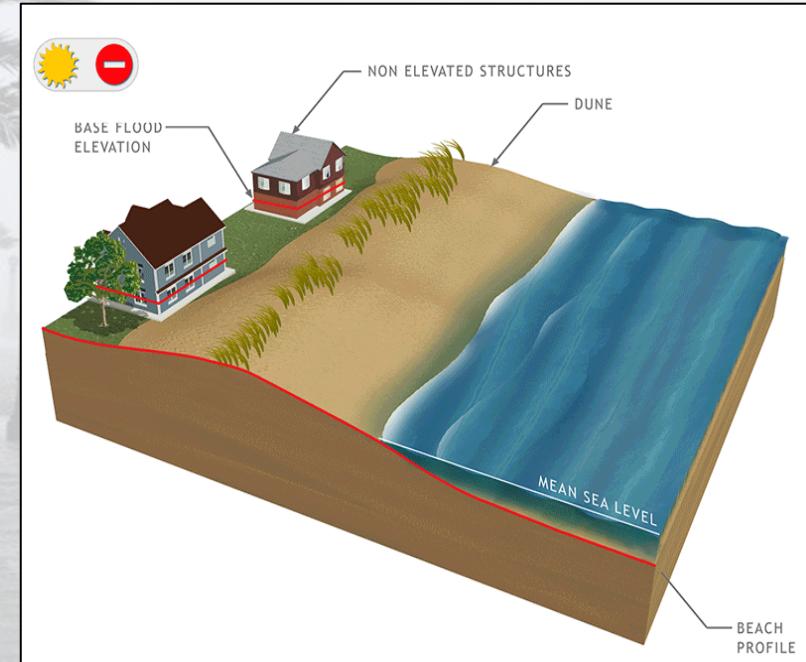


ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION



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Alternative Example: Non-Structural (Elevating Structures, Floodproofing, Ring Walls, Acquisition/Relocation)



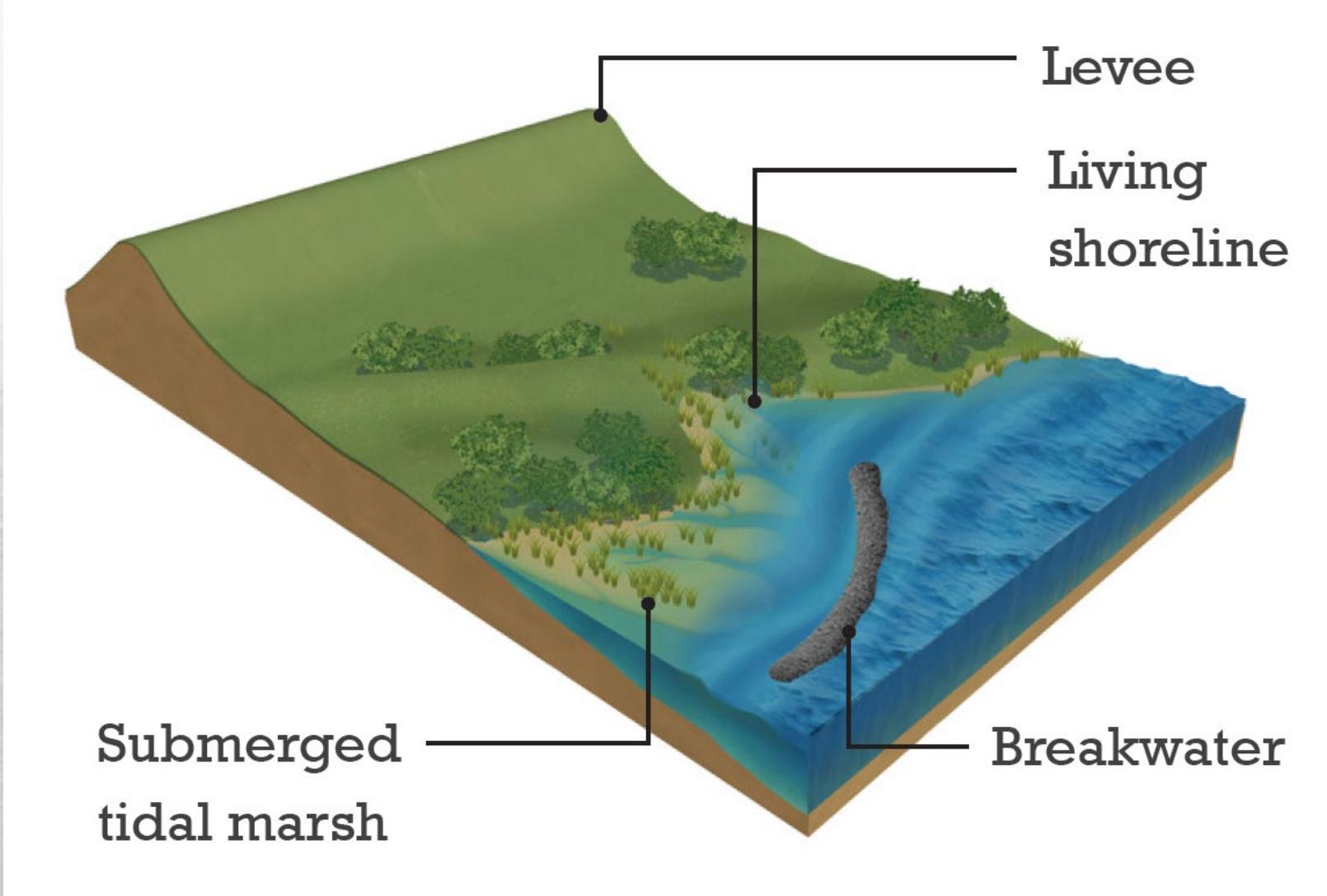


ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION



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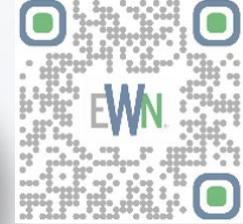
Alternative Example: Natural & Nature-Based Features





...the intentional alignment of natural and engineering processes to efficiently and sustainably deliver economic, environmental and social benefits through collaboration

- **2010:** Engineering With Nature® began
- **2016, 2018:** WRDA directs the USACE to consider NNBF during FRM, hurricane, and coastal flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration. Provides definitions of “natural” and “nature-based”
- **2019:** EWN Atlas Vol. 1 published
N-EWN established
- **2020:** Officially became USACE Program
USACE National Award-Green Innovation
EWN podcast began
- **2021:** Implementation Practice Leads established
EWN Cadre HUB established
EWN Atlas Vol. 2 published
International Guidelines on Natural and Nature-Based Features for Flood Risk Management published
- **2023:** USACE 70/30 for beneficial use of dredged sediment announcement





ENGAGE, PARTNER, TEAM

- Within USACE, e.g., EWN Proving Grounds
- With others inside and outside government

RESEARCH

- Innovations in practice
- Tools for delivery
- Taking the “long view”
- Establishing future targets and conditions

DEMONSTATE PROJECTS

- Across the spectrum of applications/missions
- From design and planning to operations and maintenance

COMMUNICATE

- Research papers
- Visionary, collaborative products
- Education, e.g. academic curricula, training





EWN PRACTICE LEADS/CADRE MEMBERSare a diverse team of experts throughout USACE that have developed and integrated natural and nature-based features who are working to share this information and help advance these practices within USACE.

Cadre support generally varies from simple sharing of information and ideas to more formal arrangements upon PDT requests, that can include :

- Working to provide real time project specific consultation, collaboration and technical support
- Serving as Subject Mater Experts working hand and hand with the PDTs to assist in scoping and integration of NNBF where appropriate.



PATH FORWARD

KEY SCHEDULE ACTIVITIES - LOOK AHEAD



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Key Activities	Finish Date
FCSA Executed	1/9/2023
AMM Milestone Meeting	5/1/2023
Initial Flood Driver Screening (Scope Decision Point)	5/17/2023
End of FY23	9/30/2023
G2CRM FWOP Production Runs	2/21/2024
Establish Initial Array of Alternatives	8/21/2024
End of FY24	9/30/2024
G2CRM FWP Initial Alternatives Production Runs & Post Processing	5/15/2025
Establish Final Array of Alternatives (Scope Decision Point)	6/4/2025
G2CRM FWP Final Alternatives Production Runs & Post Processing	9/22/2025
End of FY25	9/30/2025
Identify National Economic Development (NED) Plan	12/22/2025
Identify Comprehensive Benefits Plan/Locally Preferred Plan (LPP)	3/17/2026
Identify the TSP	5/18/2026
End of FY26	9/30/2026
Exceptions/Waivers Approved by Assistant Secretary to the Army (ASA)	11/20/2026
TSP Milestone Meeting	2/2/2027
Release Draft Report for Concurrent Reviews	4/2/2027
End of FY27	9/30/2027
ADM Meeting	11/3/2027
Final Report Submittal Package to HQ	5/22/2028
Chief's Report Signature	9/15/2028

Complete

Ongoing



DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC UPDATES/ACTIONS



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- **Planning Technical Lead:** Marty Durkin
- **Engineering Technical Lead:** Patrick Snyder
- **Economics Lead:** Vongmony Var
- **Environmental Lead:** Darren Pecora
- **Cultural Resources Lead:** Zuzana Chovanec
- **Real Estate Lead:** Chris Bukolt
- **Office of Counsel:** Katie Gwin
- **Landscape Architecture Lead:** Sabrina Collins



UPCOMING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



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Dates	Events
March 21 st , 2024	Monthly Webinar
April 18 th , 2024	Monthly Webinar (Canceled in lieu of In Person Workshop)
April 24 th , 2024 Starts at 6:00pm	In Person Public Workshop @ Willie Galimore Recreation Center – 399 Riberia St, St. Augustine, FL 32084
May 16 th , 2024	Monthly Webinar
June 20 th , 2024	Monthly Webinar

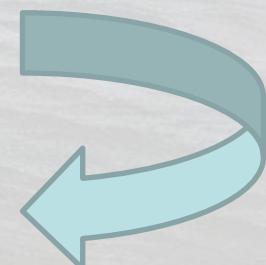


PUBLIC OUTREACH (STUDY WEBSITE)



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<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/06bb9c98d9184bd9a374a244f6d27474/>



Trusted Partners Delivering Value Today for a Better Tomorrow



PUBLIC OUTREACH



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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

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Join USACE Jacksonville and the City of St. Augustine Thursday, Sept. 21, from 1-2:30 p.m. for the monthly St. Augustine Back Bay Study planning meeting. Join online at <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/jason.s.harrah> or dial in at 1-844-800-2712; enter access code 199 927 9909 when prompted. @CityStAug

St. Augustine, Florida, Back Bay CSRM Feasibility Study Monthly Planning Webinar Sept. 21, 2023, 1-2:30 p.m.

Presented by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
and the City of St. Augustine

[Join online](#)

<https://usace1.webex.com/meet/jason.s.harrah>

[Call in](#)

Dial **1-844-800-2712**

Enter access code **199 927 9909**





PUBLIC OUTREACH (SPONSOR SITES)



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[Submit Public Comment](#)

US Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville
District: St. Augustine Florida Back Bay
Feasibility Study

Scoping Meeting and Comment Period
Notice Letter for USACE St. Augustine
Back Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management
(CSRM) Feasibility Study (PDF)

[Home](#) > [Government](#) > [Resiliency](#) > [Planning/Studies](#) > Back Bay Feasibility Study with the Army Corps of Engineers

Back Bay Feasibility Study with the Army Corps of Engineers

The objectives of the study include (1) reduce flooding caused by coastal storms, extreme high tides, and future projected sea level rise in the study area; (2) explore opportunities to increase community resiliency from future coastal storms. Issues that are anticipated include concern for aesthetics, cultural resources, recreation, socioeconomics, environmental justice, wetlands, fish and wildlife resources, threatened and endangered species, and water quality. CSRM measures to be evaluated may include a combination of structural (i.e., tidal gates, seawalls, revetments, levees, drainage improvements, building elevation, etc.), non-structural (i.e., relocation, buyouts, etc.), and natural and nature-based features (i.e., living shorelines, vegetated features, oyster reefs, and maritime forests). Public Comments will be accepted throughout the life of the study.

Back Bay Signing Ceremony January 9th, 2023



[Submit Public Comment](#)



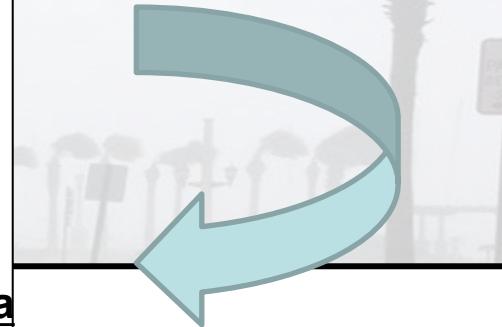
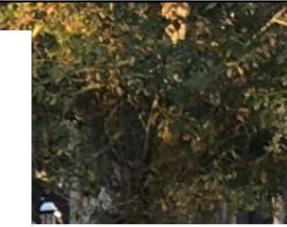
Email: BackBay@citystaug.com



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®
Jacksonville District

[Jacksonville District Website](#)

[Monthly Project Delivery Team \(PDT\) Meetings](#)



Social Media

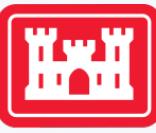
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<https://twitter.com/citystaug>



CLOSING REMARKS/QUESTIONS



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- **Sponsor Remarks**
- **Federal Agency Questions/Comments**
- **State Agency Questions/Comments**
- **Local Agency Questions/Comments**
- **Public Comments**