

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

**MONTHLY PROGRESS MEETING  
MARCH 2025**

**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 Resilience Officer (City of St. Augustine)





# AGENDA



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- Opening Remarks
- Study Overview, Schedule, & Budget
- Study Analysis To Date
- Schedule Updates (90-Day Window)
- Discipline Specific Study Updates
- Upcoming Public Engagements
- Sponsor Remarks
- Agency Questions/Comments
- Public Comments
- Closing Remarks



**Study Area**  
**COSA**  
**Municipal Boundary**

## 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](mailto: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.



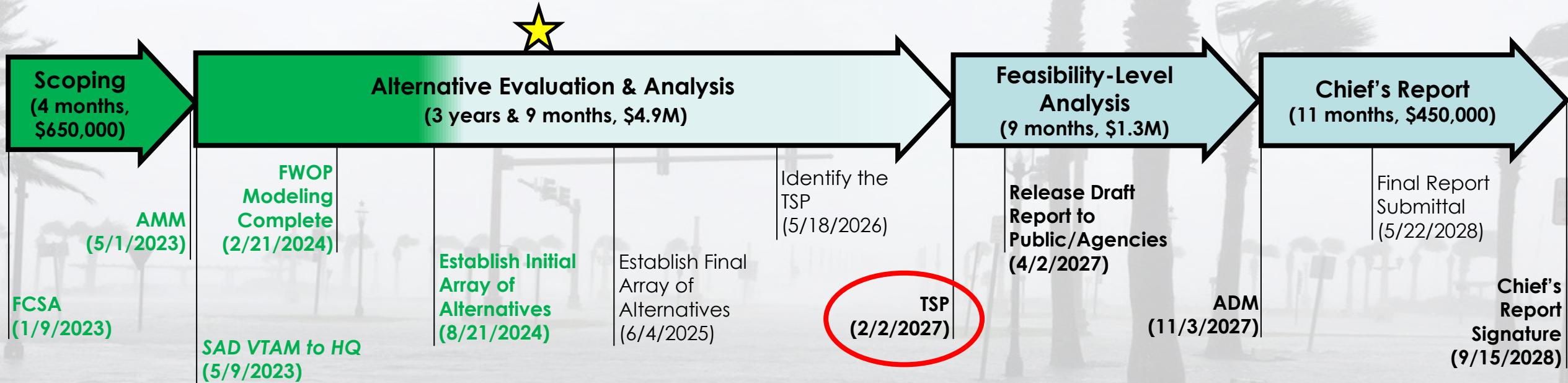
# STUDY OVERVIEW

★ We Are Here



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



## **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**

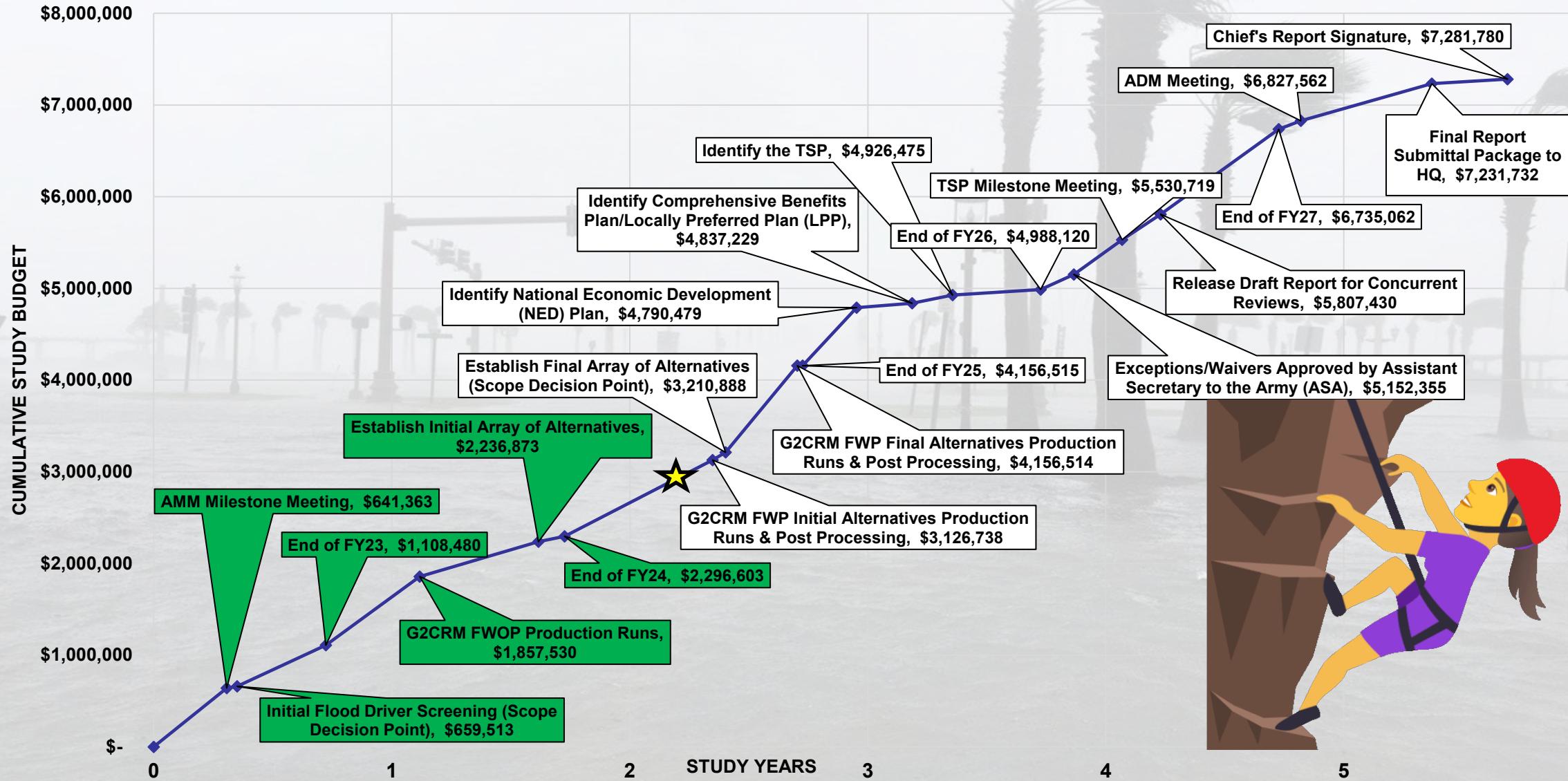
- FCSA = Feasibility Cost Share Agreement
- AMM = Alternatives Milestone Meeting
- FWOP = Future Without Project
- SAD = South Atlantic Division
- VTAM = Vertical Team Alignment Memo
- HQ = Headquarters
- TSP = Tentatively Selected Plan
- ADM = Agency Decision Milestone



# STUDY SCHEDULE & BUDGET



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# RECAP OF STUDY ANALYSIS TO DATE



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U.S.ARMY

## 6-Step Planning Process

Completed      Ongoing      Next Step

1 IDENTIFY PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

2 INVENTORY AND FORECAST CONDITIONS

3 FORMULATE ALTERNATIVE PLANS

4 EVALUATE ALTERNATIVE PLANS

5 COMPARE ALTERNATIVE PLANS

6 SELECT RECOMMENDED PLAN

Evaluation of initial alternative features is ongoing...

- ▶ Walls & Levees
- ▶ Surge Barrier Systems
- ▶ Nonstructural Measures
- ▶ Nature Based Solutions

Established Study Objectives & Benefits Metrics  
Compound Flooding Driver Analysis.

Data collection and analysis associated with the key resources throughout the COSA.

Modeling and analysis to forecast future without project conditions. By 2085 under the USACE intermediate sea level change, on average, the COSA could see...

- ▶ Over \$4 Billion (present value) in Damage to Structures, Content, & Vehicles.
- ▶ Potential Life Loss.
- ▶ Over 1,000 Residential Displacements.
- ▶ 80 Nuisance Flood Days Per Year.
- ▶ Over 180 Instances of Damage to Critical Infrastructure.
- ▶ Over 600 Acres of Saltwater Marsh Lost.
- ▶ Affects to 3,700 Historical Structures.
- ▶ Over \$400 Million in Lost Tourism Expenditures.



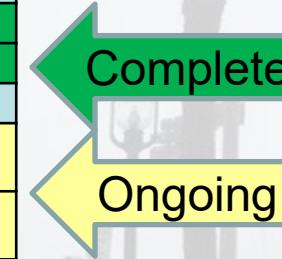
# PATH FORWARD

## 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
<b>End of FY23</b>	9/30/2023
G2CRM FWOP Production Runs	2/21/2024
Establish Initial Array of Alternatives	8/21/2024
<b>End of FY24</b>	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
<b>End of FY25</b>	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
<b>End of FY26</b>	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
<b>End of FY27</b>	9/30/2027
ADM Meeting	11/3/2027
Final Report Submittal Package to HQ	5/22/2028
Chief's Report Signature	9/15/2028



### Key Sub Tasks...

- ▶ Construction Cost Estimates
- ▶ Benefit Comparison
- ▶ With Project Flooding Analysis



# DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC UPDATES/ACTIONS



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



# UPCOMING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



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Dates	Events
March 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar
April 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar
April 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025 @ 9:00am	Environmental Subteam Meeting
May 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar
June 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar

\*Next in person public workshop meeting is planned for October/November 2025 timeframe\*



# PUBLIC OUTREACH (STUDY WEBSITE)



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

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# 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)

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**

[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

Submit Public Comment

**Submit Public Comment**

Email: [BackBay@citystaug.com](mailto:BackBay@citystaug.com)

**US Army Corps of Engineers** ®  
Jacksonville District  
[Jacksonville District Website](#)

**Monthly Project Delivery Team (PDT) Meetings**

**Social Media**

<https://www.instagram.com/citystaug/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/citystaug>  
<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**