

**DCM**  
Division of  
Coastal Management



# CRC Inlet Management Strategy Development

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## **S.L. 2012-202: Cape Fear AEC**

- CRC directed to study feasibility of creating a new AEC for the Cape Fear River region.
- DCM worked with the Town of Caswell Beach, the Village of Bald Head Island, and stakeholders.
  - Regulatory concerns and proposed strategies.
- Rather than establish a new AEC for the Cape Fear River region, the CRC decided to undertake a comprehensive review of inlet-related issues.



## Related Initiatives

- S.L. 2012-202: Inlet Hazard Areas
  - Determine feasibility of eliminating IHA AEC and incorporating appropriate development standards adjacent to developed inlets.
  - Past and present Science Panel work.
- S.L. 2013-138: Ensure Safe Navigation Channels
  - Permit mechanisms to streamline inlet dredging projects.
- S.L. 2013-413: Regulatory Reform Act of 2013
  - Re-evaluate the merits of all existing rules.



## **CRC Inlet Management Study**

- **Cape Fear River AEC Recommendation**

These efforts will be combined into a single, comprehensive inlet management study, to ensure a solutions-oriented approach that provides appropriate remedies with respect to proposed development, dredging activities, beach fill, beneficial use of dredged material, and the use of engineered structures, through close collaboration with local governments.



## Potential Topics

- 1) Beneficial use of dredged materials (beach placement)
- 2) Dredging windows / moratoria
- 3) Dredging depths and sediment criteria rules
- 4) Channel realignment projects
- 5) Development standards / erosion setbacks / local vs. state authorities
- 6) Volumetric triggers for beachfront “static lines”
- 7) Emergency permitting: beach bulldozing & sandbags
- 8) Terminal groins and sand bypassing
- 9) Erosion rate calculations for Inlet Hazard Areas
- 10) Monitoring conditions associated with projects



## Public Meetings

- Four regional meetings
  - Buxton, Beaufort, Wilmington, Ocean Isle
- Goals:
  - Ensure stakeholder input.
  - Elicit range of management options and regulatory reforms related to inlet management.
  - Build on initial Cape Fear River AEC Study recommendations.





# Public Meetings

- Meeting Format
  - Staff presentation on existing regulatory framework including dredging, beach nourishment, specific issues.
  - Local gov'ts and other entities present their specific concerns with inlets in their jurisdiction.
  - Public comments.
  - Written comments accepted through April 15, 2014
  - Summaries: preliminary findings & recommendations



## **CRC Study Schedule / Milestones**

- April 30, 2014: Four regional meetings completed.
- May 15, 2014: Summary of regional meetings, findings, and prelim. recommendations to CRC.
- June 30, 2014: Legislative status report.
- July 31, 2014: Final draft findings and recommendations to CRC.
- September 30, 2014: Submit proposed rulemaking changes for public comment.
- December 31, 2014: Submit report findings to Governor and Legislature.





# Public Meetings

- Regional Inlet Management Meeting Locations

**March 6, 2016 4:00 PM**

Fessenden Center  
46830 Hwy 12  
Buxton NC 27920

**March 26, 2014 6:00 PM**

Ocean Isle Beach Town Hall  
3 West Third Street  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469

**March 12, 2014 6:00 PM**

NOAA/NERR Administration Bldg  
101 Pivers Island Road  
Beaufort, N.C. 28516

**April 2, 2014 6:00 PM**

New Hanover County Gov't Center  
30 Government Center Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28403