

# Expanding Benefits Associated with Navigation Infrastructure

U. S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center

Ty V. Wamsley  
Coastal & Hydraulics Laboratory

Joseph Kreitenger,  
Environmental Laboratory



US Army Corps of Engineers  
**BUILDING STRONG®**



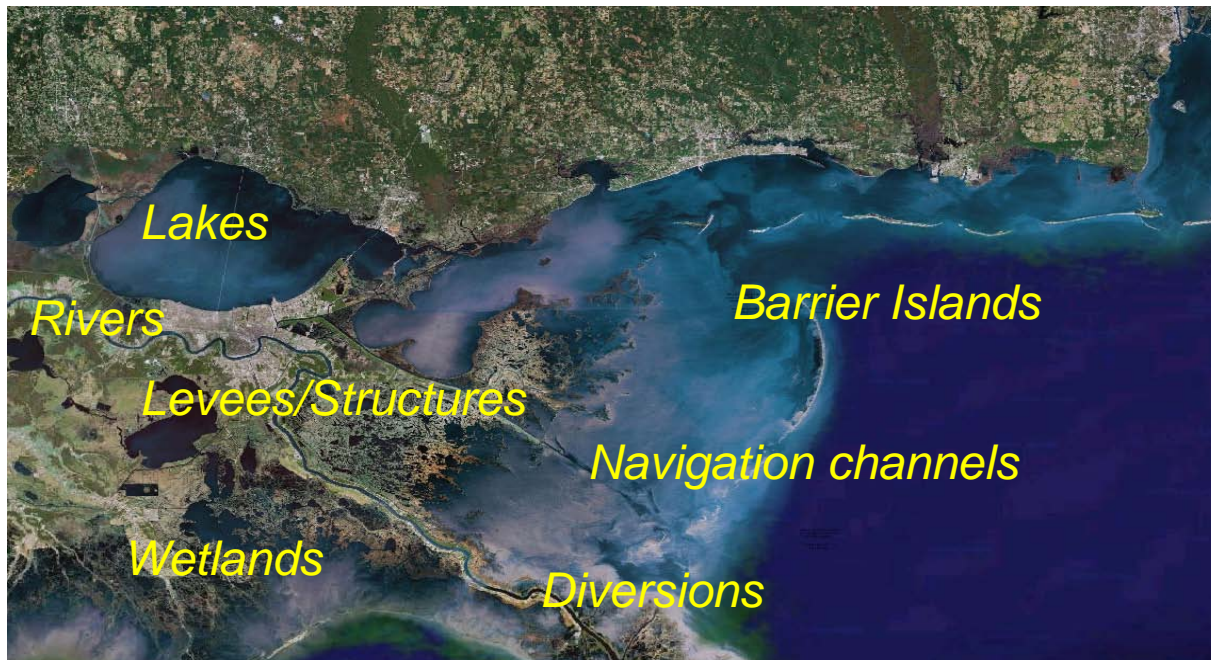


# Systems Approach



Systems-based Analysis requires consideration of:

- Large Spatial Scales
- Long Temporal Scales
- Engineered System ↔ Natural System (WwN)
- All mission areas and project types





# Corps Mission Areas



**Navigation**

**Storm Damage  
Reduction**

**Ecosystem  
Restoration**





# Systems Approach

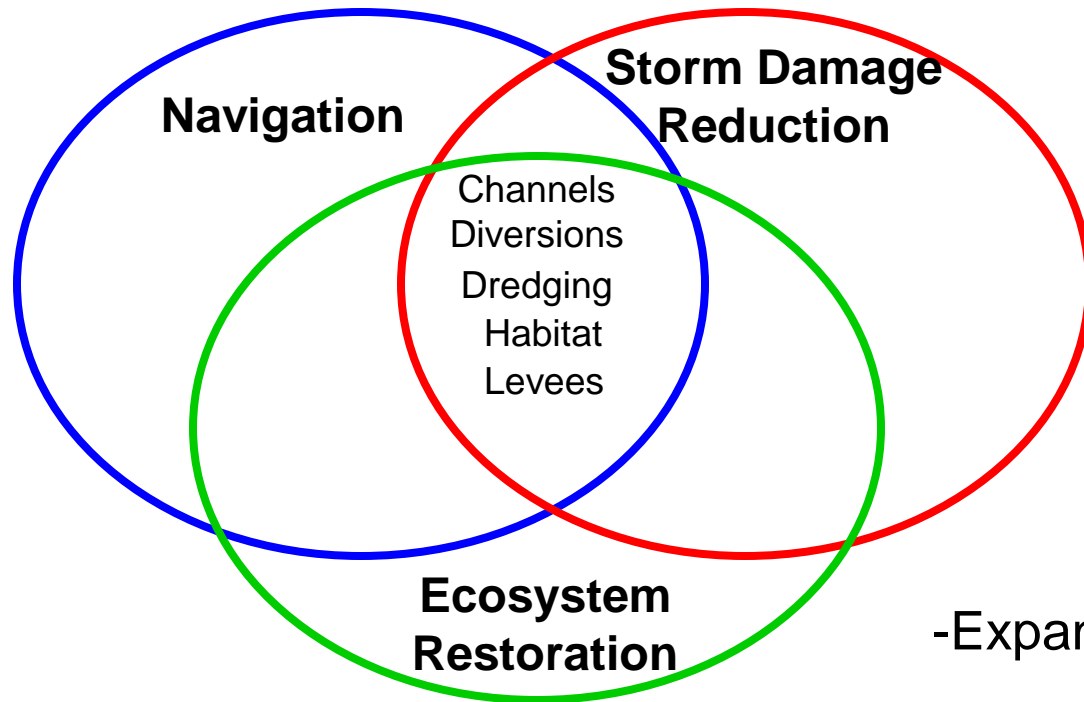


**Ex: Dredging a navigation channel:**

- 1. Improves navigation**
- 2. Channel traps longshore transport**
- 3. May impact water quality (salinity intrusion) and modifies habitat**
- 4. If side cast (“least cost” alternative) , sediment may end up back in navigation channel.**
- 5. If disposed of offshore (“least cost” alternative), permanently removes sediment from system**
- 6. Reduced sediment supply leads to barrier island degradation, which reduces storm protection and results in loss of habitat**



# Systems Approach



**Corps  
Mission  
Areas**

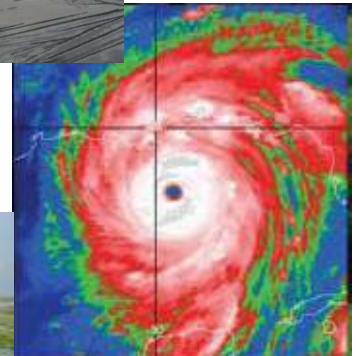
- Expanded Benefits
- Technical Issues
- Policy and Funding Issues



# Expanded Benefits



- Shoreline protection
- Storm damage reduction
- Habitat creation/restoration
- Water/sediment quality
- Recreation



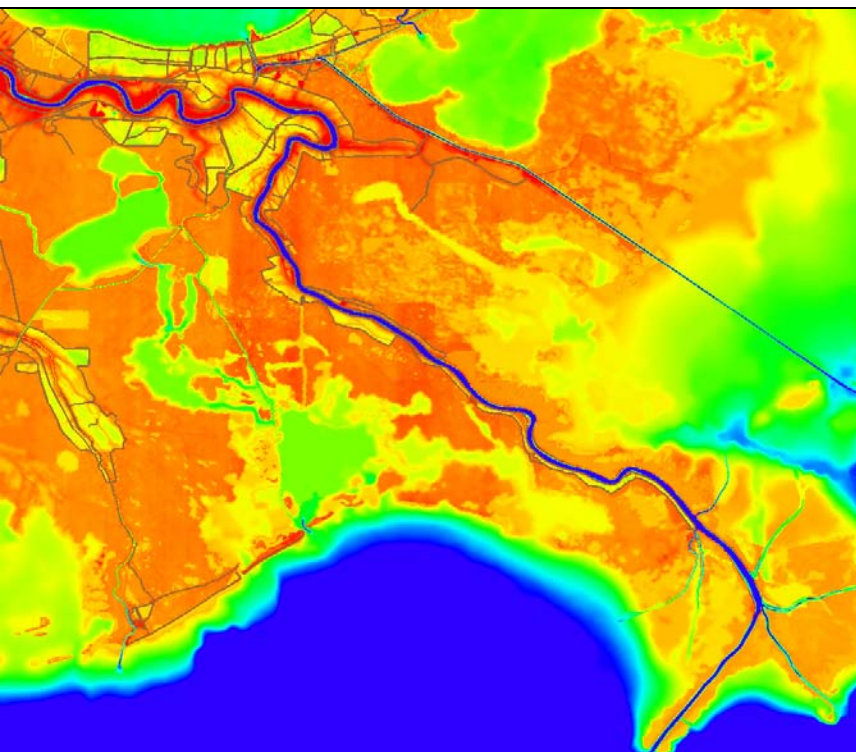




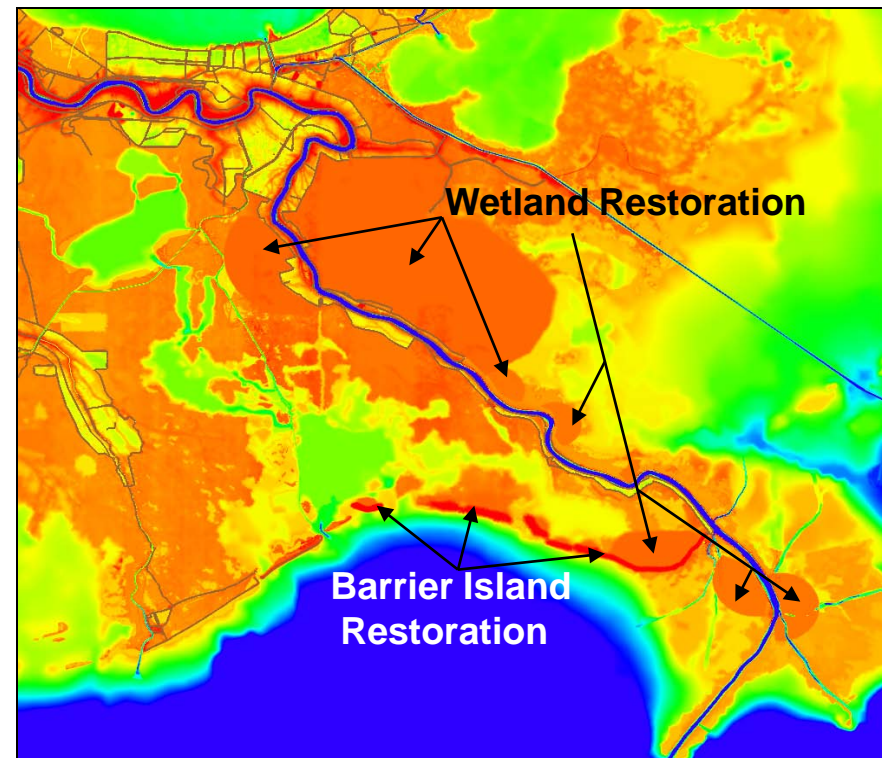
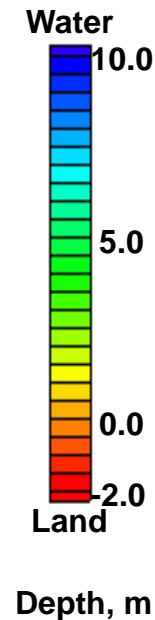
# Science and Engineering Support



- Modeling
  - ADCIRC + STWAVE (storm surge and waves)
  - CH3D + SEDZLJ + ICM (water quality, sediments)
  - ADH



**Base Condition**



**Restored Condition**



# Science and Engineering Support

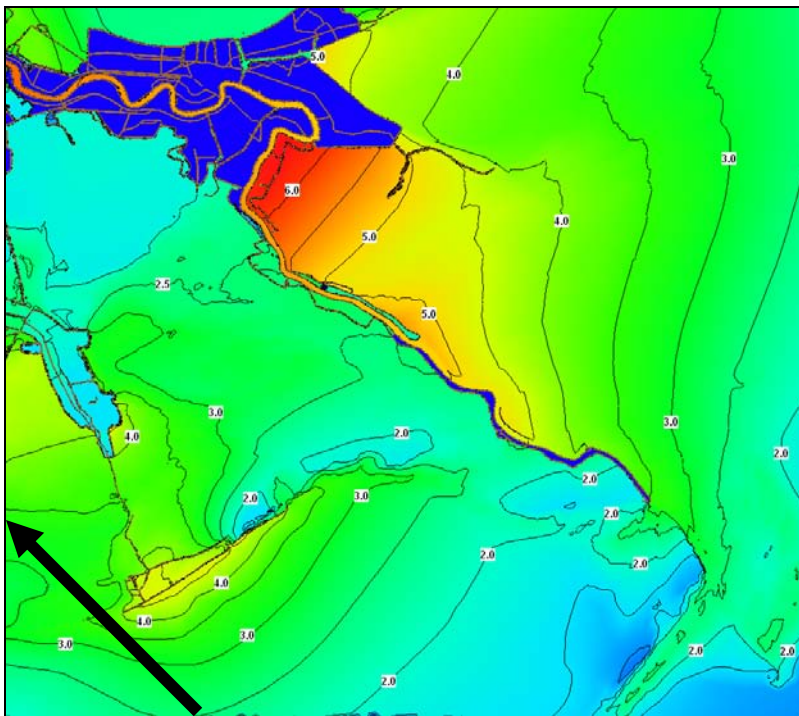


Storm:  $C_p = 900$  mb

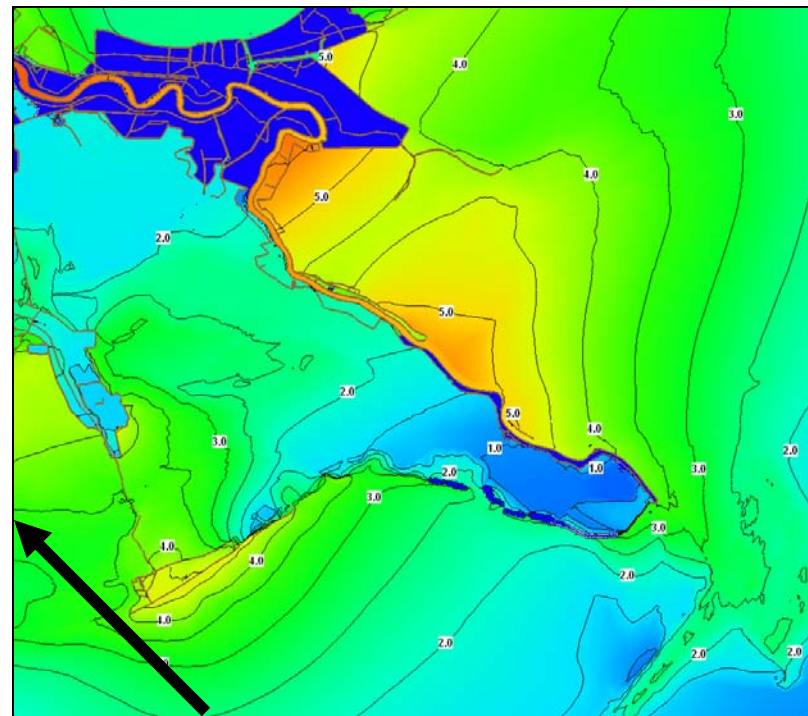
$R_m = 17.7$  nm

$V_f = 11$  knots

Water  
Level (m)



Base Condition



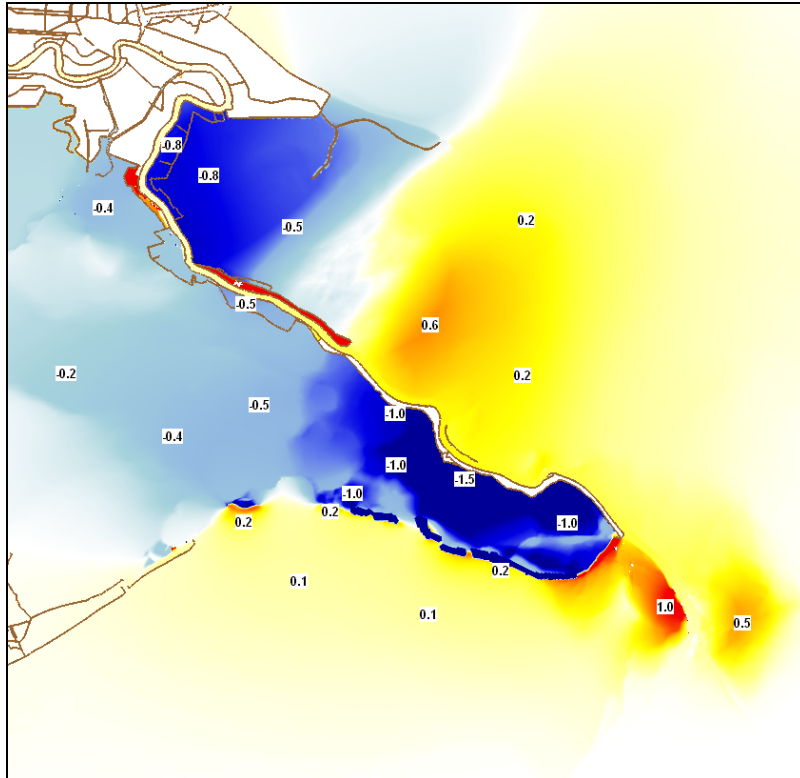
Restored Condition

Peak Surge



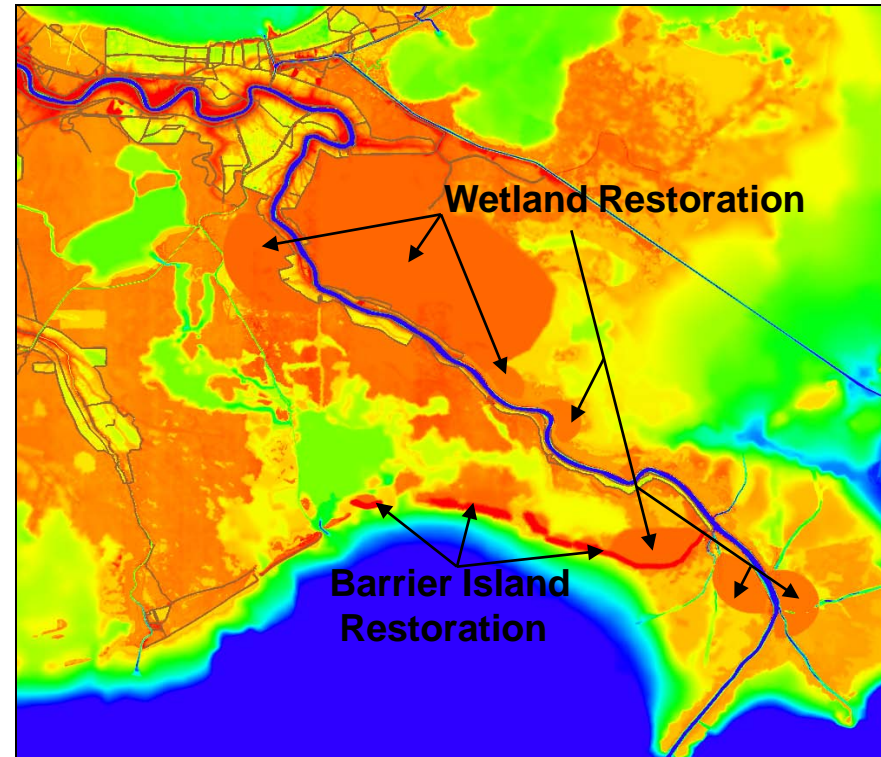


# Science and Engineering Support



**Peak Surge: Restored - Base**

**Restored Condition**



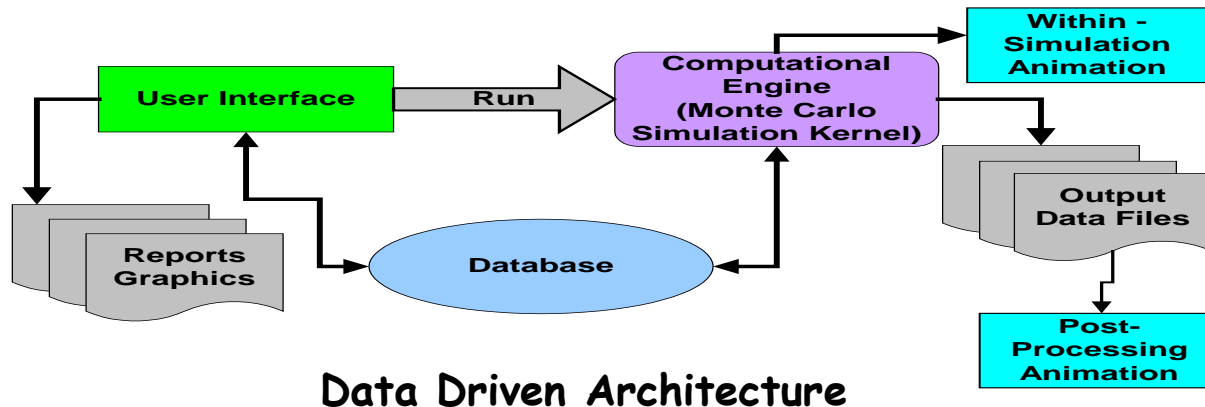
**Note: Does not include morphologic evolution**



# Science and Engineering Support



- Life-Cycle Modeling for Quantifying Benefits
  - Beach-fx – Framework for Beach Nourishment Projects
    - **Event-Driven Monte Carlo Simulation Model**
      - Meteorologic / Coastal Process (long-term, background and short-term storm response) / Economics
      - Management Measures (Planned / Emergency)
    - **Probabilistic Storm Sequence Generation**
    - **Determine Coastal Morphology Response**
    - **Calculate Damages**
      - Erosion / Wave / Flooding / Land Loss

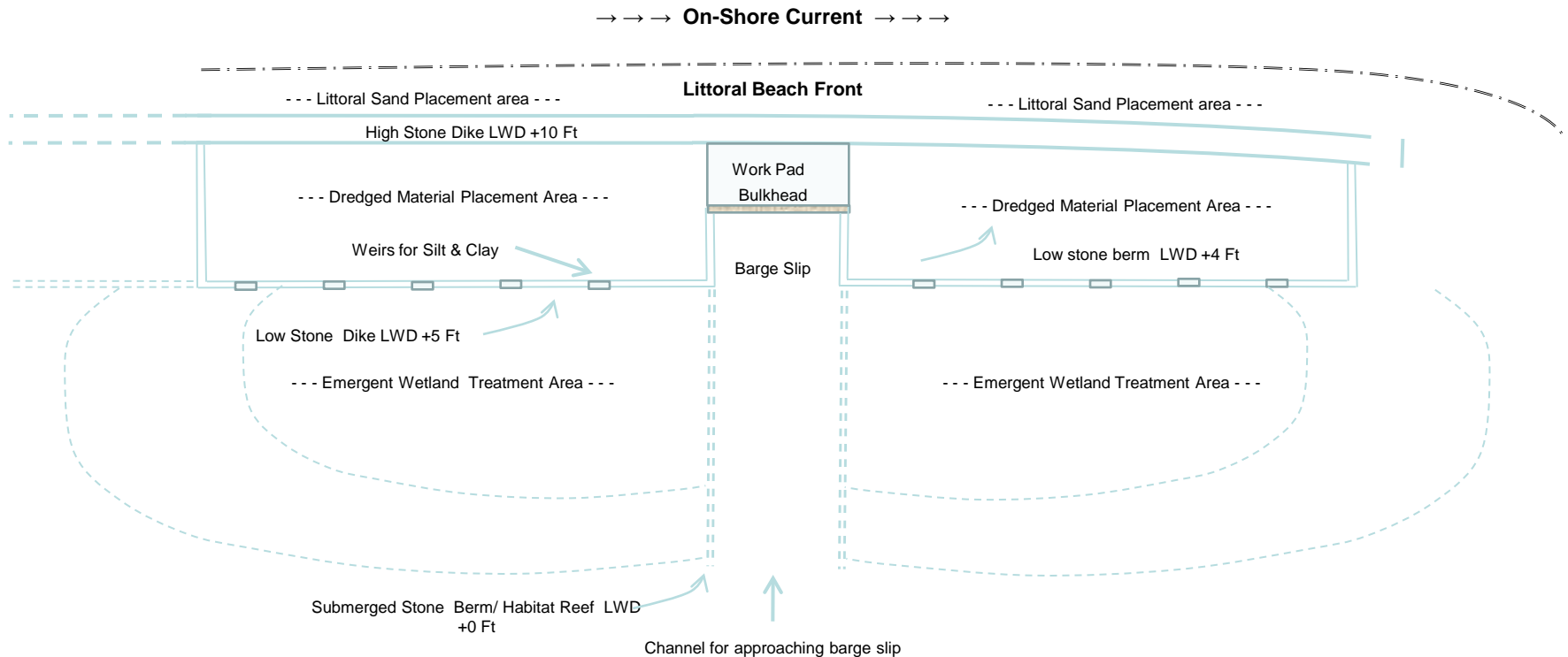




# Science and Engineering Support



- Innovative techniques / operations
  - Integration of dredged material management with storm protection, and habitat creation as an alternative to CDFs and Open Lake Placement: Engineered wetland breakwater



Benefits: treatment and remediation of toxicity in sediment, flood and erosion protection, wetland habitat creation



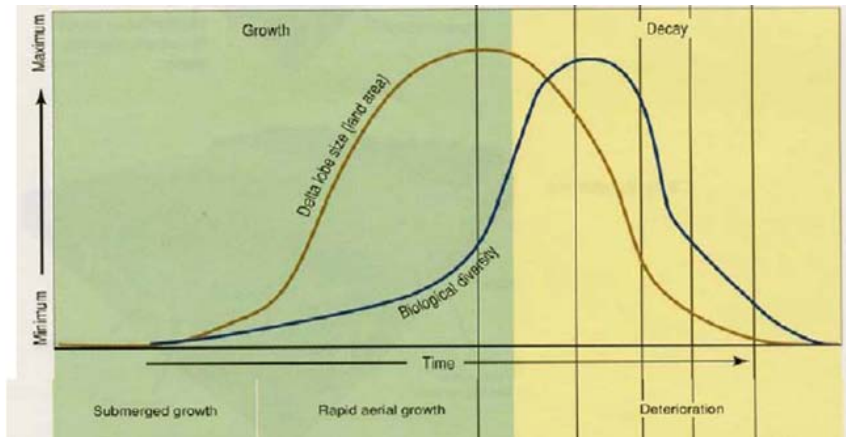


# Science and Engineering Support



- Innovative techniques / operations
  - Continuous sediment removal to simulate effect of river diversion or to better accomplish beneficial use and accomplish dredging mission

## Diversion Conundrum



Adapted from Gagliano and Van Beck (1975)

**Existing diversion in Louisiana has not build land yet**

**AND**

**Increased shoaling in the navigation channel**





# Science and Engineering Support



- Innovative techniques / operations: Fixed or mobile bypass plant
  - If a river shoal is a renewable source, fixed bypassing plants similar to those applied at coastal inlets could be employed on rivers.
  - Nerang - ~650K cu yd bypassed annually at ~\$1 /yd

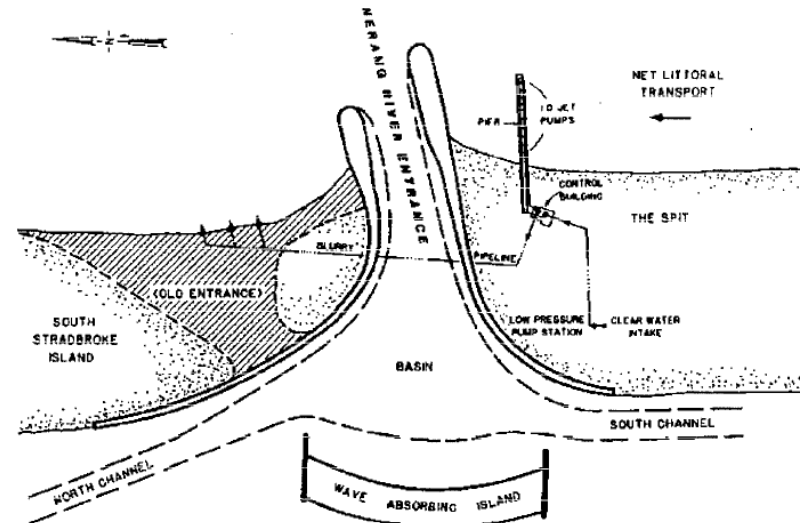
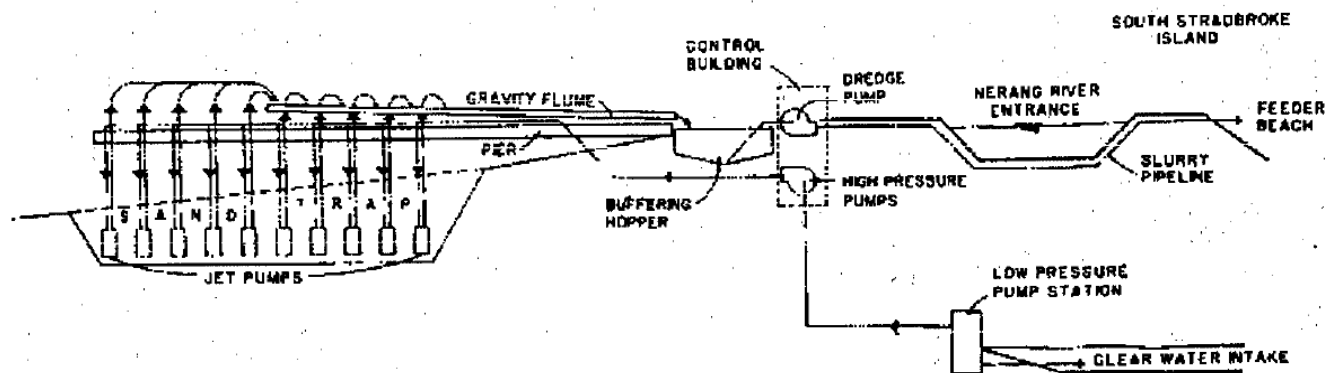


Figure 1. Nerang River Entrance Bypassing System





# Science and Engineering Support



- Innovative techniques / operations: Bedload Capture
  - Streamside Systems manufactures bedload sediment removal systems for streams and small rivers.
  - Bedload is pumped to the surface as a slurry.
  - System can be linked to real-time gauges for optimal operation
  - A similar device could possibly be developed for application on larger rivers.





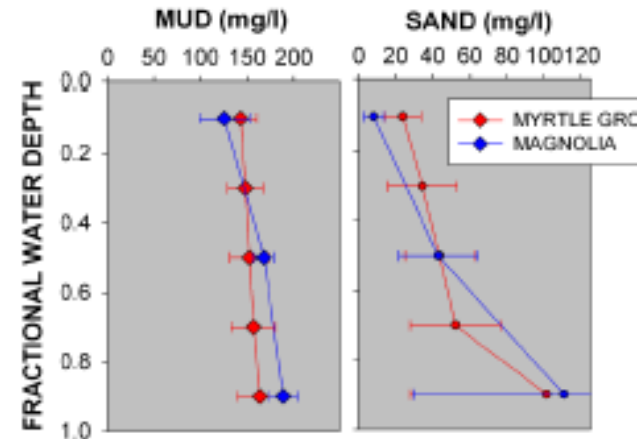


# Science and Engineering Support



- Innovative techniques / operations: Siphon from depth

- Similar to a traditional siphon, but one that pulls sediment from deeper in the water column where the greatest amounts of both sand and fines reside.



- Could be combined with an outfall management plan that facilitates settling of fines



- Could be combined with a sediment “concentrator” device such as a series of hydrocyclones and centrifuges





# Science and Engineering Support



- Innovative techniques / operations: Hydrocyclone plant
  - Hydrocyclone plant to concentrate suspended sediments siphoned or pumped from the river at depth.
  - Concentrated sediment pumped to placement location.
  - “Clear” water returned to the river.
  - System could be constructed on barge to allow mobility along the river, maximizing sediment capture (in high sediment concentration zones) and minimizing pumping distances to disposal location

