

Peer Review Plan
Edisto Island Storm Damage Reduction Project
Charleston and Colleton Counties

US Army Corps of Engineers
Charleston District

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District has prepared this Peer Review Plan in accordance with the guidance provided in paragraphs 6.a. through j. of Engineering Circular 1105-2-408.

A. *The Edisto Island Storm Damage Reduction – Feasibility Study* shall be the decision document. The primary purpose of the feasibility study is to analyze and develop a recommendation that will provide for reduction of hurricane and storm damages to the beachfront structures located within the Town of Edisto Beach. A variety of alternatives will be examined during the feasibility study that would sustain a wider beach profile through this reach of the study area. Additionally, environmental restoration and protection opportunities exist through the entire study area, primarily for protection of the habitat that exists at Edisto Beach State Park and to provide more stable turtle nesting habitat along the entire Edisto Island shoreline. These opportunities will be capitalized on when practicable. The study involves plan formulation, engineering analysis, environmental and cultural considerations, economic analysis, and preparation of a real estate plan.

Key PDT members are shown in the table below.

<u>ROLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORG</u>
Project Manager	Pat O'Donnell	SAC-PM-M
Program Manager	Lisa Metheney	SAC-PM-P
Cost Engineer	Jimmy Henderson	SAW-TS-EE
Design Engineer	Vernard Cleveland	SAW-TS-ED
Geotechnical Engineer	Ben Lackey	SAW-TS-EG
Geotechnical Engineer	Tom Child	SAW-TS-EG
Coastal Engineer	Brian Williams	SAW-TS-EC
Construction	Kevin Widner	SAC-TS-CL
Economics	George Ebai	SAW-TS-PS
Environmental	Shawn Boone	SAW-TS-PE
Plan Formulation	Ted Hauser	SAW-TS-PS
Contracting	Henry Wigfall	SAS-CT-PC
Real Estate	Kevin Ambrose	SAS-RE-RP

For more information regarding the PRP, the project manager for the feasibility study or the peer review manager may be contacted. The project manager for the feasibility study is:

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B. *The Edisto Island Storm Damage Reduction – Feasibility Study*, when completed, will be the fourth coastal storm damage reduction feasibility study completed along the coast of South Carolina. Previous studies, resulting in completed projects include the Myrtle Beach project and the Folly Beach project. The Pawleys Island Storm Damage Reduction Feasibility report was completed in May 2004 and the Chief’s Report signed in December 2006. It is currently awaiting authorization.

The Edisto Island Storm Damage Reduction – Feasibility Study will be disseminated to resource agencies, interest groups and the public as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental compliance review. During the course of the study it is not anticipated that any new methodologies will be used in the analysis and preparation of the report nor that any of the data collected or analyzed would be considered influential scientific data. In fact, the District will try to make use of as much existing scientific data as possible in the analysis of the problems and opportunities at Edisto Island.

The study is not a highly complex or a controversial study. The estimated initial construction cost of the project during the reconnaissance portion of the study was projected to be approximately \$12 million. Based on these factors, it was determined that external peer review (other than that which would be accomplished as part of the NEPA compliance) would not be required. Independent Technical Review (ITR) will be completed as per Corps regulations. The Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Planning Center of Expertise in North Atlantic Division will be used for all ITR.

In addition to ITR, throughout the feasibility study, there are several types of review involved to ensure that the analysis is technically correct, properly focused and consistent with Corps policy. These are the Feasibility Scoping Meeting, In-Progress Review, Independent Technical Review, Alternatives Formulation Briefing, draft Feasibility report policy review, and Civil Works Review Board. These reviews will provide adequate oversight to the feasibility report and, together with the NEPA review process, should help ensure a technically sound and policy consistent report.

C. During the development of the Project Management Plan (PMP) and the Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA) with the Town of Edisto Beach (the Sponsor), it was decided that the first activity in the feasibility study would be the identification of a

suitable borrow site. The idea was if a suitable borrow site is not available, then the Sponsor did not want to expend funds on activities to define a project that couldn't be built due to lack of suitable and economically feasible construction materials.

Current FY 07 funds are being utilized for borrow site investigation activities. With this as a starting point, the following list of review milestones has been generated.

LIST OF MAJOR MILESTONES

Milestone	Completion Date
Initiation of Feasibility Study	December 2006
In-Progress Review Meeting	December 2008
Alternative Formulation Briefing (AFB)	September 2009
In-Progress Review Meeting	December 2009
Complete Preparation of Draft Report	January 2010
Technical Review Conference (TRC)	TBD if needed
Preliminary Draft Feasibility Report Submittal	February 2010
Completion/Submittal of Final Feasibility Report	May 2010
Civil Works Review Board	August 2010
MSC Commander's Public Notice	October 2010

At the completion of the FY 07 activities, coordination with the Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Planning Center of Expertise will be done to identify specific ITR team members and to determine a more specific ITR schedule.

D. External Peer Review as discussed in EC 1105-2-408 will not be required for this study. However, one should note that a form of external review will take place as NEPA compliance review and comment activities are completed.

E. The public will have a chance to comment on the document as part of the NEPA compliance activities including circulation of the draft and final NEPA documents. AN exact schedule for this activity is unknown at this time pending the results of the borrow site investigations. It is estimated that this activity would take place in the late 2009 or early 2010.

F. All comments obtained during the NEPA process will be provided to the PDT members as well as the ITR team members.

G. Since the ITR team has not been identified yet, the exact number of reviewers is an estimate. At a minimum there will be seven members of the ITR team to cover the disciplines of plan formulation, economics, environmental planning, cost engineering, coastal engineering, geotechnical/civil engineering and real estate. Through the NEPA process a number of agencies will review the document. At a minimum it will be reviewed by US Fish and Wildlife Service, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, South Carolina Office of Coastal Resource Management, the Environmental Protection Agency and all other Federal and State agencies that we required by law that we coordinate with. Internal reviews will also be conducted by Charleston District Division Chiefs.

H. Through coordination with the Planning Center of Expertise, the ITR members will be identified. At a minimum ITR members are needed in the disciplines listed below.

Civil Engineering
Cost Engineering
Geotechnical Engineering
Coastal Engineering
Economics
Environmental Planning
Plan Formulation
Real Estate

I. External Peer Review as described in EC 1105-2-408 is not required for this study. Resource agency reviewers who review and comment on the document, as part of the NEPA compliance activities, are chosen by the reviewing agency and not the Corps.

J. The public may request at any time to review the draft and final feasibility report as part of the draft and final NEPA documents review.

The Charleston District is committed to providing the most technically sound and policy compliant product possible as we work with our Sponsor and other stakeholders to address coastal storm damage problems at Edisto Island, South Carolina. We welcome comments and feedback from all parties at all points during the study.