



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
69A HAGOOD AVENUE
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29403-5107

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
EDISTO BEACH
COASTAL STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION
GENERAL INVESTIGATION STUDY**

Edisto Beach, South Carolina

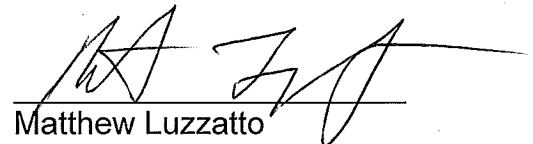
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis the proposed coastal storm damage reduction project for the Town of Edisto Beach, South Carolina, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The Corps assessed the affects to the following actions in the Final Integrated Feasibility Study/Environmental Assessment, dated February 2014 and revised March 2014, which is incorporated herein by reference:

- Construct a dune to an elevation of 15-feet North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD 88) and top width of 15-feet beginning at the northern end of the project and extending southward along the beach for 16,530 feet. The dune would transition to an elevation of 14-feet NAVD 88 and a top width of 15-feet that extends around the end of the island for 5,290 feet.
- Construct a berm fronting the 15-foot high dune at an elevation of 7-feet NAVD 88. The first 7,740 feet of berm length would have a width of 75 feet. The width would taper to 50-feet over the remaining length of the berm. The width of each end of the berm would taper to match the existing beach profile.
- No berm would be constructed in front of the 14-foot high dune because the existing beach profile provides an adequate berm.
- Construct approximately 1,130 feet of groin lengthening across 23 of the existing groins, with an average lengthening of approximately 50-feet within a range of 20-feet to 100-feet per groin.

In addition to the "no action" alternative, six alternatives with varying lengths and widths were evaluated, including the recommended plan. The recommended plan was identified as the National Economic Development (NED) plan and is the environmentally-preferred alternative. All practicable means to avoid and minimize adverse environmental effects have been incorporated into the recommended plan. The recommended plan would not adversely affect any federally-listed threatened or endangered species or their designated critical habitat, would have no impact to sites listed on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, and would not affect any wetlands or water of the U.S., nor any important wildlife habitat. Therefore, no compensatory mitigation is required.

Technical and economic criteria used in the formulation of alternative plans were those specified in the Water Resource Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in the evaluation of the alternatives. It is my determination that the recommended plan does not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

25 Jan 2016
Date


Matthew Luzzatto
Lieutenant Colonel, Corps of
Engineers
District Commander