

## ERDC Researchers Participate in the USACE South Atlantic Division Coastal Summit

*Impact Statement: Technology transfer to field practitioners is an essential part of the R&D process. Participation in the USACE South Atlantic Division (SAD) Coastal Summit provided an opportunity to showcase existing and upcoming R&D products, especially to new employees who were encouraged to attend the event by USACE Major Subordinate Command (MSC) leadership.*

During 13-17 January 2025 at Gulf Shores, AL, the USACE South Atlantic Division (SAD) Coastal Summit was held. This event "directly supports the Corps' Campaign Plan and SAD's Implementation Plan by providing the Coastal Navigation and Flood Risk Management Communities an opportunity to build technical competencies and develop innovative solutions in vital program areas" (approval memorandum). There were approximately 200 attendees (Figure 1) from SAD, USACE HQ, and ERDC with expertise across areas including regulatory, construction, operations, planning, and data analysis/fusion. This meeting covered a variety of topics related to USACE Navigation (e.g., sediment testing, dredging, and beneficial use), Flood Risk Management (FRM), and Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM), including applicable processes and current policies. Multiple sessions featured ongoing/completed projects from different USACE Districts with presenters sharing valuable "lessons learned" along the way to increase institutional knowledge of best practices. The lead organizers for this event were Mr. Dylan Davis (SAD Coastal and Navigation Program Manager), Ms. Laurel Reichold (Regional Sediment Manager [RSM] Center of Expertise), and Ms. Nicole Bonine (SAD Environmental Compliance Program Manager).



Figure 1. Approximately 200 attendees participated in the USACE South Atlantic Division (SAD's) Coastal Summit from SAD, USACE Headquarters, and the USACE Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), held at Gulf Shores, AL, during 13-17 January 2025.

ERDC attendees included the following: from the Environmental Laboratory (EL); Dr. Alan Kennedy, and Dr. Andrew McQueen: from Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory; Dr. Ned Mitchell, Dr. Dave Perkey, Dr. Tanya Beck, Dr. Michael Hartman, Dr. David Young, Dr. Brandan Scully, Dr. Magdalena Asborn, Ms. Anna Godfrey, Mr. Scott Spurgeon, and Dr. Marin Kress. ERDC content contributors unable to attend in-person included Ms. Paige Krupa (EL); Mr Ben Emery, Dr. Brian McFall, Dr. Rachel Bain, and Ms. Lauren Dunkin (all CHL), and Dr. Mike Hanowsky (Woolpert).

ERDC presentations included the following topics and speakers (many sessions were co-presented with USACE District or MSC partners):

- (1) "Testing Requirements: What is Needed?" Al Kennedy, ERDC-EL; Alan Shirey, USACE Charleston District (SAC)
- (2) "Advancing the Science and Practice of Beneficial Use (BU) in Coastal New Jersey and Beyond" Dave Perkey, ERDC-CHL; Monica Chasten, USACE Philadelphia District (NAP)
- (3) "Alternative Dredging Methods" Jacob Kyzar, SAC; Kelly Legault, USACE Jacksonville District (SAJ); Anna Godfrey, ERDC-CHL
- (4) "Civil Works R&D Overview" Ned Mitchell, Tanya Beck, and Marin Kress (all ERDC-CHL)
- (5) "Changes in Environmental Understanding, Trawling, Relocations, Windows" Nicole Bonnie, SAD; Magdalena Asborn, ERDC-CHL and ARA
- (6) "Water Quality Monitoring: What does it mean?" Al Kennedy, ERDC-EL; Andrew McQueen, ERDC-EL
- (7) "Existing ERDC Coastal Tools" Anna Godfrey, Michael Hartman, and Marin Kress (all ERDC-CHL)
- (8) "In-Development Coastal Tools" Ned Mitchell, ERDC-CHL; Josh Pritchard, USACE Mobile District (SAM-OPJ); Magdalena Asborn, ERDC-CHL and ARA
- (9) "Coastal Tools of the Future" Brandan Scully, ERDC-CHL
- (10) Hallway "Ask the Experts" Table: "Performance Metrics of Nature-Based Solutions" Scott Spurgeon, ERDC-CHL
- (11) Hallway "Ask the Experts" Table: "SandSnap App Demonstration" David Young, ERDC-CHL

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