

ASBPA 2010 National Coastal Conference (October 13-15, 2010) Charleston, South Carolina

¹Willson, Kenneth T.; ¹Jarrett, J. Tom; ²Tuman, Dan. Overcoming Permitting Obstacles: Lessons Learned from a Shoreline Protection Project, North Topsail Beach, North Carolina, USA

1. Coastal Planning & Engineering of North Carolina, Inc. 330 Shipyard Boulevard. Wilmington, North Carolina 28412. E-Mail: Kwillson@coastalplanning.net, TJarrett@coastalplanning.net Phone: (910) 791-9494. FAX: (910) 791-9494
2. North Topsail Beach, North Carolina Mayor. 2008 Loggerhead Ct. North Topsail Beach, North Carolina 28460. E-mail: ntopsail@charter.net Phone: (910) 328-1349. FAX: (910) 328-1349

Relevance of Presentation:

Shoreline Processes & Coastal Management

- Combining shoreline protection alternatives
- Management of coastal inlets: Dredging and/or bypassing
- Sand resources for beach nourishment
- Beach nourishment case studies

The majority of the northern 7.25 miles of North Topsail Beach lies within the Coastal Barrier Resource System (CBRS). As such this portion of the Town is not included in an ongoing USACE Feasibility Study for North Topsail Beach and Surf City. After the devastation of the Town's beaches and infrastructure in the late 90's by a number of Hurricanes, coupled with chronic beach erosion and exacerbated inlet induced erosion along the north end of the Island, the Town initiated the permitting process for a shoreline management project. Coastal Planning & Engineering of North Carolina (CPE) has assisted the Town through an extraordinary permit process with multiple challenges including: addressing concerns over the potential impacts of a channel realignment project at New River Inlet, designing the beach so as not to impact nearshore hardbottom, locating sand in a sand-starved region of Onslow Bay, designing a borrow area so as not to impact hardbottom habitat, and a phased construction approach that would allow for an incremental approach to the Town-wide shoreline protection project. This is one of the most complex permitting projects that CPE has completed and through this presentation we will share this unique experience with other professionals and coastal communities facing similar challenges.

Kenneth T. Willson:

Ken is a coastal geologist with Coastal Planning and Engineering of North Carolina (CPE NC) in Wilmington, North Carolina. He spent seven years in Wilmington North Carolina pursuing a B.S. and M.S. in Geology before starting with Coastal Planning and Engineering in Boca Raton, Florida in 2004. Since 2007, Ken has managed the office for CPE NC and is currently the project manager for the North Topsail Beach Shoreline Protection Project.