

DRAFT

Governors' South Atlantic Alliance (GSAA) Issue Area Project and Resource Needs "Snap Shot"

This Snap Shot is designed to collect brief information on the prospective projects and resource needs of the GSAA Issue Area Technical Teams to progress the GSAA Action Plan and Implementation Plan.

Issue Area: Disaster Resilient Communities

Project Title: Develop adaptation strategies facing water-dependent uses in vulnerable coastal areas

Action to be Addressed: [DRC2A, DRC2B, WW1C and WW2A, WW2C]

Resources Needed: [\$10,000/possibly a grad student or intern]

Expected Timescale: [1 year]

Description

Background:

Recreational and commercial working waterfronts have become integral local and state economic drivers in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina. Congress found that "coastal-dependent" uses should be given priority in the development and management of the coastal zone by states while clear and reasoned definitions regarding water dependency form important tools for preservation of recreational and commercial working waterfronts. Many states participating in the federal government's CZMA program have established state level definitions of "water-dependent use." Regardless of definition, these businesses reliant on coastal waters are extremely vulnerable to a variety of coastal hazards including coastal storms, hurricanes, coastal erosion, flooding, sea-level rise and land subsidence.

It is of vital importance not only to the business itself but to local and state economies that water dependant uses understand their vulnerabilities and the tools required to address the different hazards that currently threaten their long-term viability.

This project will provide a guidance document that analyzes the different adaptation strategies available. Strategies can and will vary based on type of water dependent use. The document will enable businesses to effectively plan for the aforementioned hazards by providing the necessary tools to build resiliency into operations plans. Ultimately, this project will help assure that water dependant uses that are so vital to our local and state economic drivers will have the ability confront the hazards facing them and continue to operate in their current location.

DRAFT

Objectives: The objective of this project is to produce a guidance document that includes adaptation strategies specific to varying water dependent uses.

Approach/Methods: Literature review and review of case studies. Analyze options available and determine appropriate approaches available to specific uses. Peer to peer communication. [An inventory of contemporary, historical, recreational, commercial working waterfront sites other water dependant uses is being performed under separate snapshot by WW IATT]

Potential Partners: National Working Waterfronts, SeaGrants, WW IATT, North Carolina Department of Natural Resources, South Carolina DHEC-OCRM, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, FL Department of Environmental Protection, UF Florida Law Conservation Clinic, UNC Clear