### The Coastal Field Data Collection Program (CFDC)

Waves & Coastal Observations for the Corps and the Nation

Bill Birkemeier Program Manager

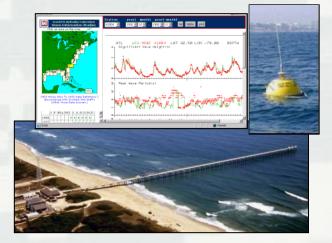
William.Birkemeier@usace.army.mil 10 August 2010



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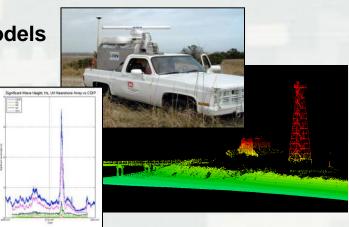
# **CFDC: Requirements**

- System approaches to Corps coastal projects require knowledge, through observations, of regional processes.
  - Regional sediment management (RSM) studies require nationwide high-resolution directional wave observations
    - 5-10 deg uncertainty in wave direction can result in an error or even reversal, in predicted sediment transport
- Uncertainty in climate and storm intensity/frequency, increases risk and costs
- Extreme conditions during storms are not reliably measured
  - Gauges fail or are not well located
  - Data required in real-time for emergency operations, and later for diagnostic analysis and design
- Coastal numerical models require calibration and verification data
  - Advanced models require detailed observations
  - Project sponsors require models validated with local data
  - Tools for monitoring coastal processes and bathymetric responses are inadequate for resolving 3-D complexity
  - Corps projects have an increasing requirement for knowledge of data types not usually collected by us.
    - turbidity, contaminants, fish abundance, etc



# **CFDC:** Approach

- Nationwide support of Corps' business lines through data collection, modeling activities, and partnerships:
  - Navigation, Flood & Storm Damage Reduction, Recreation, Ecosystem Restoration, Environment – Stewardship, Emergency Management
- Measure and model coastal waves nationwide, in collaboration with others, and independent of specific projects
  - Supports system-wide and regional approaches
- Participation in the multi-agency, multi-partner, Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)
  - Access to broader range of coastal and estuary variables
- Collection of comprehensive, process/response datasets for calibration and testing of numerical models
  - ► East & west coasts, islands
  - Investigate/measure nearshore complex environments in advance of next-generation modeling
- Test, develop, deploy new measurements instruments & techniques



#### The Field Research Facility, Duck NC a coastal observatory established in 1977

#### Activities

- Collect & distribute long-term data
- Research coastal & estuarine dynamics, climate change
- Testbed for model evaluation
- Leverage Corps R&D funding

#### Partnerships

- NOAA has existing facilities
- USGS, ONR, NSF, NRL, Universities

#### 24/7 Observations

- Waves
- Currents
- Water level & sea level rise
- Local meteorology
- Nearshore morphology
- Water characteristics



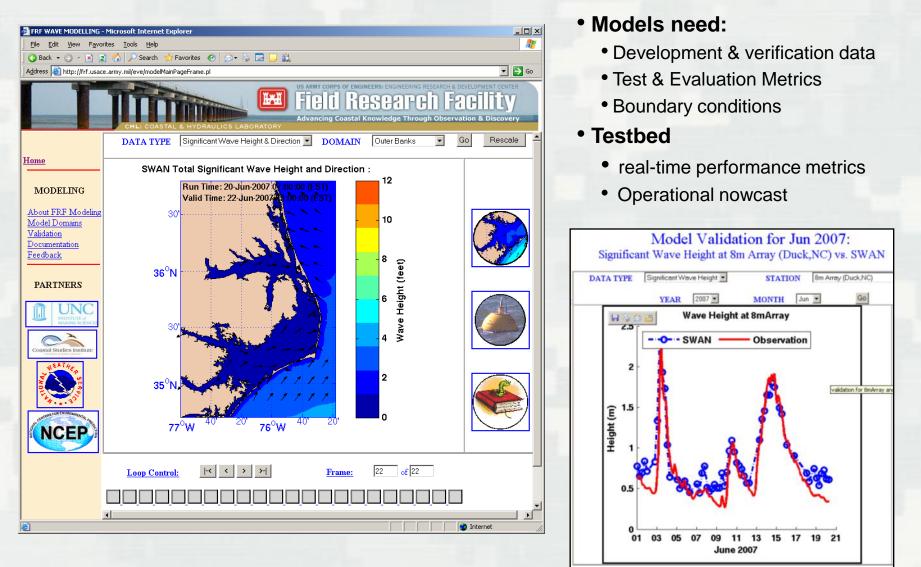








### FRF Instrumented Model Testbed: SWAN Model Evaluation



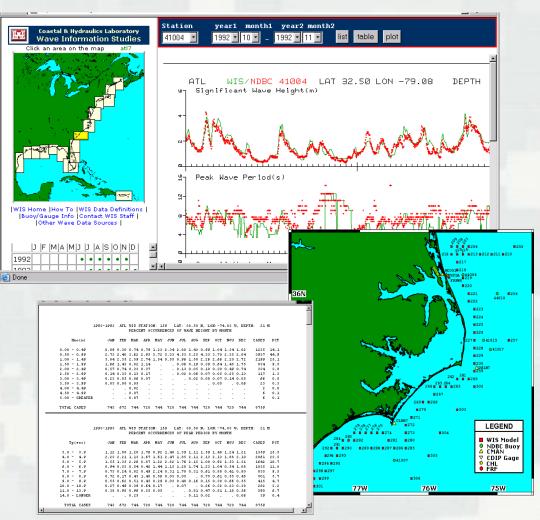
http://frf.usace.army.mil/eve/modeling/modelMainPageFrame.pl

# Wave Information Study (WIS)

Generation of Long-Term Wave Hindcast Estimates for all U.S. Coastal Waters

#### **Modeling Effort**

- Based on wind fields
- Wave model development
- Validated with measurements
- ▶ 20+ years of data
- Widely used by Districts for project design
- Used by coastal engineering community and the public
- Useful for Wind & Wave energy production estimates
- Online access to data & products
  - Averages 13,000 hits/month



http://frf.usace.army.mil/cgi-bin/wis/atl/atl\_main.html

# Field Wave Gauging

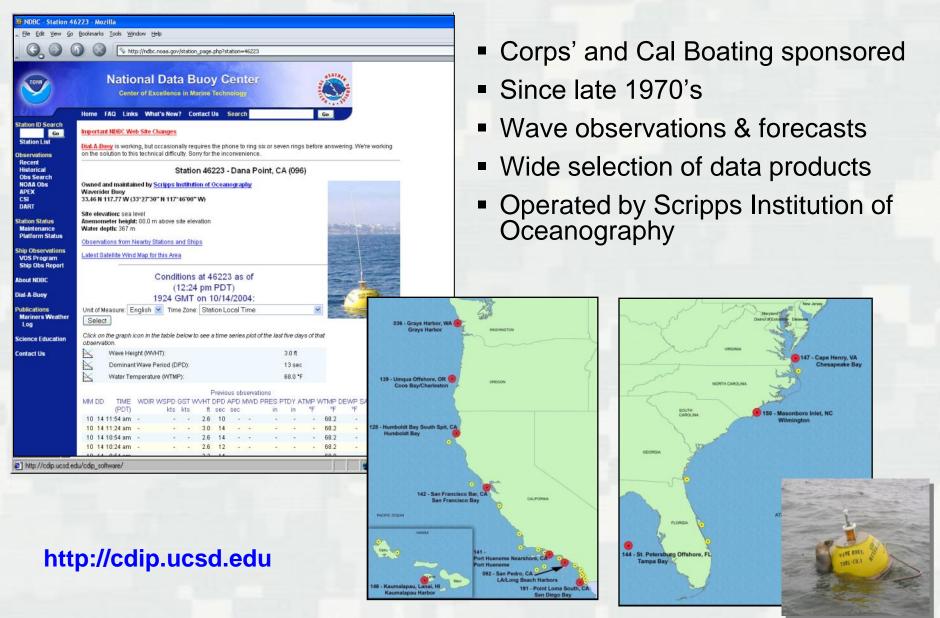
- Only National Program to collect shallow water waves
  - Supports Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP)
    - Operated by Scripps, co-funded with others
  - Support to National Data Buoy Center (NDBC)
    - add directional capabilities to existing buoys
- Motivation
  - Acquire data sets
  - Quantify wave energy & water levels
  - Provide sufficient temporal & spatial coverage
  - Establish wave/water level climatology for US
  - Provide input and validation for USACE models



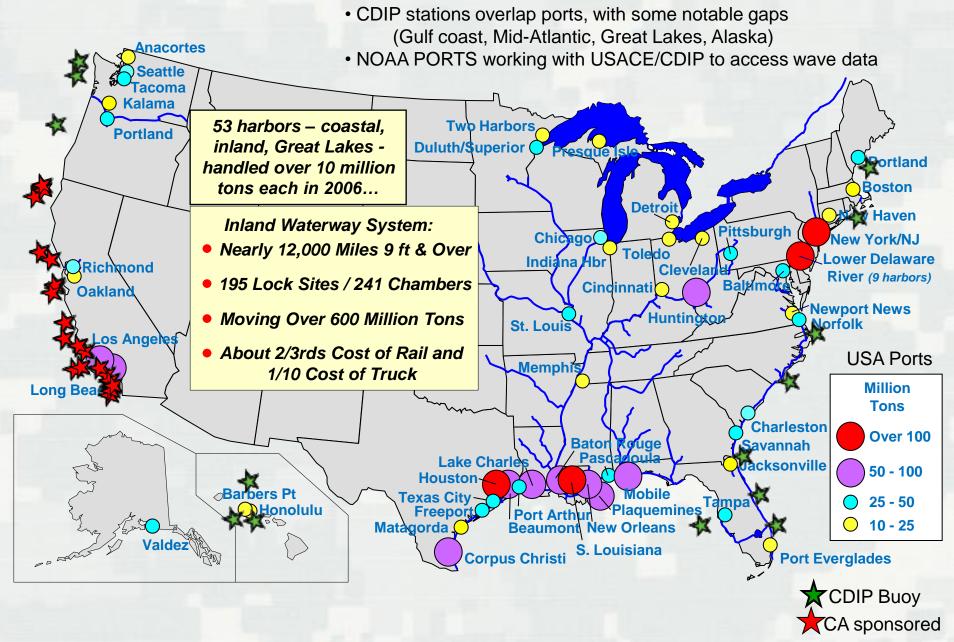


## **Coastal Data Information Program**

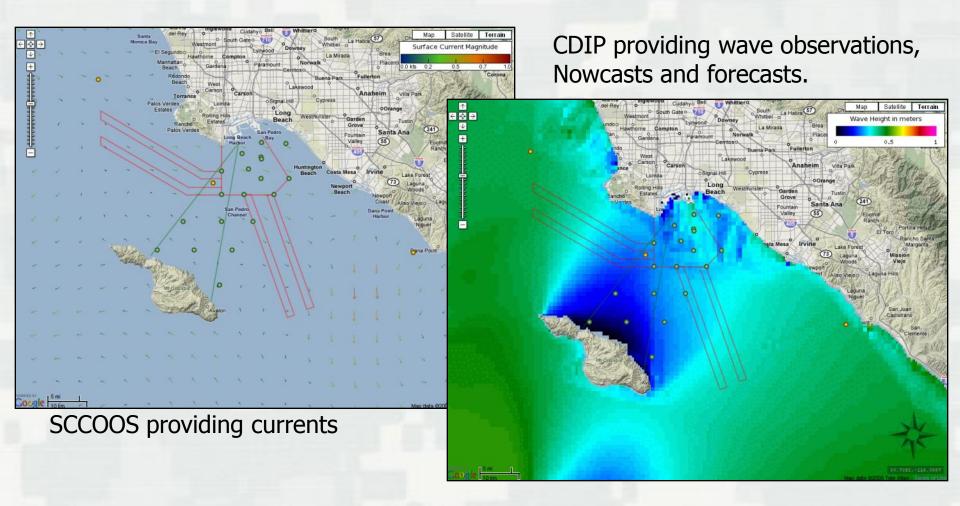
A sustained wave observing system



## **USA Ports and CDIP locations**



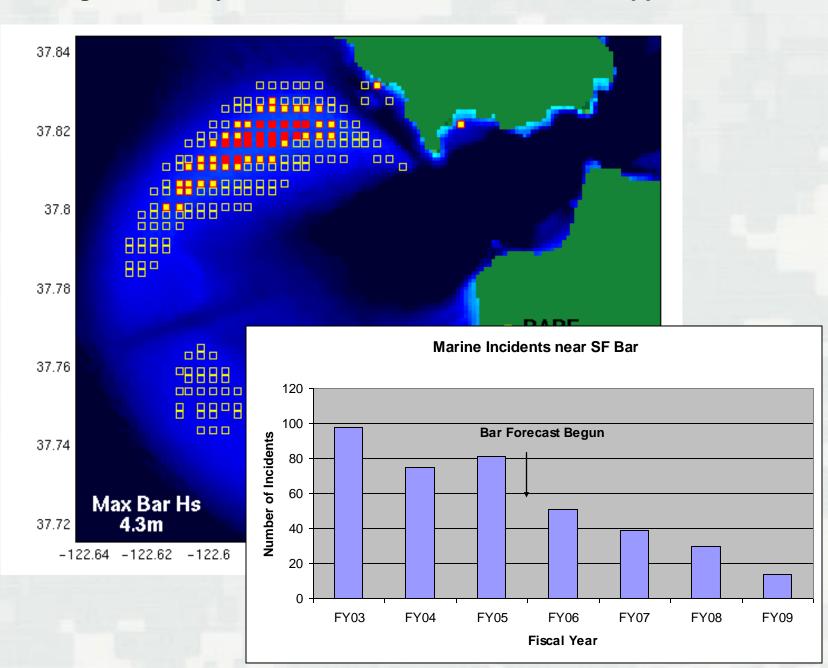
## Waves and Currents in the San Pedro Channel



http://sccoos.ucsd.edu/themes/harbors

INTEGRATED OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM

#### Navigation Safety at the San Francisco Bar – a new application



### National IOOS Wave Observation Plan

- An integrated plan for wave measurements in the US
  - Corps in partnership with NOAA/NDBC & NOAA IOOS
- Addresses:
  - Spatial / temporal coverage
  - Accuracy requirements of wave observations
- Wave Observing System Design
  - ► Four Subnets: Offshore / Outer / Inner / Coastal
  - Identifies gaps/upgrades
  - USACE responsible for Coastal & Inner Shelf
- Technology development, training activities
- Testing and evaluation of existing & new technologies
  - Wave instrument training/testbed at FRF and West Coast
- Long-term, sustainable measurement program



### National IOOS Wave Observation Plan

296 sites, 181 exist, 128 upgrades



© 2009 Tele Atlas © 2009 LeadDog Consulting Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO © 2009 Europa Technologies lat 43.344251° lon -108.160082° elev 5386 ft

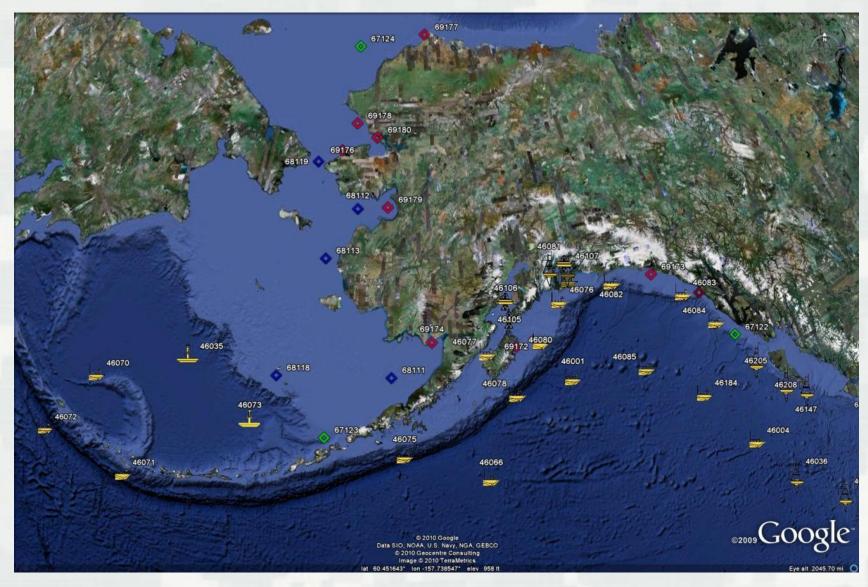


Eye alt 5307.27 mi 🔘

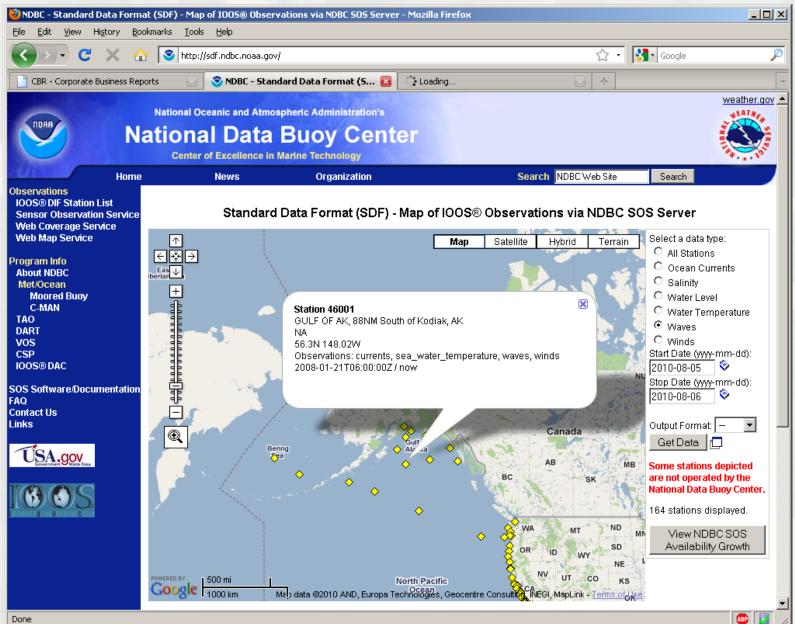


## National IOOS Wave Observation Plan: Alaska





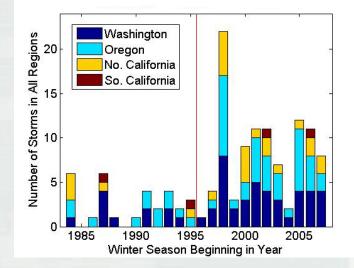
## **IOOS** is making a difference on Data Access



#### New Pacific Storminess/Climate Impact Initiative, FY12



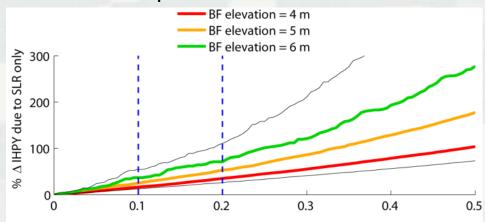
Pacific Storms with Hs >= 6m



Hawaii



Relative increase in number of hours wave runup reaches dune/cliff toe



Relative SLR, m

From Ruggerio, 2008

Southern California

### Coastal Field Data Collection Program a Corps' contribution to 1005

- Wave Observations
  - Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP)
    - With Scripps
    - An IOOS component before there was an IOOS
  - NDBC directional sensors
  - NDBC serving all data
- Wave Hindcasts
  - 20+ years of 3-hourly hindcasted wave data
  - Nationwide & online
- New Pacific Climate Imapact Initiative
  - Observations, Models & Products
  - In partnership with NOAA, USGS, others







