

Division of Coastal Management Update



NCBIWA Fall Meeting

November 18, 2024

**Daniel Govoni & Heather
Coats**



**Mission: To protect, conserve, and manage
N.C.'s coastal resources through an
integrated program of planning, permitting,
education, and research.**



NC Coastal Area Management Act (1974)



- **Balance competing coastal pressures** through development permitting
- **Local/state partnership** to addresses coastal growth and related issues
- **Enhance public access** to beaches and coastal waters through grants to local governments
- Created the **NC Coastal Management Program**: Coastal Resources Commission, Coastal Resources Advisory Council, and Division of Coastal Management (DEQ)

North Carolina Division of Coastal Management

Regulatory Section

- 4 District Offices; Local Permitting Officers

Policy and Planning Section

- Policy Development
- Land Use Planning
- Community Resilience
- Waterfront Access Grants
- Strategic Planning & Coordination

Coastal Reserve Program

- 10 Coastal Reserve Sites



NC Coastal Resources Commission

- **13 members** appointed by the Governor, General Assembly
- Membership includes **local gov't, fishing, wildlife, agriculture, coastal land development, engineering/science** experience
- Designates “**Areas of Environmental Concern**”
- **Establishes policies and rules** under the CAMA and the NC Dredge & Fill Act



Credit: NC DCM

NC Coastal Resources Advisory Council

- 20 members appointed by CRC
 - ½ membership must be residents in coastal counties
- Provide local information and insights from coastal communities to the CRAC, CRC and DCM
- Take information regarding the work of the CRAC and CRC back to their communities
- Provide technical expertise on issues relating to the CRC's work
- Develop recommendations on policy/rule initiatives at direction of CRC



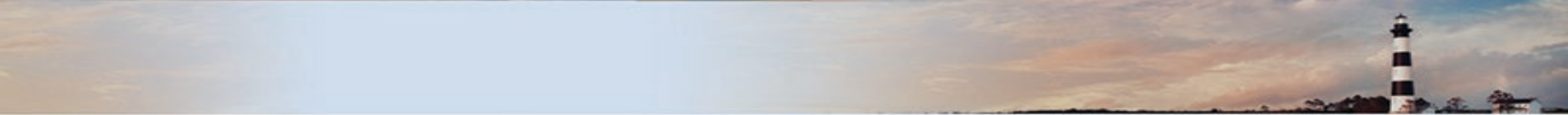
Credit: NC DCM

Inlet Hazard Areas of Environmental Concern



CRC Science Panel Charge

- 1) Perform 5-year re-evaluation of IHA methods and boundaries, incorporating data collected since the 2018 study.
- 2) Evaluate end-point and linear regression methods for calculating oceanfront shoreline change rates.
- 3) Present draft report(s) to CRC, including proposed IHA boundaries and erosion rates, 2025.



POLICY & PLANNING SECTION



Public Beach and Waterfront Access Grants

2024-2025 Cycle

\$3.8M in available funding (normal year ~\$1M)

Pre-application period ended April 15th

23 applications received totaling \$3.6M

18 projects invited to submit Final applications

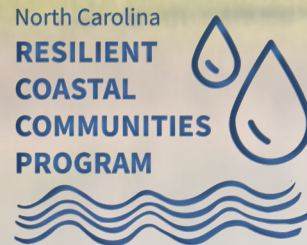
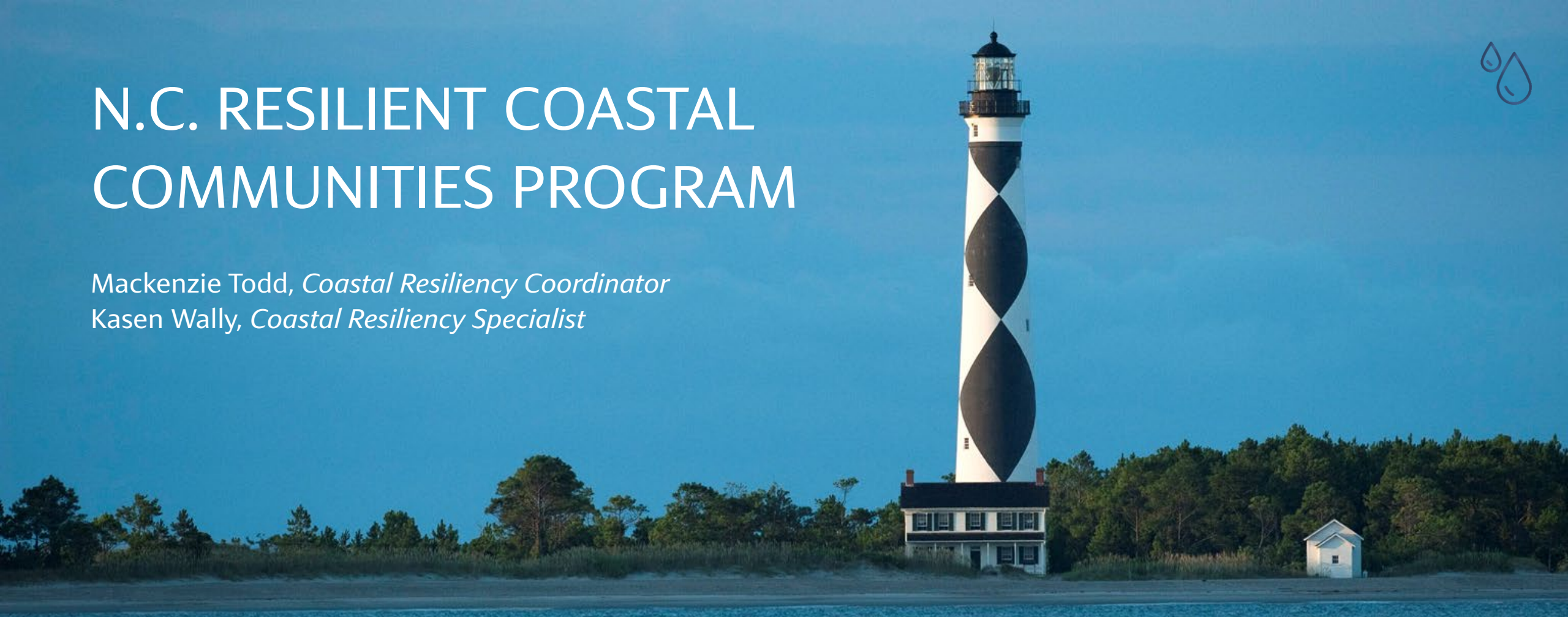
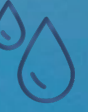
\$2.8 awarded for 16 projects

2025-2026 Cycle starts February 2025



N.C. RESILIENT COASTAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

Mackenzie Todd, *Coastal Resiliency Coordinator*
Kasen Wally, *Coastal Resiliency Specialist*





Program Objectives

Address

- Address barriers to coastal resilience at the local level

Assist

- Assist communities with risk & vulnerability assessments

Help

- Help communities develop a portfolio of well-planned and prioritized projects

Advance

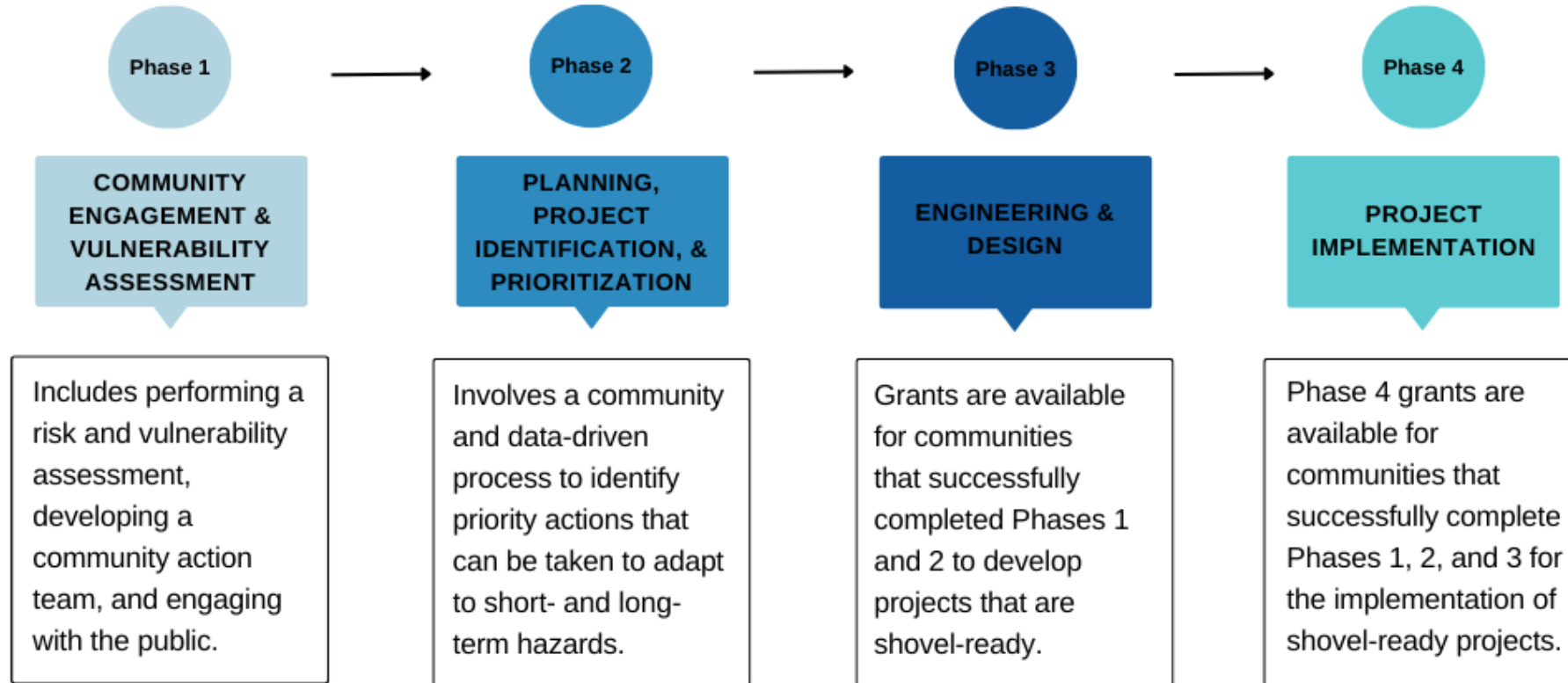
- Advance priority projects to “shovel-ready” status

Link

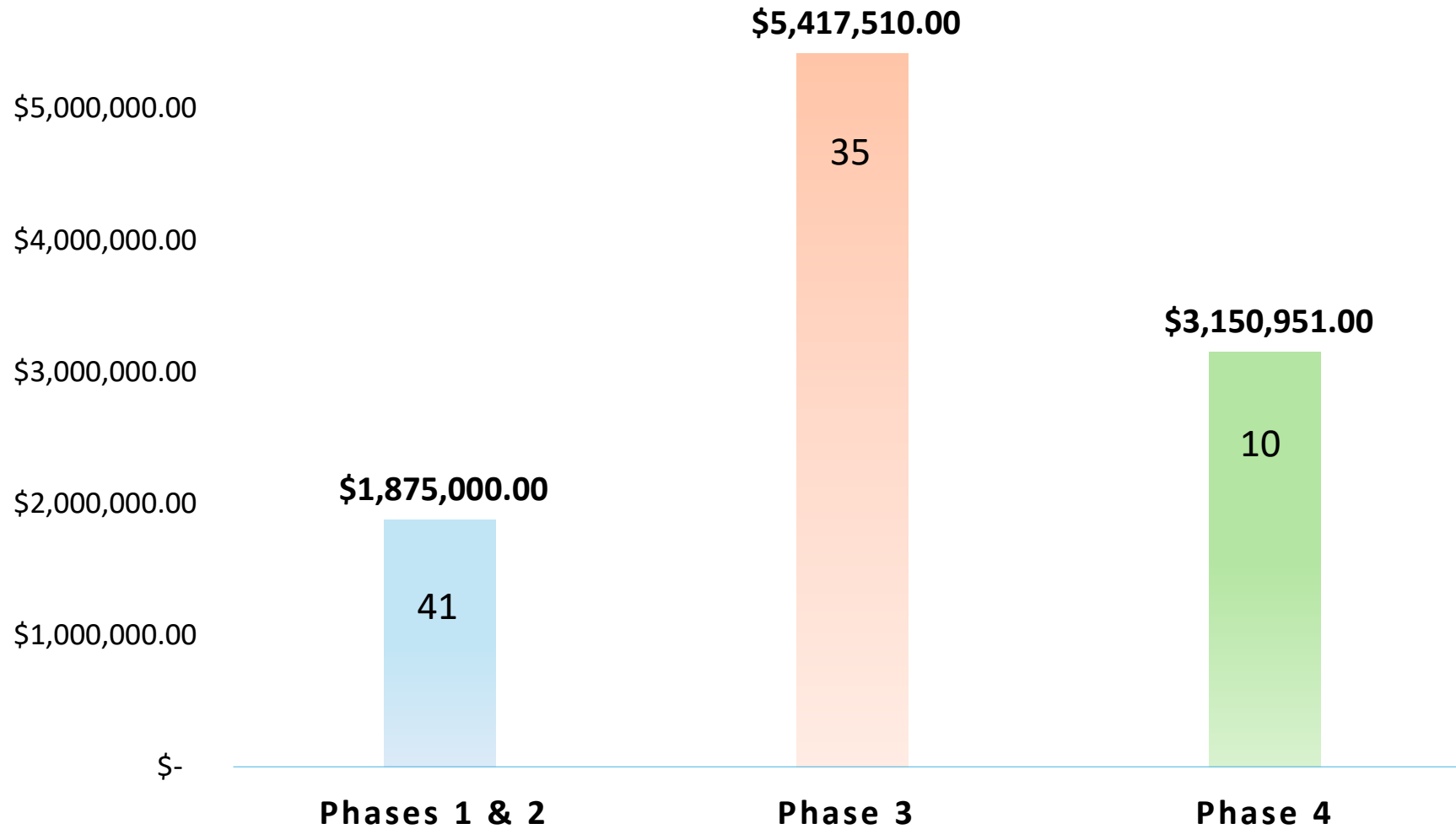
- Link communities to funding streams for project implementation



Program Phases



RCCP Awards by Phase



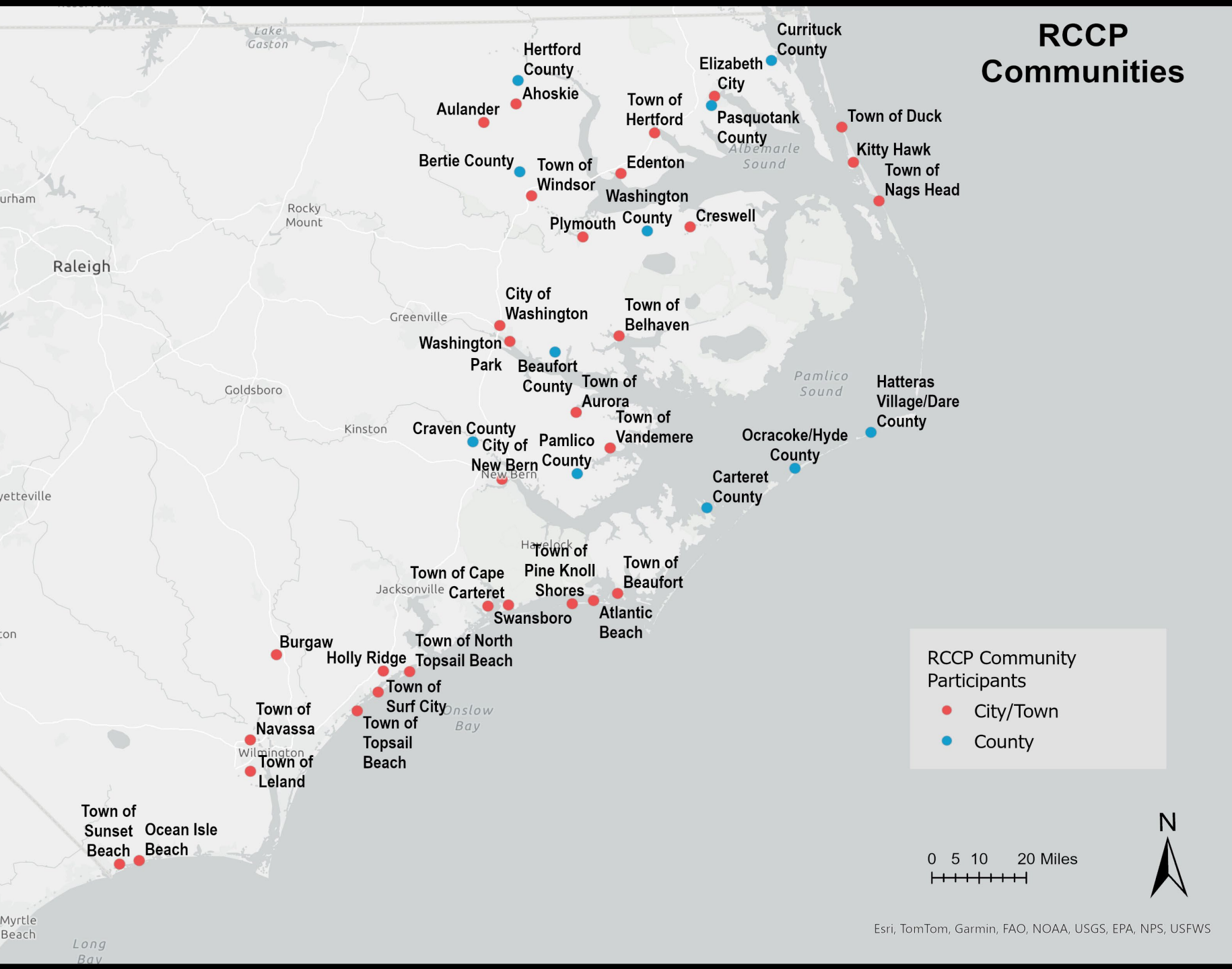
RCCP Funding – Appropriations and Grants

Years 2019 - 2023

NCGA (SL 2019-224)	\$ 1,350,000
NFWF ECRF	\$ 1,060,000
NFWF NCRF	\$ 3,604,885
HUD	\$ 500,000
NOAA/CZMA Funding	\$ 60,000
NCGA (SL 2021-180)	\$ 1,450,000
NCGA (SL 2023-134)	<u>\$10,000,000</u>
	\$18,024,885



RCCP Communities



RCCP Community Participants

- City/Town
- County



Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USFWS

41 Participating Communities

- 11 counties
- 30 municipalities



What's Next for the RCCCP?

Upcoming release of RFAs

- The RCCCP plans to release RFAs for Phases 1-4, expected shortly after New Year's.

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NCRF)

- Requesting \$2M for a third-round of Phases 1 & 2 and to incorporate resiliency into CAMA Land-Use Plans.

Program evaluation

- Dr. Miyuki Hino from UNC-Chapel Hill will conduct an external evaluation of the program.

NOAA Fellow

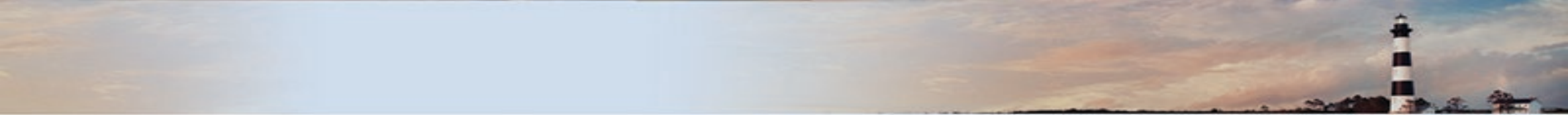
- Staff recently submitted a proposal for a NOAA Fellow to support the management and visualization of GIS data.



SL 2024-45 & SL 2024-53



- Amend CAMA for dock, pier, and walkway replacement in the coastal area
- Amend CAMA for the establishment of a measurement line for dune building projects conducted pursuant to permitted terminal groin construction
- Amend CAMA exempting aquaculture from the definition of “development”
- Amend CAMA to authorize replacement of certain erosion control structures



REGULATORY SECTION



Areas of Environmental Concern (AECs)

Estuarine and Ocean System

- Public trust areas, estuarine waters, coastal wetlands, and coastal (non-ocean) shorelines

Ocean Hazard Areas

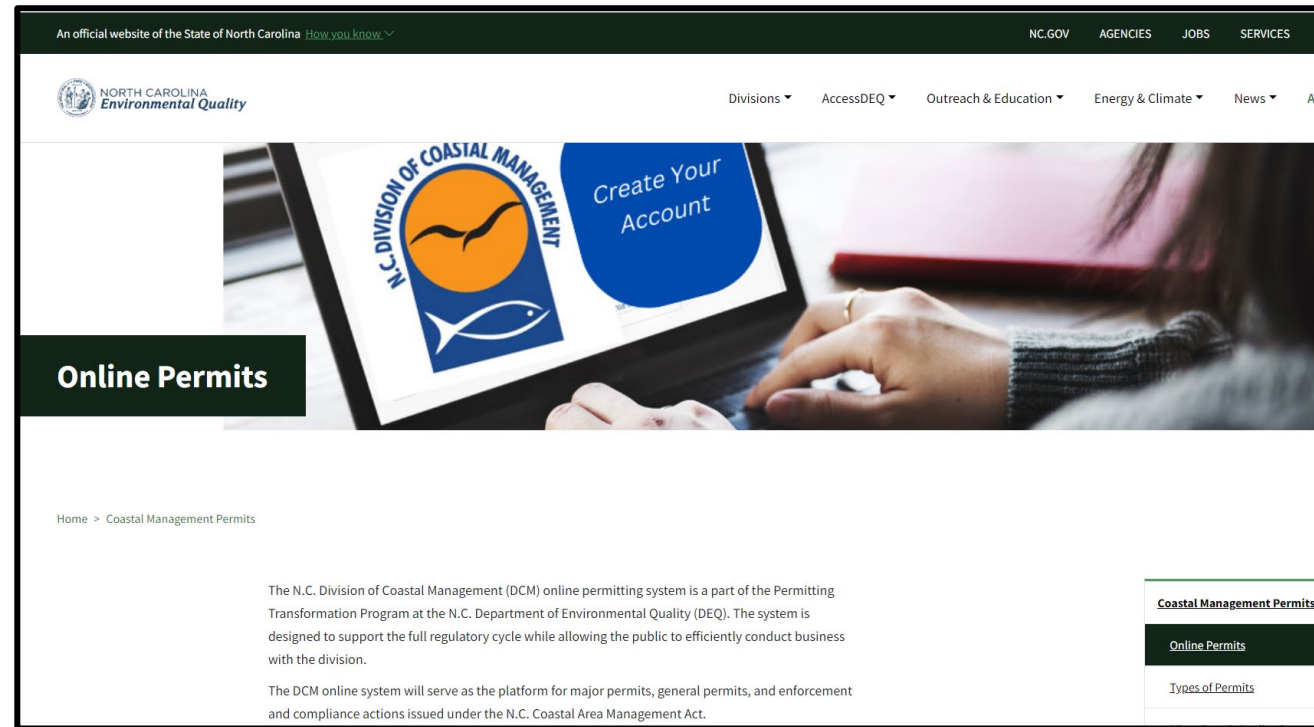
- Ocean Erodible Area, Inlet Hazard Areas
Unvegetated Beach Area

Public Water Supplies



Permitting

- Consistent trend of ~3,000 permit decisions annually (new, modifications, transfers, renewals) — Approximately 130-150 Majors
- Permitting Transformation Program (e-permitting) implementation going well
- Staffing level is near full—Field Rep in MHD City & upcoming vacancy Wilmington, Asst. Major Permit Coordinator (Infrastructure)



The screenshot displays the official website of the State of North Carolina, specifically the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The page is titled "Online Permits" and is part of the "Coastal Management Permits" section. The header includes the state logo and navigation links for "Divisions", "AccessDEQ", "Outreach & Education", "Energy & Climate", and "News". The main content area features a large image of a person's hands typing on a laptop, with the "N.C. DIVISION OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT" logo and a "Create Your Account" button overlaid. Below the image, there is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Coastal Management Permits". The text describes the online permitting system as part of the Permitting Transformation Program, designed to support the full regulatory cycle. A sidebar on the right contains a "Coastal Management Permits" menu with "Online Permits" and "Types of Permits" as options.

Dredging & Beach Nourishment – Busy Season!



BEACHES

- North Topsail Beach
- Surf City
- Carolina Beach
- Kure Beach
- Bald Head Island
- Oak Island
- Ocean Isle Beach

NAVIGATION w/BU

- Shallotte Inlet
- Lockwood Folly Inlet
- Wilmington Harbor
- Carolina Beach
- New River Inlet
- Brown's Inlet

INLETS

- Oregon Inlet
- OI non-federal channels

North Carolina Division of Coastal Management

