

# WATERLOG

EXPERTS IN COASTAL RESILIENCY

October 17th, 2019

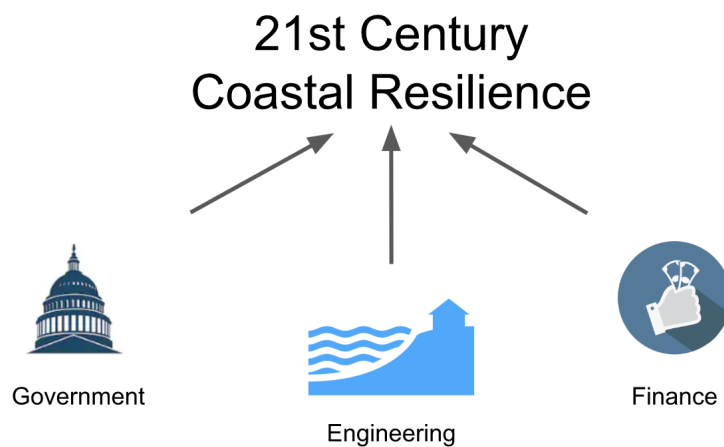
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## The Future of Coastal Resilience

We are tired of studies. Not only is there simply not enough time to read them all, but there are studies coming out by leading universities and some of the best-known firms that are simply pointing out the obvious – things like pooling funds into trusts, providing resilience grants, providing loans and municipal bonds. These are things any public works director or city manager knows. Plus, where does that money come from?

What none of these articles talk about is the how-to. How do things along the coast actually get done? We've figured it out through decades of experience. It's not simple, and it requires real teamwork. It's the type of teamwork that involves governments, engineers and finance.



*The Future of Coastal Resilience - Source: Coastal Strategies, 2019*

The American Shore & Beach Preservation Association's Annual Conference is next week in Myrtle Beach. We'll be there talking about alternative finance for coastal resilience on Friday the 25th. Things like how projects actually done along the coast.

Not able to attend? Reach out and we can get you the information you missed. Banks and other lenders and financial institutions are coming around. We've had conversations with some of the biggest underwriters and they are looking eagerly for projects to fund. This is the time to share your wildest dreams – think big.

## A Message on FY20 Appropriations

Let's step back to summertime when we were told the Senate appropriations bills were 'largely drafted and ready to go.' The House had already passed their bills, facing a fiscal year-end deadline of September 30th at midnight. You'd think that before the test, they'd study, or at least do some work. Instead, our members of Congress went out on a four-week summer recess, meaning they'd return with less than one month to draft and pass 12 appropriations bills. That's a lot of work and not a lot of time. Time management is an important skill.

Recall that our founding fathers sat sweating out the future of our nation in Philadelphia, windows-closed, during July. But the heat is apparently too much for our air-conditioned modern-day legislators. Their work was due September 30th, but instead of continuing to work through the deadline, they packed their bags and took off for two weeks on October 1st. During that time your members are out running for reelection, on vacation, or doing whatever else they decide. The time and the responsibility is theirs, but they aren't passing the legislation they were supposed to 17 days ago. While everyone deserves a break, there should be no reward for late work.

Toss impeachment into the mix and it may mean that no funding bills will get passed for the current fiscal year. Congress is broken, this isn't the first place you heard it. There is one way to change this. **Vote.**

By the way, if you didn't pick this up elsewhere, the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill is held up in Congress because of the increasing impact of the impeachment investigation of our President. It's late and will be at least another week or two before anything solidifies.

## In the Meantime, ...Supplemental Appropriations!

While no FY20 appropriations bills are getting passed, the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental Work Plan](#) is out along with some other bills that have had new action. Refer to our [Federal Bill Tracker](#) for updates on other bills.

The FY19 Disaster Supplemental provides \$3.258 billion for disasters that occurred in the past year. Short-term repairs have been funded, which include Flood Control and Coastal

Emergencies (FCCE), Operations and maintenance (O&M) and Mississippi River & Tributaries (MR&T, which we aren't concerned with in our coastal bubble).

The O&M portion is funded at \$908 million, FCCE at \$1 billion, and MR&T at \$575 million with another \$775 million to be appropriated later under Long-Term repairs for Investigations and Construction. The majority of the FCCE funds are going to the Midwest. To see some coastal funds, look at the O&M portion, which includes funding for the intracoastal waterways. The rest is for ports and harbors.

What we are looking for most is the Long-Term repairs. When those come out, we will have more to talk about.

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### *Subscriber Suggestions*

Dredging is an important part of the coastal and marine industries. We are only as good as our best sources of information. One source that we can always rely on is DredgeWire.

Waterlog has partnered with [DredgeWire](#) exclusively to share mutual content and promote policy discussions. We encourage our readers to subscribe to DredgeWire which you can do for free using this link.

# DREDGEWIRE

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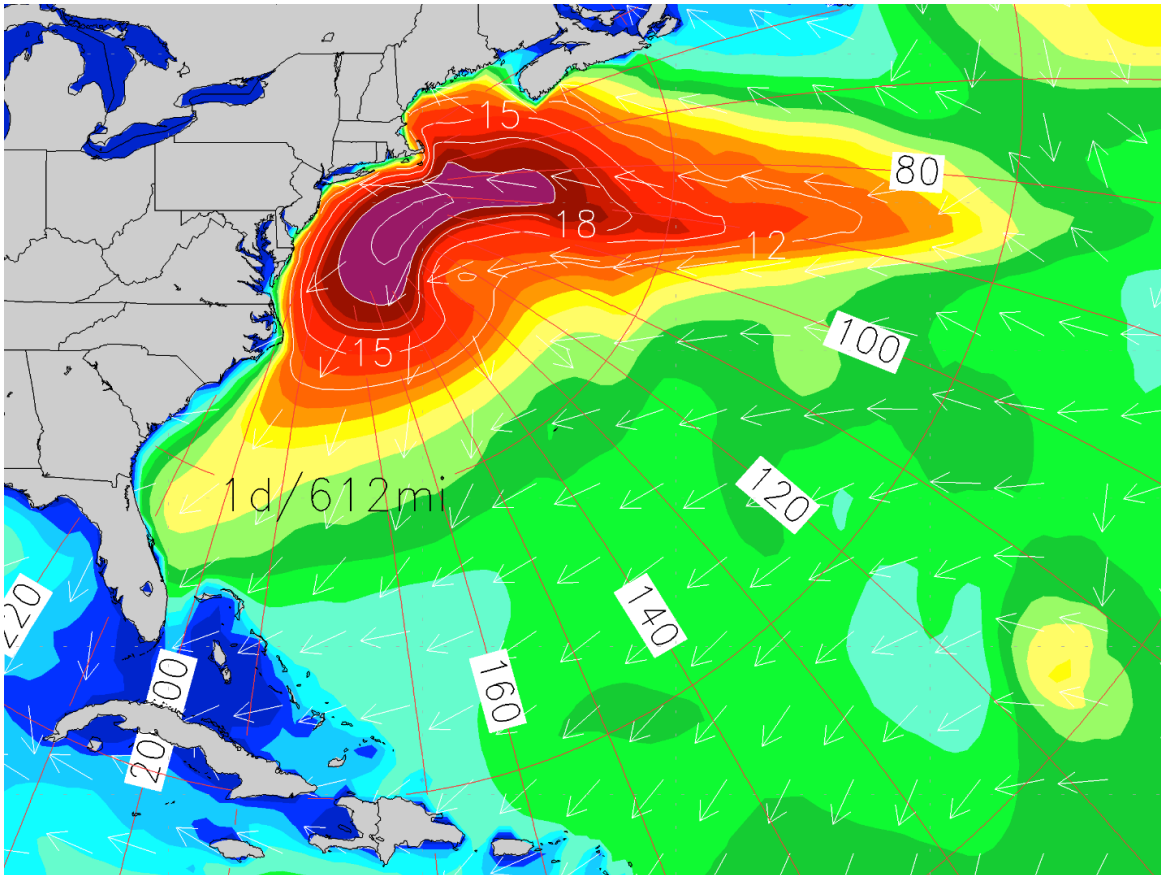
## **An Early Winter?**

New York got its best waves in 15 years – head over to [Surflin](#) to check out some incredible beachbreaks. But it wasn't all fun and games. New Jersey, New York and Massachusetts (among others) suffered severe erosion leaving sandy cliffs over 10 feet high.



*Dune Scarp in North Wildwood - Source: ABC 6 News*

Several million cubic yards of sand gone. This is all credited to the lovely Melissa who began her course as a subtropical storm before becoming a tropical storm on Oct 12. Let's be honest; it was a Nor'Easter. It parked itself over the Northeast for several days, just like any other Nor'Easter would. Some of our friends are facing imminent danger from future storms, and this is only the beginning. Here's what did it:



*Swell Signature - Source: Surfline.com*

With more swells and wind on the way, we can only hope that mother nature goes easy on us. Now, wouldn't that be nice? I wouldn't put my money on it.

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