



## **South Carolina Beach Advocates**

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting 2025**

<https://scbeaches.org/2025-annual-meeting>

Thursday, January 16 at 8:30 am - Friday, January 17 at 3:00 pm

**Sweetgrass Pavilion, [Wild Dunes Resort](#)**

5757 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC 29451

## **AGENDA**

Thursday, January 16, 2025

7:45 Registration opens  
Sponsored by **Thomas & Hutton**

7:45 **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

### **Opening Plenary Session: 2024-25 Federal and State Beach Management Updates** **Tides Ballroom**

8:30 **Opening Remarks and Welcome to Isle of Palms**  
Mayor Phillip Pounds, City of Isle of Palms; Incoming Chair, South Carolina Beach Advocates

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) South Atlantic Division Update**  
Brigadier General Daniel H. Hibner, Commander, South Atlantic Division USACE

**Charleston District Coastal and Navigation Update**  
MAJ Pat Ripton, Acting Commander, USACE Charleston District

**S.C. State Beaches Update**  
Chris Stout, Chief, SCDES Bureau of Coastal Management

**S.C. Sea Grant Consortium**  
Susan Lovelace, Executive Director, S.C. Sea Grant Consortium

10:00 **COFFEE BREAK**  
Sponsored by **City of Isle of Palms**

**Attendance qualifies for 10 hours of CECs from the SC Planning Education Advisory Committee (SCPEAC)  
and the SC Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors**

*Tentative Schedule subject to change: Revised January 13, 2025*

## 2024-25 Local Beach Management Updates

### 10:30 Non-federal Beach Projects Overview

Patrick Barrineau and Steven Traynum, Coastal Science & Engineering

#### **Beach Management Approaches of South Carolina Communities**

Moderator: Nicole Elko, Administrator, S.C. Beach Advocates

Panelists: S.C. Beach Advocates Board Communities

Ray Funnye, Director of Public Services, Georgetown County

Jeff Netzing, Director of Engineering, Town of Hilton Head

Janet Curry, Director of Public Works, City of Myrtle Beach

Brad Belt, Mayor, Town of Kiawah Island

Kevin Blayton, Public Works Director, City of North Myrtle Beach

Douglas Kerr, Deputy City Administrator, City of Isle of Palms

Aaron Pope, City Administrator, City of Folly Beach

Crawford Moore, Mayor, Town of Edisto Beach

Brian Henry, Mayor, Town of Pawleys Island

Joe Henderson, Administrator, Town of Sullivan's Island

Blanche Brown, General Manager, DeBordieu Colony Comm. Assn.

### 12:00 pm **ANNUAL LUNCHEON**

Sponsored by Coastal Science & Engineering and Norfolk Dredging Co.

#### **Indigo Room/Rooftop**

Moderator: Blanche Brown, General Manager, DeBordieu Colony Community Association; Secretary, S.C. Beach Advocates

#### **South Carolina Beach Advocates 2025 Membership Meeting**

*2025 Board of Directors Election*

*Awards Ceremony*

#### **Coastal Innovations**

##### **Palms Ballroom**

Session Chair: Janet Curry, Director of Public Works, City of Myrtle Beach; Treasurer, S.C. Beach Advocates

### 1:30 Coastal Atlas & Beachfront Explorer Tools

Jessica Boynton, Coastal Services Section Manager, SCDES Bureau of Coastal Management

#### **Thin Layer Placement in Your Backyard**

Katie Finegan, Coastal Processes Specialist, SC Sea Grant & Coastal Carolina University

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**Revolutionizing Stormwater Management: The First SC Dune Infiltration System**

Marc Horstman, Senior Project Manager, WK Dickson

Eric Lutz, Director of Public Works, City of Folly Beach

**Framework and Vision for a More Flood-Resilient SC**

Tony McEwen, Carolinas Director, American Flood Coalition

**3:00 pm**      **COFFEE BREAK**  
Sponsored by **Davis & Floyd**

**Nature-Based Solutions**

Session Chair: Janet Curry, Director of Public Works, City of Myrtle Beach; Treasurer, S.C. Beach Advocates

**3:30 pm**      **Transforming the Scale & Equity of Living Shorelines in South Carolina**  
Susanna Hopkins, Resilience Program Manager, The Nature Conservancy

**Folly Beach Living Shoreline Demonstration Project**

Jenna Stevens, Zoning Administrator, City of Folly Beach

Kim Morganello, Weston & Sampson

**The Boyd Living Shoreline: A Largescale Living Shoreline Project in S.C.**

Nicole Pehl, Marine Program Manager, The Nature Conservancy

**Bank Stabilization on Waccamaw River**

Rod Tyler, President, Green Horizons Environmental

**5:30 pm**      **WELCOME RECEPTION**  
**Palmetto Hall, Wild Dunes Resort**

Happy Hour Sponsored by **Great Lakes Dredge & Dock**

Student Posters:

**Exploring the feasibility of Thin Layer Placement in South Carolina**

Lexi Watson, S.C. Sea Grant Consortium and College of Charleston, Environmental and Sustainable Studies

**Development of a Coastal Vulnerability Model Towards Future Land Use Planning in Bluffton, SC**

Hailey Connell, M.S., College of Charleston, Environmental and Sustainable Studies

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Friday, January 17, 2025

7:45 am **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**  
Sponsored by ATM, a Geosyntec Company



### **Water and Policy Challenges**

Session Chair: Brian Henry, Mayor, Pawleys Island; Director, SC Beach Advocates

8:20 **S.C. Coastal Public Water Access – Challenges, Case Studies, & Opportunities**  
Kirby Marshall, Senior Principal, ATM, a Geosyntec Company  
Douglas Kerr, Deputy City Administrator, City of Isle of Palms

#### **SECOORA's Southeast Water Level Network**

Cotie Alsbrooks, Water Level Project Manager, Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA)

#### **Success of the S.C. Beach Advocates Water Level Sensor Program**

Kevin Mukai, Chief Operating Officer, Hohonu

#### **Panel Discussion: Emerging Coastal Legal Challenges in South Carolina**

Joe Owens, Environmental Attorney, Burr & Forman  
Sallie Phelan, Assistant General Counsel, SCDES Bureau of Coastal Management

10:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

### **Economic Benefits of South Carolina Beaches**

Session Chair: Crawford Moore, Mayor, Town of Edisto Beach; Incoming Vice Chair, S.C. Beach Advocates

10:30 **2025 Legislative Session Update & Outlook for South Carolina Beach Funding**  
Senator George E. “Chip” Campsen, III, District 43  
Senator Stephen L. Goldfinch, District 34  
Representative Spencer Wetmore, District 115  
Representative Joe Bustos, District 112  
Representative Thomas C. “Case” Brittain, Jr., District 107

#### **South Carolina Coastal Tourism and Beach Nourishment**

Duane Parrish, Director, S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism

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**12:00 pm**      **GOVERNOR’S LUNCHEON**  
Exclusively Sponsored by **Marinex Construction**

**Palmetto Hall**

Moderator: Marilyn Hatley, Mayor, North Myrtle Beach

**Keynote Address**  
Governor Henry McMaster

**Coastal Resilience**

Session Chair: Pat O’Neil, Mayor, Sullivan’s Island; Director, SC Beach Advocates

**1:30      South Carolina Office of Resilience (SCOR) Update**  
Ben Duncan, Chief Resilience Officer and Agency Head

**High Water in the Holy City – The Charleston Water Plan**  
Jared Bramblett, Senior Water Resources Engineer, Moffatt & Nichol  
Stephen O’Connell, Project Manager, Black & Veatch  
Kaylan Koszela, Director of Resiliency, City of Charleston

**A Dream within a Dream - A Multi-Layered Plan for Coastal Community Resilience on Sullivan’s Island**  
Aaron Akin, Water Resources Project Manager, SeamonWhiteside

**Coastal Resiliency Efforts – Case Studies**  
Marc Gold, Coastal Engineer, Applied Technology and Management (ATM), a Geosyntec Company

**Closing Remarks**

**3:00              Adjourn**