

**ASBPA Summer Advocacy Days:**

Capitol Hill Day – Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>.

In District Day – Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

**ASKS:**

- 1) Will you support the inclusion of \$5 billion in direct spending to (re-)build federal, state and local beaches, dunes, wetlands and other coastal risk reduction in a Federal Infrastructure Bill?**
- 2) Will you support \$75 million for Shore Protection in the FY18 Energy & Water Appropriations bill?**
- 3) Will you support maintaining funding levels for permitting and key coastal research and data acquisition programs, including:**
  - a. NMFS Protected Resources Division; Sea Grant; Coastal Resilience Grants at NOAA;
  - b. Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP); National Coastal Mapping Program; Coastal Field Data Collection Program at USACE;
  - c. Coastal-Marine Hazards and Resources Program (CMHRP) (formerly Coastal and Marine Geology Program [CMGP]) at USGS;

**MESSAGE:**

***Value of healthy coasts [these should be supported with local stories and statistics]:***

- a) Healthy coasts drive local economies and are a jobs bonanza.**
  - a. Local example, or: Studies of estuarine restoration – from the Gulf of Maine to the Chesapeake to North Carolina – consistently show that for every \$1 million invested, approximately 30 jobs are created or protected.
- b) Natural coastal infrastructure (beaches, dunes, and wetlands) protect communities and upland infrastructure from storms and coastal hazards.**
  - a. Local example.
- c) Investing in coastal protection now, saves money in re-building later – spend millions to save billions.**
  - a. Local example, or: A USACE estimate says federal investment in shore protection saved \$1.9 billion in damages during Hurricane Sandy.

***Funding request:***

- a) Congress should invest \$5 billion over 10 years to (re-)build federal, state and local beaches, dunes, wetlands and other coastal risk reduction, erosion control and habitat infrastructure;
- b) Congress should provide at least \$75 million in annual appropriations for Shore Protection construction and investigations, and support planning to improve coastal resilience;
- c) Key to these coastal infrastructures' success is a strategic plan for proper management of sediment, which is a finite and valuable resource, and up-to-date coastal data;
- d) In summary, ASBPA supports federal funding for all three of these important elements in coastal preservation:
  - a. project construction,
  - b. planning and studies, and
  - c. data collection.