**ASBPA Summer Advocacy Days:**
Capitol Hill Day – Wednesday, July 12th.
In District Day – Wednesday, August 16th.

**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.