
To: NTB Board of Aldermen

Subject: BISAC Monthly Meeting Report

From: Larry Strother, Chair

Date: Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Manager's Update. Manager Derian advised that Beach Projects were paused for the season on May 2nd. She also reported that the PTC #8 FEMA rebuilding the dunes project was paused until after turtle season. The cost share project for beach plantings was approved again this year and earlier this month the count was just under 20,000 plants. The Topsail Island Vitex eradication project is expected to start later this month.

5/30 Year Beach Plan-One Stop meeting report, Current Status- Next Steps

Jamie Pratt ,TI Coastal Engineering, reported the results of the One Stop meeting:

- The response to the project was a no, but not a strong no. The response to the temporary structure was a resounding no, as it is considered to be a terminal groin which has a separate process.
- Concern was expressed about the quality and color(dark) of material in the proposed borrow area.
- Concern was also expressed about the impact to the north end because it is a bird nesting habitat.
- The Environmental Impact Study is expected to be completed by August of this year.
- Our next step is to work the comments we received, finalize beach placement, review geo tech data and make the necessary adjustments to the project to move forward on final permit application submittal to CAMA in September 2025.
- We will look for other ways to place sand in the north end without use of a temporary structure such as making the north end a borrow area an environmental island.
- It is expected that the Corps will continue to use the borrow area.
- Easements from property owners for placement of the pipeline have to be obtained. The area is not built on or inhabited.
- It takes 5 to 6 months for the CAMA review process before permits are approved.
- We could possibly put the project out to bid in November of this year without permit approval.
- Hopefully, a bid may be awarded by March 2026.
- Clearing and grubbing of the site would happen over the summer and equipment mobilization would begin to start work in November 2026.

Town of North Topsail Beach **Beach, Inlet, and Sound Advisory Committee**

Member questions:

- If Phases 1, 2 and 3 become an engineered beach, will there be FEMA coverage?
- If a terminal groin is still possible, where will funding come from if FEMA should go away?
- Is the terminal groin still in play?

Mr Pratt and Engineer Gibson's responses:

- Yes, if Phases 1, 2 and 3 become an engineered beach, there will be FEMA coverage
- Yes, a terminal groin is still an option. Estimated cost would be about \$10 million (Town's part)
- We will look at soft solutions for the north end such as reshaping it or making it an environmental island sanctuary.
- Currently FEMA covers 75% of damages and the state covers 25%. An idea floating around is that FEMA may only administer block grants. Right now, a long term project for FEMA funding has to go through the Environmental Study process which delays it roughly 2-3 years. It is possible the bureaucracy will go away, but not the funding.
- Once the project is finished, we must consider where we will get sand from long term.
- At this time, there is nothing further the Town needs to do financially to move forward with permitting.

Tentative Date for Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 10:30



Town of North Topsail Beach

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The Tentative Date of the next meeting is April 15, 2025



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