Why NCDB?

The need for easy access to USACE navigation and coastal data has never been greater. These data support the daily operation and maintenance of projects and also develop new tools and models for regional management.

Currently, navigation and coastal data are scattered among many USACE Districts and the offices within them. Because data are collected by many different sources, there is little standardization, and the data can be generally difficult to access.

Other common problems include occurrences of duplicated data and a lack of knowledge about the existence and location of datasets.

Everyone wins

- The NCDB organizes District data as a corporate asset.
- The NCDB provides a standardized "one stop" for navigation and coastal data.
- The NCDB improves efficiency and saves time and money by reducing the wait time between requesting and receiving data.
- The NCDB increases consistency in data analysis and modeling results among coastal organizations.
- The NCDB accelerates implementation of enterprise practices throughout the Corps.

Mobile District
Spatial Data Branch

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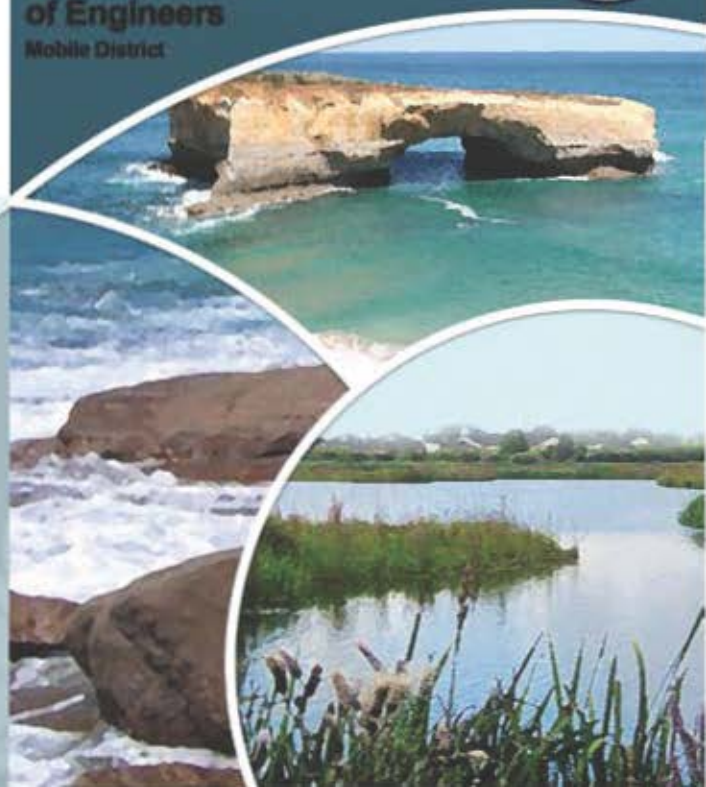
Navigation & Coastal Data Bank

Program Overview

US Army Corps of Engineers
Mobile District



Navigation and Coastal Data Bank

The Navigation and Coastal Data Bank (NCDB) will consolidate priority USACE data. The NCDB will allow access to existing navigation and coastal information through a district geodatabase and ultimately through a single portal and will allow easier dissemination of new information.

The NCDB's function is four-fold:

- manage data at districts where it is collected,
- organize Districts to bring their coastal data online as a corporate asset,
- create a Web portal and search engine for navigation and coastal information, and
- participate in Geospatial One-Stop and IOOS interface to USACE navigation and coastal data.

The NCDB is accessed at the Districts via a geodatabase server and publically through an Internet portal where users can efficiently search for and use all types of navigation and coastal data, information, and tools. The site will connect to a national collection of servers that maintain navigation and coastal data and information with a focus on USACE navigation and coastal data—both spatial and temporal. The USACE Mobile District manages the NCDB program.

NCDB Benefits

The NCDB organizational structure facilitates data manipulation:

- access that data more efficiently and
- easily upload new data as it is collected.

The NCDB also helps create the framework and architecture supporting USACE enterprise GIS guidance and policy. The initial navigation and coastal data focus should provide the catalyst to initiate GIS implementation throughout USACE.

To promote the common goal of data access through a distributed network, the NCDB works in conjunction with other efforts and systems under development:

- USACE eGIS,
- USCG's Geospatial One-Stop, and
- NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System's Data Management and Communication

Major NCDB Tasks

Interaction

Establishing the NCDB program requires interaction and coordination among districts, conversion of many databases, adoption of new data formats, creation of nationally standardized analysis tools, and establishing visualization applications.

Database Population

To populate the database, two data analysts will be funded at 21 navigation and coastal Districts for 12 months: Alaska, New York, Jacksonville, Seattle, Buffalo, Mobile, Portland, New England, New Orleans, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Norfolk, Galveston, Honolulu, Wilmington, Baltimore, Chicago, Charleston, Detroit, and Savannah.

Initial Focus

The NCDB will initially focus on these main data sets:

- national coastal mapping products,
- channel framework,
- disposal sites,
- structure as-builts,
- channel condition surveys,
- legacy dredging data,
- USACE tide gauge data, and
- wave/water level data.

Projected Tasks

Implementing the NCDB Corps-wide will require completion of specific tasks:

- Set up NCDB via eCoastal GIS or other existing geodatabases in each coastal USACE District and create links to the portal.
- Organize and load data within each District.
- Create the Web portal.
- Integrate and link with IOOS and other programs.
- Complete training on database maintenance and use of data analysis tools.