

Future Issues of Risk within the Marine Transportation System

Dr. Ty V. Wamsley, PhD, SES

Director, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center

November 2019

Distribution A: Approved for public release.





USACE: Cross-Mission Value to the Nation



• Commercial waterways convey 98% of U.S. Imports & exports

10,000+ acres
 wetlands restored/ year

#1 Provider of outdoor recreation, contributing
\$16B to local economies

25% of U.S.
 hydropower capacity, 3%
 of total electricity

US Army Corps of Engineers • Engineer Research and Development Center

UNCLASSIFIED

USACE: Water Resource Challenges

Climate Change



Environment



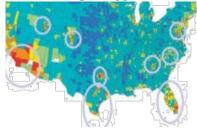
Governance Federal Budget



Declining **Biodiversity**



Demographic Shifts



R&D is Key to Addressing Challenges

Aging Infrastructure



Globalization



Energy

Increasing demand

Disaster Preparedness and Response

for water



Need integrated, cross-mission solutions that *quantify present* & future impacts, benefits

US Army Corps of Engineers • Engineer Research and Development Center

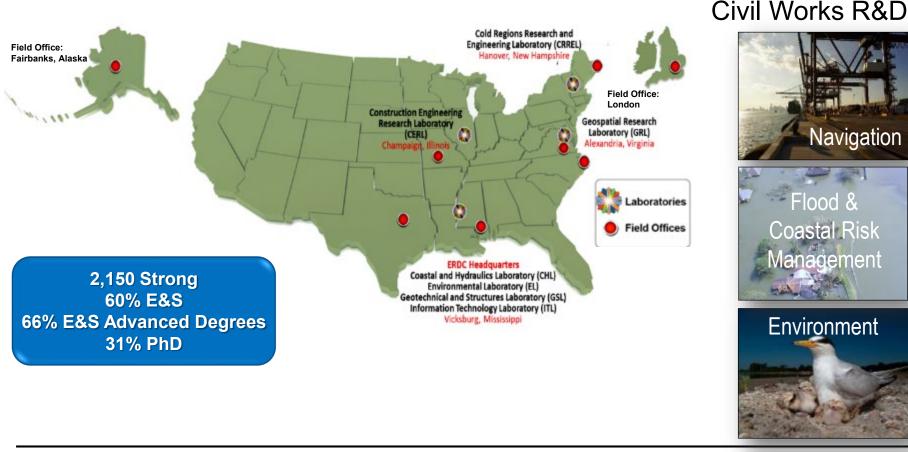
UNCLASSIFIED

Engineer Research & Development Center

ERDC Vision: To be a World Class Research & Development Organization that **Discovers, Develops & Delivers** New Ways to Make the World Safer and Better **Every Day**

Navigation

Flood &



US Army Corps of Engineers • **Engineer Research and Development Center**

UNCLASSIFIED

Navigation Risk - Continuum

Measuring

 Identifying types of risk, locations, behaviors, and areas for further study. Quantitative methods exist for certain types of navigational risk.

Monitoring

 Establishing systems to reliably monitor and provide situation reports at the necessary time scale.

Managing

 Intelligently combining monitoring data with historicallyinformed situational understanding to minimize risk when possible.

Anticipating

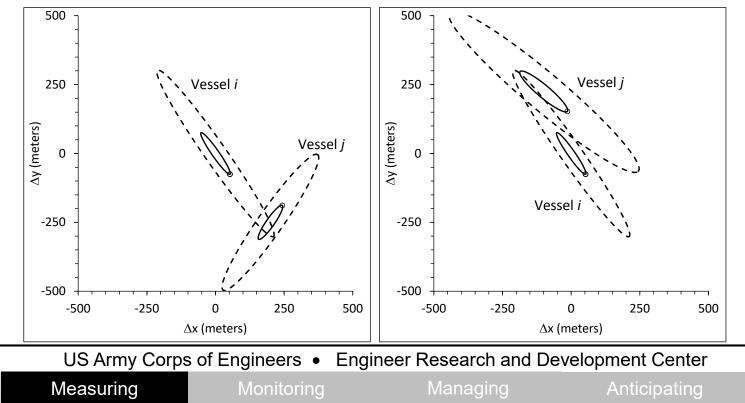
 Forward-looking and worst-case scenario exploration to inform planning, practice, and investment.

Measuring Maritime Risk: Historical

- Traditional approaches to maritime risk assessment are subjective and qualitative.
- Quantitative assessments of risk are needed to identify priorities and justify investment.

UNCLASSIFIED

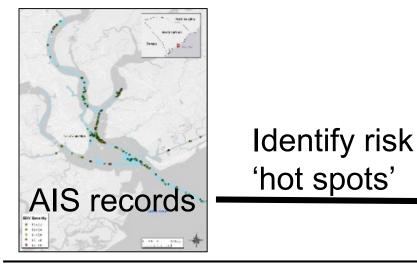
- Ship domain violations (SDV) can be quantified using Automatic Identification System (AIS) data from the USCG Nationwide AIS archive.
- Ship's domain is a pre-defined perimeter area around the actual ship itself, user-defined

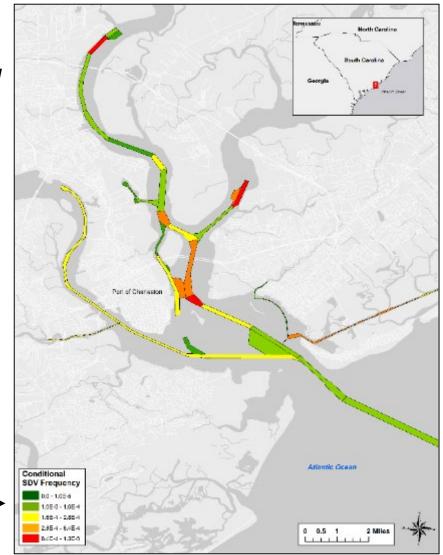


Ship domain violations occur when two domains overlap – no fault is implied.

Risk Assessment: Historical → Future

- A year of AIS data was used to locate SDVs and calculate a risk metric: *Probability that a vessel operating in a reach will be involved in an SDV.*
- Compare and rank channel reaches based on the probability of an SDV.
- In Charleston Harbor, a vessel transiting in a RED reach is about 10 times more likely to be involved in an SDV than a vessel transiting in a GREEN reach.



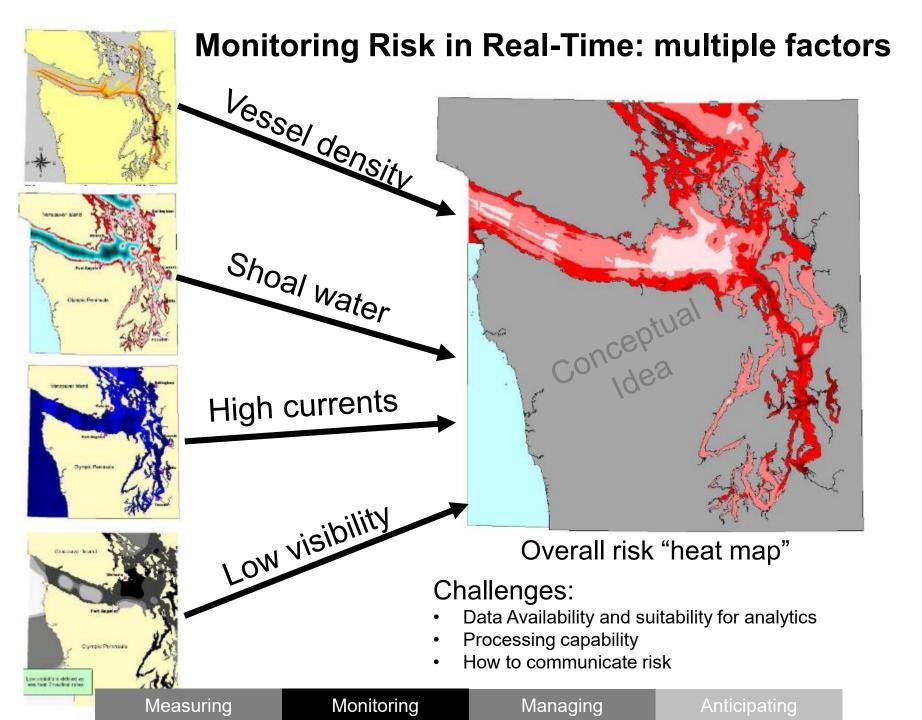


US Army Corps of Engineers • Engineer Research and Development Center

Measuring

Monitoring

Managing



Monitor+Manage: Communicating and Anticipating Risk in Real-Time

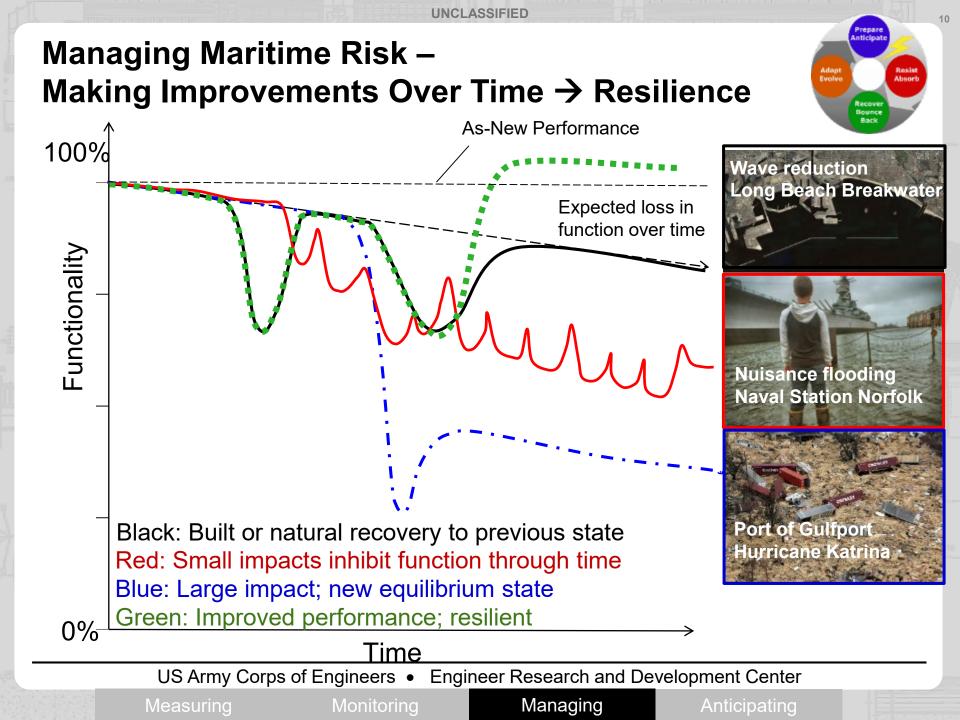
UNCLASSIFIED

AIS GEOGRAPHIC NOTICE ADVISEMENT Restriction: Entry prohibited BNM 0273-19 START 2019-05-05 17:00:00 END 2019-05-11 23:59:00 LINKAGE ID 3 MMSI 003660654 FI(2) R 6s (priv) R 6s (priv) R 6s (priv) (2) R 6s (priv) W 2.5s (priv) 2) R 6s (priv) ast St R 6s (priv 2) R 6s (priv)

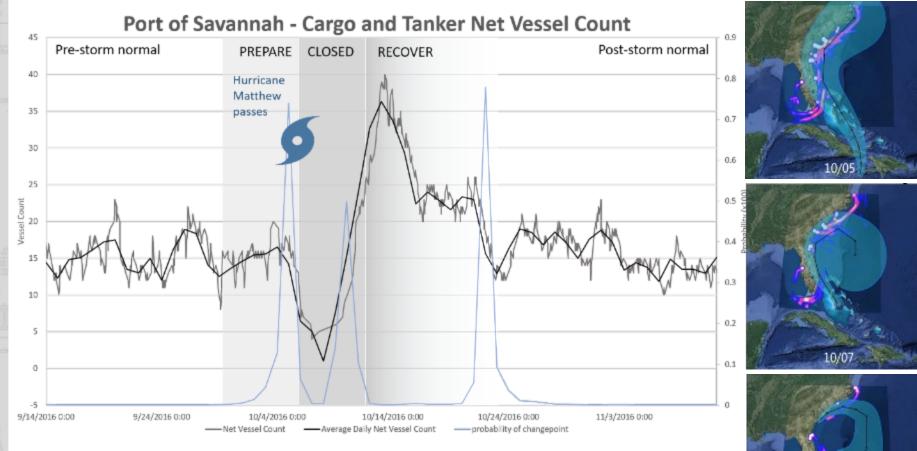
"Virtual" AtoN mark new channel



Measuring



Resilience Metrics and Indices: Matthew (2016)



- Understand baseline function of our navigation systems and the impacts of disruptions
- Evaluate and monitor project performance in real-time

US Army Corps of Engineers

Engineer Research and Development Center

Measuring

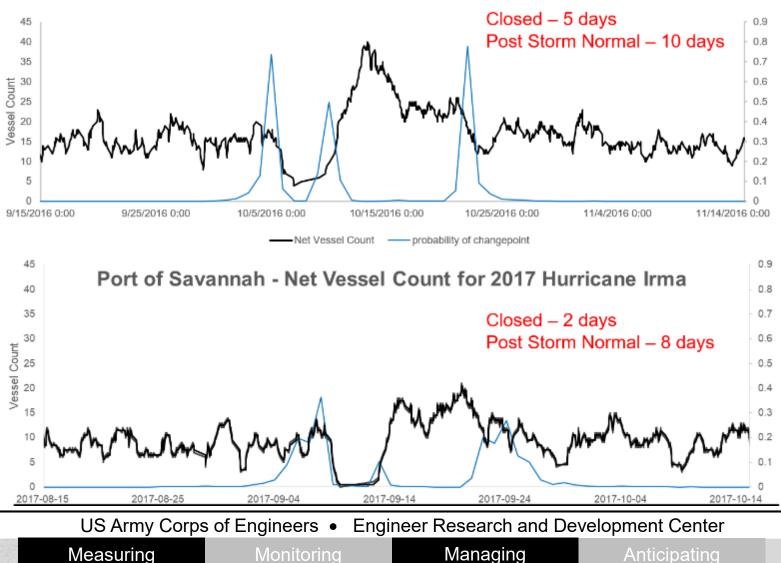
Managing

Resilience Metrics and Indices: Port of Savannah, *Matthew* (2016) and *Irma* (2017)

UNCLASSIFIED

12

Port of Savannah – Net Vessel Count for 2016 Hurricane Matthew



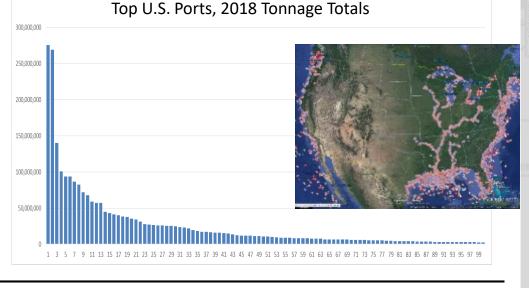
US Marine Transportation System

UNCLASSIFIED



- MTS and national freight network are both characterized by a relative handful of dominant cargo arteries and traffic chokepoints.
- Prolonged disruptions at these key locations could dramatically impact overall system response.





US Army Corps of Engineers • Engineer Research and Development Center

Measuring

Monitoring

Managing

Anticipating Risk: Golden Ray Capsizing

8 Sep 2019



Source: Savannah Morning News

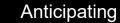


- Pilot's decision to guide vessel out of channel credited with keeping the Port of Brunswick open during months-long salvage operation.
- Among U.S. coastal ports, Brunswick ranks 67th overall for tonnage, but is the 8th largest port for vehicle (roll-on/roll-off) cargo.
- Bad situation, but could have been so much worse...

US Army Corps of Engineers • Engineer Research and Development Center

Measuring

Managing



Anticipating Risk: What if capsizing happened in Houston's Navigation Channel?



- Houston is largest U.S. coastal port for exports, close second for imports and total tonnage.
- Houston Ship Channel is only about 600-ft wide
- GOLDEN RAY length = 656-ft

Google earth

US Army Corps of Engineers • Engineer Research and Development Center

Measuring

Monitoring

Managing

Future: Improve First-Responder Coordination to High-Impact Maritime Events



- Utilize coupled multiple ship simulators
- Evaluate multi-vessel natural disaster & terrorism threats Apply to high-use MTS bottlenecks and choke-points
- Build best practice protocols for multi-agency response

US Army Corps of Engineers • Engineer Research and Development Center

Measuring

Monitoring

Managing