

Sustainable Sediment Management

June 3-6, 2025, UGA Georgia Convention Center, Athens, GA

Course Directors: Dr. Ram Mohan, Dr. Todd Bridges & Dr. Brian Bledsoe (IRIS)

Monday June 2		
3:00 PM	Oconee Dam Removal Case Study & Field Trip to Whitehall Forest (optional)	Bus pickup at Georgia Center
5:00-6:30 PM	Welcome Social	Flinchum's Phoenix
Tuesday June 3		
7:00 - 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Pecan Tree Galleria
8:00 – 9:30 AM	Introduction to Sustainable Sediment Management Part 1	Masters Hall
8:00 – 8:15 AM	Welcome and Course Objectives - <i>Dr. Ram Mohan</i>	
8:15 – 9:00 AM	Sustainable Sediment Management Considerations and Basic Concepts of Sediment Balance - <i>Dr. Brian Bledsoe, UGA IRIS</i>	
9:00 – 9:30 AM	The Case for Sustainable Sediment Management - <i>Dr. Todd Bridges, UGA IRIS</i>	
9:30 - 10:00 AM	Coffee Break	Rooms F/G, Q, R
10:00 -10:30 AM	Break-Out Session: Needs and Opportunities for Sustainable Sediment Management	Pecan Galleria
10:30 - 10:45 AM	Reports from Break-Out Session	Masters Hall
10:45 - 12:15 AM	Introduction to Sustainable Sediment Management Part 2	Masters Hall
10:45 - 11:25 AM	Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material – <i>Dr. Burton Suedel, USACE ERDC</i>	
11:25 – 12:00 PM	Data Needs for Sustainable Sediment Projects – <i>Dr. Ram Mohan, UGA IRIS</i>	
12:00 – 12:15 PM	Q&A Session	
12:15 – 1:15 PM	Lunch – Speaker (12:45 – 1:05 PM): “Island Building Case Studies” - <i>Stan Ekren, Great Lakes Dock & Dredge Company</i>	Magnolia Ballroom
1:15 - 3:15 PM	Dredging & Dredge Technologies	Masters Hall
1:15 – 1:55 PM	Fundamentals of Dredging & Dredge Types – <i>Dr. Ram Mohan, UGA IRIS</i>	
1:55 – 2:30 PM	Sediment Processes and Innovations for Beneficial Use Applications – <i>Dr. Brian Harris, USACE ERDC</i>	
2:30 – 2:45 PM	Q&A Session	
2:45 – 3:15 PM	Coffee Break (Move to Design Lab Studios (rooms F/G, Q and R) for Breakout Sessions)	Pecan Tree Galleria
3:15 - 5:15 PM	SSM Design Labs	
	Group A – Wetland Restoration Project Design	Room F/G
	Group B – Riverine BU Design Project	Room Q
	Group C – Coastal Nature-based Solution Case Study	Room R
6:15 – 7:30 PM	Reception with Dinner Speaker (Port of Charleston, TBD)	Pecan Tree Galleria

Wednesday June 4		
7:00 - 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Pecan Tree Galleria
8:00 – 12:00 PM	Executing SSM Projects: Part 1	Masters Hall
8:00 – 8:45 AM	Regional Sediment Management Principles & Examples – <i>Dr. Amanda Tritinger, USACE ERDC</i>	
8:45 – 9:30 AM	Sediment Transport Modeling and Considerations for Beneficial Use Projects – <i>Dr. Tahirih Lackey, USACE ERDC</i>	
9:30 – 10:00 AM	Development of a Strategic Plan to Advance Beneficial Use of Dredged Material – <i>Dr. Ellen Herbert, Ducks Unlimited</i>	
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Coffee Break	Rooms F/G, Q, R
10:15 – 10:50 AM	Strategic Sediment Placement and Sediment Pulse Applications for SSM – Experience from the USACE San Francisco District – <i>Tiffany Cheng, USACE San Francisco</i>	
10:50 – 11:15 AM	BU and Sustainable Sediment Management Case Studies from the Great Lakes Region– <i>Joshua Unghire, USACE Buffalo District</i>	
11:15 – 11:45 AM	Reservoir Sedimentation Case Study – <i>John Shelley, USACE Kansas City District</i>	
11:45 – 12:00 PM	Q&A Session	
12:00 - 1:30 PM	Lunch: Speaker (12:30 – 12:50 PM): “Beaches and Dunes Case Studies” – <i>Connor Tenant, Manson Construction Company</i>	Magnolia Ballroom
1:30 - 3:00 PM	Executing SSM Projects: Part 2	
1:30 – 1:55 PM	Planning and Permitting a Sustainable Sediment Management Project – <i>Jared Lopes, USACE Savannah District</i>	
1:55 – 2:20 PM	EWN and BU for DOD Climate Resiliency: Case Studies - <i>Dr. Todd Bridges, UGA IRIS</i>	
2:20 – 2:45 PM	Assessing Progress on the USACE Chief’s 70/30 BU Goal - <i>Dr. Katie Brutsche, USACE HQ</i>	
2:45- 3:00 PM	Q&A Session	
3:00-3:30 PM	Coffee Break (Move to Design Lab Studios (rooms F/G, Q and R) for Breakout Sessions)	Pecan Tree Galleria
3:30-5:15 PM	SSM Design Labs	
	Group B – Wetland Restoration Project Design	Room F/G
	Group C – Riverine BU Design Project	Room Q
	Group A – Coastal Nature-based Solution Case Study	Room R
<i>Dinner on your own</i>		
Thursday June 5		
7:00 - 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Pecan Tree Galleria
8:00 – 12:00 PM	Beneficial Uses of Dredged Materials: Part 1	Masters Hall
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Wetland Restoration Using Dredged Material – <i>Dr. Ram Mohan, UGA IRIS</i>	
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Upper Mississippi Beneficial Use Case Studies – <i>Andrew Timmis, JF Brennan Company</i>	
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Coffee Break	Rooms F/G, Q, R
10:15 – 11:00 AM	Deer Island BU Project: Design and Construction Case Study – <i>Wendell Mears, Anchor QEA, Inc.</i>	

11:00 – 11:45 AM	Monitoring and Adaptive Management Considerations for Sustainable Sediment Management – <i>Samuel Whitin, EA Engineering</i>	
11:45 – 12:00 PM	Q&A Session	
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch: Speaker (12:30 – 12:50 PM): “Louisiana Wetland Restoration Case Studies” – <i>Jason Block, Weeks Marine</i>	Magnolia Ballroom
1:00 – 3:00 PM	Beneficial Uses of Dredges Material: Part 2	Masters Hall
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Beneficial Use Practices along the South Atlantic Coast: A Historical Review and Lessons Learned – <i>Brad Pickel, AIWW</i>	
1:30 – 2:00 PM	Sustainable Sediment Management & Case Studies from National Wildlife Refuges: Key Lessons – <i>Gian Basili, USFWS</i>	
2:00 – 2:45 PM	Ecological Considerations and Case Studies for Sustainable Sediment Management – <i>Dr. Candice Piercy, USACE ERDC</i>	
2:45 – 3:00 PM	Q&A	
3:00 – 3:30 PM	Coffee Break (Move to Design Lab Studios (rooms F/G, Q and R) for Breakout Sessions)	Pecan Tree Galleria
3:30 – 5:15 PM	SSM Design Labs	
	Group C – Wetland Restoration Project Design	Room F/G
	Group A – Riverine BU Design Project	Room Q
	Group B – Coastal Nature-based Solution Case Study	Room R
6:30 – 8:30 PM	Dinner Banquet – Speaker (TBD)	Magnolia Ballroom
Friday June 6		
7:00 – 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Pecan Tree Galleria
8:00 – 12:00 PM	New Frontiers in Sustainable Sediment Management	Masters Hall
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Sustainable Sediment Management R&D Projects at Seven Mile Island, New Jersey – <i>Dr. Lenore Tedesco, The Wetlands Institute</i>	
9:00 – 10:00 AM	The Four Coasts: Combining Engineering with Landscape Design for Sustainable Sediment Management - <i>Rob Holmes, Auburn University</i>	
10:00 – 10:15 AM	Coffee Break	Rooms F/G, Q, R
10:15 – 11:15 AM	A Vision for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure – <i>Dr. Brian Bledsoe, UGA IRIS</i>	
11:15 – 12:00 PM	Clearing Hurdles to Sustainable Sediment Management and Roadmap to Success – <i>Dr. Ram Mohan, UGA IRIS</i>	
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About SSM Design Session

After a 15-minute introductory discussion with the professor, each sub-group spends the first 15 minutes on project planning (including synthesis of data, identifying permit needs, evaluation of alternatives); the next 15 minutes on project development (i.e., determining design basis, illustrating concept design, and defining basic performance metrics), and the last 15 minutes on construction aspects (develop a monitoring framework and a simple project bid sheet) - (1-hour total); Subgroups then report back project exercise highlights to the entire Breakout Group in 5

minutes, with 10 minutes of discussion (per group) – (45-minutes total) Each group will rotate through each topic during the course of the course.