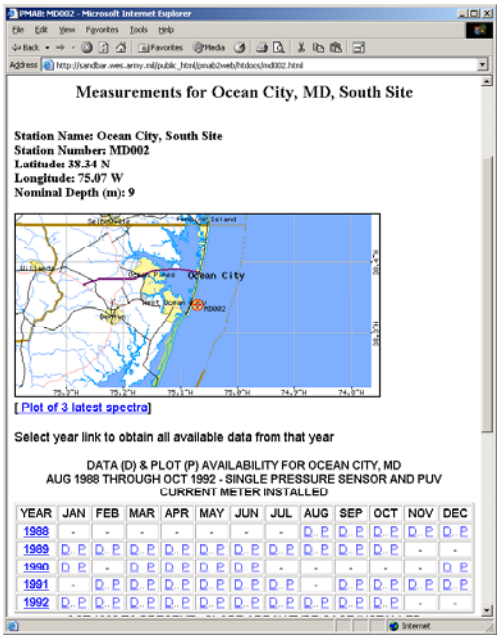
US Army Corps of Engineers®
Engineer Research and Development Center

Ocean City, MD Wave Gage

Description

Field Data Collection and Analysis Branch operates one directional wave gage, one high resolution tide gage and a barometer near Ocean City, MD for the. Wave gage has been in existence since 1988.



Issue

Performance monitoring of the Ocean City shore protection project is in accordance with guidance in the USACE Engineering Manual EM-1110-2-1004 (Coastal Project Monitoring). Monitoring includes observing near-shore wave properties and water levels to determine if the project is protecting the shore in conformance with the design specifications. In addition, the water level data are used for survey control purposes at Ocean City inlet and Assateague Island.

Products

Products include near real-time processed wave and water-level data and barometric pressure data. Periodic reports are prepared updating the wave statistics and highlighting storms of note.

Supporting Technology

The measurement system uses a trio of very stable, high-resolution pressure sensors to make continuous six-minute observations of water level and hourly wave observations. The observed data are queried via telephone line by a central computer automated data acquisition and processing system, then automatically posted to a web site for user access.

Benefits

Analyzed data are provided to CENAB, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and state and local agencies for determining performance of the shore protection project, making investment decisions on project maintenance, and as supporting information for related studies.

Sponsors

U.S. Army Engineer District, Baltimore (CENAB)

Point of Contact

Andrew Garcia, email garciaa@wes.army.mil. Additional information can be found at http://sandbar.wes.army.mil and linking to “coastal data”

Partners

ERDC, U. S Army Engineer District Baltimore, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, City of Ocean City.