

SECOORA - Integrated Decision Support and Management Tools for Adaptive Public Health Practices:

An Early Advisement and Reporting System for Recreational and Shellfish Harvesting Waters of the Southeast

D.E. Porter, D. Ramage and Z. Hart - UofSC

H. Kelsey and N. Miller - UMCES

N. Nelson - NCSU

A. Cook, L. Longstreet and K. Claridge – MML&A

Overview of the Project

Under the SECOORA umbrella, the overall goal of our five-year project is to build upon, integrate, enhance, and expand our respective [How's the Beach](#) (UofSC/UMCES), [ShellCast](#) (NCSU) and [Beach Conditions Reporting System](#) (Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium) decision-support tools.

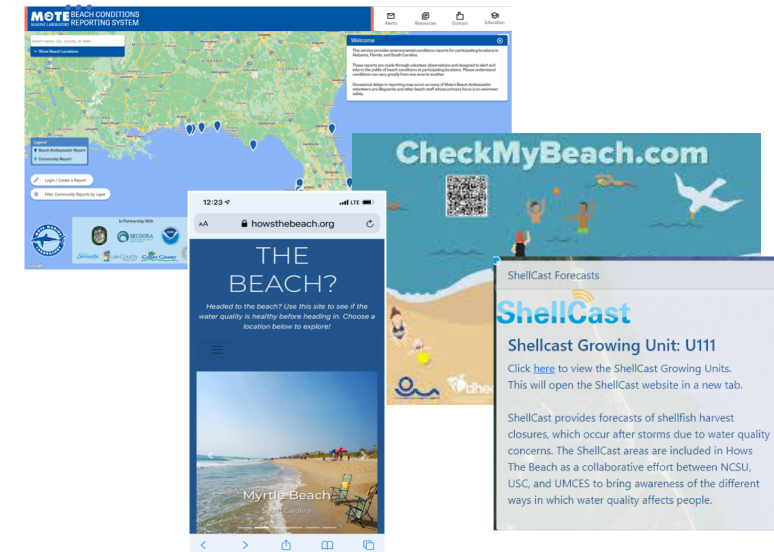
Working with state and local public health officials, resource managers, local municipalities, tourism and chamber of commerce officials, tourism and eco-tourism industries, the public and other identified end users and stakeholders, we are:

- providing access to relevant data and information on water quality and safety to support improved decision making;
- geographically expanding the How's the Beach (HTB) and ShellCast nowcasting / forecasting efforts in recreational waters and shellfish harvesting waters;
- supporting the integration of the Beach Conditions Reporting System (BCRS) to allow for citizen reporting of conditions throughout the SECOORA footprint;
- developing a transition plan for continuation of supported efforts at the conclusion of the five-year project.

Moving away from ...



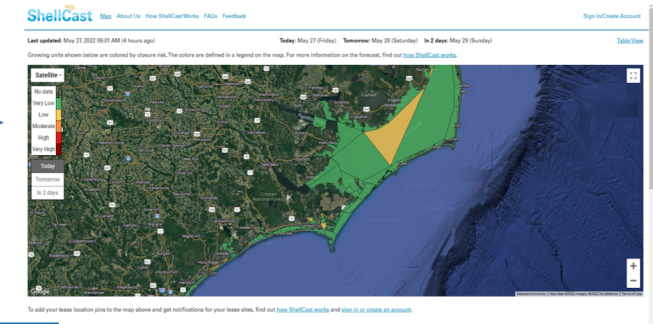
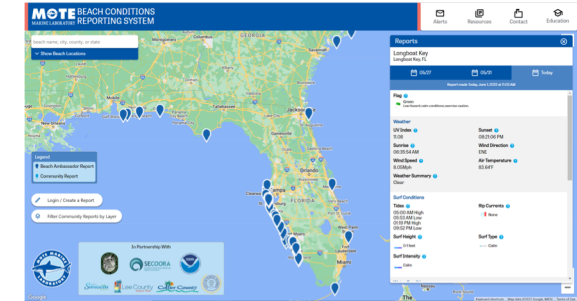
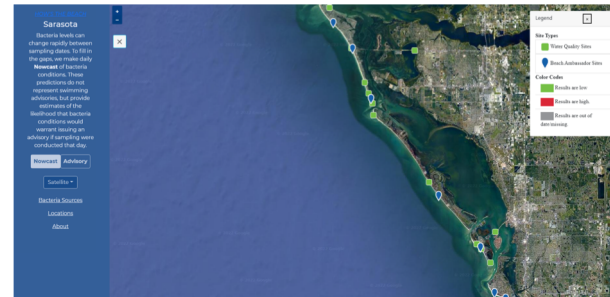
To focus on decision-support tools...



Accomplishments

Year 1 accomplishments include:

- development of technical plans (data sharing, web design, user interface) for integration of data and information exchange across HTB, ShellCast and BCRS;
- engaged state and local water quality data providers to support expansion of HTB and ShellCast modeling;
- BCRS reporting was expanded into SC with the additions of Hunting Island State Park and Folly Beach Pier, the latter of which is operating as a pilot location with the potential for two additional locations on Folly Beach in the future; and
- engaged stakeholders' review of modeling and decision-support tools.



Challenges and Looking Ahead

Year 2 objectives include:

- implementation of technical plan developed in Year 1, including API build-out for sharing of HTB, BCRS and ShellCast data and information between programs;
- complete ShellCast expansion to cover all shellfish waters in SC and continue laying the groundwork for expansion into FL;
- continue expansion of BCRS sites in SC and NC;
- push HTB nowcasts and ShellCast forecasts to SECOORA data portal; and
- develop education and outreach materials (e.g., infographic, press release, rack card) to provide broader exposure to the SECOORA-supported tools and applications.

