CORMP

UNCW

COASTAL OCEAN RESEARCH AND MONITORING PROGRAM

The Coastal Ocean Research and Monitoring Program (CORMP)

began at the UNCW Center for Marine Science in 1999. The program focuses on the collection and reporting of weather and oceanographic data by moorings deployed offshore of NC and SC. The CORMP real-time mooring array provides hourly updates for weather and sea surface conditions. All data is found on www.cormp.org. CORMP works closely with federal and local partners. Here are a few examples.

Weather Reporting Partnerships

CORMP works with NOAA's National Weather Service offices in Charleston, Wilmington, and Newport/Morehead City. CORMP real time data is used for marine forecasts, surf zone forecasts including rip current forecasts, and hazard alerts. NOAA's National Hurricane Center analyzes CORMP mooring data to track the progress and intensity of tropical storms and hurricanes impacting the east coast (see back page for data collected by LEJ3 during Hurricane Florence). The same information is reported through local newspaper and television news programs. The following websites provide CORMP data to their marine communities, specifically targeting coastal fishermen, mariners and sailors in the southeastern North Carolina region – *www.saltwatercentral.com* and *www.sailflow.com*.

U.S Army Corp of Engineers Support

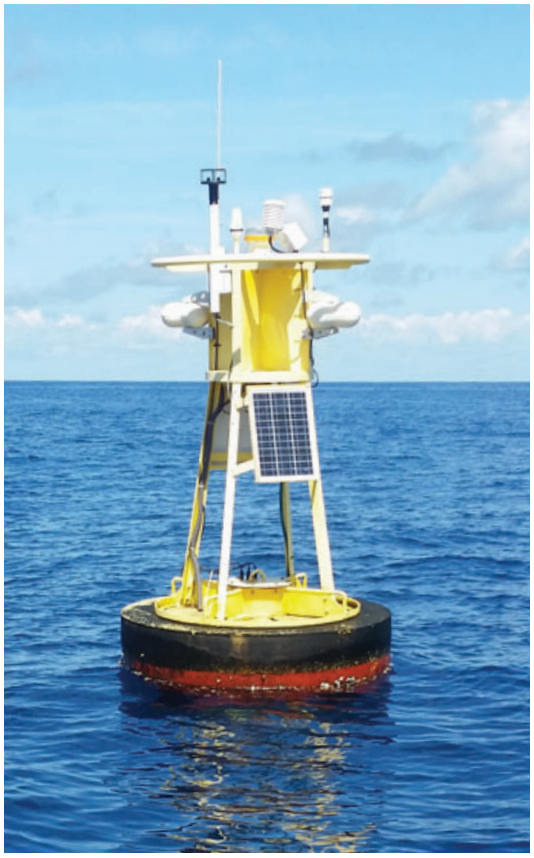
In North Carolina the cost of beach re-nourishment is ever increasing. CORMP works with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers offices in Duck, NC and Vicksburg, MS to coordinate WaveRider buoy deployments. These moorings provide the Corps with a better understanding of the coastal processes leading to beach erosion in southeastern NC. USACE also applies information collected by CORMP's established mooring array to other Corps projects including the: 1) development of a regional sediment management plan; 2) nearshore wave model validation; and, 3) Cape Fear Harbor dredging project. CORMP is currently operating three of these moorings, ILM2Wave (NDBC #41110), the Wilmington Harbor Buoy (NDBC #41108) and LEJ3Wave (NDBC #41159).

US Coast Guard

Data from the CORMP moorings are used by the US Coast Guard Sector North Carolina to initialize Search and Rescue operations in southeastern coastal waters. Mooring data provides wave height, water temperature, and surface current data which are needed to efficiently search for people and disabled boats at sea.

Tropical Storm and Hurricane Monitoring

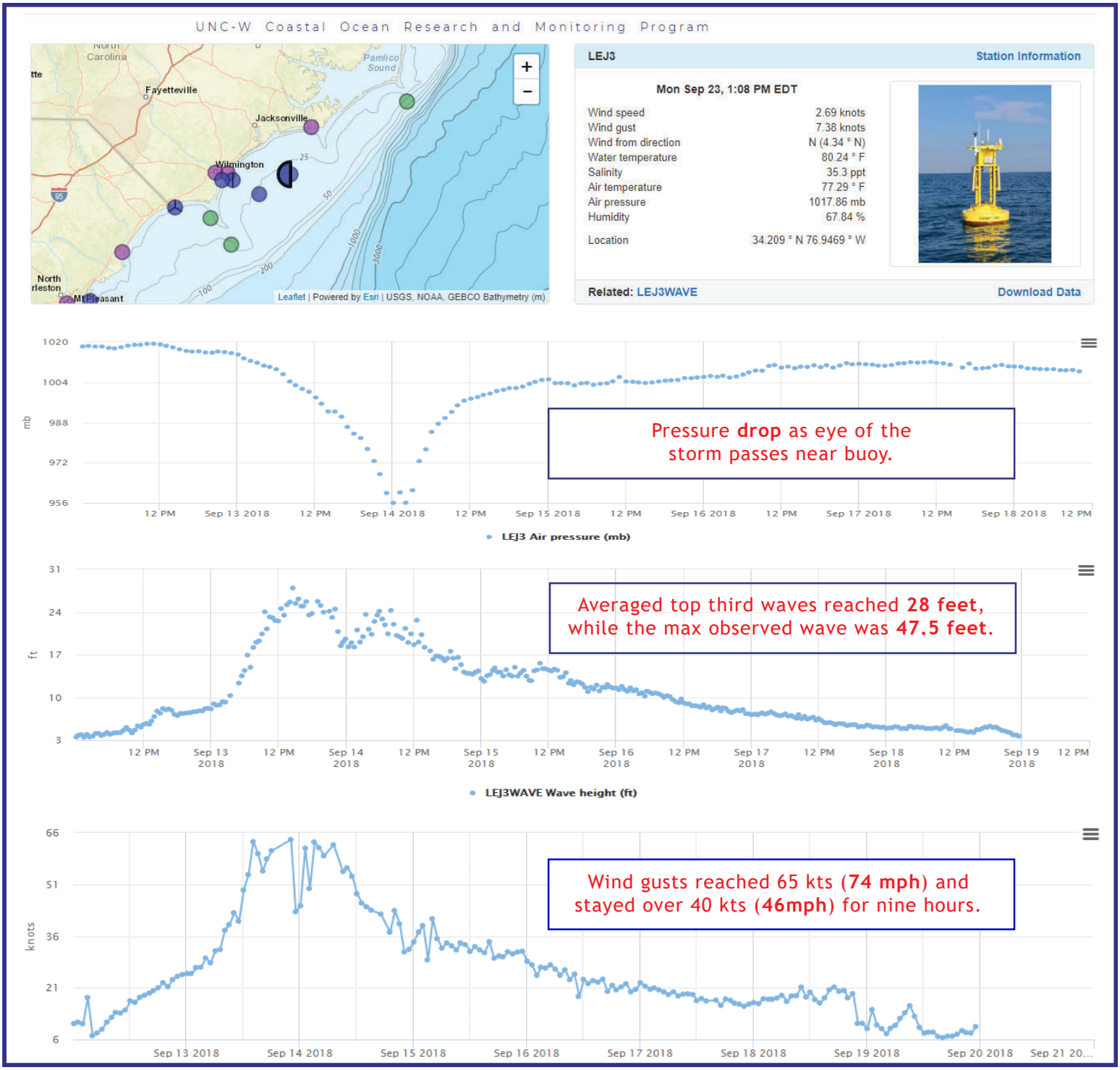
Hurricane Florence passed over NC and SC September 13-16, 2018. Data from the CORMP array was used by the National Hurricane Center, the National Weather Service, and local communities to track the progress of the storm.



ILM2 mooring, located 5 miles offshore of Wrightsville Beach, NC reports weather, sea surface temperature, and salinity data.

ILM2Wave data, also located off Wrightsville Beach, is used by the NOAA NWS and the Wrightsville Beach lifeguards to assess rip current conditions.

Below is a graphic with information provided by the CORMP ILM2 and ILM2Wave moorings.



CORMP is funded through competitive NOAA grants, the Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association,and contracts with agency and private sector partners.