



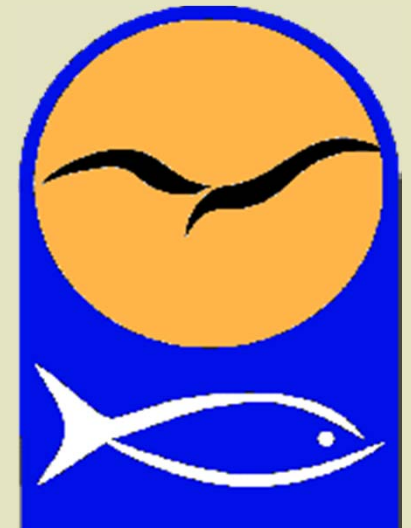
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Division of Coastal Management

***Inlet Management Study
Draft Priorities and Implementation***

July 31, 2014





CRC Prioritization of Stakeholder Input

- **Short-term Priorities**
 - Dredging Depths & Sed. Criteria Rules
 - Erosion Rate Calc. For IHA
 - Emergency Permitting & Beach Bulldozing
 - Static Veg Lines.
 - Stockpiling of Sand.
- **Long-term Priorities**
 - Beneficial Use of Dredged Material
 - Inlet Management Plans
 - Funding Sources & Partnerships
 - Dredging
 - Windows/Moratoria
 - Monitoring Conditions



DCM Proposed Priorities

- Directly address inlet related issues
- Actionable by CRC/DCM
- Build on current initiatives
- Includes a mix of short & long-term actions



DCM Proposed Priorities

- Complete Science Panel IHA Study
- Deep Draft, Port or Navigation IHAs
- Beach Bulldozing Practices
- Imminently Threatened Definition/Application
- Alternatives to Static Line
- Dredging Windows/Moratoria
- Monitoring Conditions
- Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Policy



Complete Science Panel IHA Study

- Required by HB 819
- Proposed as part of CRC Comprehensive Review
- Focused on calculating erosion rates in inlet areas
- Recommendation for “Management Area”
- Management Areas further refined with Science Panel input
- Further Assistance in Developing Deep Draft, Port or Navigation IHA



Establish Deep Draft, Port or Navigation IHA

- Inlets have unique attributes
- Interest in individual inlet management plans
- Aspects of mgt plans exist (50 yr SDR projects)
- Initially separate Deep Draft from Shallow Draft
- Different management objectives
- Apply Beaufort Inlet and Cape Fear River Inlet
- Associated DMMPs
- CRC – management objectives and development standards



Beach Bulldozing

- Bulldozing above MHW – General Permit
- Bulldozing allowed above MLW – Major Permit
- Protecting vacant lots allowed outside of IHA
- Rebuilding existing dunes allowed in IHA
- New dunes not allowed in IHA
- CRC could develop GP to allow Bulldozing in IHA
- New Dunes – concerns w/ artificial veg line. Could be allowed, CRC consideration of reference line for setbacks.



Imminently Threatened

- Definition – foundation, septic or road less than 20' from erosion scarp
- Flat beach profile or accelerated erosion
- DCM Director discretion
- CRC could amend definition for greater distance as well as application (i.e. natural features)
- Need to consider implications for sandbags and their use



Alternatives to Static Line

Current Rules

- Large Scale Beach Fill – defined as >300,000 cyd
- Pre-project vegetation line becomes “static Line”
- Reference point for measuring setbacks
- Static Line Exception – allow limited development (max 2,500 sqft) based on existing veg line and local gov’t commitment to beach nourishment
- CRC authorizes Static Line Exception
- 5 year Review/Reauthorization



CRC Chair Static Line Alternative

- Eliminate static line and 300,000 cyd rule
- No new development seaward of existing development line
- Local gov't determine development line, DCM reviews
- Veg line used for setbacks in absence of development line
- Maintain graduated setbacks, structure size and erosion rate provisions.
- New/replaced structures sited based on vegetation line or the development line, whichever farther landward.
- Apply this concept statewide, not just in IHAs.



DCM Static Line Alternative

- Amend Static Vegetation Line rules
- Repeal 2,500 sqft limitation
- Repeal 5 year waiting period
- CRC amends “large-scale beach fill project” > 300,000 cyd
- Retain local gov’t commitment to long-term projects
- Maintain graduated setbacks, structure size and erosion rate provisions.
- Maintain landward most adjacent provision (development line)



Dredging Windows/Moratoria

- Dredging projects coordinated among several state/fed agencies
- USACE: USF&W Service, NMFS – Natural resource impacts
- DCM relies on comments from other agencies re: timing projects to minimize effects on biological activity
- Consultant Study – feasibility of expanding dredging windows:
 Number of projects, mitigation, evaluation of impacts.
 Include agency review of info
- CRC consideration of results.
- DCM can also coordinate with other agencies



Monitoring Conditions

- Similar to Dredging Windows/Moratoria
- Projects coordinated among several state/fed agencies
- CAMA – Specific conditions for terminal groins
- Some Local gov'ts monitor physical aspects (beach profiles etc.)
- Biological often seen as less relevant
- Comprehensive monitoring may not be necessary for some projects (inlet dredging)
- Borrow site impacts less well know
- Channel realignment & terminal groins – Monitoring warranted
- DCM – seek funding (PSM) to review monitoring conditions on past permits.



Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials

- Existing beneficial use policy approved by NOAA
- Requires beach-quality sand to be placed on down-drift beaches.
- Navigation Channels - beach-quality sand not permanently removed from the active nearshore, beach, or inlet shoal systems .
- Caveat – ...unless no practical alternative exists.
- Amendment to Dredge and Fill did not include a similar caveat.
- Was not approved by NOAA for federal consistency use



Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials

CRC Chair Proposal

- Beach compatible sand shall be placed on adjacent beaches
- Minimizes shoaling & replicates natural littoral system to the maximum extent practicable
- Does not address the “practicable” caveat
- Burden of placing all beach compatible material would fall on local gov’t if not approved by NOAA
- CRC could amend existing policy to define “no practicable alternative” such as financial and logistical constraints which would allow disposal in areas other than beaches



Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials

- CRC Chair Proposal

“With respect to all beach-compatible sand, as defined by the Coastal Resources Commission through its rules and policies as set forth in 15A NCAC 07H.0312, resulting from the dredging of navigation channels within tidal inlets, harbors, and rivers, such sand shall be placed directly on adjacent beaches in a manner that minimizes shoaling and replicates the natural littoral system to the maximum extent practicable.”

- Existing Policy

“Clean, beach quality material dredged from navigation channels within the active nearshore, beach, or inlet shoal systems must not be removed permanently from the active nearshore, beach, or inlet shoal system unless no practicable alternative exists. Preferably, this dredged material will be disposed of on the ocean beach or shallow active nearshore area where environmentally acceptable and compatible with other uses of the beach” (15A NCAC 07M.1102(a)).



Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials

- Dredge and Fill Provision NCGS §113-229(h1-h2)
- (h1) Except as provided in subsection (h2) of this section, all construction and maintenance dredgings of beach-quality sand may be placed on the affected downdrift ocean beaches or, if placed elsewhere, an equivalent quality and quantity of sand from another location shall be placed on the downdrift ocean beaches.
- (h2) Clean, beach quality material dredged from navigational channels within the active nearshore, beach or inlet shoal systems shall not be removed permanently from the active nearshore, beach or inlet shoal system. This dredged material shall be disposed of on the ocean beach or shallow active nearshore area where it is environmentally acceptable and compatible with other uses of the beach.



Inlet Management Study Schedule

- February 2014 – Inlet Panel Discussion
- April 30 – Four Regional Meetings Completed
- May 15 – Summary of Regional Meetings
- June 30 – Legislative Status Report
- July 31 – Draft Findings and Recommendations
- September – Public Comment on Proposals
- December 31 – Submit Report to Governor & Legislature



DCM Proposed Priorities

- Complete Science Panel IHA Study
- Deep Draft, Port or Navigation IHAs
- Beach Bulldozing Practices Discussions
- Imminently Threatened Definition/Application
- Alternatives to Static Line
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- Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Policy



Other Issues for Consideration

- Dredging Depths & Sed. Criteria Rules
- Stockpiling Sand
- Funding Sources and Partnerships
- Extend Permit Expiration Period



For More Information...

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