

# Update on N.C. Climate Interagency Council & DCM's Resilience Initiatives

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# Resilience

The ability of a community or region to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from natural hazards.

# Guiding principles

The State of North Carolina working to adapt to climate-related extreme events and long-term risks, in order to:

1. preserve economic, natural, and cultural resources;
2. minimize social disruption and displacement from extreme events; and
3. lessen the need for disaster recovery spending.

# Coastal Area Management Act

§ 113A-113. Areas of environmental concern; in general.

- (b) The Commission may designate as areas of environmental concern any one or more of the following, singly or in combination:
- (6) Natural-hazard areas where uncontrolled or incompatible development could unreasonably endanger life or property, and other areas especially vulnerable to erosion, flooding, or other adverse effects of sand, wind and water...

# Adaptation strategies

- **Avoid**  
Proactively identify and avoid development in hazardous areas
- **Defend**  
Use physical barriers to redirect or block impacts
- **Accommodate**  
Design/build so that natural processes do little/no damage
- **Relocate**  
Move to a safer location (typically last resort)

# CRC Rules & Policies

## **Avoid**

- Oceanfront & Inlet Erosion Rates and Setbacks
- Inlet realignment

## **Defend** (limited)

- Beach Nourishment/dune construction
- Living Shorelines (nature-based infrastructure)
- Bulkheads
- Sandbags
- Terminal groins
- Revetments

# CRC Rules & Policies

## **Accommodate** (limited)

- Bldg construction standards : flood/surge resilient; more restrictive of CRC vs Code/NFIP; elevate on pilings
- Wetland & dune protections (natural infrastructure)

## **Relocate**

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# Land Use Compatibility Management Goal:

“Ensure that development and use of resources or preservation of land balance protection of natural resources and fragile areas with economic development, avoids risks to public health, safety, and welfare.”

# 7B .0702 LAND USE PLAN ELEMENTS

(b) Community Concerns and Aspirations. This element shall include:

- (1) Significant and emerging conditions...
- (2) Key issues...
- (3) A community vision...

(c) Existing and emerging conditions.

- (1) Population, Housing and Economy
- (2) Natural systems
  - (A) Natural features (AECs, flood & natural hazard areas, ...)
  - (B) Environmental conditions (flooding, surge, wind, erosion...)

# There's always a 'but'

'Resilience' has been integral to CRC's rules & polices, and DCM's initiatives,

**But!**

Going forward by looking backward; looking at was vs what will be.

New normal, changes are here. Tomorrow's conditions are not yesterday's.

"Mainstream" rather than standalone

# Looking Forward

- Future conditions—NC Climate Science Assessment; SLRAR
- Planning—integrated, mainstreamed
- NC Office of Recovery & Resilience (NCORR)
- NCEM Chief Resiliency Officer; State Disaster Recovery Task Force (SDRTF)
- **E.O. 80 – Climate Risk Assessment & Resiliency Plan:**
  1. Integrate climate adaptation and resiliency planning into policies, programs and operations
  2. support communities and sectors of the economy that are vulnerable to the effects of climate change
  3. enhance our ability to human life and health, property, natural and built infrastructure, cultural resources, and other public and private assets

# Upcoming Events

- Governor's Climate Interagency Council—3rd meeting  
Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm  
NC State Archives, 109 E. Jones St, Raleigh
- Local Government Resilience Workshops (free):
  1. May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Elizabeth City
  2. May 14<sup>th</sup>, Wilmington
- Coastal Resilience Summit (\$45):  
June 11-12, Havelock Tourist & Event Center  
<https://www.nccoast.org/event/north-carolina-coastal-resilience-summit-1/>

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