

**Association of State FloodPlain Managers**  
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Resolution on Coastal Erosion

WHEREAS,

- The National Academy of Science (NAS) has published a report entitled "Managing Coastal Erosion," which discusses the issues of erosion-zone management strategies, supporting data needs, and applicable methodologies to administer these strategies through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP);
- This study concluded that jettied entrances and breakwater protecting harbors along sandy coasts often cause accretion updrift and erosion downdrift of these structures;
- The construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of groins can also cause updrift accretion and downdrift erosion; and
- This study also concluded that when rivers delivering sand sediment to the coast are dammed for flood control and other purposes, beach erosion can result over the long term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) hereby adopts the following position on these recommendations related to the impacts of navigational and flood control projects on shoreline stability:

1. Sand dredged from entrances, harbors, inlets and tidal deltas, if of suitable quality (nontoxic and compatible grain size), should be used effectively as beach nourishment, rather than be deposited into deep water. Additional cost associated with the beachfill alternative should not be a cause for rejection of that alternative.
2. Environmental Impact Statements for such projects should provide a detailed discussion of potential impacts of navigation and shore protection structures on adjacent (updrift and downdrift) shorelines. Alternative sites and designs, including relocation of upland structures, must be evaluated with an emphasis on reducing or mitigating potential impacts, rather than responding to resultant erosion caused by the proposed project.
3. Studies should be conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers to develop recommendations on proper procedures to mitigate negative effects of existing structures on adjacent shorelines. These studies should address the negative impacts of specific projects that have been shown to cause significant erosion problems. Such studies should evaluate when mitigation is appropriate, including relocation of structures, the construction of sand bypassing systems, increased emphasis on beach nourishment, and the structural modification of existing jetties, groins and breakwaters. Communities affected by a proposed project should be involved in the studies and should be informed of the study results, conclusions and recommendations.

4. Planners and regulatory agencies should carefully consider the effects of dams and flow regulation upon the supply of sand to the beaches. Detailed sediment budgets and analyses should be required as part of any Environmental Impact Statement for such projects. If analyses indicated potential negative impacts to sediment budgets, then alternative designs and/or mitigation options must be incorporated into project designs.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ASFPM ON DECEMBER 17, 1990.