



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Coastal Management

Michael F. Easley, Governor

Charles S. Jones, Director

William G. Ross Jr., Secretary

June 7, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Beach Nourishment Stakeholders

FROM: Jeff Warren
Coastal Hazards Analyst

SUBJECT: Request for Input on Sediment Criteria for Beach Nourishment and Similar Sediment Placement Projects on Oceanfront Beaches

The Division of Coastal Management (DCM) requests your input on sediment criteria for projects that place sediment (sand) on the oceanfront beach (e.g., beach nourishment, dredged material disposal, habitat restoration, storm protection). Included on the back of this memo is a questionnaire that may be a helpful guide during the preparation of your comments. An online resource outlining DCM's ongoing efforts to develop a set of sediment criteria and relevant supporting documentation (including a digital copy of the enclosed questionnaire) is available at **www.nccoastalmanagement.net/sediment.htm**.

Sediment criteria recommendations were presented to the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) by the chairman of the CRC Science Panel on Coastal Hazards, Dr. John Fisher, on January 27, 2005. The current language in 15A NCAC 07H.0308(a)(3) reads, "*Sand used for beach nourishment shall be compatible with existing grain size and type. Sand to be used for beach nourishment shall be taken only from those areas where the resulting environmental impacts will be minimal.*" These rules lack a definition of the term "compatible" and are limited in scope.

It is important to note that the Science Panel recommendations are not rules but rather a starting point for developing draft rule language to be considered by the CRC. At this time, DCM is seeking input from individuals and/or organizations with an interest in coastal issues, especially beach nourishment and the placement of sediment on the oceanfront beach.

For more information on sediment criteria and beach nourishment, please contact Jeff Warren, DCM's Coastal Hazards Analyst, at 919-733-2293 or 1-888-4RCOAST (1-888-472-6278) ext. 251 or via e-mail (jeff.warren@ncmail.net).

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