

# *South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program Overview*

**Carolyn Boltin-Kelly**  
Deputy Commissioner

*“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”*

George Santayana  
1863-1952



# Coastal Resources in South Carolina

- **Beach/Dune System**
- **Marshlands and Tidelands**
- **Coastal Waters**
- **Wetlands**
- **Sensitive habitat and endangered species**
- **Significant historical, cultural and archeological sites**
- **Ports and Harbors**



# Value of Coastal Resources

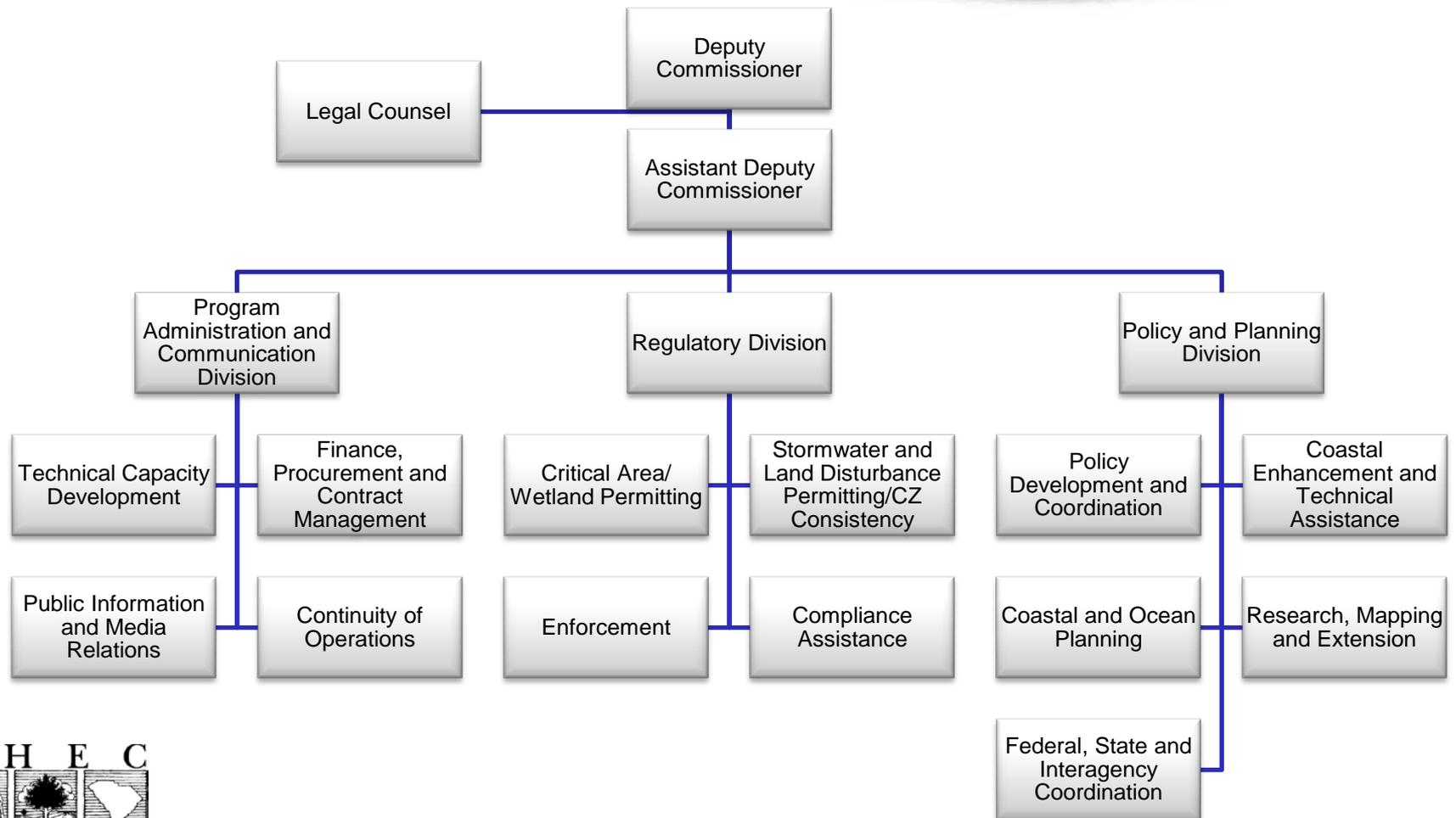
- **Over 15 million coastal tourists each year**
  - Coastal tourism is a \$7-9 billion industry
- **Fisheries are a \$33.9 million industry (2008)**
- **Marshes and dune systems provide critical buffer from storms, habitat and recreation**



# DHEC-OCRM Background

- **1972 Federal Coastal Zone Management Act**
- **SC CZM Program established in 1977 under the Coastal Tidelands and Wetlands Act**
- **Coastal Management Plan adopted in 1979**
  - **Direct permitting authority for the Critical Area (tidelands, coastal waters, beaches and oceanfront sand dune system)**
  - **Indirect authority for state and federal activities**
- **Beachfront Management Act passed in 1988, amended in 1990**

# DHEC-OCRM Structure



# DHEC-OCRM Program Goals

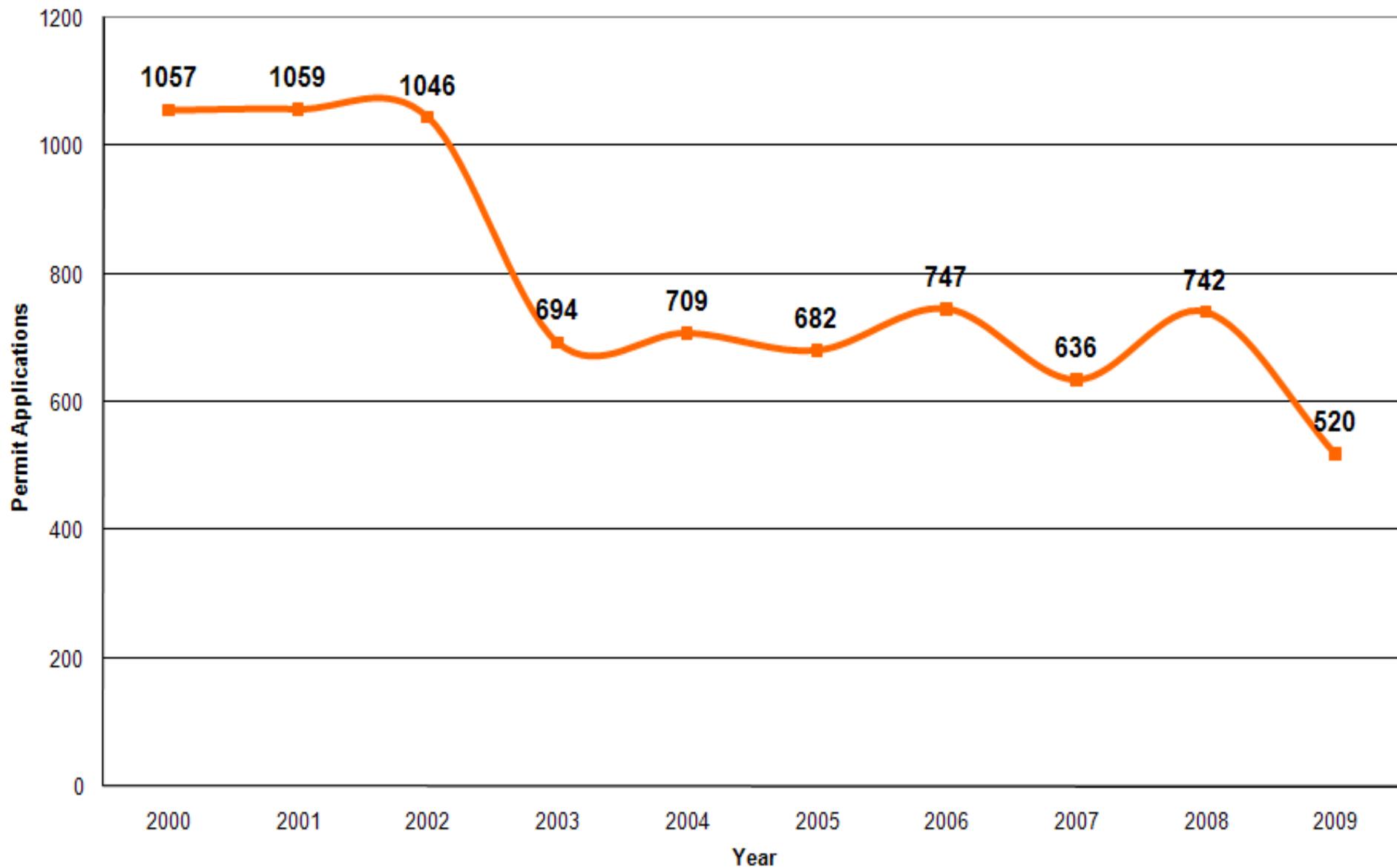
- **Implementation of the Coastal Zone Management Act through regulatory programs**
- **Community planning and technical assistance**
- **Public participation and outreach**
- **Partnership development with state and federal agencies, municipal governments and academic communities**

# Critical Area/Wetland Permitting

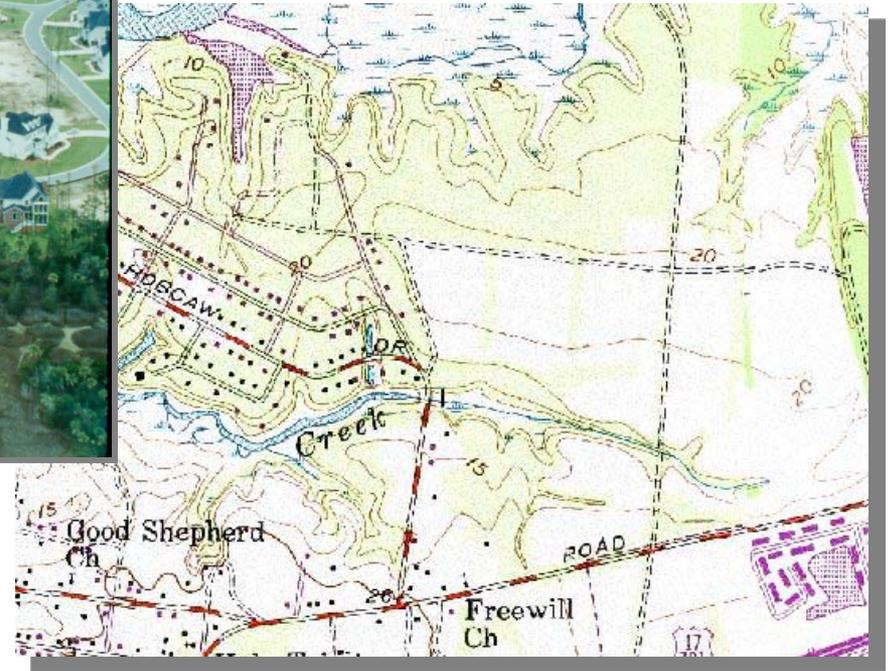
- **Docks & Piers**
- **Bulkheads and Revetments**
- **Marinas and Community Docks**
- **Boat Ramps**
- **Beachfront**



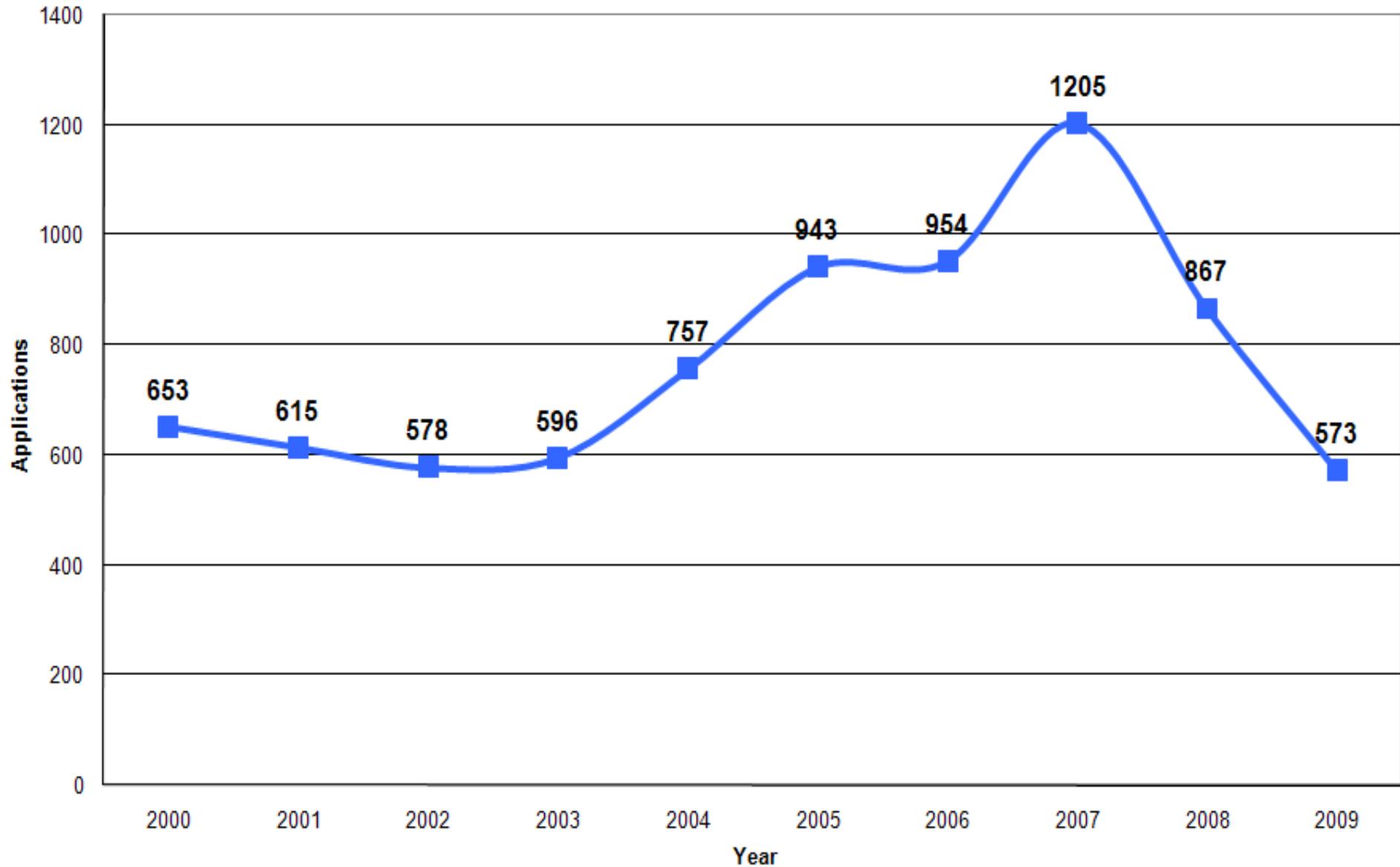
## Critical Area Permit Applications 2000-2009



# Stormwater and Land Disturbance



# Stormwater Permit Applications 2000-2009



# Coastal Zone Consistency Certification

## State

- Water Supply
- Wastewater
- Air
- NPDES
- Mining
- Landfills
- USTs
- Stormwater

## Federal

- Direct Federal Actions
- Federal Funding
- Federal Permits and Licenses

# Policy Goals of the Beachfront Management Act

SC Code § 48-39-250

**Protect, preserve,  
restore, and  
enhance the  
beach/dune  
system.**

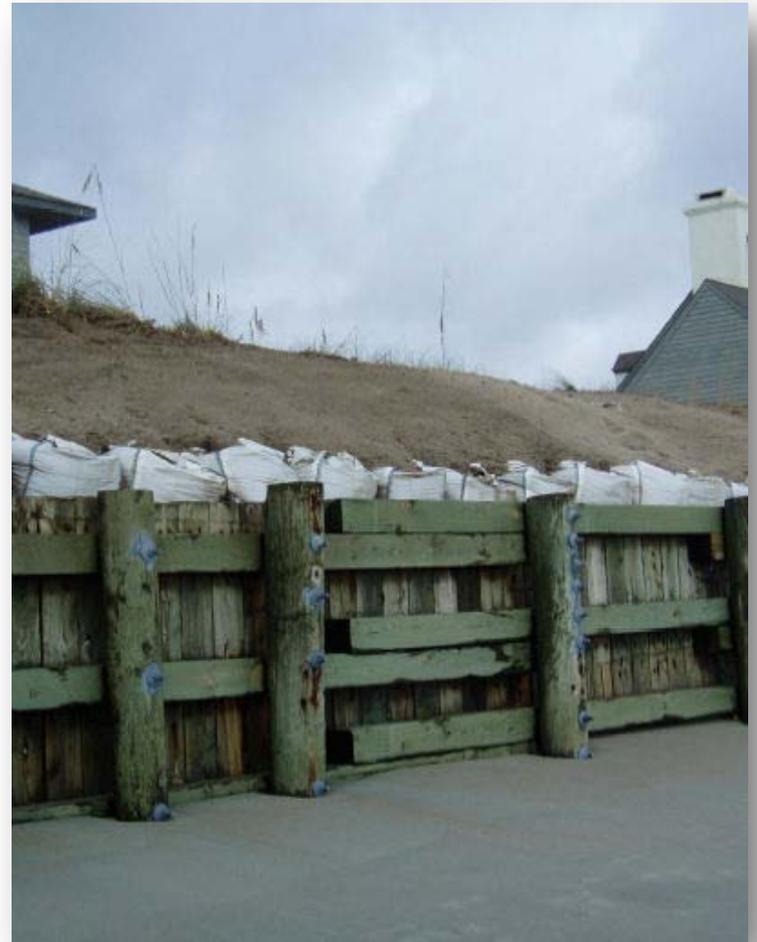


Photo: NOAA

# Policy Goals of the Beachfront Management Act

SC Code § 48-39-250

- **Restrict hard erosion control devices**
- **Avoid adverse impacts to beach dune system**



# Policy Goals of the Beachfront Management Act

SC Code § 48-39-250

- **Preserve and Promote Public Access**
- **Beachfront Management Planning**



# Shoreline Retreat - Hunting Island



# Shoreline Retreat – Hunting Island



# Beach Renourishment

- **25 projects since 1985**
  - Cost ~ \$225 million
  - 95% after 1988 SC Beachfront Management Act
  - Most are jointly funded by federal, state, municipalities; others are privately funded
- **Differing perceptions of sustainability...**



# Important Considerations

- **Increased focus on protection of endangered species and habitat**
- **Lack of state and federal funding for renourishment**
- **Frequent offshore and coastal storms**



# State Beachfront Jurisdiction

- Revised pursuant to statute in 2008-2010
- Use of best available historical positions and monitoring data
- Public comments and hearings
- Legal appeals



# Legal and Regulatory Challenges

“Erosion is a natural process which becomes a significant problem for man only when structures are erected in close proximity to the beach/dune system.”

SC Code §48-39-250



# Coastal Challenges

- **Managing Coastal Growth**
  - Increased number of complex permits
  - Increased pressure on resources
  - Increased public interest, number of comments & appeals
- **Ocean Planning**
  - Emerging / expanding uses (sand, energy, ocean outfalls)
- **Coastal Hazards**
  - Chronic shoreline erosion (natural and human-induced)
  - Coastal storms
  - Climate change and sea level rise

# Emerging Coastal and Ocean Issues

- **Broad range of science and policy challenges**
  - Sand Resources
  - Energy (and Alt. Energy)
  - Ocean Outfalls
  - Dredged Material Disposal
  - Ocean Mapping and Monitoring
  - Habitat Conservation
  - Aquaculture
- **10-Member Interagency Work Group formed in January 2008**



Horns Rev wind farm, Denmark  
Photo from WHOI Oceanus

# Governors' South Atlantic Alliance

- **Regional management through science-based action and policy solutions**
- **Compliments existing regional partnerships at the state and federal level**
- **Priority Issues:**
  - Healthy Ecosystems
  - Working Waterfronts
  - Clean Coastal and Ocean Waters
  - Disaster Resilient Communities



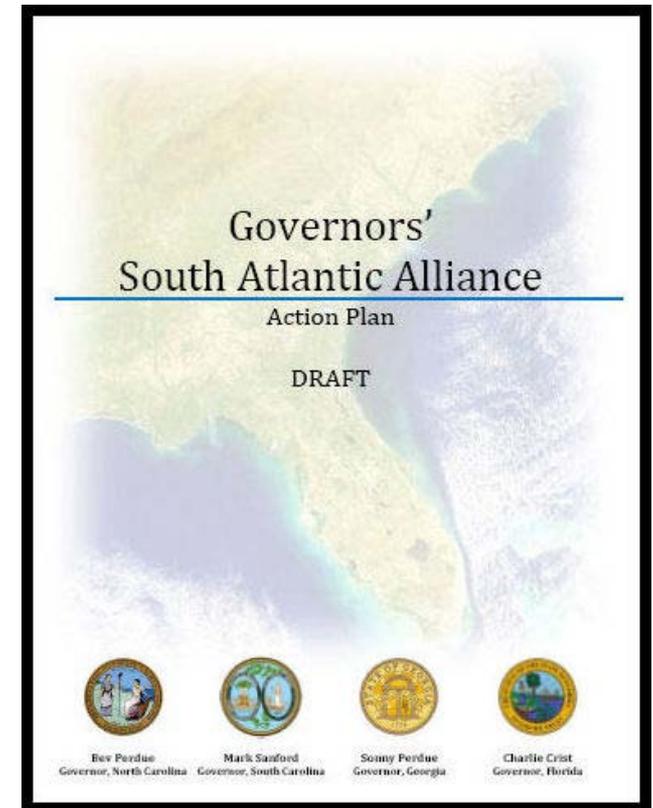
Photo: NASA

# South Atlantic Alliance *Action Plan*

**Draft *Action Plan*  
available online:**

**<http://www.southatlanticalliance.org>**

**Deadline for public comment:  
November 8, 2010**



# Shoreline Change Advisory Committee

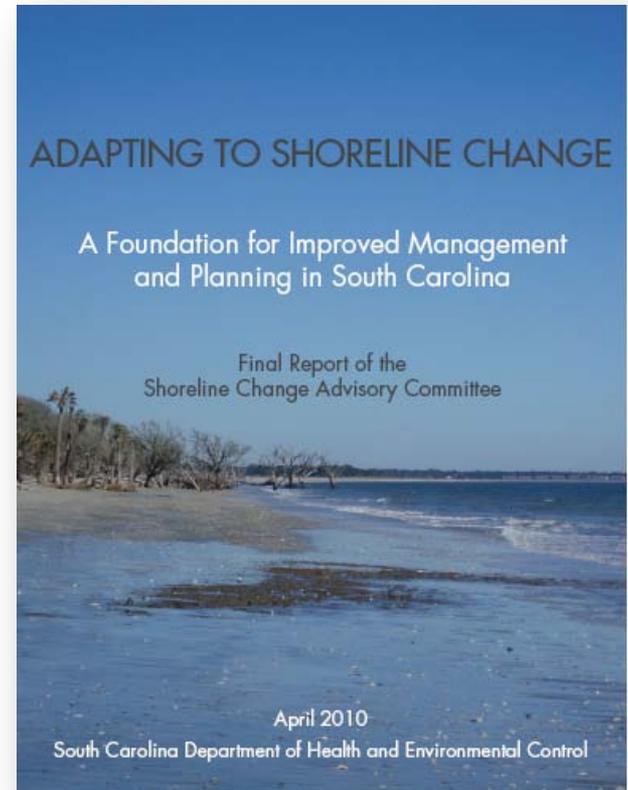
- **Multi-year effort to address broad range of science and policy challenges and options**
- **23-Member Stakeholder Advisory Committee**
- **Final report issued in April 2010**



# Shoreline Change Advisory Committee

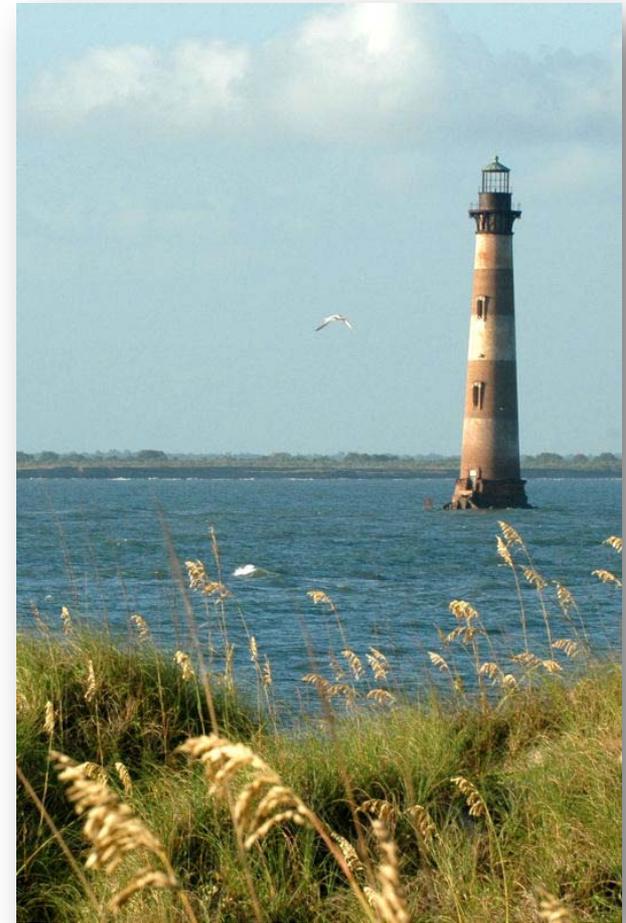
## Goals and Recommendations:

- 1. Minimize Risks to Beachfront Communities**
- 2. Improve the Planning of Beach Renourishment Projects**
- 3. Strengthen Prohibitions and Further Restrict the Use of Hard Stabilization Structures**
- 4. Enhance the Management of Sheltered Shorelines**



# Blue Ribbon Committee on Shoreline Management

- **Established by the DHEC Board in June 2010**
- **Solicitation of Nominations**
- **Appointments made by the DHEC Board in October**



# Blue Ribbon Committee on Shoreline Management

## *Elected Officials*

**Paul Campbell, Jr. - SC Senate Dist. 44**

**Raymond Cleary, III - SC Senate Dist. 34**

**Clementa Pinckney - SC Senate Dist. 45**

**Tracy Edge - SC House Dist. 104**

**William Herbkersman - SC House Dist. 118**

**Joseph Riley, Jr. - Mayor, City of Charleston**

**Thomas Peeples - Mayor, Town of Hilton Head Island**

**William Otis, Jr. - Mayor, Town of Pawleys Island**

# Blue Ribbon Committee on Shoreline Management

## *Development/Business Professionals*

**Nick Kremydas - CEO, SC Association of Realtors**

**William "Wes" Jones, Jr. - Jones, Simpson and  
Newton, PA - Hilton Head Island**

**Mac Burdette - Town Administrator (Ret.), Mt. Pleasant**

## *Environmental Professionals*

**Elizabeth Hagood - Lowcountry Open Land Trust**

**Robert Perry - SC Dept. of Natural Resources**

**Robert Young - Western Carolina University**

# Blue Ribbon Committee on Shoreline Management

## *Legal Professionals*

**Josh Eagle – USC School of Law**

**Terry Richardson - Richardson, Patrick, Westbrook  
and Brickman, LLC**

## *DHEC Board Liaison*

**Edwin Cooper – Holcombe, Fair & Lane; ex officio,  
DHEC Board**



**Carolyn Boltin-Kelly**  
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