

**TOPSAIL ISLAND SHORELINE PROTECTION COMMISSION
CHARTER
Revised 5/26/09**

PREAMBLE: The ocean-front dune structure on Topsail Island is the critical interface with the Atlantic Ocean which serves to protect the lives and property of the island residents and property owners, and which serves to provide critical nesting habitat for endangered sea turtles.

MISSION: To actively support and promote plans and programs to restore and maintain wide sandy beaches and storm protection dunes through beach nourishment for all of Topsail Island's oceanfront, and to support and promote development and execution of the NC Beach and Inlet Management Plan.

PURPOSES:

Educate our property owners regarding beach nourishment and the Beach & Inlet Management Plan.
Support and promote funding at the Federal, State, County, and local levels for beach nourishment and storm protection of our shoreline.

Encourage maintenance of dunes through sound vegetation management practices on our beaches.

Promote the routine maintenance of area historical and federal navigation channels, including the Atlantic Intracoastal Water Way, and the placement of appropriate corresponding dredge spoils on our beaches

Promote the maintenance and restoration of nesting habitat for endangered sea turtles.

Goals and Objectives

1. Keep our property owners and the 5 participating boards up to date on the strategies in use for beach nourishment and beach nourishment funding for area NC beaches, and beaches in progressive states such as Florida, South Carolina, and New Jersey.
2. Keep our property owners and the 5 participating boards up to date regarding North Carolina's Beach and Inlet Management Plan and its impact on our area.

3. Encourage our property owners to support state and federal legislation favorable to beach nourishment and beach nourishment funding.
4. Retain professional services, when required, to act on behalf of the Commission to secure federal and state funding for navigation maintenance and nourishment projects
5. Promote restoration and maintenance of habitat essential to the survival of sea turtles.
6. Other activities as directed by the three towns and two counties

Tasks and Responsibilities:

1. Prepare an annual operating plan and operating budget for the commission each year.
Present it to the 5 member boards, and send it by newsletter to all island property owners
2. Conduct appropriate public forums with informed speakers to keep community leaders up to date concerning beach nourishment efforts
3. Actively advocate for dedicated long-term sources of revenue at the state and county level to supplement town and federal funds
4. Work with the Army Corps of Engineer to insure that appropriate quality dredging of spoils from New River, New Topsail Inlet and the AIWW are placed on Topsail Island beaches.
5. Support local, state and national shore and beach conferences/symposiums

ORGANIZATION:

- The Commission shall be composed of eleven (11) voting members
 - Each island Town's governing board (North Topsail Beach, Surf City, and Topsail Beach) shall appoint one elected official from their town, the Chairman of their Shoreline Protection Committee, and one at-large member to serve as voting members on the commission
 - Each County's governing board (Onslow and Pender) shall appoint one elected official from their board to serve as a voting member on the commission.

- The Chairman of the Topsail Island Shoreline Protection Commission will be elected each January from the membership. The Chairman will conduct the meetings and will be the official spokes person for the commission.
- The Vice chairman of the commission will be elected each January from the membership. The vice chairman will act in the absence of the chairman
- Each Town Manager and County Manager will serve as a liaison to the Commission.
- Committees may be formed at the discretion of the Commission to address specific project issues and concerns.

Compensation: Commission members shall not be compensated for the performance of their duties as members of the commission. They will be reimbursed for travel and out of pocket expenses when assigned to represent the Commission at official functions.

Quorum: A quorum of the Commission is required to conduct any official business at a regular or special board meeting. At least six (6) members present at a regular or special board meeting will constitute a quorum. All official business will be governed by majority vote.

Meetings: Commission shall establish frequency of meetings.

Depository: One of the towns shall be designated as the official depository

Charter Approval: The charter of the commission must be approved by a majority vote of each of the five (5) participating governing boards (Onslow County, Pender County, North Topsail Beach, Surf City, and Topsail Beach)