

FACT SHEET #2
Nags Head Emergency Nourishment Project

Q. *What can be done to protect the project from losses during a catastrophic storm?*

A. FEMA offers emergency renourishment funds to communities that have an "engineered" beach nourishment project in place before the storm. FEMA will provide funds to restore sand losses documented by surveys under its Improved Projects Program. This funding often exceeds emergency dune restoration funds given to communities that have not invested in a locally sponsored nourishment project. Following is a summary of the policy as published by FEMA.

Beaches. Emergency placement of sand on a natural or engineered beach may be eligible when necessary to protect improved property from an immediate threat. Protection may be to a 5-year storm profile or to its pre-storm profile, whichever is less.

A beach is considered eligible for permanent repair if it is an improved beach and has been routinely maintained prior to the disaster. A beach is considered to be an "improved beach" if the following criteria apply:

- the beach was constructed by the placement of sand to a designed elevation, width, grain size, and slope; and*
- the beach has been maintained in accordance with a maintenance program involving the periodic renourishment of sand at least every 5 years.*

Typically, FEMA will request the following from an applicant before approving assistance for permanent restoration of a beach:

- design documents and specifications, including analysis of grain size;*
- "as-built" plans;*
- documentation of regular maintenance or nourishment of the beach; and*
- pre- and post-storm cross sections of the beach.*

[Source: http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/re_categories.shtm]