

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 22, 2007

Contact: Larry Farnsworth
(202) 232-6574
lfarnsworth@crosbyvolmer.com

American Shore and Beach Preservation Association Recognizes Top Beach Advocates for 2006

Congressmen, Army Corps of Engineers official among honorees

WASHINGTON, DC – In recognition of their outstanding work in the fight to preserve America’s beaches, the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) named its top coastal advocates for 2006 at a ceremony on Capitol Hill this Thursday.

The award winners, which included two members of Congress, an official with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and a congressional staffer, were honored during ASBPA’s 2007 Coastal Summit. The award recipients are U.S. Rep. Mike Castle (R-DE); U.S. Rep and House Coastal Caucus Co-Chair Frank Pallone (D-NJ); Christopher Frabotta, a Navigation Project Manager with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and Joshua Bowlen, Legislative Director with U.S. Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC).

“Here in America we are fortunate enough to have some of the best beaches on the planet, hands down,” said Harry Simmons, Mayor of Caswell Beach, NC and President of ASBPA. “But maintaining our beaches for future generations is a monumental task. Fortunately, there are some outstanding public servants working day and night to preserve our nation’s priceless shoreline and ASBPA is honored to recognize their tireless efforts.”

U.S. Rep. Mike Castle (R-DE): Congressman Castle, who represents the entire state of Delaware, has been a hands-on leader in Congress on shore protection and coastal restoration issues. Congressman Castle is a driving force behind the Rehoboth-Dewey Beach project in Delaware – which ASBPA named one of the Top Restored Beaches in America.

U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ): Congressman Pallone, who represents a large portion of New Jersey’s central coastal region, has been a strong voice in Congress for America’s beaches. As a co-chair of the House Coastal Caucus, Congressman Pallone has consistently fought to increase funding for beach nourishment and wetland restoration efforts.

Christopher Frabotta: Following two tours in Iraq, Frabotta returned to Wilmington, North Carolina where he was immediately given responsibility for managing several

- MORE -

projects for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – many of which included beach nourishment elements. His “can’t take no for an answer” approach paved the way for groundbreaking cost sharing agreements with the state of North Carolina and local communities that helped advance critical dredging and nourishment efforts. Frabotta is now a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers detailee for the House Appropriations subcommittee on Energy and Water Development.

Joshua Bowlen: After four years as a top staffer for Representative Walter Jones (R-NC), Bowlen has become quite familiar with the 3rd Congressional district, which covers over half of North Carolina’s 320-mile oceanfront and thousands of miles of estuarine shoreline. ASBPA is honored to recognize Bowlen for his hard work during the FY 2006 and 2007 budget cycles. For FY 2006, Bowlen helped secure federal funding for post-Hurricane Ophelia emergencies and helped Congressman Jones shepherd through an amendment that salvaged the government-fleet maintained shallow draft waterways. Bowlen also took the lead during the last two budget cycles in securing \$5 million for a Section 933 Project that utilizes dredged materials from Morehead City Harbor for beach nourishment.

ABOUT ASBPA: Founded in 1926, the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) represents the scientific, technical and political interests along the coast in an effort to shape national research and policy concerning shore and beach management and restoration. ASBPA strives to engage in a factual debate on coastal issues and economics that will foster sound, far-sighted and economical development and preservation of our beaches; thereby aiding in placing their beliefs within the reach of the largest possible number of people in accordance with the ideals of a democratic nation. For additional information about ASBPA, please visit www.asbpa.org.

###