

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Folly Beach Named One of America's Top Restored Beaches**

### *ASBPA Bestows Top Honor for Superior Beach Engineering Efforts*

**Fort Myers, FL** – On the eve of the summer beach season, the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) named Folly Beach of South Carolina one of America's Top Restored Beaches. Folly Beach received the award following successful efforts to restore the beach after several devastating hurricanes and now serves as a resource to endangered wildlife.

“We hope that Folly Beach is seen as an example of why the federal government needs to remain involved with shore protection and beach nourishment,” said Ted Hauser of the Charleston District Corps of Engineers. “We would like to thank ASBPA for giving us this award and bringing more attention to the crucial need for beach restoration.”

Folly Beach is one of the most publicly accessible beaches in the Southeast, and the “Washout” at Folly Beach is one of the most popular surfing areas in South Carolina. The City's beaches were devastated by Hurricane Hugo in 1989, and a federal restoration project for the beach was authorized in 1992. The initial restoration of Folly Beach was conducted by the Charleston District of the Army Corps of Engineers in 1993 with 2.8 million cubic yards over about 28,000 feet of beach. Scheduled for beach nourishment in 2006, the hurricanes of 2004 resulted in an accelerated nourishment schedule. The success of this project is reflected in the amenities and attractions protected and enhanced by the healthy beach.

“The Top Nourished Beach award was created in 2001 as a way of highlighting nourished beaches,” said Mayor Harry Simmons of Caswell Beach, N.C. and President of ASBPA. “As Americans begin to flock to our nation's coastline during the upcoming beach season, most beach-going Americans don't even realize they may be enjoying a nourished beach.”

Beach nourishment – the process of placing sufficient quantities of beach quality sand on eroding beaches to combat erosion – began occurring in the United States over 40 years ago in coastal communities on the East, West and Gulf Coasts. America now has over 370 nourished beaches, including Miami Beach; Coney Island, N.Y.; Waikiki and Venice Beach, Calif. Studies have shown that each dollar spent on beach nourishment generates an additional four to five in taxpayer benefits.

The Top Restored Beaches were chosen based upon three criteria: the economic and ecological benefits the beach brings to its community; the short and long-term success of the nourishment project; and the challenges each community overcame during the course of the project. In addition to Folly Beach, the

2007 winners included: Chaland Headland Restoration Project, La.; East Beach, Norfolk, Va.; Collier County Beaches, Fla.; Perdido Pass, Ala.; West Hampton Dunes, Long Island, N.Y.; and Surfside-Sunset Beach, CA.

**ABOUT ASBPA:** Founded in 1926, the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association 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](http://www.asbpa.org).

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