



ASBPA Government Affairs Agenda for 2011

Coastal Stewardship

- ASBPA supports the inter-agency initiative to evaluate the extent of coastal erosion and sea level rise, and recommend appropriate policies at all levels of government to deal with the challenges and opportunities of these changes.
- ASBPA favors increased Federal funding of public entity and nonprofit organization efforts to collect, assess and disseminate useful data on coastal processes.
- ASBPA favors increased Federal funding of coastal science programs at accredited institutions of higher education.
- ASBPA favors Federal and state efforts to manage and monitor the nation's scarce supply of sand to maximize benefits to storm damage reduction, environmental protection, and recreation.
- ASBPA supports legislation declaring it to be the policy of the United States that sand obtained from a Federal port or channel be placed onshore or nearshore of an adjacent beach.
- ASBPA supports development of regional Coastal and Marine Spatial Plans as recommended by the President's Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force. ASBPA strongly urges that the Plans be founded on the best scientific consensus and backed by verifiable measurements.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- ASBPA supports increased funding for coastal restoration projects and studies throughout the Nation at an estimated Federal cost of over \$450 million for FY 2012 and an overall Corps of Engineers budget of at least \$6 billion.
- ASBPA supports the use of objective standards by the Administration and Congress to prioritize the funding of coastal projects and studies.
- ASBPA supports prompt passage of a new Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) provisions that --
 - Expand the WRDA '07 Section 2037 Regional Sediment Management Program to enable the Corps to perform and, where authorized, implement RSM studies and plans regardless of whether a Federal navigation channel is involved.
 - Provide statutory language to extend Federal fiscal participation in beach nourishment projects beyond 50 years.
 - Authorize public health and safety, economic development, environmental restoration, and storm damage reduction as equal bases for determining a national interest in participating in a coastal restoration project.

- ASBPA supports the expansion of the abilities of the Corps' Coastal and Storm Damage Planning Center of Expertise to assist Corps Districts and other Corps entities as well as local sponsors to assure that coastal projects are planned and evaluated effectively. ASBPA urges the Corps to publish implementation guidance for Section 2032 of WRDA 2007 which provides statutory authorization for the six Planning Centers of Expertise.

Federal Emergency Management Agency

- ASBPA supports significantly increased funding for FEMA's pre-and post-disaster mitigation programs and also urges that agency to recognize the significant damage mitigation benefits derived from nourished beaches.
- ASBPA is concerned about the impact of FEMA's program to update its flood insurance maps, which may result in a significant increase in the cost of flood insurance policies and decrease participation in that program without assisting communities in efforts to increase their level of flooding protection.
- ASBPA supports the development of a revised disaster recovery fund delivery program. Presently disaster recovery funds are tied to HUD programs. Disaster recovery is community wide and should not be tied to antiquated funding formulas based on low to moderate income levels (LMI).

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

- **ASBPA will work to expedite the release of Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) funds for projects in approved State Plans to extend the funding of this program beyond the existing four years. These funds are used to enhance and restore the coastal environment of areas affected by offshore oil and gas production.**
- **ASBPA supports funding for the NOAA National Sea Grant College Program at no less than \$75.6 million in FY 2012.**

ASBPA is committed to providing factual, science-based information on the issues affecting America's coastal communities and resources. ASBPA pledges to work with Congress, the Administration and public and private sector water resources interests to achieve the objectives summarized above.

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 coastal research and policies that promote responsible stewardship of America's coastal resources. . Further information about these issues can be found on ASBPA's website (www.asbpa.org). Questions or comments should be emailed to coastal@asbpa.org.