



**SHORELINES – May 2007**  
(As presented to the *Island Review Magazine*)

**- Inaugural “State of the Beach” Report Released –**

In early April, we released our “2007 State of the Beach Report” for Bogue Banks – an eight-page color abstract highlighting the major sources of beach gains and losses in 2006 along Carteret County’s and central North Carolina’s only developed barrier island. The inaugural report also examines the overall health of the beach by summarizing the results of our extensive beach monitoring program, and also takes the time to look ahead for the remainder of 2007. The report is being made available in hard copy at local venues, or can be viewed by visiting

[http://www.protectthebeach.com/images/state\\_of\\_the\\_beach\\_2007.pdf](http://www.protectthebeach.com/images/state_of_the_beach_2007.pdf).

We utilized crisp graphics and easy-to-comprehend text boxes to create an engaging and informational read – a point echoed by the chairman of the County’s Beach Commission, William “Buck” Fugate in a April 2<sup>nd</sup> news release. *“Since the Beach Commission and Shore Protection Office were formed in 2001, we have been working*

*extremely hard to sustain the recreational, environmental, and economic viability of the sandy shorelines of Bogue Banks. For the first time ever, the State of the Beach Report captures the how, when, and where of these efforts. We’re very pleased to issue this seminal and user-friendly report just in time for the spring holiday season.”*

We hope you have time review the assessment report – please let us know your thoughts so we can refine and improve next year’s effort.

**- 2007 Beach Nourishment Projects Completed On-Time and On-Budget -**

One may have thought the odds were against us earlier this year with a three month environmental window available to complete two distinct beach nourishment projects. The logistics included the deployment of two different dredging contractors, two separate sources of sand, a cumulative nourishment volume of close to 1.9 million cubic yards, and a



**BOGUE BANKS**  
**2007 State of the Beach Report**

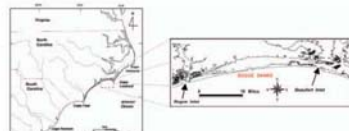


Fig. 1 – Site vicinity map of the North Carolina coast with a detailed illustration of the ~25-mile long island of Bogue Banks, located in Carteret County and bordered by Beaufort and Bogue Inlets, located east and west of the island, respectively.

The 2007 State of the Beach Report summarizes and quantifies the major events of 2006 that had the largest signature on beach erosion and accretion along the ~25-mile long island of Bogue Banks (Fig. 1). Overall, 2006 was a relatively quiet year with no major beach sand “debts” in the form of tropical or winter storms, and for the first time since 2001, we had no major beach sand “credits” in the form of beach nourishment projects. The State of the Beach Report is prepared by the Carteret County Shore Protection Office and County Beach Commission, which function in a format similar to a “Town Council/Town Manager” style of government—a relatively new and unique coastal management approach implemented in North Carolina.



total price tag of roughly \$24 million. However both the **Morehead City Harbor Section 933** and **Post-Ophelia Replenishment Projects** were completed the last week in March; on-time and on-budget thanks to a ton of hard work, dedication, and cooperation by local, state, and Federal governments, the dredging industry, the regulatory community, and a local coastal engineering firm.

The Morehead City Harbor Section 933 Project is a Federal/non-Federal cost-sharing program where dredged shoal material from the Morehead City Harbor Federal Navigation Project is permitted to be placed elsewhere than authorized least-cost offshore disposal sites. The "elsewhere" for 2007 was along the shorelines of Pine Knoll Shores (PKS). Phase I of the Section 933 Project was constructed in 2004 along the shorelines of Indian Beach, Salter Path, and the westernmost tip (~2,200 feet) of PKS. The Phase II effort was completed this year (2007) and encompassed almost all of the remaining 4 miles of PKS that was not nourished in 2004. See <http://www.protectthebeach.com/933/Phase%20II/section933.htm> for a summary of the project.

The Post-*Ophelia* Replenishment Project on the other hand is a Federal Emergency Management Agency/N.C. Division of Emergency Management initiative that helps communities replace the volume of sand lost during Federally-declared disaster events such as *Ophelia* (2005). From January to March 2007, close to 1.2 million cubic yards of sand was placed in five discrete reaches in Emerald Isle, Indian Beach/Salter Path, and PKS. See <http://www.protectthebeach.com/2007%20FEMA/home.htm> for a summary of this project.

Both of the aforementioned projects utilized actively or offshore stockpiled dredged material from the seaward portion of the Morehead City Harbor navigation channel at Beaufort Inlet. Adjacent beaches are the predominant source of sediments shoaling the channel, and accordingly, the sand quality for these projects was excellent. With the 2007 projects in the books, there has been well over 10 million cubic yards of sand placed along the ~25-mile long island of Bogue Banks since 2001. Interestingly, that's the equivalent of approximately 750,000 dump truck loads of sand considering a standard dump truck holds 12 - 15 cubic yards, or enough sand to extend a regulation size basketball court (50' x 94') almost eleven miles into the air!