

## Shore Protection

Corps work in shore protection began in 1930, when Congress directed the Corps to study ways to reduce erosion along U.S. seacoasts and the Great Lakes.

While each situation the Corps studies involves different considerations, Corps engineers always consider engineering feasibility and economic efficiency along with the environmental and social impacts. Federal participation in a shore protection project varies, depending on shore ownership, use, type and frequency of benefits. (If there is no public use or benefit, the Corps will not recommend federal participation.) Once the project is complete, nonfederal interests assume responsibility for its operation and maintenance.

One shore protection method popular in seaside communities is beach nourishment -- the periodic replenishment of sand along the shoreline to replace that lost to storms and erosion. Authorized nourishment projects usually have a nourishment period of 50 years. In addition, Section 145 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1976 authorizes placement of beach quality sand from Corps dredging projects on nearby beaches. Under Section 933 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, local sponsors pay the federal government 50 percent of the additional costs of this placement of sand.

Point of Contact: Charyl Francois Phone: 206-764-5522 Email: Charyl.L.Francois@usace.army.mil