

Taking Coastal Advocacy to the Next Level

Presented by
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What We Have Achieved

- **Victories for some federal beach-specific policies and funding.**
- **Effective use of elected officials to gain access to their members of Congress.**

FY 2005: A Different Story

- FY 2005 **beach funding** is likely to be one of the worst years ever.
- **Senate WRDA Committee Bill** contains provisions that are *bad for beaches*.
- OMB proposed **de-funding periodic renourishment** of existing and new beach projects.

Congress

- **Despite their best efforts, coastal members of Congress have not yet been able to get it done for beach communities.**
 - OMB policy is set to take effect November 20.
 - Funding was not in place on October 1.
 - Some of our best friends in Congress are facing competing pressures.



What has to be done

The Facts Are On Our Side

Let's Not Keep Them a Secret

What has to be done (cont'd)

- **Political Advocacy**
 - Fund the campaigns of those members of Congress who support beaches.
 - Fund Political Action Committees (PAC's) that support coastal communities.

What has to be done (cont'd)

- **Mobilize a “Grasstops” Campaign**
 - Increase efforts to get the leaders in your community involved.
 - **Encourage business stakeholders** to voice their concerns about how erosion effects the coastal economy.

What has to be done (cont'd)

- **More Effective Grassroots mobilization**
 - **Congress listens** to interests that are mobilized effectively.
 - Send letters to Members' offices
 - Look for **Issue Alerts** at <http://capwiz.com/mandcmp/home/>
 - **Faxes and e-mails** are read and counted to see what the hot issues are in the district.
 - **Coastal groups need a stronger grassroots advocacy campaign.**

What has to be done (cont'd)

- **Spread the Word**
 - Beaches
 - Billboards
 - Newspapers
 - Internet
 - Parking Lots

For More Information, Contact

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