

Printable Beach and Dune Checklist

1. Is there an existing Engineered Structure (seawall, groin, revetment, etc.) at the site?

No

Yes.

Is functional or easily repaired?

No

Yes. Go to [Currently Defended Structures](#).

2. Is there a sand dune at the seaward edge of the property?

No

Yes.

Is it vegetated?

Yes

No.

Is a dry beach present (sand above normal high tide)?

No

Yes.

What is the width of the dry beach?

____ 25 feet or less

____ between 25 and 50 feet

____ between 50 and 75 feet

____ greater than 75 feet

3. Is there evidence that your dune or backshore is regularly overtopped and overwashed by waves, and/or that flooding occurs landward of the dune or beach crest?

No

Yes

During normal or spring tides? Storm surges?

No

Yes

4. Does your dune and beach naturally gain sand after each winter season?

No

Yes

5. Is the beach or dune eroding?

No

Yes.

What is causing the erosion?

Seasonal Changes

Storms

Sand Availability

Manmade structures

Currents

Public Access

Climate Change

What level of protection is needed?

From on-going erosion (caused by normal wave conditions and boat wakes)

From storm-induced erosion (caused by major storm events such as nor'easters and hurricanes)?

What is the rate of erosion?

- Highly Erosional (2 feet or more per year)
- Moderately Erosional (1-2 feet per year)
- Slightly Erosional (less than 1 foot per year)
- Stable (no change)
- Accretional (growing seaward)

Need more information? See [Shoreline Change](#).

6. Is there infrastructure at risk?

- No Yes

7. What is the wave climate?

During normal conditions? _____ feet
 Occasionally? _____ feet
 Frequently? _____ feet

During a storm conditions? _____ feet
 Occasionally? _____ feet
 Frequently? _____ feet

From boat traffic? _____ feet
 Occasionally? _____ feet
 Frequently? _____ feet

For more information on wave conditions and wakes, see [Wave Climate and Fetch](#).

8. Is the site affected by tidal, riverine or alongshore currents?

- No Yes

9. What is the shoreline geometry?

- Pocket
- Irregular
- Straight
- Headland

Unsure? Check out [Shoreline Geomorphology](#).

10. Is the beach backed by

High sediment bank (is there a steep slope above the water line, more than 3 feet over 5 yards?)

- No

- Yes.

Go to the Section on [Bluffs](#)

Low sediment bank (is there a gentle slope above the water line, less than 3 feet over 5 yards?)

- No

- Yes.

Is your low bank face

- Erosional?
- Stable?
- Transitional?
- Undercut?

11. Does the bank have

Mature upland vegetation?

- No Yes

Fallen or uprooted trees?

- No Yes

Will existing vegetation shade created or restored marsh?

- No Yes

12. What is the intertidal slope/nearshore bathymetry? Is the slope

- Gradual
- Moderate
- Steep

For more information see [Nearshore Bathymetry](#).

13. What is the tidal range?

_____ feet

Need more information. See [Tidal Range](#).

14. Does the project site flood regularly during normal tides?

No Yes

Spring tides?

No Yes

Storm surge?

No Yes

15. Is the project site affected by ice?

No Yes

For more information see the section on [Ice](#).

16. Does the site have submerged aquatic vegetation?

No Yes

Nearshore oyster beds?

No Yes

17. What is the nearshore region?

- Fine
- Medium-coarse sediment
- Rocky or cobbles
- Ledge
- Offshore Sand Bars
- Tidal Flats

18. What is the condition of the adjacent properties? Are they experiencing similar rates of erosion?

No Yes

Do they have existing coastal structures?

No Yes

How will this project affect the adjacent properties?

19. Is the project site accessible for construction from land?

No Yes

Water?

No Yes

20. How will the shoreline be used?

- Walking
- Swimming
- Boating
- Fishing
- Nature watching
- Other

21. What is the current rate of sea level rise?

_____feet

What is the predicted rate of rise?

_____feet

What are the potential effects of sea level rise on the project site?
