

**ABSTRACT:** When a storm strikes a developed barrier island, the typical reaction is to cleanup and rebuild. An alternative approach is proposed that involves better recognition of coastal processes, recognition of the impact of historical storms, post-storm redesignation of coastal hazard areas, "repair" of island environments to enhance or restore protective capabilities of the natural setting, and public education. Emphasis is placed on increased communication between coastal scientists and managers.

Traditional damage mitigation options include: rebuilding primary dunes using sand fences; stabilizing sand with vegetation; replenishing the beach; relocating damaged or threatened houses; and armoring the shoreline.

Less widely recognized mitigation approaches suggested include: designation of inlet hazard zones for both potential and historic inlets; addition of new sand to replace frontal dunes, to reconstruct excavated interior dunes, and to block shore-perpendicular roads; reforestation; change of road elevation and orientation by adding curves and rises; development of long-term relocation plans for large buildings and entire communities; and development of mitigation plans for accelerating sea-level rise and increased frequency/intensity of storms.