



South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Healthy People. **Healthy Communities.**

# SC Beach Preservation Stakeholder Workgroup

August 25, 2022



# Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions and Opening Remarks
- Revisit Working Definition of Beach Preservation
- Workgroup Recommendations
  - BREAK
- Recommendations Analysis
  - LUNCH
- Continued Discussion on Policy Recommendations
- Wrap-up & Next Steps

# Workgroup Guiding Principles

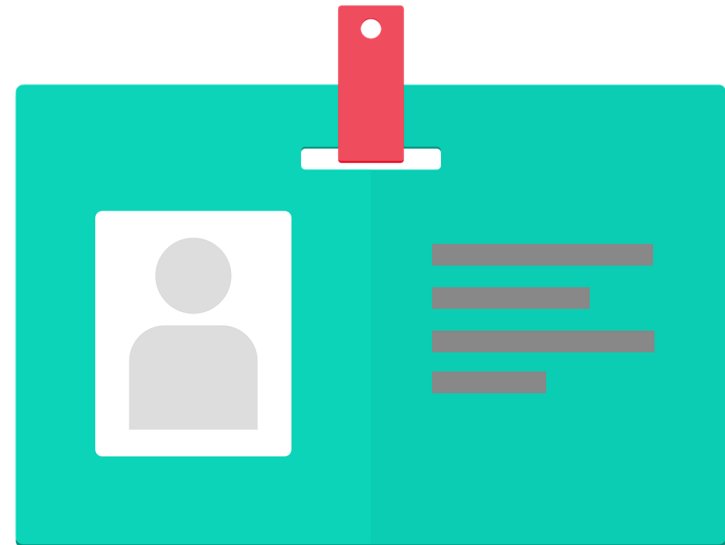


- Commitment
- Transparency
- Mutual respect
- Active participation
- Dialogue and listening
- Solution-focused
- Strive for consensus
- Perspective of the full SC coast

# Introductions

- Name
- Affiliation
- What are your goals from this process?

*\*\*If new to the group\*\**



# Workgroup Goals

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- Ensure discussion reflected in policies/regulations
- Balance needs
- Identify tools for beach preservation
- Discuss proactive planning and management
- Share knowledge, expertise, and information
- Identify forum(s) and innovative methods for info sharing
- Identify funding and discuss implementation



# Stakeholders

- Public Beach User
- Property Owners
- Conservationist & Natural Resources
- Local Governments
- Regulatory & Resource Agencies
- Tourists
- Business Owners
- Academics
- Elected Officials
- Industry & Coastal Engineering
- Future Generations
- Developers & Realtors
- General Public
- Non-human Species
- Infrastructure & Utilities
- State of South Carolina

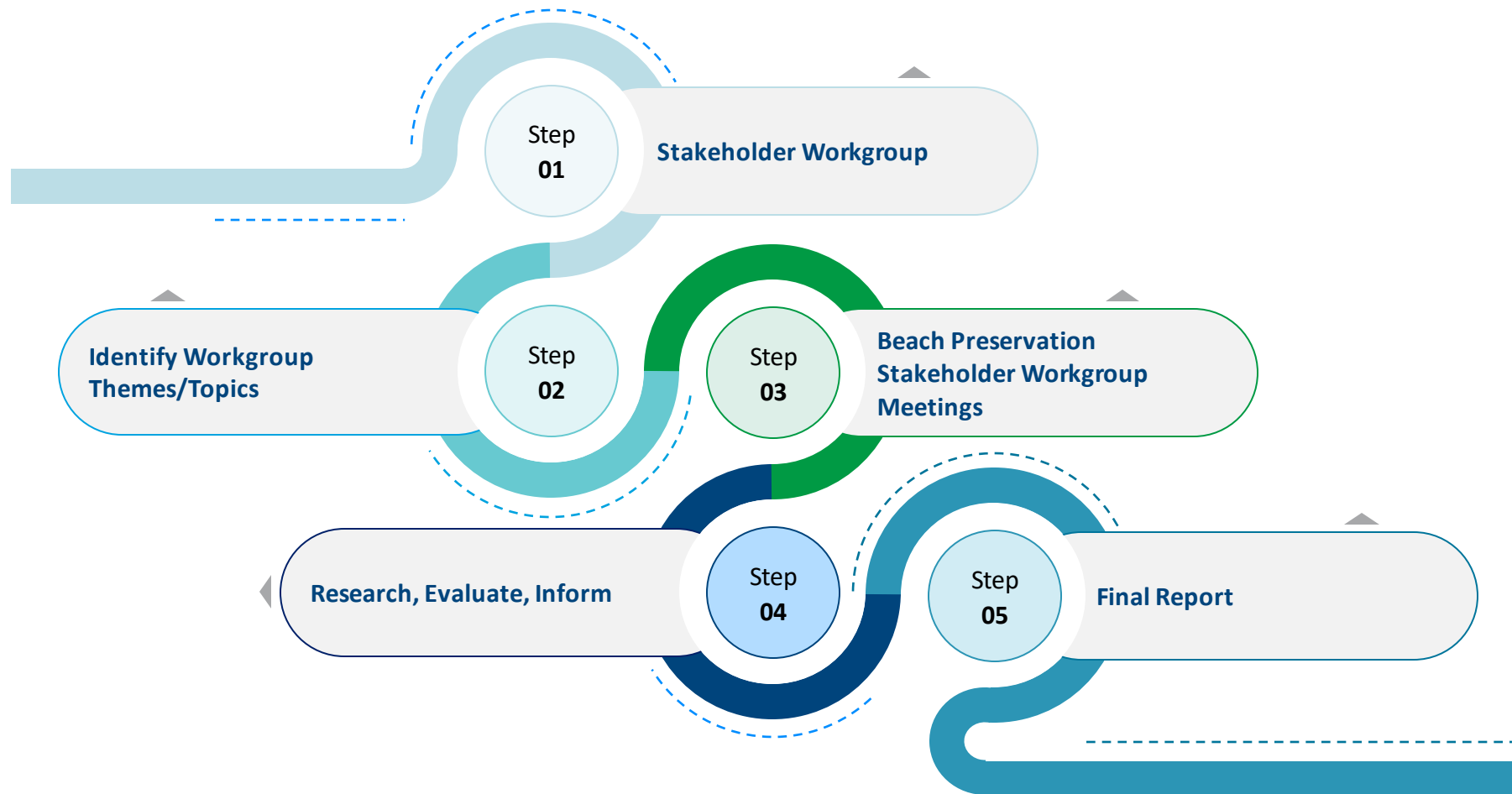
# Interests & Considerations

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- Connection to place and quality/way of life
- Public beach access
- Looking for efficient use of funds; concern surrounding investments in bad, short-term solutions
- Habitat protection and ecosystem management/preservation
- Storm protection of assets, roads, utilities
- Resilience and stability of resource
- Experiencing the intrinsic, natural aspects and value of the natural resources
- Feasibility of long-term planning; difficult to balance short- and long-term management of policies and processes

# SC Beach Preservation Process

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# Stakeholder Workgroup - Timeline

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# What is Beach Preservation?



Photo Credit: Alan Herrin, 2020

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## Definition of Beach Preservation (BRC, 2013)

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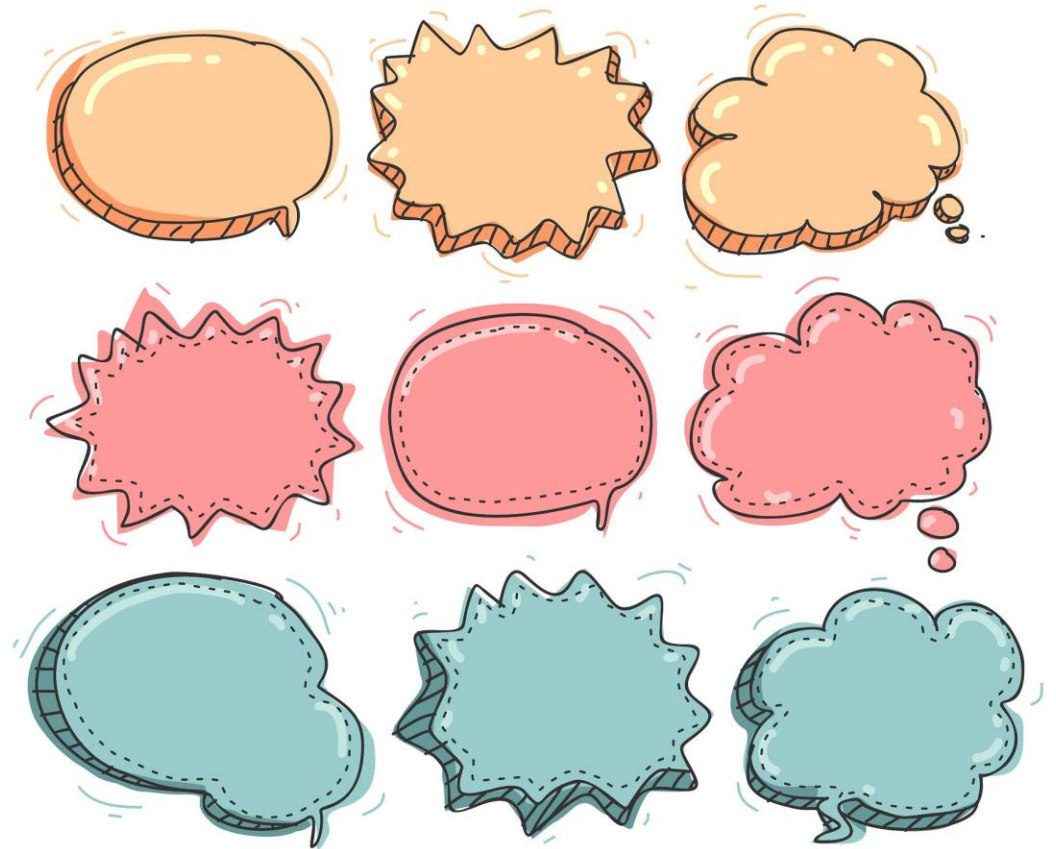
“preservation” includes the implementation of coastal management techniques such as beach nourishment, the landward movement and/or removal of habitable structures whenever necessary and feasible, the conservation of undeveloped shorelines and sand dune creation and stabilization using sand fencing and native vegetation.



# Ideas

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- **Maintaining** the current state or status quo
- **Preserving** natural functions
- **Pro-actively** maintaining the functionality of the beach/dune system
- **Protecting** and **enhancing** natural beach processes
- **Balancing** habitat and environmental concerns with current development
- **Protecting** the highly dynamic ecological processes and functions that shape, form and maintain the beach, dunes and nearshore habitat.



# Discussion

- Is there something missing?
- Are there terms that could be better highlighted?
- Are certain components challenging/concerning?

From a policy perspective, consider how this definition will be used.



# Workgroup Recommendations

## **Does the Work Group reaffirm the State's current Beach Nourishment Policy as a component of beach preservation?**

Beach Nourishment Policy (SC Code 48-39-260(5))

to "promote carefully planned nourishment as a means of beach preservation and restoration where economically feasible"

- Need for cost/benefit analysis
- Propose "allow" or "permit" rather than "promote"
- Updating beach nourishment project standards
- Consider areas that do not provide "public access"
- "Carefully planned nourishment" means creating a comprehensive schedule of nourishment projects and ensuring adequate funding resources

# Workgroup Recommendations

## **Does the Work Group recommend the establishment of a Beach Preservation Fund?**

- Clearly define how the fund can be used
- Clearly define criteria, eligibility, and local government responsibilities for the fund
- Design criteria designed to incentivize long-term planning
- Only beaches with full public access should be able to receive funding
- Should not be a bailout fund

# Workgroup Recommendations

**If a Beach Preservation Fund was established, does the Work Group recommend additional coordination and planning (Comprehensive Plans, LCBMPs, Resilience, etc) between state, county, and local entities?**

- It's important for all involved to realize that all stakeholders may need to compromise for the benefit of all concerned
- OCRM could consider policy to require Special Area Management Plans (SAMPs), which would be consistent with climate resiliency plans
- Resilience plans should be incorporated into Local Comprehensive Beach Management Plans (LCBMPs). These plans could serve for both short- and long-term beach needs
- Planning for local governments with their own LCBMPs looks very different from planning for HOAs and other entities that locally manage beaches





# Short Break





# Recommendations Analysis

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**DHEC Policy - Statute, Regulation or Both**

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**Other Federal, State, Local Government,  
or Partner Led Efforts**

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**Non-regulatory Recommendations**

- Best Management Practice, Standard Operation  
Procedure, Project-level, Education/Outreach

A top-down view of a wooden surface with a slice of bread and fresh green herbs. The bread is a round slice of light-colored, porous bread with a golden-brown crust, positioned in the bottom right corner. The herbs are a bunch of fresh green leaves, possibly basil, located in the top right corner. The word "Lunch" is written in white, sans-serif font in the center of the image, with a vertical white line to its left.

Lunch

# Further Discussion





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## Next Steps

- **Meeting Summary**
  - A high-level summary of the meeting (presentation slides, decision points and takeaways) will be provided within the next 2 weeks
- **Next Meetings**
  - September 21, 2022
  - October - TBD
- **Provide Your Feedback**



Thank You