

**OCRM Local Government Assistance
Dorchester County Planning Commission
September 11, 2007**

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Coastal Zone Management

- Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972
- Voluntary Federal/State partnerships
- Balance federal interests at the state level
 - **Protect natural resources**
 - **Promote sound economic development**
 - **Maintain navigation and infrastructure**
 - **Preserve historic and scenic quality**

OCRM Background

- Established in 1977 under the Coastal Tidelands and Wetlands Act
- Coastal Management Plan adopted in 1979
- Oversee activities in the Coastal Zone - made up of the eight coastal counties
- Direct permitting authority for the Critical Area (tidelands, coastal waters, beaches and oceanfront sand dune system)

State – Local Relationship

- **Natural and cultural resources management is typically seen as a state concern.**
- **Local governments tend to focus on elements such as population, housing, economics.**
- **Land use is a local level decision which impacts the environment. Zoning and infrastructure determine an area's future environmental condition.**

1994 SC Comprehensive Planning Act

- **Coastal resources must be considered in a local government's comprehensive plan according to Section 6-29-510 (D)(3) under the natural resources element.**
- **OCRM can provide technical assistance to local governments on issues related to these resources.**

Comprehensive Planning

- **Comprehensive Plan is the best instrument for a community to define its character and vision.**
- **Comprehensive plans help communities make rational, documented decisions regarding their desired future.**
- **Zoning implements the community vision.**

Natural Resources

- **Water quality**
- **Buffers**
- **Public access**
- **Wetlands**
- **Habitat**

Cultural Resources

- **Historic sites**
- **Archaeological sites**
- **Underwater archaeological sites**
- **Section 106 compliance - SHPO**



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Ocean and Coastal
Resource Management



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