

National Hurricane Program

Working for Safer Communities

Coastal Construction Manual, FEMA 55

THIRD EDITION

To provide mitigation guidance to local officials and professionals in building design and construction, FEMA prepared the new, third edition of the **Coastal Construction Manual** (FEMA 55). The manual provides a comprehensive approach to sensible development in coastal areas based on guidance from over 200 experts in building science, coastal hazard mitigation, and building codes and regulatory requirements.

The manual presents state-of-the-art engineering techniques for siting, design, construction, and maintenance aimed at reducing damage from natural hazards in coastal areas, including:

- hurricane winds,
- storm surge,
- wave and debris impact,
- storm-induced, long-term erosion,
- scour, and
- earthquakes.

Topics covered also include:

- history of coastal hazard events in the United States,
- overview of the coastal environment,
- risk assessment and hazard mitigation,
- Federal, state, and local regulatory requirements, and
- financial and insurance implications of siting, design, and construction decisions

The Coastal Construction Manual is available as a printed report and as an interactive CD-ROM. For a copy of either, call the FEMA Publications Distribution Facility at 1-800-480-2520.

