

NORTH CAROLINA SEASHORE COMMISSION

GENERAL RECORDS, 1962-1969.

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Finding Aid prepared by: David O. Stephens.

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The North Carolina Seashore Commission was established by the 1963 General Assembly (Chapter 989, Session Laws). It consisted of twenty members and a chairman, all of whom were to be appointed by the Governor, and several ex-officio members which included officials of the several state agencies concerned with environmental affairs and natural resources. The commission was to act as an advisory body, and had no full time staff until Mr. Roy Wilder, Jr., was appointed Secretary-Director by Governor Sanford on November 12, 1963. The 1965 General Assembly refused to fund this office, and the administrative functions of the commission were transferred to the Department of Water Resources.

The enabling legislation empowered the Seashore Commission to recommend plans to develop and preserve North Carolina's shoreline through the creation of recreation areas, the introduction of new industries, the abatement of beach erosion, and the development of tourist facilities. In accomplishing these tasks, the commission was authorized to coordinate the activities of federal, state and local governments.

The Seashore Commission provided much of the impetus for the passage of legislation at both the state and federal levels. Congressional legislation authorized the establishment of the Cape Lookout National Seashore, a large recreation area similar to the Cape Hatteras area. Legislation enacted by the North Carolina General Assembly permitted the eight coastland counties to levy taxes, make appropriations, and borrow money to finance beach erosion control and flood and hurricane protection projects. Another statute strengthened an earlier law which provided for the protection of sand dunes by county appointment of shoreline protection officers.

Although the Seashore Commission received adequate statutory authority, it was not as successful in receiving necessary appropriations to implement its planned programs, and its status thus remained advisory. The 1969 General Assembly, apparently feeling that the commission's functions could be accomplished more effectively within the Department of Conservation and Development, abolished the Seashore Commission and authorized the creation of a "Seashore Advisory Board," which was to operate within that agency (Chapter 1143, Session Laws). This advisory board was to assume functions similar to the defunct Seashore Commission.

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2	Core Banks Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army Council on Natural Resources Currituck Sound Duke University Marine Laboratory Federation Beach Control Ferry Tolls Florida Division of Water Resources and Conservation Fort Fisher General Assembly, North Carolina Good Neighbor Council Governor's Office Moore Administration Highway Commission Hilton Head Island Institute of Fisheries Research Institute of Government Invitations, Accepted-Declined Louisiana Water Research Institute Masonboro Inlet Motor Carrier's Association, N. C. National Reclamation Association National Rivers and Harbors Congress New Hanover County News Releases Observation Wells Oregon Inlet Outer Banks Outer Banks Seashore Park Commission Other States, Correspondence With

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