

15A NCAC 07M .0302 DEFINITIONS

As used in this Section, the Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program is to provide public access to the public trust beaches and waters as defined in 15A NCAC 07H .0207(a) and 15A NCAC 07H .0305(a)(1) in the 20 coastal counties described in G.S. 113A-103(2).

- (1) "Beach" is defined in 15A NCAC 07H .0305(a)(1).
- (2) "Coastal Waterfront Access" includes the acquisition and improvement of properties located in the 20-county area under the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) jurisdiction as described in G.S. 113A-103(2) that are adjacent or proximate to coastal waterways to which the public has rights of access or public trust rights.
- (3) "Ocean Beach Access" includes the acquisition and improvement of properties adjacent or proximate to the Atlantic Ocean for parking and public passage to the oceanfront.
- (4) "Public Trust Areas" is defined in 15A NCAC 07H .0207(a).
- (5) A "Local Waterfront Access Plan" identifies access needs and opportunities for public access, determines access and facility requirements, establishes standards, develops project design plans or guidelines, establishes priorities, considers financial resource availability (such as grants, impact fees, or occupancy taxes) and construction timing, and provides a system for evaluation of the plan.
- (6) "Certified CAMA Land Use Plan" is defined in 15A NCAC 07B. A local government may identify access needs, develop a local waterfront access plan, and develop local policies to pursue access funding through its land use plan.
- (7) "Tier 1 communities" include Tier 1 counties, as determined annually by the North Carolina Department of Commerce as outlined in G.S. 143B-437.08, and the counties respective municipalities. The Division shall use the Tier 1 designation to encourage economic activity in economically distressed communities.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-124; 113A-134.3;
Eff. March 1, 1979;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2009; January 1, 1998; March 1, 1988; March 1, 1985; July 1, 1982;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2021;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2022.*