



# Coastal Dunes

Dune Protection and Improvement Manual  
for the Texas Gulf Coast

Second Edition

Texas General Land Office  
David Dewhurst, Commissioner

VERNON'S TEXAS STATUTES AND CODES ANNOTATED  
NATURAL RESOURCES CODE  
TITLE 2. PUBLIC DOMAIN  
SUBTITLE E. BEACHES AND DUNES  
CHAPTER 63. DUNES

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SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

**Sec. 63.001. Findings of Fact**

The legislature finds and declares:

- (1) that the mainland gulf shoreline, barrier islands, and peninsulas of this state contain a significant portion of the state's human, natural, and recreational resources;
- (2) that these areas are and historically have been wholly or in part protected from the action of the water of the Gulf of Mexico and storms on the Gulf by a system of vegetated and unvegetated sand dunes that provide a protective barrier for adjacent land and inland water and land against the action of sand, wind, and water;
- (3) that certain persons have from time to time modified or destroyed the effectiveness of the protective barriers and caused environmental damage in the process of developing the shoreline for various purposes;
- (4) that the operation of recreational vehicles and other activities over these dunes have destroyed the natural vegetation on them;
- (5) that these practices constitute serious threats to the safety of adjacent properties, to public highways, to the taxable basis of adjacent property and constitute a real danger to natural resources and to the health, safety, and welfare of persons living, visiting, or sojourning in the area;
- (6) that it is necessary to protect these dunes as provided in this chapter because stabilized, vegetated dunes offer the best natural defense against storms and are areas of significant biological diversity;
- (7) that vegetated stabilized dunes help preserve state-owned beaches and shores by protecting against erosion of the shoreline; and
- (8) that different areas of the coast are characterized by dunes of various types and values, all of which should be afforded protection.

*Acts 1977, 65th Leg., p. 2499, ch. 871, art. I, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1977.*

*Amended by Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 814, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 26, 1985; Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 295, Sec. 18, eff. June 7, 1991.*

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