

**ARTICLE 9  
COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT**

**9.01 RESPONSIBILITY AND DEFINITION**

**9.0101 Responsibility**

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) have the responsibility in the Municipality of Orange Beach for ensuring the continuing quality of the coastal area of the Municipality. The Municipality of Orange Beach is a contract entity with the ADEM for some on-site responsibilities, and for providing a Permit Information Center for public information and review.

**9.0102 Coastal Area Definition**

The Coastal Area is defined as the land area below the 10' contour interval, and extending three miles from Mean High Tide into the Gulf of Mexico.

**9.02 COASTAL CONSTRUCTION LINE (CCL)**

ADEM and ADECA have established a surveyed line, roughly configuring the limits of the primary dune system of the beach, seaward of which construction is prohibited. This CCL was established to minimize danger to life, loss of public and private property, and beach erosion caused by flooding and wave action during storms. The primary dune system, in its natural state, provides a buffer which protects upland areas from flooding and wave action, and serves as a sand reservoir that feeds and aids in the stabilization of the beach. No construction setbacks from the CCL are required unless denoted in the ADEM permit.

**9.03 CONSTRUCTION IN THE COASTAL AREA**

All construction in the Coastal Area is subject to prior review, approval, and permit from ADEM. Applications for construction are available from the Municipality of Orange Beach. All construction will minimize damage to all dunes, including but not limited to, the primary dune system; restoration of damaged dunes will be required. All construction will preserve and protect existing wildlife and wildlife critical habitats as designated by the appropriate Federal and State agencies.

**9.04 ADEM CONTRACT**

The Municipality of Orange Beach is a contract entity with ADEM, and is therefore bound by ADEM's requirements and regulations for the Coastal Area. These requirements and regulations are published in the ADEM Administrative Code 8, which reflects statutory authority.