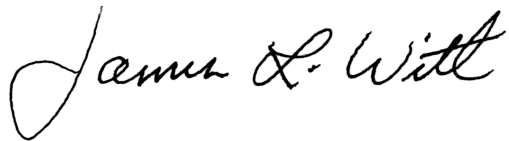

Preface

Having personally seen the devastation caused by natural disasters, I am heartened to now see hundreds of communities commit to becoming disaster-resistant through FEMA's nationwide initiative, Project Impact. Project Impact operates on three simple principles: preventive actions must be decided at the local level; private sector participation is vital; and long-term efforts and investments in prevention measures are essential. The Federal Emergency Management Agency is committed to continue to develop tools, such as this manual, to help individuals, communities, states, and others create sustainable, disaster-resistant communities.

This manual describes the best practices in hazard identification, planning, siting, design, and construction that can be used in coastal residential construction. Coastal areas offer significant natural resources and continue to draw an increasing population to recreate, work, and live. These areas can also pose significant natural hazards from winds, flooding, earthquakes, and tsunamis. This manual describes the best practices in residential construction in coastal areas that can be used to help create sustainable and livable coastal communities.



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