

- Sand used for beach nourishment must be similar in quality and grain size to sand in the area being nourished.
- Sand may not be taken from sensitive natural areas or areas where it will cause more than a minimal environmental effect.
- In order to minimize adverse impacts to nesting sea turtles, no work shall occur within the period of May 1 through Nov. 15 without prior approval from the Division of Coastal Management, in coordination with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- The project should maintain a slope similar to normal conditions. The slope, or grade, of the project must not be so steep that it endangers the public or interferes with public use of the beach.
- Nourishment projects may be subject to the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act (NCEPA), which requires a NCEPA review.

## Beach Walkways

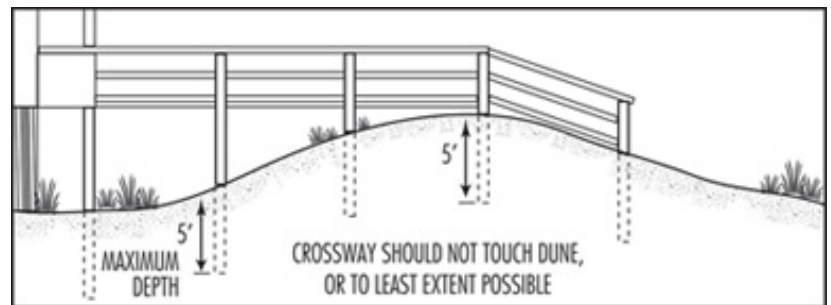
(Also see *Oceanfront Construction*)

Beach walkways make it easier to get to the beach without damaging dunes, which play a vital role in maintaining the structure and safety of North Carolina's barrier islands and beaches.

To ensure that the dune system is not damaged when a walkway is built, you must follow the following rules in addition to the general use standards for the ocean hazard AEC {15A NCAC 7H .0308}:

**Figure 4.2**

- Walkways must be for pedestrian use only.



- Walkways must be no wider than 6 feet.
- Walkways wider than 6 feet or not for pedestrian use may be permitted if they meet a public need that cannot be met in other ways. (*Note: This standard does not apply to public fishing piers if they meet all other applicable standards.*)
- Elevated walkways allow dunes to adjust naturally to wind and wave forces, maintaining the stability of the protective dune system. Walkways must be on posts or pilings embedded to a depth of 5 feet or less, so that when possible, only the posts – not the walkway itself – touch the frontal dune. Walkways may touch the dune only to the extent necessary.
- Walkways won't be allowed if they weaken the dune's protection against flooding and erosion (see Figure 4.2).
- Any vegetation disturbed in the construction and use of a walkway or vehicle accessway must be replanted as quickly as possible.
- Walkways or vehicle accessways may not be considered threatened structures and are not eligible for sandbag protection.

## Boat Ramps

Boat ramps provide access to coastal waters. Ramps for private use may be constructed under a CAMA general permit if they meet the general rules for coastal shorelines, estuarine and public trust waters, and the following specific conditions {15A NCAC 7H .1305}:

- Boat ramps must not be wider than 15 feet and must not extend farther than 20 feet below the normal high water level contour in tidal areas or