

Table 1: Natural Infrastructure and Nature-based Measures: Summary of risk reduction performance and engineering guidance, costs, and factors relevant to climate change.

		Risk Reduction Performance ¹					Design/O&M Criteria (for performance areas specific to feature)	Costs ² per linear foot		Other Factors		
		Reduce coastal erosion/ Shoreline Stabilization	Nuisance floods (high tides with sea level rise)	Short wave (<2') attenuation (Stabilize Sediment)	Reduce force & height of med. waves (2- 5')	Storm Surge (low frequency extreme events)		Construction	Annual O&M ³	Mitigates climate change (CO ₂ sequestration)	Adaptability to sea level rise & changing community needs	
Strategy	Structural	Groins	+ ⁴	-	+			+	\$2-5k	\$.1-.5k	No	
		Breakwaters	+ ⁴	-	+	+		+	\$5-10k	>\$.5k	No	Variable
		Seawall/ Revetments/ Bulkheads	+ ⁴	+		+	+	+	\$5-10k \$5-10k \$2-5k	>\$.5k \$.1-.5k \$.1-.5k	No	
		Surge Barriers	-			+	+	+	>\$10k ⁵		No	
	Existing Natural	Wetlands	+		+	~	~	N/A	N/A		Yes	Yes
		Mangroves/ coastal forest	+		+	+	+	N/A	N/A		Yes	Yes
		Vegetated Dunes	+		+	+	+	N/A	N/A		~	Yes
	Nature-based	Beach Nourishment	+	+	+	+		+	\$2k-5k ⁶	\$.1k-.5k		Yes
		Vegetated Dune creation	+	+	+	+	+	+	\$.03k- 5k ⁶	\$.1k-.5k	~	Yes
		Barrier Island Restoration	+	+	+	+	+	+	\$.076k - \$1.1k ⁷			Yes
		Small scale edging and sills (living shorelines)	+	~	+				\$1k-2k	<\$.1k	Variable	Yes
		Restored Oyster/Shell-fish Reefs	+		+	~	~	Possible, akin to low breakwaters	\$.23k - .24k ⁸		Yes	Yes
		Restored/ Created Coral Reefs	+		+	~	~	Possible, akin to low breakwaters	\$.2k – 508k ⁹		~	
Restored Maritime Forests (including Mangroves)		+	+	+	+	+		\$.23k - 216k ¹⁰ /ha (mangroves)		Yes	Yes	
Restored Wetlands¹¹	+	+	+	~		-	\$.081k- 36.4k/ha ¹²		Yes	Yes		

¹ General coastal risk reduction performance factors include storm intensity, track, forward speed, surrounding local bathymetry and topography

² USACE and NOAA (2015) is the source for most costs in this table unless otherwise noted with a footnote. Values not adjusted for inflation.

³ Based on 50 year project life

⁴ While these hardened coastal features can effectively reduce erosion in certain coastal areas, they also often lead to increased or unwanted erosion in other coastal areas.

⁵ No data for surge barriers presented by linear foot, but due to size, engineering complexity and more difficult construction conditions, estimated to be greater than \$10k/linear foot.

⁶ Higher cost is for beach nourishment with vegetated dune creation. Low end estimate based on a NRDA Trustees (2012) for Pensacola Beach.

⁷ Day et al. (2005)

⁸ Gregalis et al. (2008)

⁹ Ferrario et al. (2014)

¹⁰ Gilman and Ellison (2007)

¹¹ Various methods including sediment diversions or hydrological reconnection

¹² Coastal Resources Management Council's "[The Costs of Environmental Restoration Projects](#)"