



Coastal Processes and Communities

The Outer Banks is a very dynamic coastal barrier island environment. Barrier islands are low-lying coastal lands shaped by human activities, natural processes and geologic history. The communities of the northern Outer Banks have implemented numerous strategies to reduce the impact of shoreline erosion, climate change and sea level rise on “hot spots” on the barrier island. Please read the following article and answer the questions below.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/ncs-outer-banks-got-a-scary-forecast-about-climate-change-so/2014/06/24/0042cf96-f6f3-11e3-a3a5-42be35962a52_story.html?utm_term=.1a5ec9b1f4a7

1. Summarize the problem facing coastal communities like the Outer Banks.
2. Would you purchase property on the ocean front? Why or why not?
3. Speculate how you think people have made this problem better or worse.
4. What options do residents of the Outer Banks have?
5. What do you think they should do?