

## Coastal Barriers Resources Act (CBRA)

The **Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA)** restricts Federal expenditures and financial assistance that encourage development of coastal barriers so that damage to property, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources associated with the coastal barrier is minimized. Coastal barriers are located along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts and along the Great Lakes. They are identified on National Flood Insurance Rate Maps as Coastal Barrier Resource System (CBRS) units.

Debris removal and emergency protective measures in designated CBRS units may be eligible for Public Assistance provided the actions eliminate the immediate threat to lives, public health and safety and protect or improve property. Advanced consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is not required before approval of emergency measures.

However, FEMA must consult with the USFWS to allow the USFWS the opportunity to provide written comments before permanent work funding is approved. The following types of publicly owned facilities may be eligible for permanent work funding:

- Essential links in a larger system.
- Improvements to an existing channel.
- Repair of existing energy facilities that are functionally dependent on a coastal location.
- Other existing roads, structures, or facilities that are consistent with the purposes of CBRA.

Certain Private Non-Profit facilities that meet the restrictions of CBRA and the PA Program may be eligible for assistance. Examples include electric or gas utilities or educational facilities used for scientific research.

Improved projects that expand a facility are not eligible in CBRS units except in a few limited cases. Alternate projects are not eligible.

An existing facility is defined as a publicly owned or operated facility on which the start of construction took place on or before October 18, 1982. If a facility has been substantially improved or expanded since October 18, 1982, it is not an existing facility. If a unit was added to CBRS at a later date, that date may be substituted for the October 18, 1982 date.

*Reference:*

*44 CFR Part 206, Subpart J*

*Public Assistance Guide, FEMA 322, pages 105-107*